



Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency

In 2017, the FY17 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) directed the Department of Defense to conduct a study and submit a report on the feasibility of moving the background investigative mission from the National Background Investigation Bureau (NBIB) and the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to the Department of Defense—specifically DSS.

The following year, the FY18 NDAA gave the Secretary of Defense the authority to conduct background investigations for DoD personnel (roughly 70 to 80 percent of the inventory). That June, the President's Management Agenda (PMA) expressed the administration's preference for consolidating the investigative mission within one central location and keeping the personnel vetting process aligned to maintain efficiencies and effectiveness.

On April 24, the President signed [Executive Order 13869](#), shifting primary responsibility for federal government background investigations from OPM to DoD, to be completed by October 1, 2019. This Executive Order reflects the administration's commitment to reforming the personnel vetting enterprise to ensure a trusted federal workforce and achieve an efficient, effective, and secure personnel vetting operation that meets government-wide needs for background investigations.

On June 24, 2019, the agency was renamed the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency.

For more on the legacy organizations that form DCSA, visit our history page:

<https://www.dcsa.mil/about/history/>