



In this Issue

CBP On the Hill: What Does a Secure Border Look Like? 1

DHS On the Hill: Sequestration and Commonsense Immigration Reform 1

CBP Enforcement News 2

CBP Expands Global Entry, Adds Enrollment Centers 2

CBP Processes Cruise Ship Passengers at Sea 2

Office of Congressional Affairs
202.344.1760

Michael J. Yeager, Assistant Commissioner

Kim M. Lowry, Deputy Assistant Commissioner

Branch Chiefs:

- Dan Price, Budget and Appropriations
- Chase Wollenhaupt, Trade & Agriculture
- Stephanie Yablonski, Field Operations & Intelligence
- Laura Cylke, Border, Air, and Marine Operations
- Angie LaTour, Strategic Planning & Outreach



CBP Core Values

Vigilance



Integrity



Service to Country

WWW.CBP.GOV

CBP On the Hill: What Does a Secure Border Look Like?



Photo by Donna Burton, CBP

On Tuesday, February 26, 2013, Office of Field Operations Acting Assistant Commissioner Kevin McAleenan and U.S. Border Patrol Chief Michael Fisher testified before the House Homeland Security Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security at a hearing titled, "What Does a Secure Border Look Like?" In a joint statement, the witnesses stated that, "For border communities, a secure border means living free from fear in their towns and cities. It means an environment where businesses can conduct cross-border trade and flourish. For other American communities, it means enjoying the benefits of a well-managed border that facilitates the flow of legitimate trade and travel. Our efforts, combined with those of our international, federal, state, local, and tribal partners, have transformed the border and assist in continuing to keep our citizens safe, our country defendable from an attack, and promote economic prosperity. For CBP, securing our borders means first having the visibility to see what is happening on our borders, and second, having the capacity to respond to what we see. We get visibility through the use of border surveillance technology, personnel, and air and marine assets. Our ability to respond is also supported by a mix of resources including personnel, tactical infrastructure, and air and marine assets."

The full written testimony can be found on the [CBP Website](#).

Other witnesses on the panel were U.S. Coast Guard Deputy for Operations Policy and Capabilities Read Admiral William Lee; Government Accountability Office Homeland Security and Justice Acting Director Rebecca Gambler; and Congressional Research Service Specialist in Immigration Policy Marc R. Rosenblum, PhD. The full webcast of the hearing can be found on the [Subcommittee's Website](#).

DHS On the Hill: Sequestration and Commonsense Immigration Reform



Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Janet Napolitano testified at two recent congressional hearings.

On February 13, 2013, the Secretary testified before the Senate Committee on the Judiciary to discuss, as the Secretary stated, "why I believe the time has come for Congress to pass commonsense immigration reform."

"DHS plays a significant role in the administration and enforcement of our immigration laws," the Secretary stated, "we secure our Nation's borders to prevent the illegal entry of people, drugs, weapons, and contraband, while fostering legal trade and travel. We enforce immigration laws to protect public safety, promote economic fairness and competition, and maintain the integrity of our immigration system. We administer legal immigration benefits and services to millions of new and aspiring Americans, including members of our Armed Forces. And we work with a range of Federal, state, tribal, local,

territorial, and international partners to advance all of these efforts, while ensuring that the civil rights of affected communities are respected. But we know that our immigration system is out of date and badly in need of reform. Our law enforcement, our economy, our workforce, and our communities are suffering and frustrated by current patchwork of laws and requirements that make up this system."

On February 14, 2013, the Secretary testified before the Senate Committee on Appropriations for a hearing on the impacts of sequestration.

In her written testimony, the Secretary stated, "Sequestration would undermine the significant progress DHS has made over the past ten years to build the Nation's preparedness and resiliency. Sequestration would roll back border security, increase wait times at our Nation's land ports of entry and airports, affect aviation and maritime safety and security, leave critical infrastructure more vulnerable to attacks, hamper disaster response time and our surge force capabilities, and significantly delay cyber security infrastructure protections."

The full text of the Secretary's written statements can be found on DHS.gov.

The Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA) serves as the single point of contact within CBP for communications between CBP and Congress.

OCA is committed to addressing any question or concern you may have related to CBP's complex mission. Please contact us:

Phone: (202) 344-1760; Fax: (202) 344-2152; E-mail: OCAInquiry@cbp.dhs.gov.

Please visit CBP's [Congressional Resources](#) webpage for Frequently Asked Questions, News and Events, and other CBP Resources.

CBP Enforcement News



Border Patrol Seizes Panga Boat and Over \$4 Million Worth of Marijuana

Carlsbad, CA — On February 12, 2013, U.S. Border Patrol agents intercepted a maritime smuggling attempt at a southern California beach and confiscated nearly 3,000 pounds of marijuana. Border Patrol agents assigned to coastal enforcement duties in northern San Diego County observed three men in a panga boat, at about 2:30 a.m., near Ponto State Beach. When agents approached the panga, the three men jumped into the water and attempted to flee. Agents boarded the panga and discovered 108 bundles of marijuana with an estimated street value of \$4,407,000.

— Visit the [CBP Newsroom](#) for the full story.



CBP Agriculture Specialist Intercepts Prohibited Willow Baskets

International Falls, MN — On February 8, 2013, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agriculture specialists discovered a potentially destructive commodity at the International Falls rail facility. Two separate shipments of willow baskets arriving from China via Canada were targeted by CBP for an intensive agriculture examination. Although the willow appeared relatively dry, sprouting buds and flexible tissue were discovered on the untreated willow, making it capable of propagation. Willow is prohibited from various countries because of its risk of spreading watermark disease. It is also host to several wood-boring pests such as the Asian longhorn beetle (ALB).

— Visit the [CBP Newsroom](#) for the full story.



CBP Seizes Over \$1 Million in Counterfeit Money Orders

Philadelphia, PA — On February 19, 2013, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers at an express mail facility near Philadelphia International Airport seized \$1,054,120 in counterfeit U.S. Postal Service money orders. CBP officers discovered the Virginia-bound money orders concealed between the pages of three magazines sealed in a shipment from the United Kingdom manifested as "Documents/Magazines." The magazines contained six blank money orders, 912 money orders written for \$990 each, and 152 money orders written for \$995 each. Postal Inspectors confirmed the money orders to be counterfeit.

— Visit the [CBP Newsroom](#) for the full story.



CBP Expands Global Entry, Adds Enrollment Centers

Striking a balance between travel safety and facilitation, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) developed Global Entry to give frequent travelers back a priceless commodity: time.

Upon arrival in the U.S. from international travel, Global Entry members are able to bypass the traditional CBP inspection lines and use automated kiosks. Since the program began in 2008, nearly 1.4 million travelers receive Global Entry benefits. The kiosks, located at 42 airports, have been used almost four million times. Travelers scan their passports and fingerprints, answer the customs declaration questions using the kiosk's touch screen, and proceed with a receipt to the exit. The whole process takes about a minute.

Currently 32 airports throughout the nation, serving 97 percent of international travelers arriving to the U.S., as well as 10 preclearance facilities in Canada and Ireland, are equipped with Global Entry kiosks. Enrollment centers are located at 28 of the 32 U.S. airports with Global Entry kiosks. John Wayne Airport in California is the most recent airport to implement Global Entry, while new enrollment centers have been opened at Anchorage International Airport, Salt Lake City International Airport, and San Antonio International Airport.

For more information on Global Entry, please visit the [CBP Website](#) or contact the Office of Congressional Affairs.

CBP Processes Carnival Triumph Cruise Ship Passengers at Sea



Mobile, AL — U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) worked closely with Carnival Cruise lines and the U.S. Coast Guard to expedite the safe return and processing of passengers and crew aboard the Carnival Triumph cruise ship.

As a result of a fire in the aft engine room on February 10, 2013, the ship lost power and propulsion leaving it adrift for four days in the Gulf of Mexico. Due to the unusual and urgent circumstances, CBP approved a joint enforcement boarding team consisting of CBP officers from the Port of Mobile, and Air and Marine agents from New Orleans Air and Marine Branch to board the Carnival Triumph in order to expedite the clearance processing of the approximately 4,000 passengers and crew.

For more information, please visit the [CBP Website](#).

The Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA) serves as the single point of contact within CBP for communications between CBP and Congress. OCA is committed to addressing any question or concern you may have related to CBP's complex mission. Please contact us:
Phone: (202) 344-1760; Fax: (202) 344-2152; E-mail: OCAInquiry@cbp.dhs.gov.

Please visit CBP's [Congressional Resources](#) webpage for Frequently Asked Questions, News and Events, and other CBP Resources.