



Moving Beyond Mitigation: The Imperative of Prevention in Homeland Security

Presented by: **Bruno Dias, Associate Director Field Operations (Central Region), DHS – Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships (CP3) and Courtney Kay, Strategic Engagement Lead, DHS – Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships (CP3)**

Presentation Abstract: This presentation will outline the need to shift from mitigation to prevention in the context of averting targeted violence and terrorism. It will highlight CP3's innovative approach, which involves engaging with communities to establish and expand local prevention frameworks. By providing technical, financial, and educational assistance, CP3 supports efforts aimed at preventing individuals from radicalizing to violence and intervene with those who may be at risk through holistic, community-centered approaches. Moreover, the presentation will outline how the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) integrates civil rights, civil liberties, and privacy concerns into its prevention approach.

Speaker Bio: Bruno Dias is the Associate Director for Field Operations for the Central Region. He works with federal, tribal, state, local, and territorial governments, and community stakeholders to build local prevention networks to avert targeted violence and terrorism. Before joining D.H.S., Bruno worked for public school districts in Texas. He implemented

emergency management and violence prevention initiatives that leveraged behavioral threat assessment functions and promoted partnerships with social workers, mental health professionals, parents, and communities to support students. Before directing K-12 safety and security programs, Bruno managed corporate security and workplace violence prevention for a Fortune 10 company. He also worked in public safety, where he retired at the rank of commander and was instrumental in solving homicides and reducing gang violence.

Bruno is a Certified Threat Manager, a graduate of the F.B.I. National Academy is a Board-Certified Investigator, and he holds multiple certifications in Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management. Bruno earned an M.S. from Ashworth College (Criminal justice) and an M.A. from the Naval Postgraduate School (Homeland Defense and Security Studies). He is completing his doctorate in Psychology, Public Policy, and Law in April of 2024.

Courtney Kay is a Strategic Engagement Lead with the Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships where she supports the office's mission in strengthening our country's nationwide targeted violence and terrorism prevention abilities. She specifically works to increase public awareness and strengthen partnerships at the national and international levels. Courtney is a graduate of Penn State University and King's College London where she earned her master's degree in Terrorism, Security, and Society. She previously worked in social media intelligence in London and started her career with DHS in November 2023.