**Presidential Policy Directive/PPD-25 Quick Fact Sheet**

(U) PPD-25 provides a combined interagency framework  for the United States Government response to imminent terrorist threats or incidents requiring a time-sensitive response to prevent substantial loss of life or substantial damage to property within the United States and its territories and overseas, including crises involving WMD.  This summary sheet will focus on WMD domestic threats and incidents. PPD-25 provides:

**(U) Authority of the FBI derived from PPD 25**

(U) The Attorney General (AG), generally acting through the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), leads and coordinates the operational law enforcement response, on-scene law enforcement, and related investigative and appropriate intelligence activities related to imminent threats and incidents contemplated by these Guidelines. This authority includes the following:

* (U) The AG, usually acting through the FBI Director, has lead responsibility for operational law enforcement response to and criminal investigation of terrorist threats or incidents in the United States and its territories.
* (U) Acting primarily through the Joint Terrorism Task Forces (JTTFs), the FBI has the lead for investigative activities involving federal crimes of terrorism.
* (U) Acting through the FBI Director, the AG has lead responsibility for “searching for, finding, and neutralizing WMD within the United States and its territories in response to information received through law enforcement, intelligence or other channels. This includes leading search planning and operational activity.”
* (U) With respect to WMD search and neutralization, WMD crime scene, WMD forensics, and render safe activities, other departments and agencies will make every effort to support requests made by the AG to provide technical and logistic support.
* (U) The FBI On-Scene Commander (OSC) leads and coordinates federal operational law enforcement and investigative activities necessary to prevent or resolve imminent terrorist threats or incidents; and retains the authority to take appropriate measures (including hostage-rescue, tactical response, render safe, and bomb-management operations) at any time during the response. The OSC also has lead to oversee crime scenes and evidence management.
* (U) Federal, State and Local, territorial, and tribal authorities who detect or discover potential WMD or terrorist activity within the United States should be advised, trained, and encouraged to contact their nearest FBI field office immediately to resolve the threat.  All Federal departments and agencies with responsibilities identified in this directive should inform their state and local counterparts of this need to engage with the FBI during outreach and training initiatives.
* (U) The AG, acting through the FBI Director, will determine whether a particular situation should be treated as an actual terrorist incident.
* (U) Specific terrorism-related threat information and related collection/investigative activities will be coordinated with and through the FBI JTTFs.
* (U) All WMD threat information that could have an impact on the United States must be immediately passed to the FBI, which will conduct a Threat Credibility Evaluation (TCE) to assess the threat and consider appropriate WMD search and response protocols.
* When a TCE determines a potential radiological dispersal device (RDD), radiological exposure device (RED), or improvised nuclear device (IND), or other threat involving radiological or specific nuclear material (SNM) that requires search capabilities, the AG, through the FBI Director will utilize the WMDD led Radiological/Nuclear Strategic Group (RNSG) to support their decision making process. The RNSG coordinates the identification and deployment of specialized interagency elements used to support the FBI to locate, identify, and interdict the threat through search operations.

**(U) Key PPD 25 Definitions**

* **WMD:** Materials, weapons, or devices that are intended or capable of causing death or serious bodily injury to a significant number of people through release, dissemination, or impact of toxic or poisonous chemicals or precursors, a disease organism, or radiation or radioactivity, to include, but not limited to, biological devices, chemical devices, improvised nuclear devices, radiological dispersion devices, and radiological exposure devices.
* **TCE:** The FBI-led process to provide a timely evaluation of the credulity of chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear WMD threats within the United States in order to ensure that appropriate actions are taken to resolve the threat. As part of this process, threats are evaluated for technical feasibility, operational practicality and adversarial intent. This is done by combining all available intelligence with the appropriate scientific, technical, and tactical assessments. Upon determination of a credible threat, the appropriate WMD response protocols may be initiated based on the potential impact the threat may pose to persons and property.