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September 24, 2013

Dear InfraGard Member,

The InfraGard 2013 Annual National Congress was held on September 04 as a Secure Video TeleConference (SVTC). The InfraGard National Members Alliance (INMA) led the meeting from FBI Headquarters in Washington, DC, while the InfraGard Members Alliances (IMAs) participated from their local FBI field offices. Over 70 IMAs participated resulting in the largest-ever attended InfraGard Congress. By holding the Congress via SVTC, more members from each IMA were able to attend than would be possible for an in-person Congress. Additionally, the FBI Coordinators for the IMAs were able to attend as well as other members of the local field offices.

The meeting opened with a welcome from INMA Chairman of the Board Dave Pekoske, Cyber and Operations Outreach Section Chief Don Good, and Cyber Division Assistant Director Joe Demarest. INMA President Sheri Donahue and Treasurer Sam Khashman provided the President's and Treasurer's reports. Presentations on several initiatives were made including: the INMA Strategic Planning Committee by Brendan Healy (board member); the Certification and Compliance Committee by Vice President Bryant Tow; the Sector Chief Program by Dr. Earl Motzer (board member) and SSA Beth Farrell; the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) partnership by Dr. Earl Motzer; and, the Nomination Process by John Jackson (board member). Matthew Wombacher from DHS gave a presentation on the Protective Security Advisors. Executive Assistant Director Rick McFeeley addressed the delegation to emphasize the importance of InfraGard to the FBI and the support for the iGuardian portal and the Sector Chief rollout. NIPU Unit Chief Ken Jones and Chairman Dave Pekoske provided closing remarks. The slides from all presentations will be posted to the InfraGard network.

Following the presentations, the INMA responded to questions which were sent in via email from the delegates at the field offices. Because all questions could not be addressed in the time allotted, the INMA will prepare and post a comprehensive Q&A document for members. Additionally, the INMA is working to create a link which will provide all members a means to continue to submit questions to the INMA and NIPU at any time and receive timely feedback. Following Congress, each delegate (one per IMA) was to submit their respective IMA's vote for board members. Further information on the results of these elections and the upcoming elections for officers and appointed board members will be forthcoming from the INMA.

Lastly, the INMA announced a change in the distribution of the Annual Report. Since the INMA's fiscal year is now aligned with that of the FBI (i.e., the fiscal year ends on September 30), the Annual Report will be distributed following the closeout of the 2013 financials. Additionally, all IMAs are asked to submit a brief summary of their activities over the last year to be included in the Annual Report.

The INMA and NIPU would like to thank all those who attended and participated in the three-hour Congress from their field offices and the FBI personnel who worked so hard to make it happen. As always, we welcome your feedback and look forward to continuing to grow the program over the next year.

Sincerely,

FBI Cyber Division  
Joseph M. Demarest  
Assistant Director

Kenneth V. Jones, Chief  
National Industry Partnership Unit

INMA  
David Pecoske  
Chairman of the Board

Sheri Donahue  
President