

DHS releases first Declined Detainer Outcome Report

In March, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued the first U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Declined Detainer Outcome Report (DDOR). The DDOR is mandated by the president's executive order "Enhancing Public Safety in the Interior of the United States," signed on January 25 of this year.

ICE places detainers on aliens who have been arrested on local criminal charges or who are in local custody and for whom ICE possesses probable cause to believe that they are removable from the United States, so that ICE can take custody of the alien when he or she is released from local custody. The DDOR is a weekly report that shows jurisdictions that choose not to cooperate with ICE detainers or requests for notification, and includes a list of sample crimes associated with those released individuals.

Acting ICE Director Thomas Homan spoke of the need for full law enforcement and ICE cooperation in fulfilling the executive order, saying "When law enforcement agencies fail to honor immigration detainers and release serious criminal offenders, it undermines ICE's ability to protect the public safety and carry out its mission." He went on to say that ICE's goal "is to build cooperative, respectful relationships with our law enforcement partners. We will continue collaborating with them to help ensure that illegal aliens who may pose a threat to our communities are not released onto the streets to potentially harm individuals living within our communities."

This DDOR reports on noncompliance that ICE is aware of, and future DDORs will likely reflect higher numbers of declined detainers as ICE plans to resume sending detainers to known uncooperative jurisdictions.

- Department of Homeland Security

Sixth InterAgency Brown-Bag Lecture focuses on intelligence

On March 15, Mr. Gustav A. Otto presented on the subject of the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) at the latest InterAgency Brown-Bag Lecture. The DIA is one of our nation's least understood intelligence organizations, and is the premier all-source military intelligence organization, providing authoritative assessments of foreign military intentions and capabilities.

Otto, who is the Defense Intelligence Chair and DIA Representative to the Combined Arms Center and Army University, spoke about the history and role of the DIA before inviting the audience's questions. From there, Otto discussed the training and education of DIA personnel and DIA's relationship with the intelligence community and other U.S. government entities. Audience members also asked about the intelligence community's relationship with the current administration, which has been a hot topic lately, and about the intelligence community's focus on counterterrorism instead of, and possibly to the detriment of, cybersecurity and other national security issues.

- Simons Center