



Diplomatic Security Service in WHA Region

47 Regional Security Offices in 28 Countries

Regional Security Officer (RSO): A DSS special agent who is the senior U.S. law enforcement officer in country. The RSO advises the chief of mission on security and law enforcement matters, and manages security programs designed to protect U.S. government personnel, facilities, and information. Within the RSO shop:

- **Deputy and Assistant RSOs:** Assist RSOs with their mission.
- **Security Engineering Officers, Security Technical Specialists, and Seabees:** Install and maintain technical security systems.
- **Marine Security Guards:** Support protection mission and prevent the compromise of national security information and equipment.
- **Local Guard Force:** Assist with physical and virtual security at post.

In 2018, **U.S. Diplomatic Couriers**, based out of **3 regional hubs**, delivered more than 4 million pounds of secure cargo to the WHA region.

Through the department's ATA program, DSS trained **506 law enforcement partners** and delivered equipment to **4 partner countries**.

41 assistant regional security officer-investigators (ARSO-Is) and 2 DRSO-Is:

Work with host nation and U.S. law enforcement officers to investigate visa and passport fraud, and related crimes such as human smuggling and trafficking, identity fraud, and terrorism.

- In the last few months, the ARSO-Is at the U.S. Embassy in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, have partnered with Dominican and U.S. law enforcement officials to take down two

large, international human smuggling rings based in the country.

- The ARSO-I team trained **4,142 security personnel** in the region on how to detect travel document fraud.
- **Foreign Service National Investigators** and **Criminal Fraud Investigators** assist with DSS investigations, and liaising with U.S. and host nation law enforcement officers.

