



Canada Border
Services Agency

Agence des services
frontaliers du Canada

UNCLASSIFIED

“Wanted by the Canada Border Services Agency”

Speaking Points

- One of the CBSA's primary functions is to protect the health and safety of Canadians and to maintain the security of Canadian society. To accomplish this, CBSA is accorded the right to detain individuals who may pose a threat to Canada.
- The “Wanted by the CBSA” website is an effective tool in locating, arresting and removing individuals who are inadmissible to Canada.
- Since the launch of the “Wanted by the CBSA” program, Canadians have assisted in locating 33 individuals. As of September 07, 2012, the CBSA has removed 20 of these individuals from Canada. In addition, five individuals have been located abroad.
- As a result of the success of the “Wanted by the CBSA”, it will now become an ongoing program with new cases regularly added to the website.

Issue:

The CBSA introduced the “Wanted by the CBSA” website to utilize the public's cooperation as an additional investigative tool to locate particular individuals and execute the warrants for their removal.

Background:

On July 21, 2011, the CBSA published a list of 30 individuals sought for removal for having violated human or international rights under the *Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes Act* or under international law. Since that time, the list has been expanded on five occasions, to include other types of inadmissible individuals, who are sought for removal due to security concerns or for having committed serious crimes in Canada or abroad. In total, 110 individuals have been featured on the website.

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There are currently 35 active cases featured on the website. An archive page is also included, to allow the public to access older cases that were previously posted on the main page.

Since the launch of the "Wanted by the CBSA", the CBSA has received a total of 259 tips from the public on the cases featured on the website.

Current Status:

"Wanted by the CBSA" will continue as an ongoing program and will feature a minimum of 35 individuals who will be continuously refreshed and updated with cases from the CBSA immigration warrant inventory. Regions will submit cases for consideration which will be screened and vetted [REDACTED]

It has become apparent that the regions are having difficulties finding cases that match the existing criteria. As such, a proposal for the expansion of the "Wanted by the CBSA" program criteria is forthcoming. [REDACTED]

As the program moves forward, priority will be given for cases in which an individual has exhausted their appeal rights, has a travel document available and is considered "removal ready".

Next Steps

As the individuals currently featured on the website are removed from Canada or confirmed to be outside of Canada they will be removed from the "Wanted by the CBSA" website. The CBSA will add new individuals to the website as cases are removed.

VP Responsible: Pierre Sabourin
Date Approved: September 11, 2012



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For information

Expansion of the “*Wanted by the CBSA*” selection criteria

For the Vice President

PURPOSE

To advise you that the “*Wanted by the CBSA*” program is expanding the selection criteria to include those individuals who are subject to a Canada-wide warrant for an admissibility hearing and that the minimum number of cases required on the main page of the “*Wanted by the CBSA*” website is changing from 35 to 20.

ISSUE

The “*Wanted by the CBSA*” program is experiencing difficulty in receiving a sufficient number of referrals from the regions for consideration and inclusion on its website. It was anticipated that a consistent stream of cases would be referred from the regions but the regions have advised that there are insufficient cases in the removals inventory that meet the current selection criteria. Further, the regions have proposed that individuals who meet the existing criteria with an outstanding warrant for Admissibility Hearing, but where a removal order has not been issued, be also considered for inclusion on the website.

BACKGROUND

On July 21, 2011, the CBSA introduced the “*Wanted by the CBSA*” website to utilize the public’s cooperation as an additional investigative tool to locate particular individuals and execute the warrants for their removal.

To address the lack of sufficient cases, the regions have proposed that individuals who meet the existing criteria with an outstanding warrant for Admissibility Hearing, but where a removal order has not been issued are the cases that include the most dangerous individuals in Canada. These types of cases would include those who have fled prosecution from another country and are fugitives. Currently, individuals who do not have a removal order are not considered for inclusion on the website.

There is a concern that by including these cases on the “*Wanted by the CBSA*” website it will be perceived negatively by the public as these individuals have not yet been determined to be

inadmissible to Canada. These types of cases may result in lengthy delays in removing individuals as they are not at the end of the enforcement continuum. With the expansion of the selection criteria to include those individuals that meet all of the previous criteria but whom have not had an admissibility hearing, there exists the reality that these individuals if located they could be released from detention without being any closer to actually being removed from Canada.

The apprehension of these individuals, however, outweighs the inability to otherwise not locate them and offers an opportunity to place some controls on the individuals such as release conditions or in some cases continued detention. The potential for negative media attention would be mitigated by the fact that these individuals who were not otherwise apprehended have been arrested by the CBSA and their location known. If the individuals are released from detention or allowed to remain in Canada after a decision by the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB), then the focus of the public's eye will shift to the IRB rather than onto the CBSA for not being able to locate these individuals.

STATUS

Currently, the "*Wanted by the CBSA*" program has not been receiving significant public interest nor has there been a large influx of case referrals from the regions. As a result, the effectiveness of the program has been limited. The "*Wanted by the CBSA*" program to date has been fairly successful but by operating within the current case selection criteria the CBSA is limiting the types of individuals who can be included and may jeopardize the future of the program.

NEXT STEPS

Communications is exploring additional avenues to generate additional public interest and exposure to the "*Wanted by the CBSA*" program, including pro-active media releases.

The "*Wanted by the CBSA*" program will be sending out a national directive outlining the proposed changes to the selection criteria along with the amended standard operating procedures.

Geoff Leckey
Director General, Operations Branch