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CHDS Alumni Make a Difference: Lt. Ray Guidetti Receives National Fusion Center Conference Award

 chds.us/c/item/594

New Jersey State Police Lt. Ray Guidetti recently received the Fusion Center State or Urban Area Representative of the Year award at the 2009 National Fusion Center Conference in Kansas City, Mo. Lt. Guidetti, Intelligence Manager of New Jersey's Regional Operations and Intelligence Center (ROIC) and CHDS alumnus, was selected by his peers for his avid support of fusion centers and information sharing, his unwavering commitment for ensuring that the ROIC protects privacy and civil liberties in the course of its duties, and the many hours he volunteers to help other fusion centers achieve baseline capabilities.



Guidetti credits much of his success and expertise to the CHDS Masters Degree Program. "CHDS taught me how to influence change when confronting homeland security issues and how to challenge the status quo," said Guidetti. While attending the program, Guidetti tackled the issue of traditional policing methods. His thesis, "Policing the Homeland: Choosing the Intelligent Option," provides a compelling argument on the need for intelligence-led policing in a post 9/11 environment. He argues that traditional policing methods are outdated; state police organizations have transformed from crime fighters to defenders of the homeland. They must now take on the responsibility of border and transportation security, domestic counter-terrorism, protection of critical infrastructure, defense against catastrophic threats, and emergency and preparedness response. His thesis was instrumental in identifying and developing the processes that the Analysis Element of the ROIC now relies on.

Guidetti has been involved in the creation and evolution of the ROIC since its opening in January 2007. Currently, the ROIC houses local and federal law enforcement officials from various New Jersey state agencies; the Philadelphia Police Department; the Homeland Security Department; the Justice Department's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; and the FBI. The 55,000 square-foot, state-of-the-art structure located at state police headquarters in West Trenton, N.J., is comprised of two core components. The Analysis Element, which Guidetti is responsible for standing up, produces research products through the collection and analysis of information that identify patterns or trends within the criminal or homeland security environment. The Watch Operations element includes real time situational awareness and response to tactical queries from the field. Both entities work interdependently to monitor and collect information. Together, they can provide constituents from the state and local government with valuable products that can guide policy and drive decision-making. The ROIC has become a model for intelligence fusion centers throughout the country. "The ROIC is an important

tool for protecting the citizens of New Jersey, and I am honored to represent the folks that work hard every day to produce analysis to help the law enforcement officers in the field," said Guidetti.

"Guidetti's work is an example of how CHDS alumni are contributing to the growth and development of our nation's maturing homeland security system," said Glen Woodbury, Director of the Center for Homeland Defense and Security. "His work with intelligence fusion centers draws attention to the need for high-quality information that is available across agencies and jurisdictions. Homeland security can only be achieved by collaborating across disciplines and levels of government for the common purpose of protecting our nation's citizenry."

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