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## Lessons Learned Information Sharing

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## PRACTICE NOTE

### Fusion Center Collaboration: State of Washington Joint Analytical Center—Federal Bureau of Investigation Field Investigative Group Partnership

#### PRACTICE

The State of Washington Joint Analytical Center (WAJAC) is co-located with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Field Intelligence Group (FIG). The two entities operate jointly to facilitate the rapid exchange of critical intelligence and information.

#### DESCRIPTION

The state of Washington created the WAJAC in 2002 to be an intelligence fusion center that joins representatives from law enforcement and public safety agencies from all levels of government. The WAJAC's mission is to facilitate the sharing of intelligence and information among federal, state, and local government, and private sector agencies. Agencies represented at the WAJAC include municipal police departments, county sheriffs' offices, the Washington State Police (WSP), and Washington Military Department (National Guard).

The WAJAC is co-located and operates jointly with the FIG in Seattle. WAJAC and FIG personnel share resources including office space, computers, and video teleconferencing equipment. WAJAC and FIG directors can task each other's assets when necessary. The WAJAC and the FIG jointly produce weekly intelligence briefings, bulletins, and assessments. The FBI is responsible for the physical security of the building. All WAJAC personnel must receive TOP SECRET clearances from the FBI.

An executive committee governs the collaborative effort between the WAJAC and the FIG. The committee consists of representatives from the FBI, the US Attorney's Office, and the WSP as well as a municipal police chief, a county sheriff, a county prosecutor, the state attorney general, and the state adjutant general.

#### CITATIONS

Ladines, Lance. Detective Sergeant, Director, Washington Joint Analytical Center. Interview with *Lessons Learned Information Sharing*, 16 May 2007.

Washington Joint Analytical Center. *Operations Manual*. May 2006.

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