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CBP Signs Anti-Corruption Agreement with DHS Inspector General

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U.S. Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Alan D. Bersin today announced the agency had entered into an agreement to send CBP investigative personnel to work with the Department of Homeland Security Inspector General as part of coordinated efforts to detect and deter corruption within the workforce.

"We welcome partnerships and innovation in our ongoing efforts to ensure the highest standards of integrity within CBP," Bersin said. "We owe it to the American people and to our highly ethical employees to quickly and thoroughly investigate indications of misconduct, which this agreement will help us accomplish."

CBP will immediately begin detailing CBP internal affairs agents to Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General investigative field offices in order to participate in new and on-going probes of alleged corruption and serious misconduct involving CBP personnel. These investigators also will be responsible for enhancing the exchange of integrity-related information, data and analysis between agencies.

Bersin said the agreement will facilitate more aggressive investigative action in the relentless pursuit of violators and also will increase the ability to more quickly resolve unmeritorious allegations lodged against CBP personnel.

This new accord with the inspector general builds upon the December 2010 agreement between CBP and Immigration and Customs Enforcement under which CBP internal affairs agents have been detailed to the ICE Office of Professional Responsibility to collaboratively investigate allegations of misconduct on the part of CBP employees that had been declined by the inspector general.

"We know the integrity of the vast majority of our workforce is beyond reproach," Bersin said. "But this is one more indication that ethical lapses will not be tolerated."