



CISA
CYBER+INFRASTRUCTURE

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PROTECTIVE SECURITY ADVISOR PROGRAM

BACKGROUND

The Department of Homeland Security, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) Integrated Operations Division (IOD) operates the Protective Security Advisor (PSA) Program. Protective Security Advisors are resiliency subject matter experts who engage with Federal, State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial (FSLTT) government mission partners and members of the private sector stakeholder community to protect the Nation's critical infrastructure. The PSA Program maintains a robust operational field capability, with Regional Offices and PSAs serving in 73 districts in 50 States and U.S. territories. The Regional Offices and PSAs serve as the link to CISA infrastructure protection resources; coordinate vulnerability assessments, training, and other CISA products and services; provide a vital link for information sharing in steady-state and incident response; and assist facility owners and operators with obtaining security clearances.

PSA PROGRAM

The PSA Program's primary mission is to proactively engage with Federal, State, local, tribal and territorial government mission partners and members of the private sector stakeholder community to protect critical infrastructure. Regional Directors oversee and manage the CISA PSA program in their respective region, while PSAs facilitate local field activities in coordination with other DHS offices. The PSAs have five mission areas that directly support the protection of critical infrastructure:

- **Plan, coordinate, and conduct security surveys and assessments** – PSAs conduct voluntary, non-regulatory security surveys and assessments on critical infrastructure assets and facilities within their respective regions.
- **Plan and conduct outreach activities** – PSAs conduct outreach activities with critical infrastructure owners and operators, community groups, and faith-based organizations in support of CISA priorities.
- **Support National Special Security Events (NSSEs) and Special Event Activity Rating (SEAR) events** – PSAs support Federal, State, and local officials responsible for planning, leading, and coordinating NSSE and SEAR events.
- **Respond to incidents** – PSAs plan for and, when directed, deploy to Unified Area Command Groups, Joint Operations Centers, Federal Emergency Management Agency Regional Response Coordination Centers, and/or State and local Emergency Operations Centers in response to natural or man-made incidents.
- **Coordinate and support improvised explosive device awareness and risk mitigation training** – PSAs work in conjunction with CISA's Office for Bombing Prevention by coordinating training and materials to SLTT partners to assist them in deterring, detecting, preventing, protecting against, and responding to improvised explosive device threats.

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