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Office of Investigations

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
505 SW 12th Street
Washington, DC 20536



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

SEP 1 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director
All Deputy Assistant Directors
All Special Agents in Charge
All Attachés

FROM: Kumar C. Kibble *Kumar C. Kibble*
Acting Director, Office of Investigations
Raymond R. Parmer, Jr. *Raymond R. Parmer, Jr.*
Director, Office of International Affairs

SUBJECT: Capabilities and Mandatory Use of ICE Special Operations Unit

This memorandum supersedes U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Office of Investigations (OI) memorandum entitled: "Capabilities and Use of the ICE Special Operations Unit" issued on September 4, 2008.

The ICE Special Operations Unit (SOU) is an OI Headquarters component located at the multi-agency Special Operations Division (SOD). SOU's mission is to assist ICE field offices in identifying and exploiting communications utilized by criminal organizations involved in narcotics smuggling, narcotics related money laundering, and terrorism related activity. SOU analyzes domestic and foreign communication data, e.g. telephone numbers, push-to-talk numbers, satellite phone numbers and e-mail addresses, using various SOD internal resources. All resulting information and leads are returned to the originating field office for exploitation. SOU conducts deconfliction and coordination when overlap is identified between multiple ICE offices, or between ICE and other SOD member agencies.

Effective immediately, it is mandatory for ICE field offices, foreign and domestic, to forward all telecommunications numbers identified in any criminal investigations targeting narcotics smuggling, narcotics related money laundering, and terrorism related activity to SOU for deconfliction and coordination purposes. Investigative methods through which telecommunication numbers may be identified include, but are not limited to: subpoenas for subscriber toll information; monitored calls; controlled deliveries; money pickups; pen registers; and, Title III electronic intercepts.

The submission of information to SOU in a timely manner is important for several reasons. First, through the utilization of the myriad of systems available at SOD, SOU personnel are in a unique position to provide valuable communication based leads. The value of any such lead may be diminished if the submission of data is delayed. As field investigations identify new

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communication devices, case agents must continue to coordinate this information with SOU. Second, SOU personnel can immediately identify other ICE offices or other domestic and foreign law enforcement agencies that may be targeting the same device, and take appropriate action to resolve any potential conflict. This deconfliction capability is a valuable source of information and promotes officer safety. Third, SOU personnel can assist in coordination between ICE offices and SOD member agencies whenever investigative overlap is identified. Lastly, when data is submitted into the SOD system, it is flagged with the corresponding entry date and ICE case number. This ensures that future overlap with the same information will show ICE's connection, thus enhancing SOU's ability to protect ICE's investigative interests.

All submissions to SOU must include the following information:

- Case number and case title
- Case agent name and contact number
- Target communication number(s)
- Detailed synopsis of the investigation and significance of submitted data

SOU submissions can be faxed to (703) 488- or sent via Microsoft Outlook to ICE Special Operations. If utilizing e-mail, place the ICE case number in the e-mail subject field.

NOTE: SOU information is to be used for intelligence purposes only. No information provided by SOU may be incorporated into any official document, case file or testimony.

Questions regarding this memorandum should be referred to the Special Operations Unit at 703-488- (b)(7)(E) or via Microsoft Outlook to ICE Special Operations.

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