



**Homeland  
Security**

The Privacy Office  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Washington, DC 20528  
703-235-0780, pia@dhs.gov  
www.dhs.gov/privacy

**Privacy Threshold Analysis**  
**Version date: June 10, 2010**  
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**PRIVACY THRESHOLD ANALYSIS (PTA)**

**This form is used to determine whether  
a Privacy Impact Assessment is required.**

Please use the attached form to determine whether a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) is required under the E-Government Act of 2002 and the Homeland Security Act of 2002.

Please complete this form and send it to your component Privacy Office. If you do not have a component Privacy Office, please send the PTA to the DHS Privacy Office:

Rebecca J. Richards  
Director of Privacy Compliance  
The Privacy Office  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Washington, DC 20528  
Tel: 703-235-0780

PIA@dhs.gov

Upon receipt from the component Privacy Office, the DHS Privacy Office will review this form. If a PIA is required, the DHS Privacy Office will send you a copy of the Official Privacy Impact Assessment Guide and accompanying Template to complete and return.

A copy of the Guide and Template is available on the DHS Privacy Office website, [www.dhs.gov/privacy](http://www.dhs.gov/privacy), on DHSCconnect and directly from the DHS Privacy Office via email: [pia@dhs.gov](mailto:pia@dhs.gov), phone: 703-235-0780.



## PRIVACY THRESHOLD ANALYSIS (PTA)

### SUMMARY INFORMATION

**Date Submitted for Review: 1/20/11**

**Name of Project: FEMA IPAWS Inventory and Evaluation**

**System Name in TAFISMA:**

**Name of Component: FEMA**

**Name of Project Manager: Vincent Dumas**

**Email for Project Manager: Vincent.Dumas@dhs.gov**

**Phone Number for Project Manager: 202-646-4269**

**Type of Project:**

- Information Technology and/or System. <sup>□</sup>
- A Notice of Proposed Rule Making or a Final Rule.
- Form or other Information Collection.
- Other:

### SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

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<sup>□</sup> The E-Government Act of 2002 defines these terms by reference to the definition sections of Titles 40 and 44 of the United States Code. The following is a summary of those definitions:

- “Information Technology” means any equipment or interconnected system or subsystem of equipment, used in the automatic acquisition, storage, manipulation, management, movement, control, display, switching, interchange, transmission, or reception of data or information. See 40 U.S.C. § 11101(6).

- “Information System” means a discrete set of information resources organized for the collection, processing, maintenance, use, sharing, dissemination, or disposition of information. See: 44. U.S.C. § 3502(8).

Note: for purposes of this form, there is no distinction made between national security systems or technologies/systems managed by contractors. All technologies/systems should be initially reviewed for potential privacy impact.



**1. Describe the project and its purpose:**

The purpose of this project is to collect information from State, County, City, Tribal and Military Emergency Managers regarding their public alert and warning capabilities. This information is gathered so that a nationwide system of alerting such as IPAWS (Integrated Public Alert and Warning Systems) may be implemented. This goal is met by contacting Emergency Managers via phone and email and conducting an evaluation of their alert and warning systems as well as their communication tools. The information gathered is compiled into a database.

**2. Status of Project:**

This is a new development effort.

This is an existing project.

Date first developed: 2/23/2009

Date last updated: N/A

**3. From whom do you collect, process, or retain information on: (Please check all that apply)**

DHS Employees.

Contractors working on behalf of DHS.

The Public.

The System does not contain any such information.

**4. Do you use or collect Social Security Numbers (SSNs)? (This includes truncated SSNs)**

No.

Yes. Why does the program collect SSNs? Provide the function of the SSN and the

legal authority to do so:

**5. What information about individuals could be collected, generated or retained?**

During the course of the evaluation, the information gathered relates to Emergency Operation Centers (EOC). Any and all information regarding addresses is for local municipal buildings and EOCs. Information including names, business phone numbers, and business email addresses, is collected for the sole purpose



of contacting Emergency Managers regarding the IPAWS program. For the most part the information collected is a matter of public record.

**6. If this project is a technology/system, does it relate solely to infrastructure? [For example, is the system a Local Area Network (LAN) or Wide Area Network (WAN)]?**

No. Please continue to the next question.

Yes. Is there a log kept of communication traffic?

No. Please continue to the next question.

Yes. What type of data is recorded in the log? (Please choose all that apply.)

Header.

Payload Please describe the data that is logged.

**7. Does the system connect, receive, or share Personally Identifiable Information with any other DHS systems<sup>1</sup>?**

No.

Yes.

Please list:

**8. Is there a Certification & Accreditation record within OCIO's FISMA tracking system?**

Unknown.

No.

Yes. Please indicate the determinations for each of the following:

Confidentiality:  Low  Moderate  High  Undefined

Integrity:  Low  Moderate  High  Undefined

Availability:  Low  Moderate  High  Undefined

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<sup>1</sup> PII may be shared, received, or connected to other DHS systems directly, automatically, or by manual processes. Often, these systems are listed as "interconnected systems" in TAFISMA.



## PRIVACY THRESHOLD REVIEW

(TO BE COMPLETED BY THE DHS PRIVACY OFFICE)

**Date reviewed by the DHS Privacy Office:**

**Name of the DHS Privacy Office Reviewer:** <Please enter name of reviewer.>

### DESIGNATION

**This is NOT a Privacy Sensitive System** - the system contains no Personally Identifiable Information.

**This IS a Privacy Sensitive System**  
**Category of System**

- IT System.
- National Security System.
- Legacy System.
- HR System.
- Rule.
- Other:

### Determination

- PTA sufficient at this time.
- Privacy compliance documentation determination in progress.
- PIA is not required at this time.
- PIA is required.
  - System covered by existing PIA:
  - New PIA is required.
  - PIA update is required.
- SORN not required at this time.
- SORN is required.
  - System covered by existing SORN:
  - New SORN is required.

### DHS PRIVACY OFFICE COMMENTS