



In the race to protect the nation's critical infrastructures and key resources (CIKR) from various threats, expediting information exchange between the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), its partnering agencies, and the private sector is a front-line imperative. InfraGard's Sector Chief Program (SCP) escalates communication across the organization by enlisting industry's top subject matter experts as liaisons to facilitate information sharing and communication between the FBI and local InfraGard Members Alliances (IMAs). This added exchange fuels the ability of the FBI and government partners to address threats to the 16 recognized sectors of the nation's critical infrastructure.

### Custom communication at the local, regional, and national level

At the field level, the program is flexible, with each IMA architecting its SCP to be most beneficial for its venue. SCP structure correlates with the threatscape in the area of responsibility for individual Alliances and their aligned FBI field office, and local FBI Special Agents in Charge (SACs) maintain responsibility for identifying and assigning priority to sectors. While development and rollout of the program varies by Alliance, ultimately, all IMAs will identify at least one InfraGard member to serve as a Sector Chief (SC). Over time, the SCP will evolve from the local to the regional level, and expand to support national information sharing for each sector represented.

### The Sector Chief Selection Process

SC selection for IMAs begins with an examination of the community in which the particular Alliance serves. If it is well-established, an evaluation of existing membership often acts as a starting point for potential SC candidates. Membership can also be polled for potential candidate suggestions within sectors. Once a candidate is identified, a member of the IMA board may extend an invitation, at which time the candidate can choose to accept, decline, or recommend another qualified candidate.

### Sector Chief Responsibilities

- Attend regular SC meetings to maintain dialogue among SCs, IMA Board Members and the FBI Coordinator.
- Bring issues affecting a particular sector to the attention of members, and concerns of those members to the IMA board (i.e., presentation topic requests, etc.).
- Share relevant, sector specific information on a local, regional and national level.
- Disseminate unclassified and other reports or data provided by the FBI, FBI Coordinator, and partnering agencies and distribute to the respective sectors as appropriate, assuring only pertinent information is transmitted.
- Participate in incident response table-top exercises alongside community first responders to train key players from industry in preparation and planning.
- Communicate threat information from the FBI Coordinator, designated official or other members and convey concerns, requests for training, and threat data from members to the FBI and other SCs.
- Actively engage members through e-mail and phone contact and facilitate communication among sector members via distribution lists, keeping members informed of upcoming meetings, events, and trainings.
- Consult with the IMA to organize periodic, industry-specific training, and contribute ideas for future training, speakers, and exercises.
- Individually contribute recent events experienced within the sector and offer input from sector members.
- Identify new members and promote membership retention.

### The Sector Chief's Pivotal Role

Sector Chiefs provide synchronized communication between local InfraGard leadership, FBI Coordinators, and area members, and promote key insight into their designated industry sector. Specific expertise also elevates the value of incident response exercises and helps tailor member training programs that increase awareness and build a collective knowledge base toward improved national security.

