



Best Operational Success – Finalist



Project Management Office for Department of Defense Biometrics

The Project Management Office for Department of Defense Biometrics (PM DoD Biometrics) has been at the forefront of biometrics operations around the world. In January 2021, the National Defense Authorization Act signed into law the requirement to conduct DoD security vetting of all international military students and accompanying family members (IMS/AFM) coming to the United States for training on a DoD installation.

The statute was developed in response to a comprehensive review of DoD security policies and procedures following the Pensacola Naval Air Station terrorist attack on December 6, 2019. PM DoD Biometrics expeditiously worked with several interagency departments to include the Department of State, the Defense Security Cooperation Agency, and Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security in support of national defense.

As of July 2021, PM DoD Biometrics fielded 233 biometric collection kits to 119 embassies and security cooperation offices across the six geographical combatant commands. This enabled the biometric enterprise to process to date more than three thousand IMS/AFM security vetting transactions while maintaining strong relationships with our closest partners and allies. In addition to IMS vetting, PM DoD Biometrics was requested by the Department of State to assist with Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) vetting of Afghan citizens and contractors supporting coalition forces during military operations.

PM DoD Biometrics' successful security vetting and analysis has been a force multiplier in the United State's efforts in evacuating and relocating citizens seeking refuge. These successful operational actions by PM DoD Biometrics reflect great credit upon the Program Executive Office for Intelligence, Electronic Warfare, and Sensors; the Department of the Army; and the Department of Defense.