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The Grey House Homeland Security Directory, 2015

Publisher: Grey House Publishing, Amenia, NY (2015)**Price:** \$195.00pa**ISBN13/ISSN:**978-1-61925-561-6**Content** [UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY](#)**Area:** [Directories](#); [United States](#); [Politics and Government](#); [Political Science](#)**Julia Frankosky** - Government Information Librarian, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan

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With the growing interest in and concern with homeland security it is not unusual for patrons to go to their local public or college/university library to try to get contact information for federal and state employees working in this sector to express their concerns or to pursue research projects. However, finding this information can be a tricky feat since there are many federal and state agencies and subagencies that work in some way with issues related to homeland security and they may not be readily apparent to the librarian or the researcher. The 11th edition of *The Grey House Homeland Security Directory* helps fill this need in the reference collection for public and academic libraries. Information included in this comprehensive directory extends beyond governmental agencies and also includes entries for private sector companies which offer products and services related to homeland security issues and concerns, as well as a section for industry resources such as Websites, trade shows, publications, and other information resources. This helpful directory is divided into five sections: Federal Agencies, State Agencies, Company Listings (provides information on companies that offer services and products to the consumer such as data security and emergency food and water rations), Industry Resources, and Indexes. In the first four sections, each of the 5,502 entries includes a brief description explaining how that entry relates to homeland security, contact information for the entry as a whole (department-level or company-level, for example), and the names and titles of important individuals (11,314 in total) and often their phone numbers and/or email addresses. A table of contents is useful for navigating this directory and section five is comprised of three indexes: entry name index, key personnel index, and products and services index to help the user find what they are looking for. Length of entries and the level of information provided varies in section three: Company Listing. Shorter entries are often seen with smaller companies (less than 50 employees), but there are a few instances in which there is scant information provided on much larger companies. Despite the inconsistencies, this section is still very robust in the amount of information provided for the majority of companies profiled. The most helpful section of this directory is section two: State Agencies. It can often be difficult to determine which state agencies play a role related to Homeland Security, and this directory clearly lists the applicable departments and includes a brief description in addition to contact information which is often buried on state Websites, if it is even listed at all. Overall, the 11th edition of *The Grey House Homeland Security Directory* is very robust and a useful addition to public and academic libraries, especially those which are open to the public. It is a valuable reference tool, especially to libraries that have owned previous editions as contact information for many individuals has changed, more companies have been added to the Company Listing section, and Industry Resources have been updated and added.