Agency Priority Goal Action Plan

Combat Cyber-Enabled Threats and Attacks

Goal Leader:

Jolene Lauria, Deputy Assistant Attorney General/Controller

Performance.gov

Fiscal Year 2019, Quarter 4
Goal Statement

- Cybercrime is 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

- More and more sensitive data stored online, may increase the number of cyber targets, threats and attacks on U.S. computers and networks.
- 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.
- 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
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.
The Department of Justice surpassed its two-year targets for the Combat Cyber-Enabled Threats and Attacks Priority Goal. The ‘Cyber’ Priority Goal tracked two performance measures throughout FY 2018 – 2019. Both measures exceeded their two-year targets.

- The FBI’s Cyber Division substantially exceeded its two-year target of conducting 12,200 (the annual target for FY 2019 was increased from 4,200 to 8,000) computer intrusion program deterrences, detections, disruptions and dismantlements, by successfully achieving a total of 27,437 investigative outcomes by the end of FY 2019. The Department will continue to track the FBI’s efforts to deter, detect, disrupt and dismantle even more computer intrusion programs for the FY 2020 – 2021 Combat Cyber-Enabled Threats and Attacks Priority Goal.

- The Department exceeded its target of favorably resolving at least 90% of its cyber defendants’ cases, by successfully resolving 99% of its prosecutions of 325 cyber defendants, throughout FY 2018 – 2019. In FY 2018, the Department completed 164 cases, of which 98% were successful, and successfully resolved each of the 165 cases prosecuted in FY 2019. 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. The Department will continue to track its efforts to successfully resolve 90% of its cyber defendant cases for the FY 2020 – 2021 Combat Cyber-Enabled Threats and Attacks Priority Goal.

Combating cyber threats remains one of the Agency’s top priorities. DOJ will continue its cybercrime priority goal into FY 2020 – 2021. The goal will continue to focus on its current strategies to combat cyber-enabled threats and attacks, as well as a new strategy focused on strengthening public-private partnerships.
**Performance Measures**

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

**Historical Data**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Years</th>
<th>Actuals</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2018</td>
<td>11,540</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2019</td>
<td>15,879</td>
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**Progress Updates – Q4/ FY 2019**

- The actual quarterly data previously reported for this measure has been adjusted.

- 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. Based on FY 2018 performance, the FBI increased its FY 2019 target from 4,200 to 8,000 – changing the two-year target from 8,400 to 12,200.

- FBI surpassed its quarterly and annual targets for FYs 2018 and 2019. In FY 2019, FBI achieved 15,879 investigative outcomes – a 38% increase over the previous year’s results.

- FBI’s Cyber Division greatly exceeded its two-year target of by 12,200, by deterring, detecting, disrupting, and dismantling a total of 27,437 computer intrusion programs through FY 2018 - 2019.
Performance Measures

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

**Historical Data**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Years</th>
<th>Actuals</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2015</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<td>FY 2016</td>
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<td>FY 2017</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<td>FY 2018</td>
<td>98%</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2019</td>
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**Progress Updates – Q4/ FY 2019**

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

- USAO, NSD and CRM reported the data for this measure, quarterly and annually.
- The Department continued to exceed its target for favorably resolving cyber defendants’ cases. For Q4 FY 2019, the Department completed and successfully resolved each of the 51 cyber defendants’ cases. For FY 2019, each of the 165 cyber cases pursued by the Department were favorably resolved.
- The Department exceeded its two-year target of favorably resolving at least 90% of its cyber defendants’ cases, by successfully resolving 322 (99%) of its prosecutions of 325 cyber defendants, throughout FY 2018 – 2019.
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 **disruption** is defined as interrupting or inhibiting a threat actor from engaging in criminal or national security related activity.
  
  - Dismantlement 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.
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:

- NSD’s Counterintelligence and Export Control Section reviews quarterly data.

- 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.

- 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.
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.