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*Homeland Security Committee*

**Committee Charter**

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| **Purpose:**  The AFCEA International Homeland Security Committee (hereafter “the Committee”) is a standing Committee of the Association, chartered by and responsible to the President and CEO of AFCEA International. The purpose of the Committee is to coordinate and enhance AFCEA’s outreach to the homeland security community, to cultivate a spirit of partnership among the public and private sectors that serve it, to serve as a forum to develop new ideas regarding challenges and capabilities, and to act as AFCEA International’s principal resource in support of AFCEA chapters and members worldwide through the provision of various forums and other information exchange services. The Committee strives to contribute to global & homeland security.  **Tasks:**  The Committee provides an active focal point within AFCEA to promote an ethical dialogue among government, industry and academia on homeland security-related issues.  Specifically, the Committee shall:   1. Strengthen AFCEA’s role as an advocate for productive exchange of ideas in the homeland security community, making available to AFCEA’s members worldwide the best information available on relevant issues and productive dialogue on global capabilities to address these issues. 2. Support AFCEA and its membership by preparing, reviewing, approving and/or making recommendations on homeland security content for events, publications, workshops, education and training, white papers, and other services of the Association. 3. Make resources (ideas, speakers, and papers) available to AFCEA chapters worldwide regarding challenges in the homeland security community. 4. Support SIGNAL magazine by encouraging and contributing ideas for homeland security-related articles and interviews. 5. Conduct at least one homeland security event annually. 6. Promote AFCEA membership and support within the community. 7. Oversee nomination and recommendation of recognition programs for the homeland security community. 8. The Committee will appoint a subcommittee to elaborate this charter as necessary to support sustained Committee operation. 9. The Committee shall identify liaisons to the AFCEA Cyber, Intelligence and Technology Committees to coordinate activities between the Homeland Security Committee and these other Committees.   **Membership:**  Members will be drawn from the public and private sectors to include government, industry and academia. Government liaison members shall be appointed by government departments and agencies. Other members shall be elected by the membership. The President of AFCEA may also appoint directly each year up to five additional Committee members, based on the needs of AFCEA International.   1. There will be no more than 40 and no less than 30 members from industry. A balance should be maintained of large and small businesses representing the various disciplines in the industry (hardware engineering, software development, cyber security, communications, identity management, etc.). 2. There will be no more than 10 and no less than five members from academia. These can include both government and private academic institutions. 3. There is no limit on the number of government liaisons, but a balance should be sought with the private sector. 4. Members must:    1. Be current members of AFCEA (desired but not mandatory for a government liaison)    2. Available to participate in the activities of the Committee and have the support of their organization to do so.    3. Be able to contribute to at least one discipline in the homeland security community based on education and experience. 5. Liaisons will be sought from government organizations active in the homeland security community. It must be clear to the government leadership that such government representatives will serve in a liaison capacity and have no governance role in the Committee. 6. Members will be sought from industry and academia from corporate members of AFCEA based on relevance to the Committee and to achieve balance in the membership based upon company type and discipline.   The initial membership will organize and conduct an election process within 90 days of the establishment of the Committee. The elections process will be described and added to this charter.  **Committee Leadership:**  The President of AFCEA will appoint a Chair, Vice Chair and a Secretary from the membership of the committee. The Chair may appoint other Committee leadership as required for subcommittees and specific functions. The term for the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary will be two years and may be renewed for an additional year. After the appointment of initial Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary, subsequent Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary will be elected by the membership of the Committee, subject to confirmation by the President of AFCEA International who may make alternate choices from among the candidates nominated by the Committee's membership.  The Secretary will support the Chair and Vice Chair by organizing subcommittees and organizational functions as directed. The Committee will present at least one homeland security symposium each year.  **Membership Term:**  Elected members from industry and academia will serve for a term of three years. These members may be re-elected for a second term of three years, but may not stand for further election beyond a second term unless they have not served on the Committee for a period of at least one year, at which time if nominated they will be considered new candidates. Government liaisons have no term limits.  **Removal from the Committee:**  Members may be removed from the Committee by the President and CEO of AFCEA International based on repeated lack of participation or demonstrated lack of required expertise, based on the recommendation of the Co-Chairs. Members who miss more than three consecutive meetings will be considered by the Co-Chairs for removal.  **Meetings:**  Meetings of the Committee will normally be held at AFCEA International Headquarters, but may convene at another location at the call of the Chairs. Meetings will be held monthly or at an interval to be determined by the Co-Chairs. |