Controlled Application Review and Resolution Training Program (CARRP) Overview

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CARRP Overview Lecture
National Security and Public Safety Division

Updated December 2017

Controlled Application Review and Resolution Program (CARRP) Training Program

Module 2: CARRP Overview
National Security and Public Safety Division

Updated September 2020
CARRP Terms, Vol. I

National Security (NS) Concern

- Exists when an individual or organization has been determined to have an articulable link to prior, current or planned involvement in, or association with, an activity, individual or organization described in 212(a)(3)(A), (B), or (F), 237(a)(4)(A) or (B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).

- This determination requires that the case be handled in accordance with CARRP policy.

2017 Training Material w/ Instructor Notes, Module 2: CARRP Overview, DEF-00429512

2020 Training Material w/ Instructor Notes, Module 2: CARRP Overview, DEF-00431076-77

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CARRP Terms, Vol. I

Non-KST NS Concern – Not Confirmed

- There is a nexus to a national security ground, but there is not a clear link between the individual or organization and the national security ground
- Indicators of connection = NS Not Confirmed

CARRP Terms, Group I: Non-KST
NS Not Confirmed

- In a Non-KST Not Confirmed case, there is a nexus to a national security ground, but there is not a clear link between the individual or organization and the national security ground.

  - Sufficient Indicators of connection in the totality of the circumstances = NS Not Confirmed

  Individual / Organization + Indicators of a Link + NS ground from INA

Say:

If NS confirmed means that we have a clear link between a person and an NS ground, NS not confirmed means that some part of the equation is a little fuzzy. There are sufficient indicators of something going on, because of travel, because of associations, because of activities, because of some characteristic – but it’s not a clear connection.

So now you may be thinking to yourselves why we would put that in CARRP.

The reason goes back to the description of what CARRP is...a process for vetting and resolving NS concerns. We do not need a fully formed articulate link – we just need an individual and an NS ground and INDICATIONS or SUSPICIONS of a link between them.

We can use the CARRP process to build out our articulate link.

So think of NS Not Confirmed as a kind of hazy articulate link, rather than the perfectly clear link that would lead to an NS Confirmed determination.

2017 Training Material w/ Instructor Notes, Module 2: CARRP Overview, DEF-00429519

2020 Training Material w/ Instructor Notes, Module 2: CARRP Overview, DEF-004311088
Having just defined what CARRP is and how it interacts with other programs, we will now take a brief diversion into what CARRP is not.

This is a simple chart with an incredibly important message.

**TRIG is Terrorism Related Grounds of Inadmissibility**

CARRP and TRIG are not the same thing — there is overlap in many cases (i.e., some things with TRIG concerns may fall in to CARRP, like terrorist activities or membership) but they are fundamentally different things.

TRIG is an inadmissibility — it is a straight up application of the law.

**CARRP is a national security program — it is a subjective assessment of threat to national security.**

It is possible to have a case in CARRP with no TRIG concerns.

It is possible to have TRIG concerns but not be working a case in CARRP.

It is possible to resolve a CARRP issue but still have a TRIG issue.

It is possible to get an exemption for TRIG but still work a case in CARRP.

**TRIG but not CARRP:**

If you work in a hospital and care for everyone who comes in, and some of them are government soldiers and some of them are fighting against the government.

If you're a refugee in a camp, and the camp leaders come around and collect a small "tax" on each household, and you know that the "tax" goes to pay people to bring supplies over the mountains to the rebels fighting in your home country.

If you give a ham sandwich to a terrorist.

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2017 Training Material w/ Instructor Notes, Module 2: CARRP Overview, DEF-00429545

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2020 Training Material w/ Instructor Notes, Module 2: CARRP Overview, DEF-00431137

Say:

We just defined what CARRP is and how it interacts with other programs. Now we will take a brief detour and talk about what CARRP is not. This is a simple chart with an incredibly important message. As many of you probably know, TRIG stands for Terrorism Related Grounds of Inadmissibility. CARRP and TRIG are not the same thing, but there is overlap in many cases. Some cases with TRIG concerns may fall into CARRP, like terrorist activities or membership, but they are fundamentally different things.

TRIG refers to specific inadmissibility grounds — it is purely an application of the law. CARRP is a national security program — it is a consistent handling process for cases with potential or actual national security concerns. It is possible to have a case in CARRP with no TRIG concerns. Similarly, it is possible to have TRIG concerns but not be working a case in CARRP. It’s also possible to resolve a CARRP issue but still have a TRIG issue AND it’s possible to get an exemption for TRIG but still work a case in CARRP.

Examples of TRIG but not CARRP (if an exemption is granted):

- If the subject worked in a hospital and cared for everyone who came in, and

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2020 Training Material w/ Instructor Notes, Module 2: CARRP Overview, DEF-00431137
Core Concept: What CARRP Is Not

“covert agency program”
“potentially endless delays”
“a civil rights violation”

“Immigration authorities are instructed to follow the FBI direction as to whether deny, approve or hold in abeyance”

“Recruitment tool for the FBI”

“AUTOMATIC DESIGNATION EVEN FOR ROUTINE TRAVEL SUCH AS A FAMILY VISIT”

There’s a lot in the public domain about CARRP, and most of it isn't good. However, when we do our jobs right, most of these are misconceptions or exaggerations.

We’ve already touched on a couple of these:

Potentially endless delays – we’ve already covered that the process should end and the different ways it can – throughout the rest of these materials we’ll talk about how to get there.

Follow FBI direction – did we talk about that during deconfliction? At any point did we say to follow whatever the FBI’s direction was?

We’ll talk more about indicators, particularly travel, as we get into identifying concerns.

But what about “civil rights violation”? Why would that be an accusation?

Pay attention in the identifying concerns section not just about what the indicators are, but also where USCIS gets its information from, and what people are likely to be alerted to based on what checks we perform.

Please keep these in the back of your head as we go through the curriculum. Because by the end of this class, you’re going to be able to intelligently refute every one of these and describe what the process actually does.

**Instructors:** Give CARRP a positive spin, if possible. Remind students that we do clear (resolve) a high number of cases.

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Core Concept: What CARRP Is Not

“covert agency program”

“potentially endless delays”

“a civil rights violation”

“Immigration authorities are instructed to follow the FBI direction as to whether deny, approve or hold in abeyance”

“Recruitment tool for the FBI”

“AUTOMATIC DESIGNATION EVEN FOR ROUTINE TRAVEL SUCH AS A FAMILY VISIT”

Say:

There’s a lot of information in the public domain about CARRP, and most of it isn’t good. However, even when we do our jobs right, there are many misconceptions that persist.

We’ve already touched on a couple of these misconceptions. CARRP is not:

- A covert agency program designed to deny cases.
- Potentially endless delays – we’ve already covered the process should end and the different ways it can – throughout the rest of this course we’ll talk about how to get there.
- Follow FBI direction – did we talk about that during deconfliction? At any point did we say to follow whatever the FBI’s direction was?
- An automatic designation even for routine travel. We’ll talk more about indicators, particularly travel, as we get into identifying concerns.
- But what about CARRP being a “civil rights violation”? Why would that be an accusation? CARRP is not a discriminatory program. As we said before, religion and national origin are not indicators of a potential NS concern.

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2020 Training Material, Module 2: CARRP Overview

Overview, DEF-0042549