What are the three biggest challenges or opportunities faced by fusion centers in 2010?

1. **The use of eGuardian as it relates to the SAR initiative.** The State of Iowa Intelligence Fusion Center (IFC) has been using eGuardian on a limited basis. The IFC has made outreach to our local FBI field office when dealing with eGuardian. The continuous response is that they (FBI) have not been given guidance on how or when to use eGuardian. Example - We at the IFC will go into eGuardian and see entries from across the US that impact Iowa (the only way we see these are a proactive search on our part - no direct call). We then reach out to the local FBI office and found out they are unaware of any such information in eGuardian. There seems to be a huge disconnect on how eGuardian is to work. What role does the FBI play? Who is responsible for running leads out of eGuardian? The question I have is: Has FBI HQ given clear guidance to the field (if so has the field given clear guidance downward) on how to use eGuardian and included in that guidance is the FBI to engage the state fusion center in which the eGuardian entry is made prior to working the lead?

2. **The lack of the use of secure email.** It does not seem to be a priority (or perhaps misunderstood) at the national level. I have yet to see a federal entity say anything about using secure email systems such as: FBI LEC, RISS, HSIN, etc. All levels of government push products and information over insecure systems on a daily basis. The question is: Are we as part of the intelligence community not concerned about the use of non-secure email to send and receive intelligence/sensitive information?

3. **Sustainment of fusion centers** and funding to build baseline capabilities. The IFC has sustainment funding from the state of Iowa general fund to operate on a daily basis, the ability to expand and build out to national baseline capabilities is very limited with the current restrictions on federal funding - 80/20 split. Question is: Are there plans to get direct funding for FC's? If so, timeline?

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