From:		
Sent:	Wednesday, September 04, 2013 7:26 PM	
To:		
(b)(6),(b)(7) (C),(b)(7)(F)		

Task Force Commanders / Initiative Managers,

By now you have undoubtedly heard, seen, or read some if not all of the articles published about the Hemisphere Project ... If not here they are:

http://www.nytimes.com/2013/09/02/us/drug-agents-use-vast-phone-trove-eclipsing-nsas.html?ref=global-home&_r=0

http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2013/09/02/drug-agents-reportedly-have-access-to-bigger-phone-database-than-nsa/

http://nyti.ms/17xlipO

http://security.blogs.cnn.com/2013/09/02/dea-program-linked-to-vast-att-database-documents-show/

http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/sep/02/nsa-dea-at-t-call-records-access

http://news.cnet.com/8301-13578 3-57600982-38/dea-supplied-with-access-to-vast-database-of-at-t-phone-records/

http://www.techmeme.com/130901/p17?utm_source-feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+SmithMarketwatchIndustryNews+(Smith+MarketWatch+Industry+News)

http://rt.com/usa/at&t-phone-surveillance-dea-325/

Although we'll discuss in depth at the upcoming LA-HIDTA Supervisor's Training / Meeting following our LA-HIDTA Executive Board Meeting, but let me offer some points to ponder ...

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(b)(7)(E)

IF HIDTA in general decides to put out some edict to not allow your agents/detectives to utilize this "tool" it would give the impression to the "common man" a jury standards... that we collectively did something WRONG ... which as we all know is the furthest from the truth.

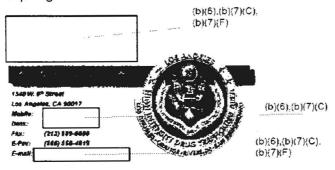
Hemi is nothing more than "Super Search Engine" ... "Google on Steroids" as it were ... A software record search system developed to reach into numerous stove-piped databases; coupled with Analysts who knows what we (law enforcement) is asking for as well how to interpret their confusing raw record data once retrieved ... And all is done through legally approved documents (Admin Subpoena for Feds, Court Orders by State/Locals). That's it ... Nothing more, nothing less ... Period.

Additionally, from a legal perspective ... this system was scrutinized by Attorneys, Local, State and Federal Prosecutors, US DOJ, and DEA General Counsel Attorneys, and Judges as well ... ALL OF WHOM concur that Hemi is a legal tool ... and nothing MORE than just a "tool."

As far as "keeping it a secret" per se (an issue raised in the articles based on one of the slides) ... Our rational has been simple and truly hasn't changed since the beginning of Sir Robert Peel and the origins of today's "Modern Day Law Enforcement" ... we were attempting to NOT educate the Cartel Attorneys et al on the systems and practices we law enforcement professionals legally have available at our disposal (Key word LEGALLY!)

The article "likens" the Hemisphere Project with the NSA Project ... In short, they're apples & oranges. To access Hemisphere a law enforcement officer/agent must have PC specific to their search request, then must provide either a Federal Admin Subpoena or have a judge sign a Court Order in the case of state/local investigators. This is in total contrast to the blanket Patriot Act search methods used by NSA.

Thanks again for your understanding, and I hope this helps you better explain to the unknowing who may be inquiring



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