

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE  
DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY CENTER  
WASHINGTON, DC 20511

July 6, 2020

Dear Colleagues:

The National Counterintelligence and Security Center, National Insider Threat Task Force, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security, Department of Homeland Security, and Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency (DCSA) are partnering with Insider Threat community stakeholders to support National Insider Threat Awareness Month during September 2020.

During this second annual Insider Threat Awareness Month, we emphasize the importance of safeguarding our Nation from the risks posed by insider threats. Past compromises of national security information by insiders have made America less safe by allowing our adversaries unauthorized access to information. These actions, coupled with incidents of senseless loss of life perpetrated by insiders have highlighted the need for uniform engagement.

As a nation, we are committed to protecting critical information and our citizenry while preserving privacy and civil liberties. Proactive insider threat reporting can deter, detect, and mitigate insider threats. It provides an opportunity for early intervention, strengthens our nation's resiliency, and fosters rehabilitative outcomes for individuals at risk. This can reduce acts of harm to self or others, prevent the loss or compromise of classified information, and minimize damage to organizations.

2020 has presented a unique risk environment. Covid-19 has impacted every single American. Many face serious adjustments – telework or other continuity of operations implementation, broken supply chains, and sometimes unreliable or overwhelmed technology capabilities. There are also the deeply personal human struggles related to health care, child care, financial insecurity, and political and cultural fissures. The risks for espionage, unauthorized disclosure, fraud, theft and even unwitting insider threat actions are higher than ever.

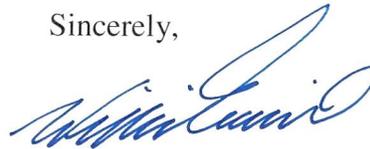
During National Insider Threat Awareness Month 2020 we will be focusing on the theme of “Resilience.” Resilience is an intangible quality that allows us to face adversity and come back at least as strong as before. It helps individuals harden the target and develop behaviors, thoughts, and actions that promote personal wellbeing and mental health. Insider Threat programs promote personal and organizational resilience to mitigate risks.

Insider Threat Awareness Month provides a multi-media communications platform for the engagement of the general workforce of federal departments and agencies, cleared industry, critical infrastructure sectors, academia, and the general public.

SUBJECT: National Insider Threat Awareness Month

We encourage you to participate in Insider Threat Awareness Month this September. Suggested actions and activities are available from the DCSA Center for Development of Security Excellence <https://cdse.edu/itawareness/index.html>. Feel free to reach out to your Insider Threat POC and/or the Center for Development of Security Excellence for additional information. We look forward to a successful Insider Threat Awareness Month 2020 and appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "William R. Evanina". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "W" and a long, sweeping tail.

William R. Evanina