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FB-ISAO Physical Threat Level:

Guarded

FB-ISAO has assessed the general Physical Threat Level for US Faith-Based Organizations as “**GUARDED**.” As per FB-ISAO’s definitions of the Physical Threat Levels, “**GUARDED**” means FB-ISAO is unaware of any specific threats but a general risk of incidents exists.

FB-ISAO Cyber Threat Level:

Guarded

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FB-ISAO Newsletter

Mayya Saab to Assume the Role of Executive Director

By Mayya Saab

It is an honor and a privilege to assume the position of Executive Director of the Faith-Based Information Sharing and Analysis Organization (FB-ISAO).

I joined FB-ISAO because I have a strong belief that people should be able to gather to worship freely and without fear. FB-ISAO was conceptualized a few years ago with that mission at its core. Working with a team of dedicated professionals, we stood up the organization in June of 2018. Refer to [this announcement](#) on our blog site. Recently, FB-ISAO expanded its focus to include faith-based organization of all kinds such as charities and schools.

Since its inception, the organization’s capabilities have developed to include;

- Daily, Weekly and Monthly Reports
- [Working Groups](#)
- [Incident Reporting](#)
- [Workshops](#)

Looking back at the many accomplishments of the organization, and my own accomplishments within the organization, I can wholeheartedly say that working with FB-ISAO’s members brings me the greatest joy. An ISAO is a membership organization - but more importantly an ISAO is driven by its members - the organization only supplies the platform for those members to work together.

In my new role, I will continue to work with the members of FB-ISAO on a daily basis. In order for me to carry out my duties as Executive Director of designing, developing and implementing strategic plans for the organization, I must be close to the members, who drive the organization and spur its growth. I see change as a continuum without a particular end point. For that reason, the change from my current role to my new role is a process that will take time and one that will continually evolve and develop based on the needs of the organization.

I am also looking forward to continuing my excellent working relationship with my colleagues whom I rely on wholly (without them, I would be lost!) The FB-ISAO team consists of threat and preparedness analysis SMEs who deliver all the analytical reporting that provide members with **information, analysis, and capabilities** to help **reduce risk** while enhancing **preparedness, security, and resilience**.

We have a lot of work to do! And working side by side with you, our members, I know we will continue to deliver on the mission.

FB-ISAO Advisory Board

[Get to Know the Board of Advisors](#)

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Not Yet a Member of FB-ISAO?

[How to join...](#)

Not Yet on FB-ISAO Slack - You Need to Be!

[Write to membership.](#)

Upcoming FB-ISAO Events

Orlando, Florida Workshop	19 February 2020
New Member On-Boarding	10 March 2020
Ashburn, Virginia Workshop	24 March 2020
Virginia Beach, Virginia Workshop	14 April 2020

The Benefits of Incident Reporting

As highlighted in the December 2019 FB-ISAO Newsletter, one of the earmarks of a successful information sharing organization is receiving confidential incident reports from members. Incident reports not only serve as notification an incident has occurred and used to request assistance (if needed), but incident reports provide a better situational awareness and understanding of the threat landscape through the submission of actual events. FB-ISAO released a beta version of our Incident Reporting (IR) capability in December 2019. With feedback from members, an updated version of our IR is now available on the #general channel of the FB-ISAO workspace.

Why should members file an Incident Report? In the context of information sharing organizations, such as FB-ISAO, incident reports help us provide awareness of threats to others, as appropriate. The more awareness we can share with others, the better prepared we will be individually and as a community. Being aware of actual incidents enhances FB-ISAO's analytical reports, and enables us to communicate relevant mitigation actions to help other members reduce the risk posed from similar activity, effectively respond to future events, or prevent similar incidents from occurring. [Read More...](#)

Spotlight: Coronavirus

Should my organization be concerned?

There is no cause for panic, but organizations do need to ensure they have an understanding of the situation within their business locations, as well as to be aware of any travelers who may have visited the area. Because of the recently completed holiday season, as well as Chinese New Year, it is possible there could have been travel in and around the area recently. If an organization has business interests in China and other parts of Asia that have been impacted, it would be important to follow the instructions of government and health officials. Any travelers to the affected region should notify the organization. Everywhere else, it is important that organizations review their health processes, as well as ensure they have visibility on any employees who may have traveled to the affected areas.

What does it mean for Faith Based Organization?

As it pertains to Faith Based Organizations (FBO), this can have a tremendous impact due to the way the virus is spread. Regular attendees to worship services, or charitable events will largely adhere to government and health advisories and keep contact with others to a minimum in the affected areas, especially those that fall under [quarantine](#) conditions. This also means that outdoor events, or events that attract large gatherings, will be impacted. Because of the potential for lower turnout, and especially if the virus grows, it could have a financial impact on an organization's budget, especially one that may not have members using online tithing platforms and contribute with cash offerings.

On 11 February 2020, the virus was renamed from "ncov" to "covid_19". The World Health Organization stated that "Having a name matters to prevent the use of other names that can be inaccurate or stigmatizing." Members of FB-ISAO can get topical updates via a Slack channel dedicated to this virus outbreak.