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New CBP El Paso Port Director Introduced at Change of Command Ceremony

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El Paso, Texas – U.S. Customs and Border Protection El Paso Port Director Hector Mancha was formally sworn into office this morning during a CBP Office of Field Operations change of command ceremony. Family, friends, colleagues and local dignitaries gathered as Mancha recited the oath of office during a ceremony at the Chamizal National Memorial Theater.

click for hi-res



U.S. Customs and Border Protection El Paso Port Director Hector Mancha recites the oath of office during a change of command ceremony.

"I'm humbled and honored with my appointment as the El Paso Port Director," said Mancha. "It's exciting for me to join a team of hundreds of dedicated men and woman who relentlessly work day in and day out in ensuring the safety of our community and this great nation of ours."

As the El Paso port director, Mancha will direct operations and enforcement activities at the four international crossings in El Paso (Paso Del Norte, Stanton, Bridge of the Americas, and Ysleta) as well as CBP airport operations at El Paso. He will oversee hundreds of employees at these locations including CBP officers, agriculture specialists, canine enforcement officers, import specialists and other personnel working in many other areas.

"I look forward to the challenges that this position brings in directing a multitude of CBP operations at one of the largest and most important ports of entry in the nation," said Mancha. "As CBP continues to move forward in the way we manage our shared border through strengthened partnerships, I too look forward in working with all our stakeholders to further CBP's current levels of cooperation and collaboration in making lawful trade and travel more efficient while at the same time enhancing border security."

Mancha will work to ensure that the agency's primary mission of preventing terrorists or weapons of terror from entering the U.S. is accomplished on a daily basis. Mr. Mancha is also responsible for all immigration issues related to the admission and exclusion of people applying for entry into the U.S. He also is responsible for customs and agriculture inspections at the ports of entry to ensure that all goods and people entering the U.S. do so in accordance with our laws and regulations, while ensuring that they are facilitated in their processing to support the global

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marketplace and the international tourism industries.

Mancha began his career with the U.S. Customs Service in December 1991 as an inspector at the Port of Laredo. Mancha rose through the uniform ranks until achieving supervisory inspector in 1998. Shortly thereafter he was selected as an operations specialist for the Laredo Field Office (Customs Management Center) where his responsibilities included overseeing numerous operational programs throughout the South Texas ports of entry.

In June 2001, Mancha was selected as the assistant port director for passenger operations at the Port of Laredo. In October 2004, he was promoted to the position of assistant director of field operations for the Laredo Field Office. As ADFO his primary responsibilities consisted of the management and oversight of the border security program areas for the eight ports with the Laredo Field Office.

In March 2008, Mancha was appointed to the position of port director, for the Port of Hidalgo/Pharr, Texas. As port director, his responsibilities included the management of operations and implementation of budgets for CBP and managing three international passenger bridge crossings, an international airport and a commercial import lot operation.

In October 2008, he was selected to participate in the CBP Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program. As part of the program, Mancha was detailed to the Office of Border Patrol in Washington, D.C. and served in the capacity of deputy division chief for Southwest border operations. In 2009, he also served as the acting CBP deputy assistant commissioner for human resources management.

Mancha received a bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of Texas at Austin. He is a native of Eagle Pass, Texas, and is married and has three children.

Although today marked the formal change of command at CBP's El Paso Port of Entry, Mancha reported to and occupied his new post in late April. Mancha replaces William "Bill" Molaski, who was the El Paso port director since January 2009. Molaski is now the director of the CBP Canine Training Center at Fort Bliss, Texas.

More photos from the event can be found on CBP's Flickr site. [CBP's Flickr site](#)

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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