

Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Department of Homeland Security

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Enforcement



Challenges between private port authorities and enforcement officials



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Port Investigations

- Advantages
 - The port is usually confined to a specific area
 - Most people know each other
 - Most of the evidence is located within the port (contraband, documents, etc.)
 - Controlled environment/access



Port Investigations

- Advantages
 - Most events are planned in advance (ships and aircraft arrivals)
 - Able to develop sources
 - Ticket agents
 - Freight forwarders
 - Shipping clerks



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4



Port Investigations

- Disadvantages
 - The port is usually confined to a specific area – no privacy
 - Most people know each other – everyone talks in a port. No secrets in a port!!!
 - Most people have worked in the port for years. Everyone knows each other's vehicle and schedule. Surveillances are difficult.



Port Investigations

- Disadvantages
 - Port staff know when law enforcement arrive and depart the port.
 - Moving/opening containers
 - Port staff is notified
 - Electronic/computer trail is established
 - Opening suitcases in airports
 - Airline staff and baggage handlers are notified
 - Overt vs. Covert baggage checks



Port Investigations

- Enforcement actions in a port
 - Arresting port employees
 - Effects on your relationship with port employees
 - What message does that send to port employees
 - Surveillance in the port
 - Can it be done?
 - Cameras
 - Who is monitoring the cameras
 - Counter-surveillance
 - Who is doing it?
 - How can you tell when it is being done?



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Port Investigations

- Enforcement actions in a port
 - Initiating a controlled delivery from a port
 - Difficulties
 - Preparing the container
 - Maintaining the integrity of the investigation
 - Interviewing port employees
 - Target interviews
 - Witness interviews
 - Using the correct interviewing techniques at the correct time



Port Investigations

- Other port investigative considerations...
- Do port employers conduct background checks before hiring
- Do port employers have policies about cooperating with law enforcement
- Obtaining documents
 - Electronic documents (emails)
 - Privacy issues



The Exodus Command Center

- Established in October 1981
- Part of ICE's Arms and Strategic Technology Investigations Unit in Washington, DC
- Single point of contact for ICE Special Agents and CBP Officers for:
 - Export licensing checks and verifications
 - Port detentions/seizures of licensable exports



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The ECC's Functions

- Communicates with the U.S. Government licensing authorities through dedicated liaison officers
- Utilize various agency contacts to develop investigative leads
- Obtaining certified licenses/records for presentation in court



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Liaisons To Other Agencies

- U.S. Department of State
- U.S. Department of Commerce
- U.S. Department of Energy
- U.S. Department of Treasury
- U.S. Department of Defense
- U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration



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Port Investigations

Discussion

What are your advantages and disadvantages.....



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