



U.S. Department of Justice
Immigration and Naturalization Service

HQOPS 50/18 -P

Office of the Executive Associate Commissioner

425 I Street NW
Washington, DC 20536

JUN 14 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR: ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS

FROM:

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Executive Associate Commissioner
Office of Field Operations

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

SUBJECT:

Quick Response Team Response Policy

The Commissioner approved the attached response policy for the Quick Response Teams (QRTs). The issuance of this policy does not preclude QRT officers from conducting other investigative duties assigned by District management, however, the QRTs primary responsibility is responding to requests for assistance from state and local law enforcement agencies (LEA), and training these LEA officers as was outlined in the QRT training program that all QRT officers must attend. Additionally, Headquarters will be mailing out finalized electronic versions of the QRT training program including overlays for QRT officers to use in training LEAs. These are the materials that all QRT officers will utilize when training LEAs.

The definition for "response" in the response policy will be applied to all QRT reporting requirements. This definition is necessary to ensure accurate and consistent reporting throughout all QRT offices.

Attachments (2)

Commissioner Approval of QRT Response Policy
QRT Response Policy

REL0000025092



U.S. Department of Justice
Immigration and Naturalization Service

HQOPS 50/18 – P

Office of the Executive Associate Commissioner

425 I Street NW
Washington, DC 20536

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE COMMISSIONER
THROUGH: THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
FROM: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Executive Associate Commissioner
Office of Field Operations

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

SUBJECT: Quick Response Teams - Response Policy

PURPOSE: Request approval for the attached response policy.

TIMETABLE: Immediately. Quick Response Teams (QRTs) are 90 percent deployed.

SYNOPSIS: The QRT response policy was developed by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), the Office of Special Counsel, Civil Rights Division, and the Community Relations Service.

This policy will be the standard that all QRTs will apply when responding to state and local law enforcement requests for assistance. The response policy will be the cornerstone of the training provided by the INS to state and local law enforcement agencies. It is requested that the policy be reviewed and approved in order for it to be immediately implemented.

APPROVE: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) 3/23/00

DISAPPROVE: _____

OTHER: _____

Attachment

Quick Response Teams
Response Policy to Outside Law Enforcement Agency Referrals

In the FY 1999 appropriation for the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), Congress appropriated funding for the creation of Quick Response Teams (QRTs) "to work directly with state and local law enforcement officers to take into custody and remove illegal aliens." Within the context of the statutory language, the INS intends to establish the QRTs in a manner that supports the law enforcement mission of the INS and protects the constitutional and civil rights of all concerned.

The deployment of the QRTs does not confer Federal immigration authority on any outside law enforcement agency (LEA). A local law enforcement officer does not have authority to determine whether an alien has the right to be or remain in the United States, or to make arrests for administrative violations of the Immigration and Nationality Act. In establishing the QRTs, the INS will provide the local LEAs with training, but this training is not to be interpreted as "cross-training" for the purposes of delegation of authority under Title 8, USC, Section 1357.

The Quick Response Teams will respond to referrals from state and local law enforcement agencies only under the following circumstances:

(b)(7)(E)

For the purposes of this policy a response is defined as:

- a physical response regardless of whether an arrest was made (i.e. a special agent going to a police station);
- the lodging of a detainer with the LEA; or
- a telephonic or video teleconferencing interview to determine alienage and/or removability.

A returned telephone call where one of the above is not involved does not constitute a response under this policy.