

*FY 2023 Congressional Submission
Interagency Crime and Drug Enforcement*



U.S. Department of Justice
Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces

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I. Program Overview

A. General Overview

1. Budget Summary

The FY 2023 President's Budget request for the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETF) Program comprises 2,464 positions, 2,456 FTE, and \$550,458,000 in funding for the Interagency Crime and Drug Enforcement (ICDE) appropriation, to be used for investigative and prosecutorial costs associated with OCDETF investigations. OCDETF investigations directly support the Department of Justice's Strategic Goal of Keeping Our Country Safe by employing law enforcement and legal expertise to:

- Protect national security,
- Counter foreign and domestic terrorism,
- Combat violent crime and gun violence,
- Enhance cybersecurity and fight cybercrime, and
- Combat drug trafficking and prevent overdose deaths

OCDETF targets high-level transnational, national, and regional criminal organizations and networks. Organized crime is no longer associated exclusively with traditional domestic groups. It is fully transnational in its origin, composition, and scope; it poses unprecedented threats to U.S. national security, economic prosperity, and public safety. These threats include not only high-level organized drug trafficking but also attempts by organized criminals to exploit our energy and other strategic sectors; support terrorists and hostile governments; manipulate our financial, securities, and commodities markets; victimize large swaths of our citizens, private industry, and government agencies through targeted cyber intrusions; and engage in other serious criminal activities.

The OCDETF Program does not encompass all federal drug or transnational organized crime (TOC) enforcement efforts. OCDETF's mission involves disruption and dismantlement of transnational criminal networks that present a distinct TOC threat to the United States. At any given time, OCDETF's active case inventory includes hundreds of ongoing investigations, focused only on targeting the highest priority organized drug trafficking, money laundering, and transnational criminal organizations.

2. Introduction

Established in 1982, the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETF) Program is the focal point of the Attorney General's strategy to reduce the availability of illicit narcotics by using a prosecutor-led, multi-agency approach to counter-drug and counter-transnational-crime enforcement. OCDETF leverages the resources and expertise of its federal member agencies as well as numerous state and local agencies in concentrated, coordinated, long-term enterprise investigations of transnational organized crime, money laundering, and major drug trafficking networks.



OCDETF's federal partners include:

- DOJ: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), Criminal Division (CRM), Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys (EOUSA)
- Department of Homeland Security (DHS): Homeland Security Investigations/Immigration and Customs Enforcement (HSI), U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), U.S. Secret Service (USSS)
- Department of the Treasury (Treasury): Criminal Investigation Division/Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
- Department of Labor (DOL): Office of the Inspector General (DOL-OIG)
- Department of State (State): Diplomatic Security Service (DSS)
- U.S. Postal Service (USPS): U.S. Postal Inspection Service (USPIS)



In June 2021, representatives from Austrian law enforcement, the Australian Federal Police, the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement – Homeland Security Investigations, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the United States Attorney's Office – Southern District of California participated in a press conference at the U.S. Attorney's Office to discuss the success of OCDETF Operation Trojan Shield.

Trojan Shield initially targeted a Canada-based encrypted communication device company that provided secure phones exclusively to transnational criminal organizations worldwide. The case expanded and became an intelligence platform wherein the FBI lawfully operated its own encrypted device company and law enforcement catalogued more than 27 million messages between criminal organizations around the world. Following hundreds of arrests on June 6-7, 2021 that began in Australia and stretched across Europe, press conferences announcing recent results of this remarkable investigation were held in San Diego, New Zealand, Australia, and The Hague.

DOJ press release: <https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdca/pr/fbi-s-encrypted-phone-platform-infiltrated-hundreds-criminal-syndicates-result-massive>



OCDETF constitutes the largest anti-crime task force in the country with almost 600 federal prosecutors, 2,000 federal agents, 19 Strike Forces, and over 4,750 individual OCDETF investigation groups. The OCDETF Program Director, a career prosecutor, leads teams based in Washington, D.C., throughout OCDETF's nine regions, and in each judicial district, to manage the Program. National governance components are responsible for development and oversight of the OCDETF Program, the articulation of OCDETF policy, resource allocation, management of the Attorney General's priority targeting processes for TOC, and the management of the OCDETF Fusion Center (OFC) and the International Organized Crime Intelligence and Operations Center (IOC-2).

OCDETF's robust field management structure is comprised of Regional Directors and Program Specialists, Regional Agency Coordinators, Lead Task Force Attorneys, Lead Strike Force Attorneys, and senior supervisors from partner law enforcement agencies in each federal judicial district. Analysts and coordinators at the OFC and IOC-2 are critical to the Program's operations. This governance model provides a readily available, extensive network used daily by law enforcement personnel and prosecutors to successfully achieve the Program's mission.

OCDETF's Four Pillars

Through the governance components, the OCDETF Director implements the nationwide OCDETF strategy built upon four essential pillars: targeting, coordination, intelligence, and directed resourcing. OCDETF's top priority will be to leverage these pillars to manage program operations, providing information and resources to our law enforcement and prosecution partners in a manner that drives the most complex and difficult cases to a successful conclusion.

Targeting: OCDETF drives priority targeting in both top-down and bottom-up approaches. The OCDETF Director manages the Attorney General's Consolidated Priority Organization Target (CPOT) process. As a nationwide, multi-agency process for designating identified priority drug trafficking threats, CPOT targeting marshals the resources of federal law enforcement agencies from every corner of the United States to focus attention and effort on the most serious national narcotics trafficking threats. OCDETF also manages the Priority Transnational Organized Crime (PTOC) process, which is the multi-agency process for designating investigations of priority non-drug centric organized crime threats.

These combined processes focus attention and resources on threats agreed upon through a multi-agency selection and vetting process, to reflect the considered judgment of national level priorities. In addition, OCDETF simultaneously uses a bottom-up targeting process, directing its nine regions to designate regional priorities, recognizing that regional threats sometimes differ widely. The threats to the populace in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont may be quite different than those in Arizona and New Mexico; therefore, OCDETF empowers Regional Directors to work jointly with OCDETF partners to designate and tackle regional as well as national priorities.

Coordination: Given OCDETF's size and breadth, coordination occurs through both national and local level processes and is essential to its success. OCDETF assigns Federal agents as Law



Enforcement Associate Directors based in Washington, D.C. to coordinate and strengthen operations. OCDETF empowers the nine Regional Directors to leverage their considerable decision-making authority in the field to build bigger regional cases. OCDETF will expand its Strike Forces Initiative using its prosecutor-led, multi-agency teams to coordinate the biggest, most complex, national and regional investigations and prosecutions. Lead attorneys and senior agents in OCDETF's 19 Co-Located Strike Forces network nationwide to leverage their considerable strengths and create the greatest possible impact disrupting and dismantling criminal organizations.

Intelligence: Properly coordinated information sharing directed at national and regional multi-agency targets leverages the OCDETF network to its fullest. The intelligence pillar is based largely in the OFC and the diverse multi-agency approach to ingestion, digestion, and sharing of law enforcement reporting where law enforcement datasets combine to create the single largest repository of federal criminal case reporting that enables OCDETF to drive national targeting and provide actionable operational intelligence products to initiate, expand, and support field investigations and prosecutions. OCDETF is in the process of modernizing the OFC for the first time in 17 years and will create more dynamic query capabilities to leverage our national coordination and targeting strengths, resulting in more robust investigations and case making.

Resourcing: OCDETF directs dedicated resources to the top-down and bottom-up drivers of targeting and to the national coordination foundation of the Program, both of which are critical and have proven successful. OCDETF continues to actively incentivize and resource federal prosecutors and agents, overtime costs for thousands of state/local police officers from over 1,500 police departments, the Co-Located Strike Forces, and dozens of creative strategic initiatives born from forward-leaning, prosecutor-led task forces looking to find seams to exploit in the ever-changing network of transnational organized criminal organizations.

B. Issues, Outcomes, and Strategies

Since FY 2002, OCDETF's budget requests have aimed at strategically reducing the harm to the nation posed by the influx of illegal drugs, violence that accompanies transnational criminal organizations, and the growing impact of TOC actors. OCDETF continually seeks to balance investigative resources with prosecutorial resources to maximize the Program's performance. Specifically, OCDETF focuses on ensuring member agencies develop intelligence-driven strategies and initiatives that identify entire criminal networks, including their financial infrastructure and the channels through which they obtain their weapons, and use this information to launch coordinated efforts to disrupt and dismantle every component of drug trafficking cartels and TOC networks worldwide.

OCDETF's multi-agency teams focus resources on the highest priority drug trafficking, money laundering and TOC targets while leveraging the expertise and existing resources of member agencies from DOJ, DHS, Treasury, DOL, State, and USPS. The disruption and dismantlement of criminal networks operating regionally, nationally, and internationally is a critical component of the Department's efforts to enhance public safety and national and economic security.

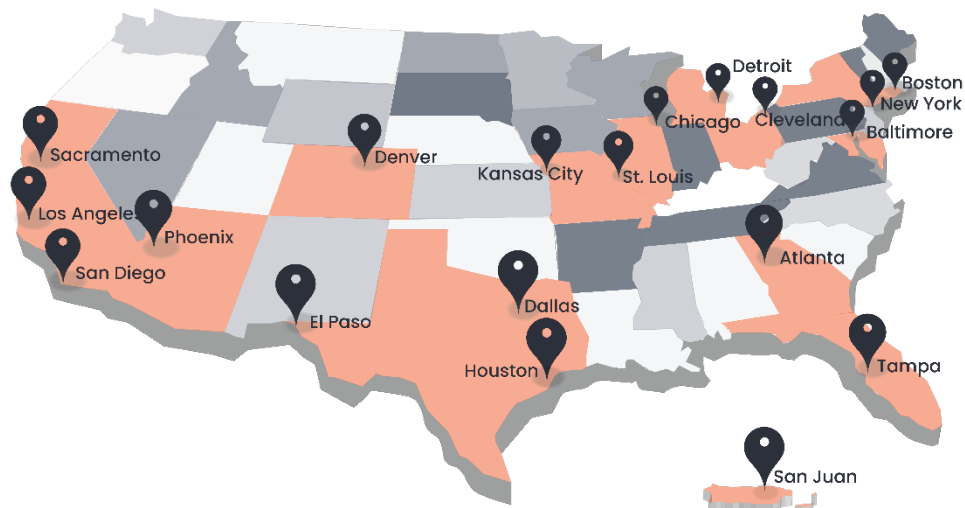


OCDETF continues to focus on disrupting and dismantling transnational drug trafficking and TOC organizations to deny criminal actors their profits by using intelligence-driven, multi-agency operations through the OFC, IOC-2, and Co-Located Strike Forces.

OCDETF's strike forces are located in:

- Arizona (including Phoenix and Tucson)
- Atlanta, GA
- Baltimore, MD
- Boston, MA
- Chicago, IL
- Cleveland, OH
- Dallas, TX
- Denver, CO
- Detroit, MI
- El Paso, TX (including southern New Mexico)
- Kansas City, MO
- Los Angeles, CA
- New York, NY
- Sacramento, CA
- San Diego, CA
- San Juan, PR (Caribbean Corridor Strike Force)
- South Texas (including Houston, Laredo, McAllen, and San Antonio)
- St. Louis, MO
- Tampa, FL (Panama Express)

OCDETF Strike Forces Locations





OCDETF's focus enables its member agencies to achieve the following public safety and national and economic security objectives, in accordance with the DOJ Strategic Plan:

- Enhance intelligence and information sharing capabilities and processes associated with air and maritime domains and with the U.S. borders.
- Interdict drugs, drug proceeds, associated instruments of violence, and instruments and proceeds of priority TOC activity in the air and maritime domains, at the ports of entry, between the ports of entry along the borders and at international mail and parcel hubs, and along domestic highway and rail networks.
- Combat priority TOC cyber-based threats and attacks using all available tools, strong public-private partnerships, and the investigation and prosecution of TOC cyber threat actors.
- Combat the threat, incidence, and prevalence of violent crime by leveraging strategic partnerships to investigate, arrest, and prosecute violent offenders associated with drug trafficking or other priority TOC activity.
- Ensure the prosecution of all significant drug trafficking, money laundering, bulk currency, and weapons trafficking/smuggling cases.
- Investigate and prosecute priority TOC-level corruption and economic crime.
- Disrupt and dismantle drug trafficking and priority TOC organizations operating along the borders.
- Enhance technologies for contraband detection and interdiction along the borders.
- Enhance U.S.–Mexico cooperation regarding joint counterdrug and counter-TOC efforts along the Southwest Border.
- Substantially reduce the level of drug-related violent crime and other priority TOC activity in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.
- Strengthen communities and reduce the demand for drugs.
- Increase the security of U.S. citizens along the Southwest Border and nationwide.
- Reduce the flow of contraband entering the U.S.
- Reduce the flow of weapons and illegal cash into Mexico.

To achieve these objectives and desired outcomes, the Program fosters coordinated, nationwide investigations and prosecutions that inflict maximum damage on cartels and TOC actors by incapacitating large segments of their leadership, subordinate members, and facilitators through incarceration, while simultaneously destroying their financial infrastructure through seizure and forfeiture of their assets.



C. OCDETF Program Costs

OCDETF's President's Budget includes funding only for participating agencies and program functions within DOJ. Non-DOJ agencies seek funding for OCDETF participation in the budget requests submitted through their respective Departments.

OCDETF is structured around two decision units: Investigations and Prosecutions. Administrative program support provided by the OCDETF Executive Office is pro-rated between these two decision units based upon the percentage of total appropriated funding attributable to the member agencies within each decision unit.

Investigations: This decision unit includes resources to support the investigative activities of ATF, DEA, FBI, and USMS. It also includes resources to support intelligence activities and the OFC, as well as investigative activities related to priority TOC strategic initiatives. OCDETF directs these resources to personnel costs for salaries and expenses and to operational costs for investigations and intelligence analysis and dissemination. Investigative expenses include purchase of evidence/payment for information, mission-related travel, training, operational funding, supplies, electronic surveillance costs, and other equipment costs. Intelligence expenses include the acquisition and maintenance of OFC's information technology, data storage, basic and advanced training, software, workstations, desktop and laptop computers, other equipment costs, and mission-related travel.

Prosecutions: This decision unit includes resources to support prosecutions initiated at the 94 U.S. Attorneys' Offices around the country and at the DOJ Criminal Division. These resources are executed through the EOUSA, attorneys in the Criminal Division, and the OCDETF Executive Office as appropriate. Prosecution-related expenses include case-related travel; training; printing and reproduction of court documents and court instruments; filing and recording fees; reporting and transcripts for deposition, grand jury, and court proceedings; litigation support; litigation graphics; fees for the reproduction of financial records; stenographic/interpreter services; translation expenses for securing foreign evidence and extradition; supplies and materials; and Automated Data Processing (ADP) and other equipment.

D. OCDETF Performance Challenges

To successfully achieve its mission, OCDETF must routinely confront a broad range of significant performance challenges, both external and internal. Some examples of these challenges are detailed below.

External Challenges

State and Local Government. State and local law enforcement agencies participate in approximately 90 percent of OCDETF investigations nationwide. Fiscal posture and policy changes by state and local governments can have dramatic effects on the capacity of their agencies to sustain their levels of involvement in OCDETF activities.



Globalization. Issues of criminal justice increasingly transcend national boundaries, requiring the cooperation of foreign governments and involving treaty obligations and other foreign policy concerns. The nature of the relationships between the U.S. and particular foreign governments can dramatically impact law enforcement’s ability to conduct operations against international sources of supply, freeze and seize foreign assets, apprehend fugitives in foreign countries, and extradite defendants to stand trial in the U.S.

Technology. Criminals increasingly take advantage of telecommunications advances, Internet usage, and more sophisticated encryption of communications, resulting in the creation of new classes of crimes and new challenges for law enforcement. These technologies enable drug traffickers, money launderers, and other TOC actors to conduct unlawful activities in ways that impede the effective use of traditional physical and electronic surveillance techniques, which otherwise are the most powerful means to infiltrate the highest levels of these organizations. Routine use of the Internet, combined with anonymizing software and the proliferation of anonymous “Darknet” sites, makes it more difficult for law enforcement to identify the base of operations of certain criminal organizations.

Competing Agency Priorities. OCDETF is an independent component that coordinates and leverages the expertise of federal agencies from multiple Executive Branch departments to disrupt and dismantle the most significant transnational criminal organizations. Each department has mandated its own priorities for carrying out its part of the fight against TOC. OCDETF member agencies may prefer to fund their drug enforcement and TOC operations with monies from their direct appropriations, which they use at their own discretion. OCDETF must unite those agencies behind one single mission and ensure accountability for program performance in an environment of competing philosophies and funding priorities in the different departments. This task is particularly challenging with non-DOJ agencies. To encourage continued participation in the Program, even though these agencies are not funded through DOJ’s OCDETF appropriation, OCDETF relies on its proven track record of success and the agencies’ historical commitment to the OCDETF mission and approach.

Internal Challenges

Resources. The OCDETF Program continues to review its resource allocations to determine the optimum balance of personnel and operational costs that maximizes Program performance.

Data Collection. Processes for case tracking, time reporting, and overtime tracking vary by agency and region, resulting in inconsistencies in data and difficulties in monitoring compliance with OCDETF policies, procedures, and guidelines. Differing processes can also complicate efforts to develop and monitor standard performance measures. However, OCDETF resolves these inconsistencies and complications as they occur by conducting regular reviews with its member agencies, addressing these data issues, and implementing corrective measures.



II. Summary of Program Changes

OCDETF is not requesting any program changes for FY 2023.



III. Appropriations Language and Analysis of Appropriations Language

INTERAGENCY CRIME AND DRUG ENFORCEMENT

For necessary expenses for the identification, investigation, and prosecution of individuals associated with the most significant drug trafficking organizations, transnational organized crime, and money laundering organizations not otherwise provided for, to include inter-governmental agreements with State and local law enforcement agencies engaged in the investigation and prosecution of individuals involved in transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, \$550,458,000 of which \$50,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That any amounts obligated from appropriations under this heading may be used under authorities available to the organizations reimbursed from this appropriation.

Analysis of Appropriations Language

No changes are proposed.



IV. Program Activity Justification

A. Investigations

Investigations: Total	Direct Pos.	FTE	Amount (\$000)
2021 Enacted	1,664	1,660	\$381,240
2022 President's Budget	1,591	1,587	\$381,513
Adjustments to Base and Technical Adjustments	0	0	\$12,474
2023 Current Services	1,591	1,587	\$393,987
2023 Program Decreases	(38)	(38)	(\$7,474)
2023 President's Budget	1,553	1,549	\$386,513
Total Change 2022-2023	(38)	(38)	\$5,000

Investigations: Information Technology Breakout (of Decision Unit Total)	Direct Pos.	Estimated FTE	Amount
2021 Enacted	26	26	\$15,387
2022 President's Budget	26	26	\$15,906
Adjustments to Base and Technical Adjustments	0	0	\$47
2023 Current Services	26	26	\$15,953
2023 Program Increases	0	0	\$0
2023 President's Budget	26	26	\$15,953
Total Change 2022-2023	0	0	\$47

1. Program Description

The FY 2023 President's Budget for Investigations is 1,553 reimbursable positions, 1,549 work-years, and \$386,513,000.

OCDETF investigations require the cooperative efforts of OCDETF's various member agencies to provide a mix of skills, experience, and enforcement jurisdiction which no single agency possesses. The Program's strength is its ability to draw upon the combined skills, expertise, and techniques of each participating agency, both within and outside of DOJ. In FY 2017, for the



first time since its inception in 1982, OCDETF welcomed new investigative agencies as OCDETF members: USSS, DOL-OIG, DSS, and USPIS. The law enforcement agencies that provide investigative and intelligence efforts in OCDETF cases are discussed in detail below, along with the other investigative and intelligence resources that support the OCDETF Program.

DOJ



Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). ATF agents focus on major drug traffickers who have also violated laws related to the illegal trafficking and misuse of firearms and explosives. A significant portion of today's violent crime is directly associated with the distribution of drugs by sophisticated organizations. Firearms often serve as a form of payment for drugs. Firearms, explosives, and arson are used as tools by drug organizations for purposes of intimidation, enforcement and retaliation against their own members, rival organizations, law enforcement, or the community in general. Thus, given the nexus between drugs, firearms, and violent crime, ATF's jurisdiction and expertise make it well-suited to collaborate with OCDETF in the fight against illegal drugs and violent crime.



Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Historically, the DEA is the agency most actively involved in the OCDETF Program, with an average participation rate in investigations that exceeds 80 percent. DEA's vast experience in its field, its knowledge of international drug rings, its relationship with foreign law enforcement entities, and its working relationships with state and local authorities all make DEA an essential OCDETF partner.



Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The FBI provides extensive expertise in the investigation of national gangs, traditional organized crime, criminal enterprises, public corruption, and white collar/financial crimes. The FBI gathers and analyzes intelligence data and undertakes sophisticated electronic surveillance. The FBI is committed to the OCDETF Program and to targeting major criminal organizations that traffic drugs and their financial infrastructure.



United States Marshals Service (USMS). USMS is responsible for the apprehension of OCDETF fugitives, and brings unique fugitive tracking and location capabilities to the OCDETF Program. Fugitives are typically repeat offenders who flee apprehension and continue their criminal enterprises elsewhere. The USMS also conducts pre-seizure investigation of assets in complex cases. The USMS has entered into a formal agreement with the U.S. Attorneys' Offices to provide detailed and timely pre-seizure planning investigations for all major drug trafficking or money laundering cases involving real property, ongoing businesses, out-of-district assets, and anything perishable.



DHS



Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) – Homeland Security Investigations (HSI). HSI agents contribute valuable financial and drug investigative expertise and intelligence to the OCDETF Program as a direct result of the agency’s responsibility for identifying and dismantling vulnerabilities affecting the nation’s border. The vast majority of illicit drugs sold in this country are not produced domestically; the drugs themselves, or their essential precursor chemicals, are smuggled across one of our borders and transported for distribution throughout the country. HSI agents have a wide array of ICE authorities at their disposal to support OCDETF: these include targeting high-risk vessels, containers, vehicles, or persons for inspection and using their immigration expertise to ensure the arrest and prosecution of significant alien targets. In addition, HSI personnel are an invaluable asset in regional, national, and international money laundering investigations due to their financial investigative expertise.



U.S. Coast Guard (USCG). The USCG includes drug interdiction as one of its primary missions. Although OCDETF does not fund USCG positions, as the Program’s maritime expert the USCG provides valuable intelligence and guidance on cases with maritime connections. USCG personnel also serve as liaisons with the military services, the Intelligence Community, and the National Narcotics Border Interdiction System.



U.S. Secret Service (USSS). Originally created in 1865, the USSS investigative mission has evolved from enforcing counterfeiting laws to safeguarding U.S. payment and financial systems from a wide range of financial and computer-based crimes. The USSS proactively applies advanced technologies and capitalizes task force partnerships to play a pivotal role in securing the nation’s critical infrastructure, specifically in the areas of cyber, banking, and finance.

Other directives address the need to combat transnational organized crime that target U.S. citizens and financial institutions. Today, multi-disciplined USSS forensics experts, investigative experts, and intelligence analysts provide rapid response to support financial analysis, infrastructure protection, and criminal investigations.

Treasury



Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Criminal Investigation Division. The IRS Criminal Investigation Division works to dismantle and disrupt major drug-related money laundering organizations by applying its unique financial forensic skills to investigate all aspects of illegal activities. The IRS uses tax code, money laundering statutes, and asset seizure/forfeiture laws to thoroughly investigate the financial operations of targeted organizations. Given OCDETF’s concentration on identifying and destroying financial systems that support drug trade, and seizing the assets and profits of criminal organizations, the IRS is a vital program participant.



DOL



DOL – Office of the Inspector General (DOL-OIG). The DOL-OIG supports external criminal investigations that combat the influence of labor racketeering and organized crime in the nation's labor unions. The DOL-OIG brings this wealth of knowledge to OCDETF investigations of both traditional and emerging domestic and transnational organized crime.

State



Diplomatic Security Service (DSS). DSS agents conduct criminal investigations into passport and visa fraud both in the U.S. and overseas. The U.S. passport is the world's most valuable identity document, as it establishes American citizenship and allows its bearer access to virtually every country. Similarly, a U.S. visa permits an alien to travel to a port of entry and apply for entry to the United States for a specific purpose, such as work or tourism.

Individuals who attempt to obtain a U.S. passport illegally or use stolen or altered passports are often seeking to change their identities and conceal their activities and movements in connection with a wide variety of crimes. Thousands of people illegally attempt to obtain U.S. visas each year, often through the fraudulent application, issuance, procurement, counterfeiting, or forgery of U.S. visas. The DSS works with State's Bureau of Consular Affairs on cases involving allegations of corrupt American Embassy employees, fraudulent document vendors, and the use of visas and fraudulent passports by terrorists, as well as those smuggling and trafficking drugs and human beings. These investigations are critical to secure American borders and protect U.S. national security. The DSS commits personnel and data resources to the OFC to improve OCDETF's ability to disrupt and dismantle TOC organizations and their financial components. The DSS is an essential collaborator in OCDETF's whole-of-government effort to facilitate investigative leads, target profiles and field query reports to thwart the TOC threat.

USPS



United States Postal Inspection Service (USPIS). As the law enforcement arm of the USPS, the USPIS supports and protects the U.S. Postal Service, its employees, infrastructure, and customers by enforcing the laws that defend the nation's mail system from illegal or dangerous use. The USPIS secures U.S. mail (including military and diplomatic mail) transiting to and from foreign postal administrations and U.S. installations overseas, protects postal revenues generated by international business development, acts as liaison to foreign stakeholders and international organizations, and ensures that the sanctity of mail and justice are not hindered by national borders. The USPIS works with foreign postal administrations, international organizations like the Universal Postal Union, and law enforcement entities to improve mail security worldwide and protect society from criminal enterprises that use mail to further their schemes.



Other Program Elements



OCDETF Fusion Center (OFC). The OFC is the cornerstone of OCDETF's intelligence efforts. As a centrally managed function overseen by the OCDETF Director, the OFC has significantly enhanced OCDETF's overall capacity to engage in intelligence-driven, coordinated law enforcement. The OFC is a unique, comprehensive data center that manages drug and related financial intelligence information from OCDETF's investigative agencies, Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, and relevant data from many other partners.

The OFC is designed to conduct cross-agency data integration and analysis; to create comprehensive, fused intelligence pictures of targeted organizations, including those identified as CPOTs and RPOTs; and to pass actionable leads to OCDETF participants in the field, including Co-Located Strike Forces. These leads ultimately result in the development of better coordinated, more comprehensive, multi-jurisdictional OCDETF investigations of the most significant drug trafficking and money laundering networks. In addition, the OFC creates proactive lead packages using enhanced analysis.



International Organized Crime Intelligence and Operations Center (IOC-2). IOC-2 leverages tools managed by the OFC and the DEA's multi-agency Special Operations Division (SOD) while simultaneously benefiting those organizations by expanding the scope of their missions, collection, and agency participation. IOC coordination ensures more effective coordination of the Government's overall efforts against the highest level transnational criminal organizations. IOC-2 brought several new federal law enforcement agencies into partnership with the OFC and DEA SOD, and significantly enhances the scope of contribution of current partners.

IOC-2 creates and disseminates important intelligence products that have led to successes in criminal investigations and prosecutions across the country. Additionally, IOC-2 is regularly involved in deconfliction and case coordination and has hosted case coordination and threat mapping meetings that bring together agents and prosecutors from domestic and international law enforcement agencies.

IOC-2 has spearheaded several significant operations targeting the highest priority TOC targets and has successfully encouraged participating agencies to merge their investigative efforts in a way that was not previously happening. Funding provided directly to IOC-2 in recent years has helped to lighten the participating agencies' financial load in intelligence collection and case coordination. Additionally, OCDETF has supported specific strategic initiatives that provide operational funding for TOC agencies' efforts to address the highest priority TOC targets in a multi-agency way, including the highest priority criminal networks identified by the Threat Mitigation Working Group as posing the greatest national security threats.

OCDETF Co-Located Strike Forces. OCDETF established its Co-Located Strike Forces with a heavy focus on the Southwest Border region. These strike forces aggressively target the



highest-level drug trafficking organizations and TOC networks, bringing a synergy to priority criminal enterprise investigations by combining the resources and expertise of all of OCDETF’s participating investigative agencies, including state and local law enforcement officers and prosecutors. By coordinating their efforts, participants eliminate superfluous effort, save valuable resources, and produce some of the largest and most successful cases against national and international criminal organizations, particularly those organizations operating along and across the Southwest Border.

State and Local Law Enforcement. Annually, approximately 1,200 State and local law enforcement agencies participate in approximately 91 percent of all OCDETF investigations. Their involvement significantly expands OCDETF’s available resource base and broadens the choice of venue for prosecutions. Currently, OCDETF reimburses state and local agencies for overtime, travel, and per diem expenses with funds allocated by the DOJ Assets Forfeiture Fund.

B. Prosecutions

Prosecutions: Total	Direct Pos.	FTE	Amount (\$000)
2021 Enacted	1,046	1,042	\$169,218
2022 President’s Budget	990	986	\$168,945
Adjustments to Base and Technical Adjustments	0	0	\$5,483
2023 Current Services	990	986	\$174,428
2023 Program Decreases	(79)	(79)	(\$10,483)
2023 President’s Budget	911	907	\$163,945
Total Change 2022-2023	(79)	(79)	(\$5,000)

1. Program Description

The FY 2023 President’s Budget for the Prosecution activity is 911 positions, 907 work years, and \$163,945,000. The agencies that provide prosecutorial support are identified below.

U.S. Attorneys



U.S. Attorneys’ Offices are essential to OCDETF activities, because OCDETF uses prosecutor-led, multi-agency task forces to conduct intelligence-driven, multi-jurisdictional investigations. OCDETF prosecutors participate in development of investigative strategy and provide legal services and counsel that investigators require. Attorney involvement early in investigations ensures prosecutions are well-prepared, comprehensively charged, and expertly handled.



Criminal Division

The Office of Enforcement Operations (OEO) offers direct operational support to U.S. Attorneys' Offices by reviewing all applications for electronic surveillance and by providing guidance to agents and prosecutors on the development of such applications. Prompt, thorough processing of time-sensitive wiretap applications is crucial to the success of OCDETF's coordinated, nationwide investigations, of which approximately 45 percent use federal wiretaps.

Narcotic and Dangerous Drug Section (NDDS) trial attorneys handle an increasing caseload of multi-regional and international OCDETF cases, working in coordination with U.S. Attorneys' Offices and foreign authorities. OCDETF-funded NDDS attorneys also assist in supporting and coordinating nationwide investigations through their work with the DEA SOD.

Money Laundering and Asset Recovery Section (MLARS) provides critical guidance to the field for the development of financial investigations, which are required in every OCDETF case. MLARS attorneys are skilled in the application of money laundering and other financial statutes to specific types of sophisticated criminal activity, and they are particularly knowledgeable about the means to identify, freeze, seize, and repatriate assets from foreign jurisdictions. OCDETF does not currently fund any positions at MLARS.

Office of International Affairs (OIA) has become increasingly involved in OCDETF investigations. With OCDETF's particular focus on targeting and dismantling international "command and control" elements of transnational criminal organizations, the OIA is handling requests under Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties, provisional arrest warrants, and extraditions arising out of OCDETF investigations with greater frequency.

C. Performance, Resources, and Strategies

As a performance-driven resourcing program, OCDETF relies on data collected throughout the lifecycle of each investigation through bi-annual reporting requirements which must be satisfied from initial OCDETF designation to the closing of the case. OCDETF uses historical performance data to identify foundational indicators (i.e., measures that exemplify the Program), set targets, redirect resources to support strategic planning, and address emerging threats.

OCDETF's foundational indicators are the number of investigations, both active and initiated within a fiscal year; the number of defendants indicted; and the number of defendants convicted. These indicators are the basis for OCDETF's key performance indicators (KPIs). All indicators are based on specific reporting dates and investigation statuses reported throughout the lifecycle of each investigation. Analysis of these measures and the resulting KPIs (i.e., qualitative subsets based on mission outcomes, strategic initiatives, and emerging trends), such as CPOT and RPOT metrics, gang metrics, violence metrics, drug-specific metrics, and associated disruptions and dismantlements, provide insight into the quality and quantity of OCDETF efforts and emerging trends which ensure that OCDETF's resources are capitalized nationwide for maximum impact. KPIs are selected based on their applicability to measure the success of the OCDETF Programs'



mission, resource usage, and strategic plans. Therefore, OCDETF measures its success based on performance in these strategic areas.

Data Collection

OCDETF currently collects and analyzes data from agents and attorneys working on investigations within each district through the use of five forms:

1. Investigation Initiation Form – provides information pertaining to threshold requirements as a basis to obtain approval for each investigation.
2. Indictment/Information Form – records each indictment returned in OCDETF cases.
3. Disposition and Sentencing Report – records all charges in OCDETF cases and final resolution of those charges.
4. OCDETF Interim Report – filed every six months while an OCDETF case is open and active, to updates the status of the investigation and all case information.
5. OCDETF Final Report – provides information at the end of a case and measures both the extent to which a targeted organization was disrupted or dismantled and the overall impact of the investigation.

Data Validation

Data submitted on OCDETF forms and reports is verified through OCDETF's national governance structure by the OCDETF District Coordination Group, the OCDETF Regional Coordination Group, and the OCDETF Executive Office. Data is reviewed periodically, monthly, and annually to ensure that data is accurate and reliable. Additional data reviews are conducted as necessary on an ongoing basis.

OCDETF cross-checks its data with data collected by other entities, including: EOUSA, which collects data on indictments, convictions and sentences; CATS, which captures data on seized and forfeited assets; and DEA's PTARRS database, which contains information regarding DEA's CPOT-linked organizations and investigations.



1. Performance and Resources Tables

PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES TABLE														
Decision Unit: Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces – Investigations														
RESOURCES (\$ in thousands)			Target		Actual		Target		Changes		Requested (Total)			
Workload			FY 2021		FY 2021		FY 2022		Current Services Adjustments and FY 2023 Program Changes		FY 2023 Request			
Number of new OCDETF investigations initiated			820		837		858		0		858			
Number of active/judicial pending OCDETF investigations			4,910		4,910		5,250		0		5,250			
Total Costs and FTE (Reimbursable: FTE are included, but costs are bracketed and not included in totals)			FTE		\$0		FTE		\$0		FTE		\$0	
			2,702		550,458		2,702		550,458		2,573		550,458	
Strategic Objective	Type	Performance	FY 2021		FY 2021		FY 2022		Current Services Adjustments and FY 2023 Program Changes		FY 2023 Request			
			FTE	\$0	FTE	\$0	FTE	\$0	FTE	\$0	FTE	\$0		
	Program Activity	Investigations	1,660	381,240	1,660	381,240	1,587	381,513	(38)	5,000	1,549	386,513		
2.1, 2.2, 2.5	Output	Percent of active investigations linked to CPOT	20%		20%		20%		0%		20%			
2.1, 2.2, 2.5	Output	Percent of active investigations linked to RPOT	17%		17%		17%		0%		17%			
2.1, 2.2, 2.4, 2.5	Output	Percent of active investigations involving SOD coordination	25%		34%		28%		0%		28%			
2.1, 2.2, 2.5	Output	Percent active multi-regional/international investigations	74%		63%		74%		0%		74%			
2.1, 2.2, 2.3	Output	Percent active investigations involving violence	65%		65%		67%		0%		67%			

Note: Participation by non-DOJ components is not funded through the ICDE appropriation, but performance targets are calculated taking into account expected resources dedicated to OCDETF by those components.



PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES TABLE

Decision Unit: Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces – Prosecutions

RESOURCES (\$ in thousands)			Target		Actual		Target		Changes		Requested (Total)	
			FY 2021		FY 2021		FY 2022		Current Services Adjustments and FY 2023 Program Changes		FY 2023 Request	
Total Costs and FTE (Reimbursable: FTE are included, but costs are bracketed and not included in totals)			FTE	\$0	FTE	\$0	FTE	\$0	FTE	\$0	FTE	\$0
			1,062	169,218	1,042	169,218	986	168,945	(79)	(5,000)	907	163,945
Strategic Objective	Type	Performance	FY 2021		FY 2021		FY 2022		Current Services Adjustments and FY 2023 Program Changes		FY 2023 Request	
	Program Activity	Prosecutions	FTE	\$0	FTE	\$0	FTE	\$0	FTE	\$0	FTE	\$0
			1,062	169,218	1,042	169,218	986	168,945	(79)	(5,000)	907	163,945
2.1, 2.2, 2.5	APG Measure	Number of CPOT-linked investigations with defendants convicted*	260		260		265		5		271	
2.1, 2.2	APG Measure	Number of TCO convictions*	3,670		3,372		3,238		0		3,238	
2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5	Output	Number of defendants indicted / convicted	8,420 / 6,090		8,293 / 5,778		8,590 / 6,060		0/0		8,590 / 6,060	
2.1, 2.2, 2.5	Output	Percent of investigations with indictments resulting in financial convictions	28%		31%		30%		0%		30%	
2.1, 2.2, 2.5	Output	Percent of indictments with financial violations	10%		11%		10%		0%		10%	
2.1, 2.2, 2.5	Output	Percent of defendants with financial violations charged / convicted	10% / 8%		13% / 7%		13% / 8%		0% / 0%		13% / 8%	
2.1, 2.2, 2.3	Output	Percent of defendants with violence charged / convicted	13% / 11%		17% / 13%		17% / 13%		0% / 0%		17% / 13%	
2.1, 2.2, 2.5	Output	Number of CPOT-linked investigations with defendants convicted*	260		260		265		5		271	

* New measure in FY 2022.



PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES TABLE

Decision Unit: Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces

Strategic Objective	Performance Report and Performance Plan Targets		FY 2021		FY 2022	FY 2023
			Target	Actual	Target	Target
2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5	APG Measure	Number of TCOs disrupted or dismantled *	320	297	315	320
2.1, 2.2, 2.5	KPI: Output	Number of CPOT-linked organizations disrupted or dismantled by investigations	171 (112/59)	165 (109/56)	169 (111/57)	172 (113/58)
2.1, 2.2, 2.5	Performance Measure: Output	Percentage of investigations resulting in disruption or dismantlement of targeted organization	87%	87%	87%	87%
2.1, 2.2, 2.5	Performance Measure: Output	Number of CPOT-linked organizations disrupted or dismantled by investigations	171 (112/59)	165 (109/56)	169 (111/57)	172 (113/58)
2.1, 2.2, 2.5	Performance Measure: Output	Number of RPOT-linked organizations disrupted or dismantled by investigations **	90	83	78	78

* New measure in FY 2022.

** Denotes inclusion in the DOJ Quarterly Status Report and DOJ Annual Performance Plan.



Because OCDETF remains a high priority for participating agencies, OCDETF has been able to maintain many of its performance measure projections. The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly affected OCDETF's procedural and operational landscape, including law enforcement agencies, the courts, federal offices and their operations. Agencies have notably reduced the number of indictments, arrests, and convictions since the March 2020 declaration of a national emergency. Long-term effects on OCDETF operations are currently unknown.

The Department's Drug Enforcement Task Force strategy called on federal agencies to collaboratively develop a unified national list of drug organization targets. This list, created through the CPOT process, includes 88 targets as of FY 2022. Targets include heads of drug and money laundering organizations, poly-drug traffickers, clandestine manufacturers, producers, and major drug transporters, all of whom are believed to be primarily responsible for domestic drug supply.

2. Performance Plan and Report for Outcomes

Although the OCDETF Program received a reduction in financial resources in FY 2021 and the COVID-19 pandemic presented unprecedented challenges for law enforcement with regard to communication, resource management, and changes in crime patterns during this time, the OCDETF Program has achieved many noteworthy objectives and desired outcomes within the four pillars. OCDETF continued to focus on disrupting and dismantling criminal organizations through prosecutorial-led, multi-agency investigations. While prosecutorial measures were significantly reduced due to the prolonged court closures, OCDETF outperformed in other measures such as active investigations, priority targeting, coordination, and intelligence-driven products despite environmental challenges, clearly illustrating the resilience of the OCDETF Program.

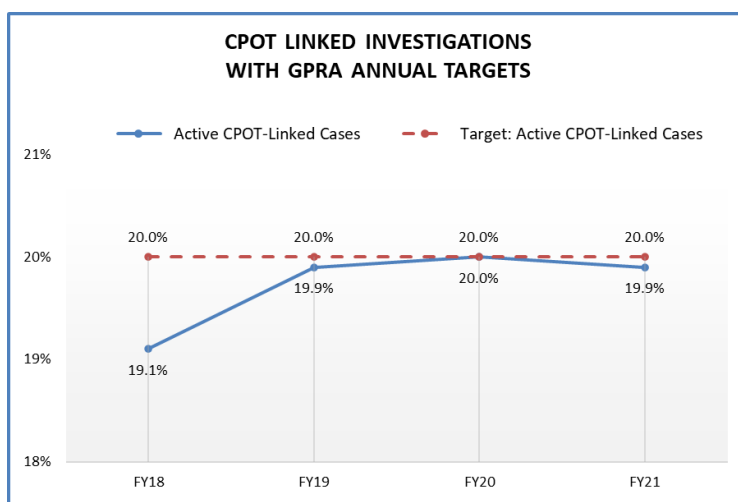
To ensure consistent success throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, OCDETF increased dialogue within the Executive Office and between partner agencies through promoting improved contact using all telecommunication services available to the Department. OCDETF also promoted training on these devices and increased transparency between units by reorganizing key sections; therefore, encouraging the formation of cross unit virtual working groups. Management engagement was promoted and interactions both between units and throughout chains of command were highly supported to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 and the reduction of resources. While travel restrictions and court closures were a significant impediment to OCDETF investigations, and therefore the metrics they produce, production was maximized due to increased efforts by senior management to promote a productive telework environment throughout this crisis. OCDETF plans to continually monitor the situation and remain highly engaged as environmental changes develop. OCDETF also remains committed to maintaining accountability for its resources, and the results of that commitment are evident in several key performance areas.



CPOT and RPOT Investigations

A primary indicator of success, and the central mission, in every OCDETF case is to continually work up and across the chain of command and control of every targeted organization in order to make connections among related organizations nationwide. OCDETF participants strive to identify links to CPOTs, those drug trafficking organizations and related money laundering networks operating internationally and domestically that have been designated as most responsible for the nation’s illegal drug supply. OCDETF participants also strive to identify links to RPOTs, whose drug trafficking activities have a significant impact on the particular drug threats facing each of the OCDETF Regions and, ultimately, to one of the international “command and control” networks identified as a CPOT.

OCDETF’s commitment to pursuing priority targets is reflected by the steady percentage of cases linked to CPOT and RPOT targets. In FY 2020, OCDETF’s active CPOT-linked case inventory was 1,054 investigations, approximately 20 percent of OCDETF’s total active caseload. Furthermore, nearly 34 percent of all active CPOT-linked investigations were reported out of the Southwest Region. Similarly, by the end of first quarter FY 2022, OCDETF’s active CPOT-linked case inventory had similar percentages and increased to 1,062 investigations.



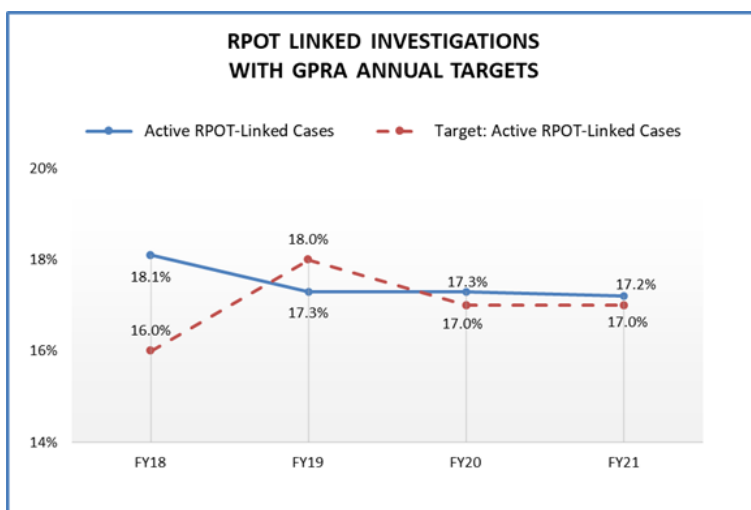
OCDETF data also demonstrates that OCDETF participants are pursuing these investigations to successful conclusions. In addition to making important gains against CPOT-linked organizations in FY 2021, OCDETF agencies continued to achieve significant successes against the CPOTs themselves. Over the course of the last year, two CPOT targets were disrupted and one CPOT target was dismantled.

As previously stated, there are currently 88 CPOTs on the FY 2022 CPOT list. Including current CPOTs, there have been 317 CPOT targets since the inception of the CPOT list in FY 2003. Between FY 2003 and FY 2021, OCDETF agencies dismantled 92 CPOT targets and severely disrupted the operations of another 62. Drug trafficking organizations linked to the FY 2021 disrupted and dismantled CPOT targets have led to the indictment of 330 defendants, approximately 178 convictions to date, and roughly \$14.2 million in seizures. Reasons for removal from the CPOT List include disruption, dismantlement, arrest, and/or death. Additionally, between FY 2003 and FY 2021, OCDETF disrupted or dismantled 4,854 CPOT-linked organizations (those working with or otherwise associated with a CPOT), an average of over 15 organizations per designated target.



During FY 2021, 286 CPOT linked investigations resulted in at least one convicted defendant. By the end of first quarter FY 2022, there had already been 113 CPOT linked investigations resulting in at least one convicted defendant. OCDETF's attack on the related components of these major drug trafficking organizations will not only disrupt the drug market, resulting in a reduction in the drug supply, but will also bolster law enforcement efforts in the fight against organized crime and terrorist groups. OCDETF ensures that a thorough review of all cases reportedly linked to CPOTs is conducted to determine the validity of each link, and OCDETF has implemented controls to ensure that all links are properly supported. The significant enforcement actions of OCDETF agencies against CPOTs have resulted in keeping multi-ton quantities of illegal drugs such as cocaine, heroin, marijuana, and methamphetamine from ever entering the United States.

Similarly, enforcement actions of OCDETF agencies against RPOTs have also been very successful. In FY 2021, OCDETF's active RPOT-linked case inventory was 918 investigations, approximately 17 percent of OCDETF's total active caseload. By the end of first quarter FY 2022, OCDETF's active RPOT linked case inventory remained relatively stable at 906 investigations. OCDETF continually strives to proactively investigate and prosecute these regional threats to mitigate their expansion so that they may never reach the CPOT level.

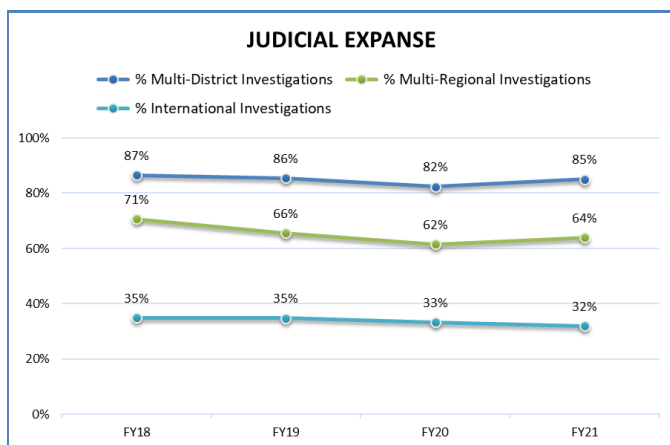


Multi-Jurisdictional and International Scope of OCDETF Investigations

A primary OCDETF goal is to develop multi-jurisdictional investigations that simultaneously target and attack geographically dispersed components of major criminal networks – that is, investigations that are multi-district, multi-state, multi-regional, or international in scope. Illustrating the significance of this measure, all 88 current CPOT targets lead international drug trafficking and money laundering organizations that have the most significant impact on illegal drug supply in the United States. Similarly, most drugs involved in OCDETF investigations are imported from other countries. Of the CPOT targets, 35 (40 percent) are Mexico-based. Furthermore, 43 CPOT targets (49 percent) are involved in opioid- or fentanyl-related trafficking. In FY 2021, 1,168 defendants charged in OCDETF investigations (13 percent) were foreign nationals. By the end of first quarter FY 2022, 140 defendants charged in OCDETF investigations (11 percent) were foreign nationals. OCDETF makes a lasting impact on high-level organized crime by attacking these networks in their entirety, across jurisdictional lines.



In FY 2021, 90 percent of all active OCDETF investigations were multi-jurisdictional. This significant percentage clearly demonstrates OCDETF’s focus on targeting major organizations operating outside district boundaries with far-reaching connections.



Similarly, over the past four years, more than 62 percent of OCDETF investigations have been multi-regional; and more than 32 percent of OCDETF’s investigations have been international in scope – those investigations where there is active participation by, and coordination with, a foreign government. In FY 2021, these percentages were 64 percent and 32 percent respectively. This indicates that

despite fluctuations in the actual number of active investigations, the percentage of OCDETF’s multi-jurisdictional caseload remains steady.

National Gang and Violent Criminal Organization Investigations

National gangs are inherently violent and pose a significant threat to public safety in communities throughout the nation. Data pertaining to OCDETF’s caseload and prosecutions illustrate its commitment to targeting criminal organizations that engage in illegal activities such as firearms/weapons violations, murder, material support to terrorist groups, or other violent activity. For example, the number of newly initiated gang-related investigations reported per fiscal year within OCDETF Districts continues to be significant: 238 during FY 2019, 235 in FY 2020, and 258 in FY 2021.

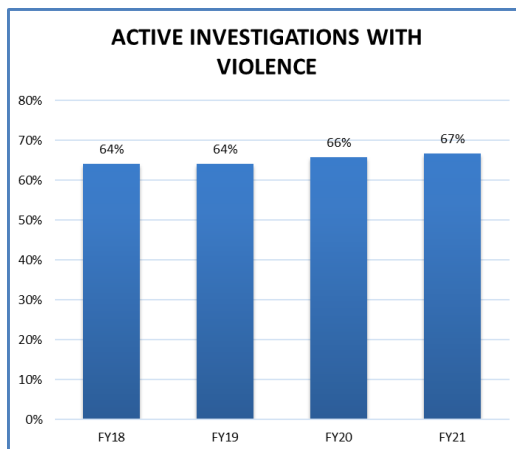
Similarly, OCDETF had 1,572 active gang-related investigations in FY 2021, a 17 percent increase over the number of active gang related investigations reported at the end of FY 2020. There were 1,593 active gang related investigations by the end of the first quarter FY 2021. It is expected that as the investigations continue, additional links will be exposed and the data will be updated, as shown by all prior years’ data. This data indicates that while COVID-19 impacted certain aspects of the Program, OCDETF partners mitigated the effects by continuing to build cases through the use of its intelligence resources throughout the pandemic.

However, the number of defendants and convictions in gang-related OCDETF investigations was impacted, but maintained its significance in the Program. In FY 2020, 3,159 defendants were charged and 2,191 defendants convicted. In FY 2021, the number of defendants charged in gang-related OCDETF investigations was 3,234, representing a 2 percent increase; similarly the number of defendants convicted in these investigations has increased from last year to 2,599, representing a 19 percent increase. By the end of the first quarter of FY 2022, 456 defendants had been charged and 478 had been convicted. These numbers are expected to increase further as data is updated. Nevertheless, the downward trend in these numbers is most likely a direct

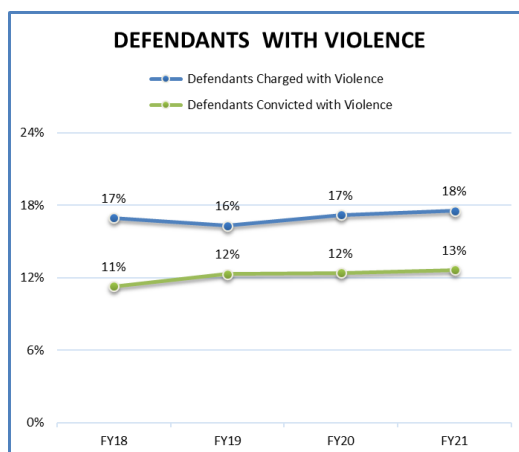


result of court closures and all indications are that there will be a rebound when the federal court systems return to normal operating status.

OCDETF is mindful of the growing threat that national gangs pose to the safety and well-being of American citizens, and we continue efforts to reduce this violent threat through multi-agency coordinated investigations, prosecutions, and strategic initiatives. In FY 2021, approximately 67 percent of active OCDETF investigations targeted criminal organizations engaged in firearms or weapons trafficking, murder, or other violence. This percentage was 65 percent at the end of first quarter FY 2022.



Additionally, in FY 2021, OCDETF charged 1,554 defendants (18 percent of all defendants charged) with crimes of violence or firearms-related charges and convicted 813 defendants (13 percent of all defendants convicted) on charges involving violence or firearms. And by the end of the first quarter FY 2022, OCDETF charged 211 defendants, or 17 percent of all defendants charged – with crimes of violence or firearms related charges; and convicted 145, or 13 percent of all defendants convicted – on charges involving violence or firearms. Furthermore, 26 current CPOT targets (30 percent) have links to designated terrorist organizations.

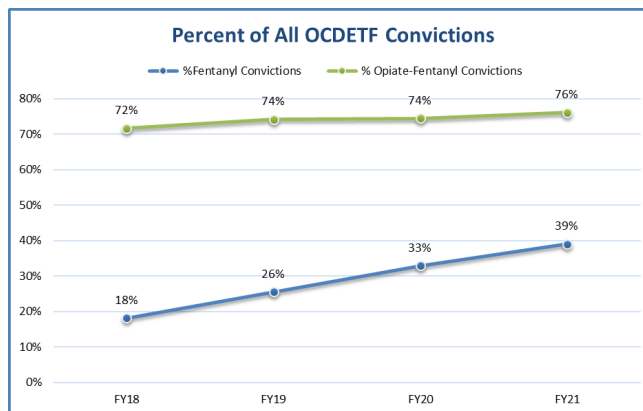
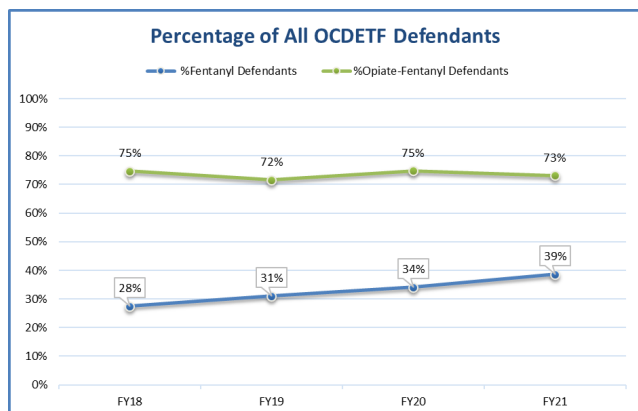


To encourage the development of creative strategies and innovative initiatives to address the violent threat posed by National Gangs, OCDETF remains committed to the OCDETF National Gang Strategic Initiative originated in FY 2017. This nationwide initiative provides programmatic support and “seed money” for OCDETF components to exploit the vulnerabilities of violent gangs through targeted initiatives designed to develop information and evidence on criminal gang activities that are intended to reach the OCDETF level, but have not yet done so. By learning and developing best practices, sharing information, and linking and deconflicting lower level investigations, the participants are more likely to develop new investigations suitable for OCDETF designation. Additionally, the consistent agency focus on criminal gangs, and the resulting OCDETF and non-OCDETF investigations, will have a greater impact in disrupting and dismantling gang-related violence and other criminal activity throughout the country.



Opioid and Fentanyl Investigations

In response to the opioid epidemic, OCDETF established a National Heroin Initiative to address the serious nationwide threat posed by the dramatic increase across the United States in the number of persons addicted to prescription opioids and heroin, overdoses, and overdose-related deaths. Under this initiative, OCDETF field components can use the funds for the development of investigations that meet certain criteria and may rise to the OCDETF level. Since reporting began in FY 2015, districts have submitted information on 5,761 unique non-OCDETF



investigations, resulting in 8,159 defendants, and 4,480 convictions relating to this initiative.

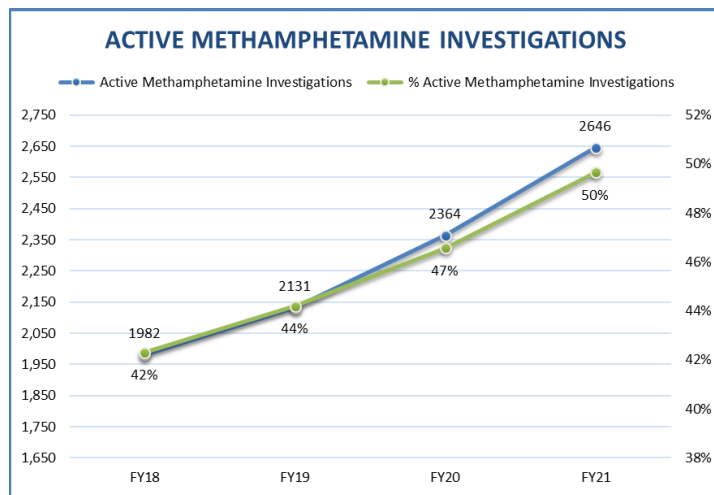
To holistically track this threat, national, regional, and district data have been added to the quarterly performance reports to show OCDETF reporting for opioid investigations as well as the investigations that specifically report fentanyl. In FY 2021, 6,493 defendants were charged in opioid/fentanyl investigations, a 7 percent decrease from FY 2020. Of those, 3,432 defendants were reported in cases involving fentanyl, a 23 percent increase from FY 2020. Additionally, 4,891 defendants were reported as convicted in opioid/fentanyl investigations, a 10 percent increase from FY 2020, and of those, 2,512 defendants were reported as convicted in cases involving fentanyl, a 28 percent increase from FY 2020.

Current data for the first quarter of FY 2022 shows that 936 defendants have been charged in opioid/fentanyl investigations and of those, 434 defendants were specifically reported in cases involving fentanyl. Similarly, by the end of first quarter 2022, 890 defendants had been reported as convicted in opioid/fentanyl investigations and of those, 455 defendants were reported as convicted in cases involving fentanyl. This data further illustrates the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Methamphetamine Investigations

While heroin and opioids are the subject of substantial national attention, methamphetamine remains the predominate illicit drug in parts of the nation. OCDETF data shows significant signs of methamphetamine as a re-emerging issue in several regions. The percentage of active OCDETF investigations involving methamphetamine has risen over the past several years. Proactively focusing efforts and resources on emerging threats, OCDETF participants can make a higher impact on the production, distribution, availability, and financial systems of such threats; and, therefore, decrease the amount of violence and deaths associated with these substances.



Since there is a clear need for a nationwide, comprehensive approach to the methamphetamine threat, and this proposed initiative will serve that purpose, OCDETF has proposed a National Methamphetamine Strategic Initiative (NMI) to be enacted in FY 2021. The primary goal of the NMI is to disrupt and dismantle methamphetamine traffickers and their sources of supply through a coordinated, multi-agency, multi-district approach, targeting the highest levels of drug trafficking leadership, maximizing information sharing, and developing high-impact OCDETF methamphetamine investigations.

A challenge for OCDETF is that many law enforcement investigations against methamphetamine trafficking have a significant local impact on the drug trade but do not have immediately discernible ties to high-level criminal organizations that meet OCDETF's requirements. By arming OCDETF's partner agencies, and state and local law enforcement working with those agencies, with seed resources to investigate these pre-OCDETF cases, the NMI will foster greater coordination and a more comprehensive attack on the methamphetamine threat affecting the United States. In working such investigations from the bottom up, the NMI will provide law enforcement with the resources it needs to initiate and develop cases targeting transnational criminal organizations (TCOs) responsible for the current methamphetamine epidemic.

Success in Financial Investigations

OCDETF must be steadfast in charging and convicting those who conduct or facilitate illicit financial activity, and in seizing and forfeiting their assets, to have a significant impact on the illicit financial systems that support the most dangerous transnational, national and regional criminal organizations. Tracking and analysis of this information at the district and regional levels helps OCDETF to understand where to focus the distribution of financial resources and analyze the impact for these resources.



In FY 2021, 13 percent of all OCDETF defendants were charged with financial violations and seven percent of OCDETF's convicted defendants were reported as convicted of a financial charge. By the end of first quarter FY 2022, 16 percent of all OCDETF defendants were charged with financial violations; half of those, or 8 percent of all defendants, were convicted. These percentages are expected to increase as data is updated.

Despite continued emphasis on targeting money launderers and facilitators, and the seizure or forfeiture of a substantial amount of the estimated illegal proceeds that attract criminal actors to organized crime, OCDETF's investigative agents and prosecutors find it difficult to retain the necessary expertise and resources sufficient to fully investigate and dismantle the financial infrastructure of these criminal organizations. This may be attributed to the increasing complexity of investigations and ever-evolving technological advances.

Notwithstanding these challenges, as well as the challenges posed by reduced resources and the impact of COVID-19, OCDETF remains committed to the National Money Laundering Initiative initiated in FY 2016. The goal of this strategic initiative is to provide support to combatting and dismantling national and transnational criminal organizations impacting the U.S. through approved OCDETF and potential OCDETF investigations.

Efforts to Disrupt/Dismantle Transnational Criminal Organizations and their Subsidiaries

The number of disruptions and dismantlements of TCOs is one of the primary measures by which OCDETF quantifies success. By the end of FY 2021, there had been 297 disruptions and dismantlements in transnational criminal organizations. FY 2021 data shows that these disruptions and dismantlements have resulted in 3,757 convictions of members belonging to transnational criminal organizations and their subsidiaries. Additionally, drug trafficking organizations linked to the FY 2021 disrupted and dismantled TCO targets have led to over \$220 million in seizures, more than \$161 million in forfeitures, and more than \$186 million in money judgments. In FY 2022, OCDETF has already successfully disrupted or dismantled 83 transnational criminal organizations, resulting 704 convictions of members belonging to transnational criminal organizations and their subsidiaries.

3. Strategies to Accomplish Outcomes and Budget Request Relationship to Strategies

Focusing on Intelligence-Driven, Strategic Enforcement

OCDETF is determined to attack the infrastructure of major criminal organizations at their most vulnerable points. Carefully planned and comprehensive strategic initiatives pursued by the OCDETF Regions and the Co-Located Strike Forces are the most effective method to do so.

OCDETF focuses on enhancing the capacity of its participants to undertake intelligence-driven, strategic enforcement initiatives. The OFC integrates and analyzes law enforcement investigative data and related financial data with the goal of providing law enforcement with the complete intelligence picture of the major transnational and domestic criminal organizations.



The OFC generates leads that direct law enforcement efforts, especially those resources located at the OCDETF Co-Located Strike Forces, against those criminal organizations engaged in drug trafficking or transnational crime and their related components nationwide. The 19 Co-Located Strike Forces, as well as the multi-agency task forces located throughout the country, are in unique positions to take advantage of OFC leads.

Using the CPOT and RPOT Lists

The OCDETF Director is the principal executor of the Attorney General's priority targeting processes for TOC. The CPOT and RPOT Lists are important management tools for the OCDETF Program, and the OCDETF Director has been designated as the management authority for these priority targeting programs by the Attorney General. These lists enable the OCDETF Regions and districts to focus enforcement efforts on specific targets that are believed to be primarily responsible for the national and regional drug supply, and to coordinate related nationwide investigations against the CPOT and RPOT organizations.

Investigations of CPOT-level targets and the TCOs they lead are complex and time-consuming, and the impact of disrupting/dismantling such a network may not be immediately apparent. In fact, data may significantly lag behind enforcement activity. For example, a CPOT-linked organization may be disrupted in one fiscal year, then subsequently dismantled in a later year when law enforcement permanently destroys the organization's ability to operate.

OCDETF Co-Located Strike Forces

OCDETF believes that one of the greatest opportunities for success in achieving Program goals is through the OCDETF Co-Located Strike Forces. Co-Located Strike Forces best exemplify the effectiveness of the prosecutor-led, multi-agency task forces model in the attack on transnational organized criminal groups. For example, in FY 2021, 33 percent of the OCDETF Strike Forces' caseload comprised active CPOT-linked investigations, which was nearly double OCDETF's national average of 20 percent. By the end of the first quarter of FY 2022, this percentage remained steady, above the national average. Furthermore, in FY 2021, 11 percent of active OCDETF Strike Force cases targeted primary money laundering organizations, which was three percent higher than the national average.

Permanently Disabling Drug Organizations through Fugitive Apprehension

OCDETF defendants and fugitives are highly mobile, and they typically have extensive resources and an extended network of associates to assist them in avoiding arrest. Consequently, the longer they remain at large, the more difficult they become to apprehend and prosecute. OCDETF strives to indict and prosecute these criminals to ensure their enterprises are dismantled forever. However, to permanently disable these high-level criminal enterprises, organization members must be brought to justice, and their illegally obtained assets must be seized and forfeited; otherwise, these traffickers continue to operate their illegal enterprises indefinitely.



Increasing OCDETF Performance and Accountability

Since May 2003, the OCDETF Executive Office has distributed comprehensive quarterly performance indicator reports to all U.S. Attorneys, OCDETF Lead Task Force Attorneys, and agency managers. These reports have become an essential management tool for field Program managers. The reports track key OCDETF performance indicator data and reporting compliance rates for each judicial district. The OCDETF Director uses this information to conduct district and agency performance reviews, to identify staffing deficits, reallocate existing resources and allocate new resources, and to identify areas for Program improvement. These performance indicator reports also drive OCDETF's budget requests and enable OCDETF to tie resource requests more effectively to Program accomplishments.