

**Agency Priority Goal Action Plan** 

# Combat Cyber-Enabled Threats and Attacks

#### **Goal Leader:**

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## **Overview**

### **Goal Statement**

Cybercrime is of one of the greatest threats facing our country, and has enormous implications for our national security, economic prosperity, and public safety. The range of threats and challenges cybercrime presents for law enforcement expands just as rapidly as technology evolves. By September 30, 2019, the Department of Justice will combat cyber-enabled threats and attacks by conducting 8,400 computer intrusion program deterrences, detections, disruptions and dismantlements, while successfully resolving 90 percent of its cyber defendant cases. FY 2018 will serve, as a baseline for FBI's "number of computer intrusion programs" measure.

### Challenges

- O More and more sensitive data stored online, may increase the number of cyber targets, threats and attacks on U.S. computers and networks.
- o More sophisticated cyber defendants may pose increased threats.

### Opportunities

- Eliminating the capabilities of a threat enterprise/organization engaged in criminal or national security related activities.
- O Deterring, detecting, disrupting, and dismantling, or incapacitating cyber threat actors and computer intrusion programs by prosecuting cyber defendant cases.

# **Leadership and Partners**

## **Core Leadership Team:**

- Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI)
- National Security Division (NSD)
- United States Attorneys' Offices (USAO)
- Criminal Division (CRM)

### **Other Participating Components:**

• Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETF)

#### **Stakeholders:**

• Community and business leaders

# **Goal Structure & Strategies**

To combat cybercrime, the Department will increase the number of computer intrusion programs deterred, detected, disrupted and dismantled; and resolve at least 90 percent of defendants' cases in the Department's favor.

**Strategy:** Identify, disrupt, and prosecute cyber threat actors.

• The Department will charge individuals acting on behalf of nation-states to harm our national interests, transnational organized crime groups, and individuals for launching cyber attacks against computers in the United States.

**Strategy:** Develop and use all appropriate tools to identify and disrupt cyber threats.

• To attribute and disrupt attacks, the Department will continue its collaboration with other agencies, including the intelligence and defense communities, to aid attribution and ensure that responses are both effective and consistent with law.

# **Summary of Progress – FY 19 Q3**

The Combat Cyber-Enabled Threats and Attacks Priority Goal tracks two performance measures. Both measures have quarterly targets, and both measures exceeded their targets for Q3 FY 2019.

- The FBI Cyber Division will continue its coordinated operational activities to disrupt and dismantle, as well as detect and deter, the top cyber threat actors. Based on FY 2018, the FBI Cyber Division increased its FY 2019 annual target from 4,200 to 8,000 for number of computer intrusion program deterrences, detections, disruptions and dismantlements. The FBI exceeded its quarterly target (2,000) for Q3/FY 2019 achieving 4,517 in Q3. To date, the FBI has already exceeded its annual target (8,000) by successfully achieving a total of 11,280 investigative outcomes.
- The Department exceeded its quarterly target for Q3/FY 2019 to favorably resolve cyber defendant cases 100% of the 44 cases completed in the third quarter of the fiscal year were successful. Between Quarters 2 and 3, the number of defendants in cyber cases the Department has pursued have increased by 57%. By the end of Q3, the Department has completed and favorably resolved a total of 114 cyber defendant cases in FY 2019. As with all cases handled by the Department, each was individually evaluated throughout the judicial process, including the decision to initiate charges. Depending upon the total number of cases resolved, a one case differential can significantly impact the favorable percentage. Many cases concerning "cybercrime" may not necessarily be captured under this number, as there is not a single statute to prosecute criminal cyber conduct. Cyber cases tend to involve other related criminal conduct under which the matter could be coded in the Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys' case management database. U.S. Attorneys will continue to individually assess each case brought for criminal prosecution in a manner that promotes the ends of justice.

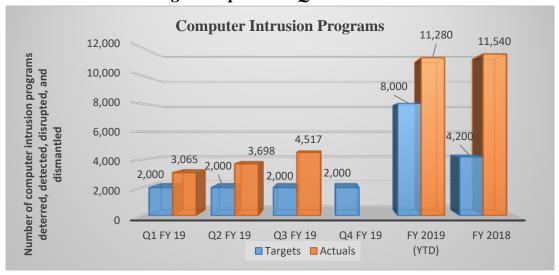
## **Performance Measures**

Performance Measure: Number of computer intrusion programs deterred, detected, disrupted and dismantled [FBI]

Historical Data

Fiscal Years	Actuals
FY 2018	11,540

Progress Updates – Q3/FY 2019



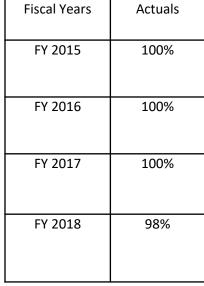
- Number of computer intrusion programs deterred, detected, disrupted and dismantled was a new measure reported by FBI's Cyber Division, in FY 2018. FY 2018 served as a baseline for this measure and is now reported quarterly and annually.
- By the end of FY 2018, the FBI had already exceeded its two-year target (8,400) for this measure, by nearly 40%. Based on FY 2018 performance, the FBI increased its FY 2019 annual target from 4,200 to 8,000 for number of computer intrusion program detections, deterrences, disruptions and dismantlements.
- FBI's Cyber Division greatly exceeded its Q3 target, by deterring, detecting, disrupting, or dismantling 4,517 computer intrusion programs this quarter. To date, the FBI has already exceeded its annual target of 8,000, by 41%.

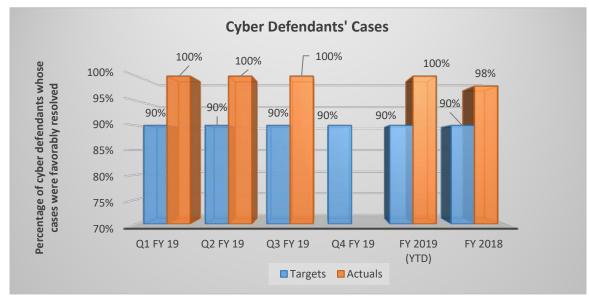
## **Performance Measures**

**Performance Measure:** Percentage of cyber defendants whose cases were favorably resolved [USAO, CRM and NSD]

#### Historical Data

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Fiscal Years	Actuals	]		Cybe	r Defendan	ts' Cas





Progress Updates - Q3/FY 2019

- USAO, NSD and CRM will continue to report the data for this measure, quarterly and annually.
- The Department continues to exceed its quarterly target for favorably resolving cyber defendants' cases. For Q3 FY 2019, each of the 44 cyber cases handled by the Department were favorably resolved.
- Between Quarters 2 and 3, the number of defendants in cyber cases the Department has pursued have increased by 57%. To date, the Department has completed and favorably resolved a total of 114 cyber defendant cases in FY 2019.

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<sup>\*</sup>For actual figure reported for Q1/FY 2019 was changed from 91.3% to 100%.

# **Data Accuracy and Reliability**

There are two key performance indicators for the Cybercrime priority goal.

- Number of computer intrusion programs deterred, detected, disrupted and dismantled. This measure is reported by the FBI's Cyber Division. The FBI proposed a new metric, "Deter, Detect, Disruptions, and Dismantlements" in order to capture data that most appropriately measures FBI's actions against cyber adversaries.
  - A <u>disruption</u> is defined as interrupting or inhibiting a threat actor from engaging in criminal or national security related activity.
  - O <u>Dismantlement</u> means that the targeted organization's leadership, financial base and supply network has been destroyed, such that the organization is incapable of operating and/or reconstituting itself.

The FBI Cyber Division's operational priorities are classified. Therefore, only aggregate data that lacks significant detail can be publicly reported. Data is collected routinely and stored on a classified enterprise platform. Data is validated and verified manually. FY 2018 will serve as a baseline year for this measure.

• Percentage of cyber defendants whose cases were favorably resolved. This measure will be reported by NSD, CRM, and USAO. Defendants whose cases were "favorably resolved" include those defendants whose cases resulted in court judgments favorable to the government, such as convictions after trial or guilty pleas. Unfavorable dispositions include not guilty verdicts. Cases dismissed based on government-endorsed motions were not categorized as either favorable or unfavorable for purposes of this calculation. Such motions may be filed for a variety of reasons to promote the interest of justice.

# Data Accuracy and Reliability Cont.

As with all cases handled by USAOs, each was individually evaluated throughout the judicial process, including the decision to initiate charges. By way of example, in the assessment of an individual case, a USAO may choose to dismiss felony charges for various reasons, including, but not limited to, dismissal of a felony charge(s) in lieu of a defendant's negotiated plea to a misdemeanor charge(s), or dismissal of an indictment in order to conserve government resources due to the inability of law enforcement to locate overseas individuals for arrest despite lengthy attempts to do so. USAOs will continue to individually assess each case brought for criminal prosecution in a manner that promotes the ends of justice.

### Data validation and verification is accomplished by the following:

- o NSD's Counterintelligence and Export Control Section reviews quarterly data.
- o CRM captures all litigation data in its Automated Case Tracking System (ACTS). Cases with cyber defendants in ACTS are validated quarterly by Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section's (CCIPS) Section Chief.
- O USAO data is entered locally by each district, where district personnel (attorneys and support staff) are responsible for ensuring procedures are followed to maintain the integrity of data in the system. Data is collectedly nationally in CaseView (formerly, the Legal Information Online Network System), which contains information on matters, cases, and appeals handled by all USAOs. The companion USA-5 reporting system tracks how USAO personnel spend their time. That data is reviewed by knowledgeable personnel, including data analysts and others. Case statistics for purposes of the instant analysis were compiled by the Executive Office for United States Attorneys (EOUSA) using the case management database.

# Data Accuracy and Reliability Cont.

Many cases concerning "cybercrime" may not necessarily be captured under these statistics, as there is not a single statute to prosecute criminal cyber conduct. Cyber cases tend to involve other related criminal conduct under which the matter could be coded in the database. USAOs routinely examine current and historical data sets, as well as look for trends to ensure that the data is as accurate and reliable as possible and targets are ambitious enough given the resources provided.

Depending upon the total number of cases resolved during any given quarter, a one case differential can significantly impact the favorable percentage.