

Ego	Alter	Type	Link Description
Asylum Seeker – Port of Entry	Department of Homeland Security	Direct	The Department of Homeland Security (‘DHS’) is the overarching cabinet-level agency responsible for identifying and processing asylum seekers and other individuals seeking protection at borders, as well as in the interior of the US. ¹
Asylum Seeker – Port of Entry	National Vetting Center	Indirect	The National Vetting Center (NVC) makes security and other data available to adjudicators making decisions about immigration-related benefits, which include decisions relating to asylum. The NVC has also developed and maintained ‘new cloud analytics to compare US person data against relevant disseminated Intelligence Community information for affirmative asylum vetting’. ²
Asylum Seeker – Port of Entry	Refugee, Asylum and International Operations Directorate	Direct	This office conducts protection screenings, adjudicates asylum and refugee applications, and adjudicates other immigration benefits both domestically and internationally. ³ The office also consults ‘with other countries to build the capacity of their protection systems, implement bilateral information-sharing agreements for identity management and confidentiality, and help advance the U.S. government’s strategic priorities in the international and refugee protection arenas.’ ⁴ Asylum officers travel within the US to process asylum-related claims, including to USCIS field offices.
Asylum Seeker – Port of Entry	CBP Families and Children Care Panel	Indirect	The CBP Families and Children Care Panel is part of the Homeland Security Advisory Council. ⁵ The so-called ‘bipartisan’ panel ‘was formed in October 2018 because of the burgeoning humanitarian crisis resulting from a surge in migration of FMUs, primarily from Guatemala and Honduras, overwhelming the DHS resources at the border to address the crisis.’ ⁶ The Panel evaluated and provided advice – largely in line with CBP talking points – that impacted children and others seeking asylum.
Asylum Seeker – Port of Entry	DHS Science and Technology Directorate	Indirect	‘S&T provides technical and operational support to ensure the transition, acquisition, and deployment of technologies, information, and procedures that improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the operational capabilities across HSE missions.’ ⁷ ‘S&T invests in border security research and development for technologies and solutions to prevent the illicit movement and illegal entry or exit of people, weapons, dangerous goods, and contraband, and manage the risk posed by people and goods in transit.’ ⁸ The ‘Immigration Services Program’ also ‘develops technologies for USCIS to meet

¹ See Department of Homeland Security, *FY 2021 Budget in Brief* (Report, 9 February 2020) <<https://www.dhs.gov/publication/fy-2021-budget-brief>>.

² US Customs and Border Protection, *Budget Overview: Fiscal Year 2020 Congressional Justification* (DHS Report, 2020) 49.

³ ‘Refugee, Asylum and International Operations Directorate’, *US Citizenship and Immigration Services* (Web Page, 10 March 2020) <<https://www.uscis.gov/about-us/directorates-and-program-offices/refugee-asylum-and-international-operations-directorate>>.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ ‘CBP Families and Children Care Panel Final Report’, *Homeland Security Advisory Council* (Report, 14 November 2019).

⁶ Ibid at 4.

⁷ *FY 2021 Budget in Brief* (n 1) 71.

⁸ Science and Technology Directorate, *Budget Overview: Fiscal Year 2021 Congressional Justification* (DHS Report, 2020) 15 <https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/science_and_technology_directorate.pdf>.

			their goals to (1) provide efficient adjudication of all applications and petitions for immigration benefits, (2) enhance the integrity of the legal immigration system, and (3) provide trusted and timely immigration, employment, and identity information through a culture of efficiency and creativity. ⁹ These tools may impact an individual's ability to both access the asylum process, as well as the asylum adjudication.
Asylum Seeker – Port of Entry	Federal Law Enforcement Training Center	Indirect	The Federal Law Enforcement Training Center's (FLETC) members, principally federal law enforcement organizations, rely on FLETC to maintain all of the instruments of training and to prepare their law enforcement cadre to perform their law enforcement tasks. ¹⁰ The Charleston, South Carolina FLETC training facility runs the US Coast Guard Maritime Law Enforcement Academy, the US Customs and Border Protection Field Operations Academy, the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement Training Academy, and the US Citizenship and Immigration Services Academy Training Center. ¹¹ The Artesia, New Mexico facility is the basic training hub for Border Patrol and the Federal Air Marshal's Service. ¹² It is at FLETC that CBP officials learn about asylum law, though very little focus is placed upon either international law or the law of asylum.
Asylum Seeker – Port of Entry	CBP Office of Field Operations	Indirect	'CBP's primary immigration enforcement mission at ports of entry is to confirm that travelers are eligible to enter the United States and to exclude inadmissible aliens. Yet strict enforcement is in tension with a second core mission: to facilitate the flow of lawful travelers, who are the vast majority of persons seeking admission. ¹³ OFO staffs the ports of entry and is responsible for screening travellers and referring asylum seekers, or others, who raise protection claims to the appropriate legal process.
Asylum Seeker – Port of Entry	Office of International Affairs	Indirect	On January 4, 2016, Secretary Johnson announced a number of ongoing and new actions that will address recent trends and improve southwest border security, including increasing border security, cracking down on criminal smugglers, and expanding cooperation with international partners. All of these measures, in concert with actions undertaken by our interagency and regional partners, will make it that much more difficult for extra-hemispheric migrants to move unimpeded into and through Central America and Mexico and approach the U.S. border.' ¹⁴

⁹ Ibid at 21.

¹⁰ US Department of Homeland Security, *FLETC Strategic Plan 2018-2022* (Report, 2018) 7.

¹¹ US Department of Homeland Security, *Student Handbook: Artesia Facility* (Handbook, 2018-AN-0008, 2018) 8.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Lisa Seghetti, *Border Security: Immigration Inspections at Ports of Entry* (Congressional Research Service Report, No R43356, 9 January 2014) i.

¹⁴ Written Evidence to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, United States House of Representatives, Washington, DC, 22 March 2016 (Alan Bersin, Assistant Secretary and Chief Diplomatic Officer, PLCY Office of International Affairs) <www.dhs.gov/news/2016/03/22/written-testimony-plcy-house-foreign-affairs-subcommittee-western-hemisphere-hearing>.