

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
LOUISVILLE DIVISION TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME  
WESTERN HEMISPHERE TASK FORCE  
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**PARTIES**

1. This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into by and between the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Lexington Police Department (LPD) ("the Parties"). Nothing in this MOU should be construed as limiting or impeding the basic spirit of cooperation which exists between these agencies.

**AUTHORITIES**

2. Authority for the FBI to enter into this agreement can be found at Title 28, United States Code (U.S.C.), Section (§) 533; 34 U.S.C. § 10211; Title 28, Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.), § 0.85; and applicable United States Attorney General's Guidelines.

**PURPOSE**

3. The purpose of this MOU is to delineate the responsibilities of the Transnational Organized Crime Western Hemisphere Task Force (WTOC-TF) personnel; formalize relationships between participating agencies for policy guidance, planning, training, public and media relations; and maximize inter-agency cooperation.
4. This MOU is not intended, and should not be construed, to create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or otherwise by any third party against the parties, the United States, or the officers, employees, agents, or other associated personnel thereof. No assignment of rights, duties, or obligations of this MOU shall be made by any party without the express written approval of a duly authorized representative of all other parties.

**MISSION**

5. The mission of the WTOC-TF is to identify and target for prosecution criminal enterprise groups responsible for drug trafficking, money laundering, robbery, crimes of violence such as murder and aggravated assault, and financial crimes such as fraud that further facilitate these violations. The WTOC-TF will enhance the effectiveness of federal/state/local law enforcement resources through a well-coordinated initiative seeking the most effective investigative/prosecutive avenues by which to convict and incarcerate dangerous offenders.

## **SUPERVISION AND CONTROL**

### **A. Supervision**

6. Overall management of the task force shall be the shared responsibility of the participating agency heads and/or their designees.
7. The Special Agent in Charge (SAC) of the FBI Louisville Division shall designate one Supervisory Special Agent (WTOC-TF Supervisor) to supervise the WTOC-TF. The WTOC-TF Supervisor may designate a Special Agent to serve as the WTOC-TF Task Force Coordinator (Task Force Coordinator). Either the WTOC-TF Supervisor or the Task Force Coordinator shall oversee day-to-day operational and investigative matters pertaining to the WTOC-TF.
8. Conduct undertaken outside the scope of an individual's WTOC-TF duties and assignments under this MOU shall not fall within the oversight responsibility of the WTOC-TF Supervisor or Task Force Coordinator.
9. WTOC-TF personnel will continue to report to their respective agency heads for non-investigative administrative matters not detailed in this MOU.
10. Continued assignment of personnel to the WTOC-TF will be based on performance and at the discretion of appropriate management. The FBI SAC and WTOC-TF Supervisor will also retain discretion to remove any individual from the WTOC-TF.

### **B. Case Assignments**

11. The FBI WTOC-TF Supervisor will be responsible for opening, monitoring, directing, and closing WTOC-TF investigations in accordance with existing FBI policy and the applicable United States Attorney General's Guidelines.
12. Assignments of cases to personnel will be based on, but not limited to, experience, training and performance, in addition to the discretion of the WTOC-TF Supervisor.
13. For FBI administrative purposes, WTOC-TF cases will be entered into the relevant FBI computer system.
14. WTOC-TF personnel will have equal responsibility for each case assigned. WTOC-TF personnel will be responsible for complete investigation from predication to resolution.

### **C. Resource Control**

15. The head of each participating agency shall determine the resources to be dedicated by that agency to the WTOC-TF, including personnel, as well as the continued dedication of those resources. The participating agency head or designee shall be kept fully apprised of all investigative developments by his or her subordinates.

## **OPERATIONS**

### **A. Investigative Exclusivity**

16. It is agreed that matters designated to be handled by the WTOC-TF will not knowingly be subject to non- WTOC-TF law enforcement efforts by any of the participating agencies. It is incumbent on each agency to make proper internal notification regarding the WTOC-TF 's existence and areas of concern.
17. It is agreed that there is to be no unilateral action taken on the part of the FBI or the LPD relating to WTOC-TF investigations or areas of concern. All law enforcement actions will be coordinated and cooperatively carried out.
18. WTOC-TF investigative leads outside of the geographic areas of responsibility for the FBI Louisville Division will be communicated to other FBI offices for appropriate investigation.

### **B. Confidential Human Sources**

19. The disclosure of FBI informants, or Confidential Human Sources (CHSs), to non- WTOC-TF personnel will be limited to those situations where it is essential to the effective performance of the WTOC-TF and only with prior FBI approval. These disclosures will be consistent with applicable FBI guidelines and policy.
20. Non-FBI WTOC-TF personnel must not make any further disclosure of the identity of an FBI CHS, including to other individuals assigned to the WTOC-TF. No documents which identify, tend to identify, or may indirectly identify an FBI CHS may be released without prior FBI approval.
21. In those instances where the LPD provides a CHS, the FBI may, consistent with FBI policy, become solely responsible for the CHS's continued development, operation, and compliance with necessary administrative procedures regarding operation and payment as set forth by the FBI.
22. Applicable United States Attorney General's Guidelines and FBI policy and procedure for operating FBI CHSs shall apply to all FBI CHSs opened and operated in furtherance of WTOC-TF investigations. Documentation of, and any payments made to, FBI CHSs shall be in accordance with FBI policy and procedure.
23. Operation, documentation, and payment of any CHS opened and operated in furtherance of an WTOC-TF investigation must be in accordance with applicable United States Attorney General's Guidelines and FBI policy, regardless of whether the handling agency is an FBI WTOC-TF participating agency. Documentation of state, county, or local CHSs opened and operated in furtherance of WTOC-TF investigations shall be maintained at an agreed upon location.

### **C. Reports and Records**

24. Records or reports created or obtained by the WTOC-TF are the property of the FBI and disclosure of such records, if it occurs, shall be pursuant to applicable federal law, with the approval of the FBI. If such records are shared outside of the WTOC-TF with state and/or local law enforcement agencies, such records are merely loaned to the non-Federal agency and are subject to retrieval by the FBI at its discretion. In the event that the LPD receives a request pursuant to Kentucky's public records statute, KRS 61.870 to KRS 61.884, the civil or criminal discovery process, or other judicial, legislative, or administrative process, to disclose WTOC-TF records, the LPD will immediately notify the FBI of any such request in order to allow sufficient time for the FBI to seek to prevent disclosure through appropriate channels, if necessary.
25. All investigative reporting will be prepared in compliance with existing FBI policy. Subject to pertinent legal and/or policy restrictions, copies of pertinent documents created by WTOC-TF personnel may be made available for inclusion in the respective investigative agencies' files as appropriate.
26. WTOC-TF reports prepared in cases assigned to WTOC-TF personnel will be maintained at an FBI approved location; original documents will be maintained by the FBI.
27. Records and reports generated in WTOC-TF cases which are opened and assigned by the FBI SSA with designated oversight for investigative and personnel matters will be maintained in the FBI investigative file for WTOC-TF.
28. WTOC-TF investigative records maintained at the FBI Louisville Division of the FBI will be available to all WTOC-TF personnel, as well as their supervisory and command staff subject to pertinent legal, administrative and/or policy restrictions.
29. All evidence and original tape recordings (audio and video) acquired by the FBI during the course of the WTOC-TF investigations will be maintained by the FBI. The FBI's rules and policies governing the submission, retrieval and chain of custody will be adhered to by WTOC-TF personnel.
30. All WTOC-TF investigative records will be maintained at an approved FBI location. Placement of all or part of said information into LPD's files rests with the discretion of supervisory personnel of the concerned agencies, subject to FBI SSA approval.
31. Classified information and/or documents containing information that identifies or tends to identify an FBI CHS shall not be placed in the files of participating agencies unless appropriate FBI policy has been satisfied and only with prior FBI approval.
32. The Parties acknowledge that this MOU may provide WTOC-TF personnel with access to information about U.S. persons which is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974 and/or Executive Order 12333. The Parties expressly agree that all such information will be handled lawfully pursuant to the provisions thereof. The Parties further agree that if this access to information by WTOC-TF personnel

requires a change in privacy compliance documents, those changes will be accomplished prior to access being granted.

### **INFORMATION SHARING**

33. No information possessed by the FBI, to include information derived from informal communications between WTOC-TF personnel and FBI employees not assigned to the WTOC-TF, may be disseminated by WTOC-TF personnel to non-WTOC-TF personnel without the approval of the WTOC-TF Supervisor and in accordance with the applicable laws and internal regulations, procedures, policies, or agreements between the FBI and the participating agencies that would permit the participating agencies to receive that information directly. Likewise, WTOC-TF personnel will not provide LPD information to the FBI that is not otherwise available to it unless authorized by appropriate LPD officials.
34. Each Party that discloses personally identifiable information (PII) is responsible for making reasonable efforts to ensure that the information disclosed is accurate, complete, timely, and relevant, and such disclosure is consistent with relevant statutes, applicable United States Attorney General's Guidelines, and FBI policy.
35. The FBI is providing access to information from its records with the understanding that in the event the recipient becomes aware of any inaccuracies in the data, the recipient will promptly notify the FBI so that corrective action can be taken. Similarly, if the FBI becomes aware that information it has received pursuant to this MOU is inaccurate, it will notify the contributing Party so that corrective action can be taken.
36. Each Party is responsible for ensuring that information it discloses was not knowingly obtained or maintained in violation of any law or policy applicable to the disclosing Party, and that information is only made available to the receiving Party as may be permitted by laws, regulations, policies, or procedures applicable to the disclosing Party.
37. Each Party will immediately report to the other Party each instance in which data received from the other Party is used, disclosed, or accessed in an unauthorized manner (including any data losses or breaches).
38. Each party agrees to provide, upon request, details regarding the handling and maintenance of data in electronic and paper recordkeeping systems maintained pursuant to the provisions of this MOU, in order to allow the other party to ensure that appropriate security and privacy protections are in place. Such information shall be provided to the extent allowable by the laws, regulations, and policies governing each party.

### **PROSECUTIONS**

39. WTOC-TF investigative procedures, whenever practicable, are to conform to the requirements which would allow for either federal or state prosecution.
40. A determination will be made on a case-by-case basis whether the prosecution of WTOC-TF cases will be at the state or federal level. This determination will be

based on the evidence obtained and a consideration of which level of prosecution would be of the greatest benefit to the overall objectives of the WTOC-TF.

41. In the event that a state or local matter is developed that is outside the jurisdiction of the FBI or it is decided to prosecute a WTOC-TF case at the state or local level, the FBI agrees to provide all relevant information to state and local authorities in accordance with all applicable legal and policy limitations.

#### **A. Investigative Methods/Evidence**

42. For cases assigned to an FBI Special Agent or in which FBI CHSs are utilized, the parties agree to conform to federal standards concerning evidence collection, processing, storage, and electronic surveillance. However, in situations where the investigation will be prosecuted in the State Court where statutory or common law of the state is more restrictive than the comparable federal law, the investigative methods employed by FBI case agents shall conform to the requirements of such statutory or common law pending a decision as to venue for prosecution.
43. In all cases assigned to state, county, or local law enforcement participants, the parties agree to utilize federal standards pertaining to evidence handling and electronic surveillance activities as outlined in the Domestic Investigations and Operations Guide to the greatest extent possible. However, in situations where the statutory or common law of the state is more restrictive than the comparable federal law, the investigative methods employed by state and local law enforcement agencies shall conform to the requirements of such statutory or common law pending a decision as to venue for prosecution.
44. The use of other investigative methods (search warrants, interceptions of oral communications, etc.) and reporting procedures in connection therewith will be consistent with the policies and procedures of the FBI.

#### **B. Undercover Operations**

45. All WTOC-TF undercover operations will be conducted and reviewed in accordance with FBI guidelines and policies and applicable United States Attorney General's Guidelines, including the Attorney General's Guidelines on Federal Bureau of Investigation Undercover Operations. All participating agencies may be requested to enter into an additional agreement if an employee of the participating agency is assigned duties which require the officer to act in an undercover capacity.

#### **USE OF LESS-THAN-LETHAL DEVICES**

46. The parent agency of each individual assigned to the WTOC-TF will ensure that while the individual is participating in FBI-led task force operations in the capacity of a task force officer, task force member, or task force participant, the individual will carry only less-than-lethal devices that the parent agency has issued to the individual, and that the individual has been trained in accordance with the agency's policies and procedures.
47. The parent agency of each individual assigned to the WTOC-TF will ensure that the

agency's policies and procedures for use of any less-than-lethal device that will be carried by the task force officer, task force member, or task force participant are consistent with the Department of Justice (DOJ) May 16, 2011 policy statement on the Use of Less-Than-Lethal Devices.

48. Pursuant to Section VIII of the May 16, 2011 DOJ Policy on the Use of Less-Than-Lethal Devices, all state/local officers participating in joint task force operations must be made aware of and adhere to this DOJ policy and its limits on DOJ officers.

### **DEADLY FORCE AND SHOOTING INCIDENT POLICIES**

49. WTOC-TF personnel will follow their own agencies' policies concerning firearms discharge and use of deadly force.

### **DEPUTATIONS**

50. Local and state law enforcement personnel designated to the WTOC-TF, subject to a limited background inquiry, may be sworn as federally deputized Special Deputy United States Marshals, with the FBI securing the required deputation authorization. These deputations should remain in effect throughout the tenure of each investigator's assignment to the WTOC-TF or until the termination of the WTOC-TF, whichever comes first.
51. Deputized WTOC-TF personnel will be subject to the rules and regulations pertaining to such deputation. Administrative and personnel policies imposed by the participating agencies will not be voided by deputation of their respective personnel.

### **VEHICLES**

52. In furtherance of this MOU, employees of LPD may be permitted to drive FBI owned or leased vehicles for official WTOC-TF business and only in accordance with applicable FBI policy, rules, and regulations, including those outlined in the FBI Government Vehicle Use Policy Guide (1093PG). The assignment of an FBI owned or leased vehicle to LPD WTOC-TF personnel will require the execution of a separate Vehicle Use Agreement.
53. The participating agencies agree that FBI vehicles will not be used to transport passengers unrelated to WTOC-TF business.
54. The FBI and the United States will not be responsible for any tortious act or omission on the part of LPD and/or its employees or for any liability resulting from the use of an FBI owned or leased vehicle utilized by LPD WTOC-TF personnel, except where liability may fall under the provisions of the Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA), as discussed in the Liability Section herein below.
55. The FBI and the United States shall not be responsible for any civil liability arising from the use of an FBI owned or leased vehicle by LPD WTOC-TF personnel while engaged in any conduct other than their official duties and assignments under this MOU.
56. To the extent permitted by applicable law, LPD agrees to hold harmless the FBI

and the United States, for any claim for property damage or personal injury arising from any use of an FBI owned or leased vehicle by LPD WTOC-TF personnel which is outside the scope of their official duties and assignments under this MOU.

### **SALARY/OVERTIME COMPENSATION**

57. The FBI and LPD remain responsible for all personnel costs for their WTOC-TF representatives, including salaries, overtime payments and fringe benefits consistent with their respective agency, except as described in paragraph 58 below.
58. Subject to funding availability and legislative authorization, the FBI will reimburse to LPD the cost of overtime worked by non-federal WTOC-TF personnel assigned full-time to WTOC-TF, provided overtime expenses were incurred as a result of WTOC-TF related duties, and subject to the provisions and limitations set forth in a separate Cost Reimbursement Agreement to be executed in conjunction with this MOU. A separate Cost Reimbursement Agreement must be executed between the FBI and LPD for full-time employee(s) assigned to WTOC-TF, consistent with regulations and policy, prior to any reimbursement by the FBI. Otherwise, overtime shall be compensated in accordance with applicable LPD overtime provisions and shall be subject to the prior approval of appropriate personnel.

### **PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT**

59. Property utilized by the WTOC-TF in connection with authorized investigations and/or operations and in the custody and control and used at the direction of the, will be WTOC-TF maintained in accordance with the policies and procedures of the agency supplying the equipment. Property damaged or destroyed which was utilized by WTOC-TF in connection with authorized investigations and/or operations and is in the custody and control and used at the direction of WTOC-TF, will be the financial responsibility of the agency supplying said property.

### **FUNDING**

60. This MOU is not an obligation or commitment of funds, nor a basis for transfer of funds, but rather is a basic statement of the understanding between the parties hereto of the tasks and methods for performing the tasks described herein. Unless otherwise agreed in writing, each party shall bear its own costs in relation to this MOU.
61. Expenditures by each party will be subject to its budgetary processes and to the availability of funds and resources pursuant to applicable laws, regulations, and policies. The parties expressly acknowledge that the above language in no way implies that Congress will appropriate funds for such expenditures.

### **FORFEITURES**



62. The FBI shall be responsible for processing assets seized for federal forfeiture in conjunction with WTOC-TF operations.
63. Asset forfeitures will be conducted in accordance with federal law, and the rules and regulations set forth by the FBI and DOJ. Forfeitures attributable to WTOC-TF investigations may be equitably shared with the agencies participating in the WTOC-TF.

### **DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

64. In cases of overlapping jurisdiction, the participating agencies agree to work in concert to achieve the WTOC-TF 's objectives.
65. The participating agencies agree to attempt to resolve any disputes regarding jurisdiction, case assignments, workload, etc., at the field level first before referring the matter to supervisory personnel for resolution.

### **MEDIA RELEASES**

66. All media releases and statements will be mutually agreed upon and jointly handled according to FBI and LPD policy and guidelines.
67. Press releases will conform to DOJ Guidelines regarding press releases. No release will be issued without FBI final written approval.

### **SELECTION TO WTOC-TF AND SECURITY CLEARANCES**

68. If an LPD candidate for the WTOC-TF will require a security clearance, he or she will be contacted by FBI security personnel to begin the background investigation process prior to the assigned start date.
69. If, for any reason, the FBI determines that an LPD candidate is not qualified or eligible to serve on the WTOC-TF, the LPD will be so advised, and a request will be made for another candidate.
70. Upon being selected, each candidate will receive a comprehensive briefing on FBI field office security policies and procedures. During the briefing, each candidate will execute non-disclosure agreements (SF-312 and FD-868), as may be necessary or required by the FBI.
71. Before receiving unescorted access to FBI space identified as an open storage facility, WTOC-TF personnel will be required to obtain and maintain a Top Secret security clearance. WTOC-TF personnel will not be allowed unescorted access to FBI space unless they have received a Top Secret security clearance.
72. Upon departure from the WTOC-TF, each individual whose assignment to the WTOC-TF is completed will be given a security debriefing and reminded of the provisions contained in the non-disclosure agreements to which he or she previously agreed.

### **LIABILITY**

73. The participating agencies acknowledge that this MOU does not alter the applicable law governing civil liability, if any, arising from the conduct of personnel assigned to the WTOC-TF.
74. The LPD shall immediately notify the FBI of any civil, administrative, or criminal claim, complaint, discovery request, or other request for information of which the agency receives notice, concerning or arising from the conduct of personnel assigned to the WTOC-TF or otherwise relating to the WTOC-TF. In the event that a civil claim or complaint is brought against a state or local officer assigned to the WTOC-TF, the officer may request legal representation and/or defense by DOJ, under the circumstances and pursuant to the statutes and regulations identified below.
75. For the limited purpose of defending against a civil claim arising from alleged negligent or wrongful conduct under common law under the FTCA, 28 U.S.C. § 1346(b), and §§ 2671- 2680: An individual assigned to the WTOC-TF who is named as a defendant in a civil action as a result of or in connection with the performance of his or her official duties and assignments pursuant to this MOU may request to be certified by the Attorney General or his designee as having acted within the scope of federal employment at the time of the incident giving rise to the suit. 28 U.S.C. § 2679(d)(2). Upon such certification, the individual will be considered an "employee" of the United States government for the limited purpose of defending the civil claim under the FTCA, and the claim will proceed against the United States as sole defendant. 28 U.S.C. § 2679(d)(2). Once an individual is certified as an employee of the United States for purposes of the FTCA, the United States is substituted for the employee as the sole defendant with respect to any tort claims. Decisions regarding certification of employment under the FTCA are made on a case-by-case basis, and the FBI cannot guarantee such certification to any WTOC-TF personnel.
76. For the limited purpose of defending against a civil claim arising from an alleged violation of a federal statute or of the U.S. Constitution pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 or Bivens v. Six Unknown Named Agents of the Federal Bureau of Narcotics, 403 U.S. 388 (1971), an individual assigned to the WTOC-TF who is named as a defendant in a civil action as a result of or in connection with the performance of his or her official duties and assignments pursuant to this MOU may request individual-capacity representation by DOJ to defend against the claims. 28 C.F.R. §§ 50.15, 50.16. Any such request for individual-capacity representation must be made in the form of a letter from the individual defendant to the U.S. Attorney General. The letter should be provided to Chief Division Counsel (CDC) for the FBI Louisville Division, who will then coordinate the request with the FBI Office of the General Counsel. In the event of an adverse judgment against the individual, he or she may request indemnification from DOJ. 28 C.F.R. § 50.15(c)(4). Requests for DOJ representation and indemnification are determined by DOJ on a case-by-case basis. The FBI cannot guarantee the United States will provide legal representation or indemnification to any WTOC-TF personnel.
77. Liability for any conduct by WTOC-TF personnel undertaken outside of the scope of their assigned duties and responsibilities under this MOU shall not be the

responsibility of the FBI or the United States.


**DURATION**

- 78. The term of this MOU is for the duration of the WTOC-TF's operations, contingent upon approval of necessary funding, but may be terminated at any time upon written mutual consent of the participating agencies.
- 79. Any participating agency may withdraw from the WTOC-TF at any time by written notification to the FBI SSA with designated oversight for investigative and personnel matters or program manager of the WTOC-TF at least 30 days prior to withdrawal.
- 80. Upon termination of this MOU, all equipment provided to the WTOC-TF will be returned to the supplying agency/agencies. In addition, when an entity withdraws from the MOU, the entity will return equipment to the supplying agency/agencies. Similarly, remaining agencies will return to a withdrawing agency any unexpended equipment supplied by the withdrawing agency during any WTOC-TF participation.

**MODIFICATIONS**

- 81. This agreement may be modified at any time by written consent of all involved agencies.
- 82. Modifications to this MOU shall have no force and effect unless such modifications are reduced to writing and signed by an authorized representative of each participating agency.

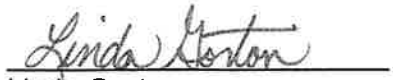
**SIGNATORIES**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael E. Stansbury  
Special Agent in Charge  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

2-21-2024  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lawrence Weathers  
Chief  
Lexington Police Department

4/26/2024  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Linda Gorton  
Mayor  
City of Lexington, KY

5/17/2024  
Date