



(U) Inquiring Minds ... What Does Governance Mean?

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(U//FOUO) If you work in SID, you've no doubt heard the term "Governance" being bandied about for a while now... What are these people talking about? Allow **SID today** to offer an explanation. Simply said, Governance is management. In the world of SIGINT, Governance refers to:

- Synchronizing and optimizing the US SIGINT System (USSS);
- Empowerment and accountability at the lowest possible levels; and
- Conveying DIRNSA's intent by focusing on mission, partnering, horizontal integration, intelligence community sharing.

(U//FOUO) SID's Senior Leadership has been crafting a Governance framework for about 18 months now. The processes established in the Governance framework will ensure that SIGINT-ers at all levels understand their particular SIGINT missions as well as their roles in accomplishing those missions. Making these Governance processes a routine practice is paramount and training on how to do so has already begun.**

(U//FOUO) Governance entails many processes and concepts that will, in and of themselves, merit definition. Look for these terms in **SID today** between now and the end of December. To get the ball rolling with our "Governance Topic-of-the-Day" series, we'll define the concept of *Governance* itself:

(U//FOUO) The goal of Governance, in the SIGINT context, is to ensure that the various parts of the USSS are working well together and thus create a synchronized USSS. Governance will set the stage for a connection that reaches from national leadership all the way to NSA's newest hires. Within the Governance framework, statements of high-level intent will be provided to all USSS elements in order to guide lower-level decision-making as we carry out SIGINT and CNO.

(U) So, how are we going to do this?

(U//FOUO) To accomplish this, SID Senior Leadership has outlined [four Governance tasks](#) and 17 subordinate responsibilities for the USSS. A brief description of those tasks follows:

- Task #1 - **Provide SIGINT to the Nation ;**
- Task #2 - **Direct the USSS in its SIGINT Production ;**
- Task #3 - **Prepare the USSS to provide dominant SIGINT in the future ;**
- Task #4 - **Support the development of Computer Network Attack (CNA) capabilities and operations .**

(U//FOUO) Governance of the USSS is part of a larger NSA/CSS-wide effort, which is spelled out in [NSA/CSS Policy 1-3](#). This policy



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states that, "NSA/CSS is a global enterprise and shall be managed as a single organization," the US Cryptologic System (USCS). The Governance tasks listed above outline the SIGINT portion of this larger effort.

(U) To find out more, go to the [SID homepage](#). Look under the "Gearing up for Governance" section; you will find briefing slides with supporting notes and documentation.

(U) Stay tuned to our "Topic-of-the-Day" series for more terms associated with Governance.....

** See **SID** *today* article ([U//FOUO](#)) "[Bringing Governance to the USSS](#)" for more information on training.

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