

Biometric Consortium 2004 Conference

Peter E. Sand

*Director of Privacy Technology
DHS Privacy Office*

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528
Phone: 202.772.9848. peter.sand@dhs.gov

Topic: NSTC IWG on Biometrics: Interagency RDT&E Coordination

Abstract: The National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) was established by Executive Order on November 23, 1993. This Cabinet-level Council is the principal means by which the President coordinates science and technology policies across the Federal Government. The NSTC acts as a virtual agency for science and technology to coordinate diverse parts of the Federal research and development enterprise. The Council prepares research and development strategies that are coordinated across the Federal agencies to form a comprehensive investment package aimed at accomplishing multiple national goals.

This session provides an overview of the NSTC's Interagency Working Group on Biometrics, which facilitates interagency cooperation on biometrics RDT&E, and the activities of its four subgroups: biometric modalities; biometric systems and human interface issues; biometrics fusion, test infrastructure and evaluation; and the social, legal and privacy aspects of biometric technologies.

Biography: As the Director of Privacy Technology, Sand coordinates the integration of privacy awareness and protections with the Department's development and use of information technologies. This is accomplished primarily through an ongoing dialogue with members of the Department's scientific and technology components. As technology-rich programs are developed within DHS, Sand ensures that privacy is one of the first and most prominent issues considered. At the same time, Sand brings the details of the nature and use of technology back to the DHS Privacy Office to keep the policy and legal architecture of privacy grounded in the hard science of information technology. Before joining DHS, Sand served as the Chief Privacy and Chief Information Officer for the Pennsylvania Office of the Attorney General. In the Office of Attorney General, Sand provided direct oversight of the specific technology used to support that office's law enforcement activities. In addition, Sand worked with senior law enforcement leadership in Pennsylvania as well that of other states and federal agencies to build an action-oriented strategy that integrated technology and policy. He has also practiced as an attorney and technology consultant to state and local government agencies and non-profit and educational organizations. Mr. Sand graduated from Villanova University and the Villanova University School of Law.