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Fact Sheet: U.S. Department of Homeland Security FY 2006 Budget Request Includes Seven Percent Increase



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President George W. Bush's FY 2006 budget request includes a total of \$41.1 billion for the Department of Homeland Security. This is an increase of seven percent over the enacted FY 2005 funding, excluding Project BioShield. This year's request demonstrates the Administration's continued commitment to making further improvements to the nation's homeland security.

DHS has made great strides since it was established in March 2003 in integrating the 22 distinct agencies and bureaus, each with its own employees, mission and culture into a single, unified Department whose mission is to secure the homeland. This year's budget request includes several key initiatives that will allow the Department to integrate and consolidate existing security functions to more effectively serve our overall mission and make America safer.

Overall FY 2006 Budget Highlights

Among the entities with significant budgetary increases are Immigration and Customs Enforcement with a 13.5 percent increase and the U.S. Coast Guard with an increase of more than nine percent.

The budget includes the establishment of the **Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO)**. The DNDO will develop, acquire and support the deployment and improvement of a domestic system to detect and report attempts to import, assemble, or transport a nuclear explosive device, fissile material or radiological material intended for illicit use. The DNDO will be located within DHS and will be jointly staffed with representatives from DHS, the Department of Energy, the Department of Defense, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), with coordination between the Department of Justice, Department of State, intelligence community, and other departments as needed.

The budget proposes to consolidate the various DHS screening activities with the formation of the **Office of Screening Coordination and Operations (SCO)** within the Border and Transportation Security (BTS) directorate. This new organization would enhance terrorist-related screening through comprehensive, coordinated procedures that detect, identify, track and interdict people, cargo and other entities and objects that pose a threat to homeland security. This effort to integrate existing resources to work more efficiently, brings together several similar ongoing screening efforts under one office, including: United States-Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology (US-VISIT); Secure Flight and Crew Vetting; Free and Secure Trade (FAST); NEXUS/Secure Electronic Network for Travelers Rapid Inspection (SENTRI); Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC); Registered Traveler; Hazardous Materials Trucker Background Checks; and Alien Flight School Checks.

The effectiveness of state and local homeland security assistance can be increased through an approach that closes the most critical gaps in terrorism prevention and preparedness capabilities. Over \$2 billion in grants for states and urban areas would be based on assessments of risk and vulnerability, as well as the needs and priorities identified in state and regional homeland security plans. The proposed **Targeted Infrastructure Protection program** would provide \$600 million in integrated grants, enabling DHS to supplement state, local and regional government efforts in their protection of critical national infrastructures such as seaports, mass transit, railways, and energy facilities.

In FY 2006, DHS seeks to **consolidate the research, development, test and evaluation (RDT&E)** activities within the DHS Science and Technology (S&T) directorate. This consolidation, in the amount of \$127 million, will bring the scientific and engineering personnel and other RDT&E resources of the Department under a single accountable authority.