



Homeland
Security

Office of Public Affairs
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

THE DHS BULLETIN

The DHS Bulletin provides up to date information on the Department of Homeland Security initiatives on which the news media is focused. The Bulletin draws from press releases, statements, op-eds, testimony, blog posts and other public documents to provide an overview of the most newsworthy topics.

ISSUES IN THE HEADLINES

OCTOBER 31, 2011

[SECRETARY NAPOLITANO PARTICIPATES IN CYBERSECURITY PANEL AT WASHINGTON POST LIVE](#)

Secretary Napolitano last week joined representatives from the FBI and industry leaders to discuss cybersecurity during a Washington Post Live event. The panel discussion focused on best practices to build more secure networks, with special emphasis on government and private sector partnerships.

- “I think we all recognize, from the kitchen table to the classroom, from businesses of all sizes to the government, and all of our government operations, that cybersecurity is an issue that literally touches everyone. And as more and more important daily functions are dependent on digital systems, the importance of protecting our computers, our mobile devices, our networks increases every day.” (quote by Secretary Napolitano – [Washington Post Live Panel](#))

WATCH: [Secretary Napolitano and National Protection and Programs Directorate Acting Deputy Under Secretary Greg Schaffer discuss the importance of cybersecurity.](#)

[USCIS DIRECTOR MAYORKAS ADMINISTERS “OATH OF ALLEGIANCE” TO 125 NEW CITIZENS AT STATUE OF LIBERTY](#)

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Director Alejandro Mayorkas administered the “Oath of Allegiance” last week to 125 naturalization candidates, including 14 members of the

military, during a special ceremony at Liberty Island held in honor of the Statue of Liberty's 125th anniversary. Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar addressed the citizenship candidates, who originated from more than 40 countries.

[View photos from the ceremony](#)

FIRST NATIONWIDE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM TEST ON NOVEMBER 9TH: "THIS IS JUST A TEST"

The first nationwide Emergency Alert System test will take place on Wednesday, November 9th at 2:00 p.m. EST. The national Emergency Alert System is an alert and warning system that can be activated by the President, if needed, to provide information to the American public during emergencies.

- "The test is an important exercise in ensuring that the system is effective in communicating critical information to the public in the event of a real national emergency...Our top priority is to make sure that all members of the public know that this test is coming up – and that it is just a test." ([FEMA Blog](#))

WATCH: [FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate provides key information about the test.](#)

DHS FOR A DAY: SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY AND TRADE FACILITATION

Earlier this month, DHS hosted the fifth DHS for a Day in Detroit, Michigan as part of our ongoing series of day-long events to brief private sector partners about DHS. The day featured a variety of DHS programs that create a more secure Northern border, while facilitating legitimate trade and travel.

These initiatives, such as Global Entry and the Customs and Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (CT-PAT), expedite the screening process for trusted travelers and shippers who pass rigorous security checks – and enhance security by focusing on unknown and/or dangerous individuals and goods.

- "DHS for a Day in Detroit provided our private sector partners with a glimpse of the work that DHS does every day to keep our nation's borders and economy secure. However, security is a shared responsibility. Through sustained partnerships with the private sector we can keep our hometowns and our homeland safe." (quote by Assistant Secretary for the Private Sector Douglas A. Smith - [The Blog @ Homeland Security](#))

SUPPORTING OUR BIODEFENSE SYSTEM TO MEET EVOLVING THREATS

Ten years ago, five people were killed and seventeen others became ill when letters containing anthrax were delivered through the mail. On the DHS Blog, Under Secretary for Science and Technology (S&T) Dr. Tara O' Toole reflects on the progress that DHS and its partners have made in strengthening our ability to detect, respond to, and recover from biological threats.

- "S&T has made significant progress in keeping the nation safe from biological threats...Specifically, we have focused on deepening our understanding of the biological

agents, protecting agriculture, and developing ways to conduct forensic bioattack investigations.” (quote by Under Secretary for S&T Dr. Tara O’Toole – [The Blog @ Homeland Security](#))

FEMA APP IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR APPLE DEVICES

The FEMA App for iPhone and Android allows users to get information about how to prepare for and recover from hurricanes and other disasters on mobile devices. Use the FEMA App to:

- *Check off items you have in your family’s emergency kit*
- *Enter your family emergency meeting locations*
- *Review safety tips on what to do before, during, and after a disaster*
- *View a map of shelters and disaster recovery centers across the U.S.*

HOMELAND SECURITY ON THE HILL

Senior leadership from across the Department -- including Secretary Napolitano, Deputy Chief Financial Officer Peggy Sherry, Chief Information Security Officer Robert West, FEMA Region V Regional Administrator Andrew Velasquez, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Office of Air and Marine Northern Region Director John Beutlich, U.S. Coast Guard District Nine Commander Admiral Michael Parks, and CBP Area Port Director Bruce Murely -- testified last week before Congress.

- [Testimony of Secretary Napolitano](#) before the House Judiciary Committee at a general oversight hearing
 - “In each [of our mission areas], we have continued to grow and mature as a department by strengthening our existing capabilities, building new ones where necessary, enhancing our partnerships across all levels of government and with the private sector, and streamlining our operations and increasing efficiency.” (Testimony of Secretary Napolitano)
- [Testimony of Deputy Chief Financial Officer Peggy Sherry and Chief Information Security Officer Robert West](#) before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, Subcommittee on Government Organization, Efficiency, and Financial Management, on DHS’s information technology management
 - “DHS remains fully committed to improving our financial system security in order to provide timely, accurate, and complete financial information to our key stakeholders including Congress and the American taxpayers.” (Testimony of Deputy Chief Financial Officer Peggy Sherry and Chief Information Security Officer Robert West)
- [Testimony of FEMA Region V Regional Administrator Andrew Velasquez, Coast Guard District Nine Commander Admiral Michael Parks, and CBP Office of Air and Marine Northern Region Director John Beutlich](#) before the House Homeland Security Committee, Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and

Communications on DHS's efforts to increase preparedness and security along the Northern border

- "We recognize the importance of partnerships, intelligence, and information sharing to the success of our mission...we are engaged in several national initiatives to increase security on the northern border." (Testimony of CBP Office of Air and Marine Northern Region Director John Beutlich)
- [Testimony of Customs and Border Protection \(CBP\) Area Port Director Bruce Murely](#) before the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia, on CBP's work with state agencies on agricultural issues
 - "The blending of the agricultural mission into the Department of Homeland Security exponentially strengthened the safety of U.S. agricultural and natural resources, and has increasingly become a stronger component of the overall DHS mission." (Testimony of CBP Area Port Director Bruce Murely)

PHOTO OF THE DAY

ICE's Homeland Security Investigations' Special Response Team prepares to execute a search warrant on a home involved with the smuggling of illegal narcotics as part of "[Operation Pipeline Express](#)," a 17-month multi-agency investigation responsible for dismantling a massive narcotics trafficking organization in Arizona's western desert.



[READ ABOUT THE PROGRESS DHS HAS MADE IN IMPLEMENTING 9/11 COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS](#)

Learn more about the Department's progress in:

- [Preventing Terrorism and Enhancing Security](#)
- [Strengthening the Homeland Security Enterprise](#)
- [Enforcing and Administering our Immigration Laws](#)
- [Securing and Managing our Borders](#)
- [Strengthening Resilience to Disasters](#)
- [Safeguarding and Securing Cyberspace](#)
- [International Engagement](#)

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