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NITAM NOTES

INSIDER THREAT PROGRAM SENIOR OFFICIAL



The Senior Official is a fundamental requirement highlighted in the National Insider Threat Policy & Minimum Standards for Executive Branch Departments/Agencies. A Senior Official partnering across the organization impacts three areas critical to a successful InT Program.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

- **Partnering with organizations:** Partnering with relevant organizational elements to provide insider threat program personnel regular, timely access to the information necessary to identify, analyze, and resolve insider threat matters. (Law Enforcement, Counterintelligence, Security, Human Resources, Cybersecurity and Information Assurance, Inspector General)
- **Establishing guidelines:** Establish reporting guidelines for these organizational components to refer relevant insider threat information directly to the insider threat program
- **Developing procedures for access requests:** Establishing procedures for access requests by the insider threat program involving protected information, such as that held by special access, law enforcement, or inspector general
- **UAM Integration:** Ensuring insider threat program personnel are integrated into the Component's UAM process for analysis and mitigation planning
- **Internal reporting:** Emphasizing organizational reporting of concerning behaviors and other potential indicators to the insider threat program
- **External reporting:** Ensuring insider threat personnel consistently report to external insider threat stakeholders and risk owners

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPACT

- **Staffing** – ensure adequate staffing to meet mission requirements
- **Policy** – ensure internal insider threat policies are current, updated as necessary, and followed
- **Tools, Capabilities** – ensure insider threat program has adequate access to necessary resources and technology
- **Training** – ensure workforce is trained on insider threat indicators and proper reporting procedures. Ensure insider threat program personnel receive training in baseline skills and professional development opportunities

BUILDING STRONGER PARTNERSHIPS

Senior Officials should ensure the insider threat program's Implementation Plan includes key internal and external partners to maximize effectiveness and rapidly overcome challenges

Facilitation of Internal Partners:

- Engaged Senior Officials influence impact of the insider threat program through consistent dialogue, collaboration and shared understanding across departments such as CIO, Security, HR and Legal. They reinforce senior leader intent, ensure continuity in operations, and facilitate trust in the process and ultimate results

Development of External Partners:

- By supporting attendance at symposiums, encouraging team-level partnerships with external peers, leveraging professional organizations or hosting outside experts for training, Senior Officials can utilize external partnerships to directly enhance professional development, elevate program performance and increase confidence in the insider threat program

IMPACT ON WORKPLACE CULTURE

Producing an Annual Report to the agency head documents accomplishments, identifies risks, goals, impediments and challenges, and reinforces a culture of security enabling more timely and comprehensive detection, deterrence and mitigation of insider threats

- Advocate for insider threat program; facilitate buy-in and organizational support from agency head, senior leader level and throughout workforce
- Champion for insider threat program successes; influence partnerships between key stakeholders within organization and the insider threat program personnel
- Ensure organization is accountable to insider threat program requirements
- Message the intent and priorities of programs



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