

Press Release

For Immediate Release November 19, 2020

PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT BOARD CONCLUDES REVIEW OF TREASURY DEPARTMENT'S TERRORIST FINANCE TRACKING PROGRAM

Washington, DC— The Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board has completed its review of the US Department of Treasury's Terrorist Finance Tracking Program (TFTP). The <u>program</u> was initiated after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks to identify, track, and pursue terrorists and their networks.

The Board has released the following statement about the conclusion of its TFTP review:

"The Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board ("Board") has concluded its oversight review of the Treasury Department's Terrorist Finance Tracking Program ("TFTP"). In the course of this review, Board Members and staff participated in seven briefings with Treasury Department officials. The Board requested and received documents and written responses to questions. In addition, Board staff observed a TFTP system demonstration.

"The Board's staff identified privacy-protective practices within TFTP and prepared privacy and civil liberties-related recommendations. These recommendations generally concerned written privacy guidance for TFTP users, review and use of U.S. person information, the role of privacy and civil liberties professionals in agency operations, and training. More specifically, staff has recommended that the Treasury Department should (1) provide consolidated, detailed written guidance to TFTP users, (2) provide additional guidance and training on identification and handling of U.S. person information, (3) expand its internal privacy function and integrate privacy and civil liberties experts into the operation and oversight of TFTP, and (4) consider additional measures to promote compliance with privacy protections. Board staff has conveyed these recommendations directly to the Treasury Department.

"The Board acknowledges the Treasury Department's staff members for their professionalism and cooperation over the course of this project."

####