

DHS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Collaborating with Third Parties

October 5, 2021

Laura Parker, Ph.D.

Senior Advisor for Sensors

Science and Technology Directorate



**Homeland
Security**

Science and Technology

DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES + SHARED GOALS = POWERFUL SOLUTIONS

So What? Who Cares?

- Space: Explosive detection systems for aviation security.
- Problem: Adapting adversary requires improved detection systems.
- Solutions (circa 2010): Foster ecosystem to promote scientific method (building on advances of others) and promoting collaboration [ADSAs, task-orders, BAAs, TSA projects]. Augment the capabilities and capacities of vendors with third-party involvement (first party=DHS/TSA; second party=vendors; third party=academia, other industry, National Labs).
- Results: 24 ADSAs (~750 presentations, ~1000 unique attendees), ~15 task orders, TSA projects (e.g., OTAP/Sandia), numerous third parties developing new systems and working with vendors. TSA deployment of results of third parties translucent because deployment limited through vendors under NDAs.
- Futures: Application to other DHS components (CBP, CISA, USSS, USCG) and Silicon Valley Innovation Program (SVIP) and other threats/venues.
- Collaboration required at ADSAs and elsewhere between DHS/TSA, vendors and third-parties to address remaining barriers to increase involvement of third-parties and increase scientific method.



Homeland Security

Science and Technology

DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES + SHARED GOALS = POWERFUL SOLUTIONS