

In addition, the IPR Center works closely with the Department of Justice Cyber Crime and Intellectual Property Section.

IPR Center partners take a multi-layered approach to combating intellectual property theft, which includes:

- Investigation – Identifying, disrupting, prosecuting and dismantling criminal organizations involved in the manufacture and distribution of counterfeit products;
- Interdiction – Using focused targeting and inspections to keep counterfeit and pirated goods out of U.S. supply chains, markets and streets; and
- Training and Outreach – Providing training and information for domestic and international law enforcement to build stronger enforcement capabilities worldwide.

Cyber Crimes Center

The Cyber Crimes Center (C3) brings together special agents, intelligence research specialists and others who support ICE crime investigations tied to the Internet. C3 integrates the full range of ICE computer and forensic assets in a single location to combat Internet-related crimes such as:

- Possession, manufacture and distribution of images of child abuse;
- International money laundering and illegal cyber-banking;
- Illegal arms trafficking and illegal export of strategic and controlled commodities;
- Drug trafficking, including trafficking in prohibited pharmaceuticals;
- General smuggling and trafficking, including trafficking in stolen art and antiquities and violations of the Endangered Species Act;
- Intellectual property rights violations, including music and software piracy;
- Immigration violations; and
- Identity and benefit fraud.

C3 also provides guidance and training to field agents and other U.S. and foreign law enforcement agencies upon request.



ICE sacks Super Bowl XLV vendors for more than \$3.56 million in fake merchandise, seizes websites.

Operation Interception produced record-breaking results in a nationwide enforcement operation involving multiple law enforcement partners targeting stores, flea markets and street vendors selling counterfeit game-related sportswear throughout the U.S.

HSI special agents operated in multiple teams with the NFL, CBP and other law enforcement agencies. These teams seized 36,273 items of phony Super Bowl-related memorabilia, including fake jerseys, ball caps, t-shirts, jackets and other souvenirs.

“These counterfeit enforcement operations between HSI and our partners serve a variety of important purposes,” said ICE Deputy Director Kumar Kibble. “They protect American jobs by enforcing trademarks; they protect consumers from inferior merchandise; and they prevent funding potential criminal organizations.”

Conducted in the same time frame, HSI special agents seized 10 websites that illegally streamed live sporting telecasts via the Internet, including NFL games. The websites were among the most popular on the Internet for illegally distributing copyrighted sporting events.

(February 2011)

Cultural Property, Art and Antiquities Investigations

Investigating the loss of cultural heritage items is an important part of ICE's diverse mission. The theft and trafficking of cultural items is not a new practice. Now, however, cultural pirates have learned how to acquire and move them around the globe more readily by exploiting 21st century technology and transportation systems. Fortunately, HSI special agents are better prepared than ever before to combat these crimes. Specially trained investigators and attachés stationed around the globe not only partner with governments, agencies and experts who share our mission to protect these items, but also train investigators in other nations and agencies on how to find and recover such items when they emerge in the marketplace. Customs laws allow ICE to seize artifacts that have been reported lost or stolen. Upon seizing a lost or stolen artifact, ICE works with experts to authenticate the item, determine its true ownership and return it to the country of origin.

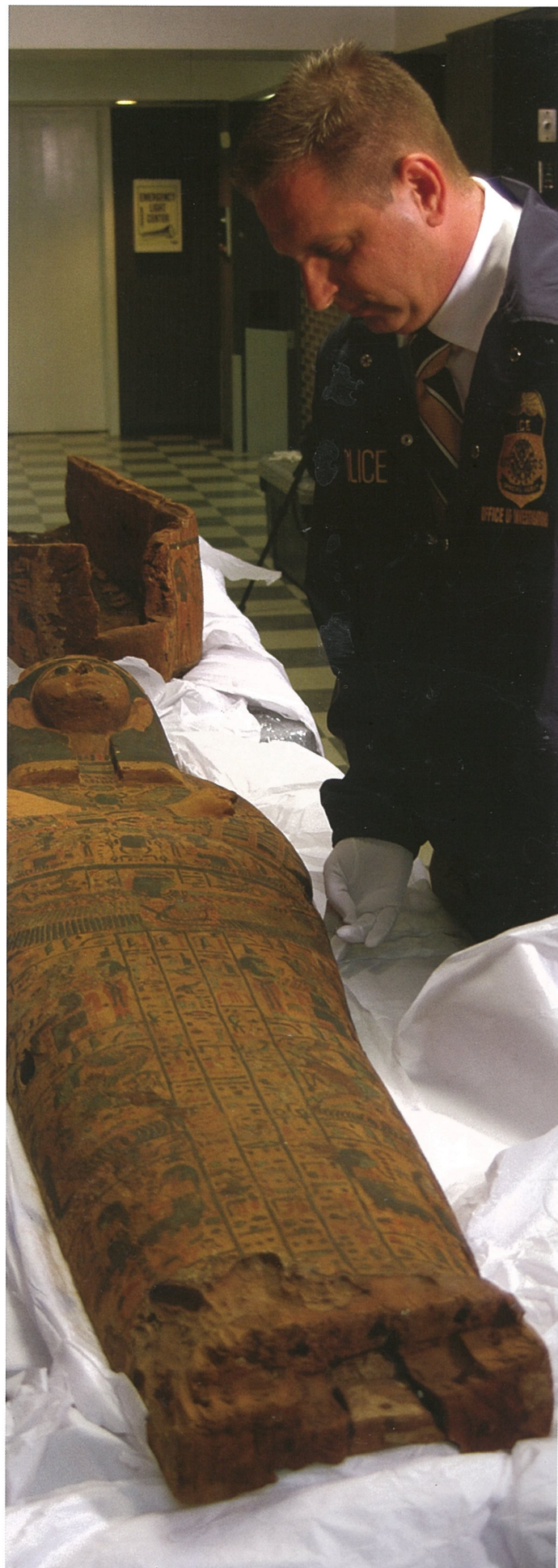
3,000 year-old sarcophagus returned to Egypt

An ancient coffin was intercepted by CBP officers at Miami International Airport in 2008. The colorful artifact, devoid of its original contents, was detained by CBP during routine inspections of goods coming into the U.S. They turned it over to ICE, who investigated its path through the international art world. ICE investigates cultural artifacts that appear to have been imported illegally and often show up for sale in the U.S. market.

Neither the U.S. importer nor the Spanish Gallery that sold it could establish its legal export from Egypt or when or how it would have left Egypt. Given the absence of a credible provenance, the item was determined to be owned by Egypt through its cultural patrimony laws. The item was seized as imported stolen property.

In a ceremony at the National Geographic Society, ICE and CBP returned the ancient sarcophagus to the Arab Republic of Egypt.

(March 2010)





Forensic Document Laboratory

ICE's Forensic Document Laboratory (FDL), established in 1978, is one of the federal government's top tools for combating document fraud. Affordable high-quality publishing tools and printing technology have made it easier than ever for criminal organizations to develop fraudulent documentation, travel documents, IDs and related materials with higher quality and at lower cost. These materials are used to facilitate border crossings, identity theft, and employment schemes by illegal workers and for other criminal purposes.

The FDL is the only federal crime laboratory exclusively dedicated to examining travel and identity documents. Its highly trained staff provides forensic document analysis and support services to all DHS agencies, as well as other federal, state, local and foreign governmental entities.

The FDL provides a wide range of forensic and investigative services, including comparative examinations of handwriting and printing samples, forensic examinations of foreign and domestic documents, restoration of altered or damaged documents to assist in investigations, source identification, fingerprint examinations and expert witness testimony in court proceedings.

The FDL also maintains the world's largest known repository of foreign travel and identity documents and reference materials. FDL representatives develop and present customized training programs to law enforcement agencies around the globe and provide real-time assistance to field personnel. FDL personnel also create and distribute document intelligence alerts — color photo bulletins highlighting fraudulent documents recently encountered — and reference guides for law enforcement agencies nationwide.

ICE ACCESS

The ICE Agreements of Cooperation in Communities to Enhance Safety and Security (ICE ACCESS) initiative was developed to promote the programs or tools that the agency offers to assist state, local and tribal law enforcement agencies with specialized enforcement needs. Under this initiative, ICE works closely with other law enforcement agencies to identify an agency's specific needs or the local community's unique concerns.

In developing an ICE ACCESS partnership agreement, ICE representatives meet with the requesting agency to assess local needs and draft appropriate plans of action. Based upon these assessments, ICE and the requesting agency then determine which type of partnership is most beneficial and sustainable before entering into an official agreement.

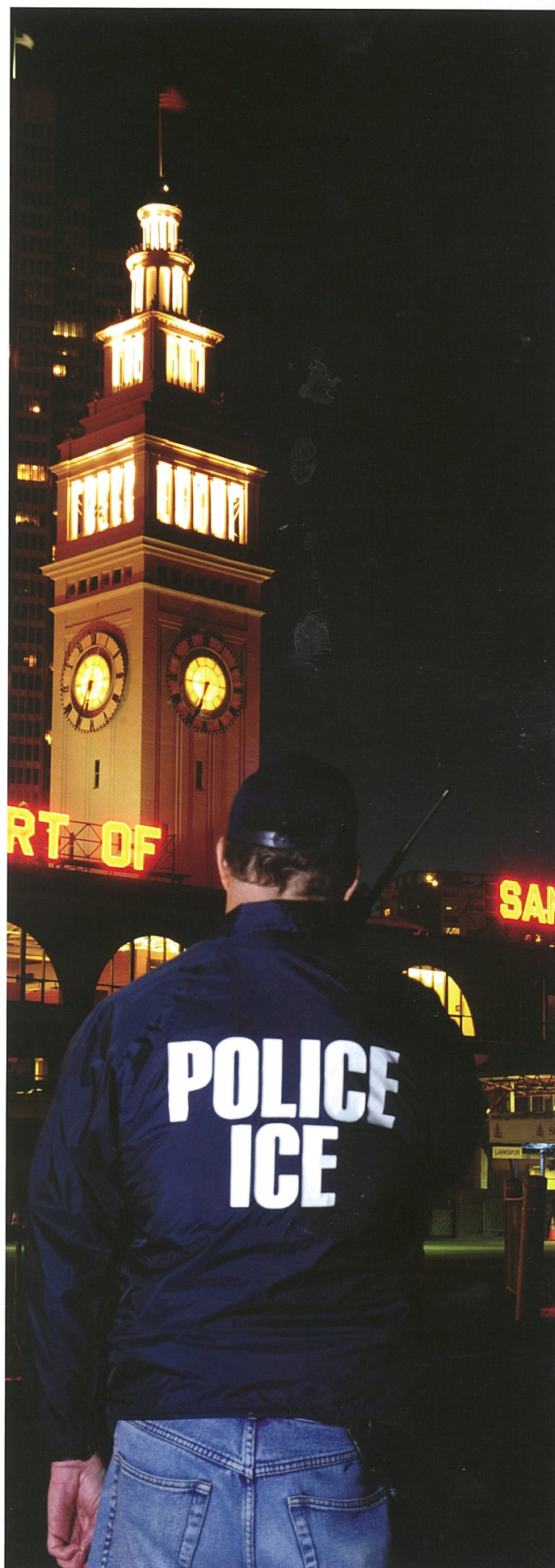
Law Enforcement Information Sharing Service

The Law Enforcement Information Sharing (LEIS) Service is a web-based data exchange platform, administered by ICE, that allows law enforcement agencies to rapidly share and access data related to criminal and national security investigations.

The LEIS Service offers a more efficient system for requesting and sharing investigative information, helping investigators to more quickly identify patterns, connections and relationships between individuals and criminal organizations.

DHS law enforcement information in LEIS Service is processed through the ICE Pattern Analysis and Information Collection System (ICEPIC) and includes information from subject records and closed cases concerning people, businesses, vehicles (including aircraft and sea-craft), firearms and more.

The LEIS Service, deployed in several regional and urban areas, provides federal, state, local, tribal and international law enforcement agency partners with access to more than 2.6 million records related to persons of interest, including suspects in child pornography, drug smuggling, immigration fraud, alien smuggling and a wide range of other cases.





Immigration Enforcement

Immigration enforcement is the largest single area of responsibility for ICE. While certain responsibilities and close cooperation with CBP, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, and others require significant ICE assets near the border, the majority of immigration enforcement work for ICE takes place in the country's interior. ICE special agents strive to help businesses secure a lawful workforce and enforce immigration laws against those who encourage and rely on unauthorized workers, sometimes taking advantage of their situation to offer low pay and inadequate conditions. Multiple programs help ICE focus and improve on stated priorities to find and remove illegal aliens who are criminals, fugitives or recent arrivals. Immigration enforcement entails cracking down on those who produce fraudulent documents to enable unlawful activity. Additionally, several robust efforts seek to continue improving the safe and humane detention and removal of persons subject to those actions.

Fugitive Operations

The National Fugitive Operations Program (NFOP) identifies, apprehends and removes aliens from the U.S. who have failed to comply with removal orders. NFOP teams work exclusively on fugitive cases, giving priority to criminal alien cases.

The NFOP's Absconder Apprehension Initiative uses data available from National Crime Information Center databases as a virtual force multiplier. As part of this initiative, ERO developed the ERO Most Wanted program. This program uses the ICE website to publicize the names, faces and other identifying features of the 10 fugitive criminals most wanted by ERO.

Criminal Alien Program

ICE's Criminal Alien Program (CAP) is responsible for identifying, processing and removing criminal aliens incarcerated in federal, state and local prisons and jails throughout the U.S. CAP's goal is to prevent the release of these criminal aliens into the general public by securing a final order of removal prior to the end of their sentences, whenever possible.

ERO officers screen prison and jail inmates to identify criminal aliens. When a criminal alien is identified, ICE places a detainer on the individual. After the screening process and interviews, ERO may formally begin proceedings to remove the criminal alien from the U.S.

Operation Cross Check yields the largest-ever number of arrests

ICE and its law enforcement partners arrested 596 foreign nationals with criminal records during a three-day enforcement surge throughout the Southeastern U.S., making it the biggest operation that targeted at-large criminal aliens ever carried out by ICE in the region.

During the operation, which involved nearly 400 federal and local law enforcement officers and agents, ICE worked in teams with the U.S. Marshals Service, CBP and local law enforcement agencies in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Arkansas, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee and Puerto Rico.

Arrests in Florida and Puerto Rico accounted for the largest number of apprehensions during the operation, in which a total of 258 aliens were taken into custody. The Atlanta Field Office recorded the second highest numbers with 232 arrests. Because of their serious criminal histories and prior immigration arrest records, at least 12 of those arrested during the operation, which was spearheaded by ICE's Fugitive Operations Program, faced federal prosecution.

(April 2010)



Operation Community Shield / National Gang Unit

In 2005, under the auspices of the national gang enforcement initiative Operation Community Shield (OCS), ICE established itself as the lead federal agency in the investigation of transnational criminal street gangs, such as Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13).

A program conducted by ICE's National Gang Unit, OCS does the following:

- Works with law enforcement partners, in the U.S. and abroad, to develop a comprehensive and integrated approach to conducting criminal investigations and other law enforcement operations against gangs;
- Identifies violent street gangs and develops intelligence on their membership, associates, criminal activities and international movements;
- Deters, disrupts and dismantles gang operations by tracing and seizing cash, weapons and other assets derived from criminal activities;
- Seeks prosecution and/or removal of alien gang members from the U.S.; and
- Works closely with ICE attaché offices worldwide and foreign law enforcement counterparts in gathering intelligence, sharing information and conducting coordinated enforcement operations.

ICE's unique dual federal authorities, criminal and administrative, have made the agency a leader in criminal investigations targeting transnational street gangs, prison gangs and outlaw motorcycle gangs that pose a threat to public safety and national security.

678 gang members and associates arrested during Project Southern Tempest

HSI arrested 678 gang members and associates from 133 different gangs during "Project Southern Tempest," an intensive HSI-led law enforcement operation executed in 168 U.S. cities, targeting gangs affiliated with drug trafficking organizations.

Through "Project Southern Tempest," HSI special agents worked side-by-side with 173 of its federal, state and local law enforcement partners to apprehend individuals from 13 gangs affiliated with drug trafficking organizations (DTOs) in Mexico. More than 46 percent of those arrested during this operation were members or associates of gangs with ties to DTOs.

During the operation, which started in December 2010 and culminated in February 2011, the HSI-led Salt Lake City Operation Community Shield Task Force arrested the 20,000th gang member since inception of the anti-gang program in 2005.

Transnational criminal street gangs have significant numbers of foreign-national members and are frequently involved in human smuggling and trafficking; narcotics smuggling and distribution; identity theft and benefit fraud; money laundering and bulk cash smuggling; weapons smuggling and arms trafficking; cyber crimes; export violations; and various other crimes with a nexus to the border.

(March 2011)

Secure Communities

The Secure Communities program targets criminal aliens by using fingerprint-based biometric identification technology to identify aliens, both lawfully and unlawfully, present in the U.S., who are booked into local law enforcement's custody for a crime. This capability is part of ICE's comprehensive strategy to improve and modernize the identification and removal from the U.S. of aliens convicted of a crime.

This program leverages the existing information sharing capability between DHS and the Department of Justice to quickly and accurately identify aliens who are arrested for crimes.