

Colleagues:

Development Services Group, Inc. (DSG) and our partner, the Terrorism, Transnational Crime and Corruption Center (TraCCC) at George Mason University, are building on our terrorism, science and systems expertise to support the Department of State, Bureau of Counterterrorism and Countering Violent Extremism. We are building a terrorism open source database that will use advanced machine learning and research science to collect global terrorism incidents and analyze patterns and trends of terrorist activity, groups, and their tactics. This work has a dual purpose; support the work of the State Department in the production of the congressionally mandated annual reports on Terrorism and to continue the research into terrorism, its links to the illicit economy and how to prevent it. Congress requires the annual report on international terrorism, produced by the State Department's Bureau of Counterterrorism and Countering Violent Extremism.

The team—led by former Ambassador Adam Blackwell, a DSG vice president, a career diplomat, and security expert and by the founder, director of TraCCC Louise Shelley, Ph.D. — will develop the counterterrorism annual reporting database to populate it with open-source information related to terrorist acts. We will also prepare the Annex of Statistical Information and assist with preparation of the Country Reports on Terrorism. The next report, concerning terrorist incidents in 2018, is due to Congress on June 30, 2019.

Given your areas of expertise and significant achievements in the field of terrorism, we hoped that you would enjoy being a part of our mailing list. We hope to communicate with you periodically regarding potential opportunities for partnerships, project updates, and relevant news and event announcements.

Additionally, should you have any questions about our work or would like to become more involved, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

About DSG is a woman-owned research and consulting firm headquartered in Bethesda, Md. Since its founding in 1977, it has been leading the way in finding, assessing, and applying what works in criminal and juvenile justice, security, violence prevention, behavioral health, and education, including the conduct of high-quality research on issues of international scope. DSG provides clients with the highest-quality products and services in research and evaluation, training and technical assistance, management consulting, communications, and website and database development. Visit <u>www.dsgonline.com</u> for more.

About TraCCC. Founded and directed by Louise Shelley, Ph.D., TraCCC is the first center in the United States devoted to understanding the links among terrorism, transnational crime, and corruption and to teaching, researching, training, and helping formulate policy on these critical issues. TraCCC is a research center within the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University. Visit <u>http://traccc.gmu.edu</u> for more.