

A CALL TO ACTION: ENHANCING OFFICER SAFETY THROUGH THE USE OF EVENT DECONFLICTION SYSTEMS

To ensure officer safety, it is vital for all law enforcement agencies and personnel to participate in event deconfliction.

Officer safety is a top priority of law enforcement chief executives across the nation. A simple yet invaluable practice that helps support agency leadership in enhancing officer safety and improving agency operations is event deconfliction.

WHAT IS EVENT DECONFLICTION?

Event deconfliction is the process of determining when law enforcement personnel are conducting an event in close proximity to one another at the same time. Events include law enforcement actions such as raids, undercover operations, surveillance, or executing search warrants. When certain elements (e.g., time, date, or location) are matched between two or more events, a conflict results. Immediate notification is then made to the affected agencies or personnel regarding the identified conflict.

To implement systematic event deconfliction within agency operations, agencies should utilize one of three nationally recognized event deconfliction systems: Case Explorer, the Regional Information Sharing Systems® (RISS) Officer Safety Event Deconfliction System (RISSafe™), or the Secure Automated Fast Event Tracking Network (SAFETNet). These systems are designed to identify and provide immediate notification to personnel of potential conflicts with other law enforcement actions or events, including executing a search warrant, serving an arrest warrant, or a dignitary visit.

WHY IS EVENT DECONFLICTION IMPORTANT?

Event deconfliction supports and protects law enforcement personnel—including agency leadership, commanders and task force supervisors, detectives and investigators, analysts, and line officers—in numerous ways, including:

- ◀ Enhancing officer safety
- ◀ Reducing risk and liability
- ◀ Safeguarding community members
- ◀ Ensuring case integrity
- ◀ Minimizing disruptions to investigations
- ◀ Strengthening information sharing
- ◀ Connecting suspects and cases
- ◀ Building community confidence

Without event deconfliction, officers may unintentionally interfere with another law enforcement operation or action, potentially resulting in injury or death to officers or a negative impact on an investigation.



N a t i o n w i d e
Officer Safety
Event Deconfliction

Saving Lives • Solving Cases



WHAT ARE THE EVENT DECONFLICTION SYSTEMS?

The three nationally recognized event deconfliction systems—Case Explorer, RISSafe, and SAFETNet—are designed to enable law enforcement personnel to enter specific, relevant information prior to an event to determine whether there are any conflicts (e.g., the event happening at the same date/time/location as another event) with other law enforcement actions. Once the information is submitted, personnel receive notification of a potential conflict with another operation. Based on the information returned to the submitter, a review should be conducted of potential conflicts to more precisely determine whether an actual conflict of events exists and to address the conflict accordingly. The three systems are connected using an interface solution developed in coordination with the system owners. This interconnectivity further strengthens deconfliction among agencies, enhances officer and citizen safety, and improves information sharing.

- ◀ **Case Explorer**—Access is provided through the Washington/Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), www.caseexplorer.net.
- ◀ **RISSafe**—Access is provided through the appropriate RISS Center, www.riss.net.
- ◀ **SAFETNet**—Access is provided by the appropriate regional HIDTA Investigative Support Center, www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp/hidta-points-of-contact.

HOW CAN MY AGENCY PARTICIPATE IN EVENT DECONFLICTION?

Incorporating an event deconfliction system into agency operations is a simple process.

1. Agency leadership should partner with other law enforcement leadership in their jurisdiction, region, or state to discuss which system best meets their needs. The state or major urban area fusion center should be included in this identification process, since many fusion centers serve as event deconfliction watch centers.
2. Upon identification of the appropriate event deconfliction system, agency personnel should contact either the regional RISS Center or HIDTA Center to obtain access.
3. Agency leadership should support training for agency personnel on how to use the event deconfliction tool.
4. Agency leadership should incorporate the use of the event deconfliction system into agency policies and procedures.

The use of event deconfliction should not replace professional protocols when deconflicting events with agencies in other jurisdictions.