

Statement by Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff on the Resignation of the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs

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This week Donald H. Kent Jr. will depart the Department of Homeland Security as Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs. I have relied on Don over the past two years as a trusted counselor and principal liaison to Congress. He has served with distinction in his four years at the department, and earned the respect of Members and staff on both sides of the aisle.

Don developed a reputation as a thoughtful advocate and skilled negotiator during his tenure as Senate Leadership staff, before joining the department in 2004. He brought with him specialized knowledge and relationships that he gained, and put them to use in championing critical homeland security initiatives. He led the department through many key nominations, countless congressional testimonies and briefings, and facilitated important legislative strategies that will benefit the homeland for years to come. Perhaps most importantly, Don has been essential in keeping Congress informed during our most critical operations.

Don leaves the department with strong ties to Congress, and the appreciation of our entire senior leadership team. He will be missed personally and professionally.

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