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Presidio Port of Entry International Border Crossing Reopens

10/06/2008

EL Paso, Texas - U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers assigned to the Presidio port of entry are once again processing arriving traffic.

The port reopened to vehicular and pedestrian traffic late Sunday morning after widespread regional flooding caused U.S. and Mexican officials to close the international crossing September 16. Commercial traffic is not being allowed to cross at Presidio until further notice because of flooding damage at the Mexican customs facility in Ojinaga, Chihuahua, Mexico.

CBP officers at the Presidio port of entry cleared approximately 1,400 northbound cars between 11 a.m. and midnight Sunday. Port officials say the level of traffic was typical for a Sunday. Traffic on Monday is flowing well with maximum crossing times of 15 minutes being reported. Travelers can obtain crossing time information on the CBP.gov Web site. ([CBP Border Wait Times](#)) Information is updated hourly.

While the port of entry was closed to traffic, CBP employees who would normally be processing arriving traffic were busy elsewhere. CBP employees successfully evacuated all critical systems from the facility and secured the port before the widespread flooding began.



CBP employees assisted in sandbag operations designed to strengthen the fragile river levee. Officers joined area residents, law enforcement and others as they worked tirelessly to fill sand bags to shore up the levee in areas weakened by the rising waters. CBP officers assisted the Presidio police department in traffic control efforts to facilitate the delivery of sand bags to the levee. They also assisted in roving patrol missions with state and local law enforcement.

CBP maintained a 24-hour presence at the port to keep travelers and curious onlookers away from the dangerously high river. Port managers attended all law enforcement briefings at the incident command center and were ready to support the local response as needed at a moments notice.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection is the unified border agency within the Department of Homeland Security charged with the management, control and protection of our nation's borders at and between the official ports of entry. CBP is charged with keeping terrorists and terrorist weapons out of the country while enforcing hundreds of U.S. laws.

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