

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Access

A Newsletter issued by the Office of Congressional Affairs for Congressional Members and Staff

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CBP Announces Reimbursable Services Program



CBP Announces Reimbursable 1

Office of Congressional Affairs 202.344.1760

Michael J. Yeager, Assistant Commissioner

Kim M. Lowry, Deputy Assistant Commissioner

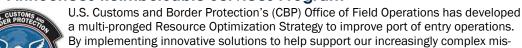
Branch Chiefs:

- 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



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*** PIELO OPERATIONS ***

der security mission and the engines of travel and trade that are vital to our economy. This strategy maximizes the use of current resources through innovation and technology; pursues alternative sources of funding through legislative proposals and public-

sion and growing volumes of trade and travel, we are better able to support our bor-

private partnerships in response to requests from interested parties for increased CBP services; and identifies staffing needs based on data-driven analysis of mission requirements.

In addition to ongoing internal efforts to improve our business processes, CBP was granted authority to enter into certain public-private partnerships, specifically to provide new or enhanced services in any of CBP's non-foreign operational environments, on a reimbursable basis as part of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act of 2013 (P.L. 113-6). Section 560 of the Act provides that CBP may enter into up to five (5) partnerships by December 31, 2013. These partnerships are not intended to replace existing services and will enable CBP more flexibility to accommodate new or expanded requests for service, which are becoming more common as global trade and travel increase. Interested parties must submit a request by 5:00 p.m. EDT on May 31, 2013.

Additional information, including instructions on submitting requests; required criteria for reimbursable services consideration; examples of fees for services provided under Section 560; and frequently asked questions is available on the <u>CBP Website</u>. For more information, please contact the Office of Congressional Affairs.

CBP On the Hill: Border Security Provisions in S.744



On Tuesday, May 7, 2013, Acting Deputy Commissioner Kevin McAleenan and Border Patrol Chief Michael Fisher testified before the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee for a hearing titled, "Border Security: Examining Provisions in the Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act (S. 744)."

In a joint written statement, the witnesses said, "Border security has changed significantly over the past ten years, not only in terms of resources, infrastructure, and operations, but also in how we assess and measure the state of an ever-changing border environment. Over the past four years, the Obama Administration has made historic investments in border security, adding more personnel, technology, and infrastructure; making our ports of entry more efficient to lawful travel and trade; deepening partnerships with federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement, and internationally; improving intelligence and information sharing to identify threats sooner; strengthening entry procedures to protect against the use of fraudulent documents and the entry of those who may wish to do us harm and enhancing our exit system to improve tracking and enforcement of overstays. We are proud of these achievements, which reflect the hard work of many DHS agents and officers and our partners, who work long hours and often at great personal risk."

Additionally, the witnesses stated, "the 'Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act' includes important reforms that will help us to continue to strengthen security at our borders and should contribute to our immigration laws better meeting the needs of law enforcement, businesses, immigrants, communities, and our economy."

Other witnesses on the panel were DHS Assistant Secretary for Policy David Heyman; Immigration and Customs Enforcement Deputy Director Daniel Ragsdale; and DHS Assistant Inspector General Anne Richards. The full written testimony can be found on the <u>CBP Website</u> and a recorded webcast of the hearing can be found on the Committee's <u>Website</u>.

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: <u>OCAInquiry@cbp.dhs.gov</u>.

Please visit CBP's Congressional Resources webpage for Frequently Asked Questions, News and Events, and other CBP Resources.

CBP Begins Rollout of Automated Form I-94



On April 30, 2013, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) launched the rollout of an automated Form I-94 Arrival/Departure Record initiating a new arrival and departure record process for foreign visitors. The new process will streamline the admissions process for individuals lawfully visiting the United States. Form I-94 provides international visitors evidence they have been lawfully admitted to the United States and is used to verify alien registration, immigration status, and employment authorization.

"Increasing efficiency and streamlining processes is a critical component of maximizing our resources at ports of entry," said Thomas S. Winkowski, acting CBP Commissioner. "In addition to saving millions of dollars for both CBP and the travel and tourism industry, automating the I-94 and going paperless will save valuable time for both travelers and CBP officers."

The rollout will continue across the nation through May 21, 2013. Once complete, CBP will no longer require international non-immigrant visitors to fill out a paper Form I-94 upon arrival to the United States by air or sea. Travelers wanting a hard copy or other evidence of admission can access this information online at the <u>CBP</u> <u>Website</u> if they did not receive a hard copy attached to their passport. Individuals can print a copy of their Form I-94 based on the electronically submitted data, including the I-94 number from the form, to provide as necessary to benefits providers or as evidence of lawful admission.

For more information about the automation of Form I-94, please visit the <u>CBP Web-</u> site or contact the Office of Congressional Affairs.

The Spring 2013 Issue of Frontline is Now Available



Frontline, the magazine of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, just released its Spring 2013 issue. In this issue:

• Business Unusual: When Mother Nature strikes or other major events disrupt normal border operations, CBP's business recovery program keeps traffic flow-

ing and protects the U.S. economy.

- Riding Shotgun in the Arizona Skies. Specially trained Border Patrol agents and CBP officers accompany Air and Marine pilots as supplemental air crew members.
- Transformation at Land Border Ports of Entry: CBP's land border ports of entry now benefit from improved technologies and resource optimization.

The full electronic version of Frontline is available on the <u>CBP Website</u>.

CBP Enforcement News

CBP Officers Seize Over \$3 Million in Marijuana

Progreso, TX – On May 3, 2013, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers at the Progreso International Bridge discovered a large amount of alleged marijuana valued at approximately \$3,078,800 concealed within a commercial shipment of limes. The driver, a Mexican citizen was referred to secondary for further inspection. Examination by CBP officers in secondary revealed 560 packages, with a combined total weight of 3,078.8 pounds, of alleged marijuana, commingled with the shipment of citrus. CBP officers turned the driver over to U.S. Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) special agents for further investigation. CBP officers seized the narcotics, and the driver's tractor-trailer.

- Visit the <u>CBP Newsroom</u> for the full story.



CBP Officers Seize \$205,500 in Unreported Funds

Lukeville, AZ – On May 6, 2013, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers arrested two Mexican nationals for attempting to smuggle \$205,500 of unreported United States currency into Mexico through the Port of Lukeville. While conducting outbound inspections, CBP officers selected a 2000 Toyota sedan for a secondary inspection. The vehicle's occupants told officers they had nothing to declare. During the inspection, however, officers found 22 bundles of United States currency in the vehicle's panels. Both individuals were referred to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations. The cash and vehicle were seized.

Visit the <u>CBP Newsroom</u> for the full story.



U.S. Border Patrol Agents Thwart Human Smuggling Attempt

San Clemente, CA – On May 5, 2013, U.S. Border Patrol agents arrested a man at the San Clemente, CA, checkpoint for human smuggling and recovered a stolen vehicle being used in the illicit activity. Agents encountered the driver, a male United States citizen, and his three passengers as they arrived at the checkpoint. Agents observed that his three male passengers were wearing dirty clothing and wearing cloth booties over their shoes, which are typically used to conceal footprints when crossing the border illegally. Border Patrol agents questioned the three men who admitted they were Mexican nationals illegally present in the United States. Agents arrested the driver and three men. Records checks on the vehicle revealed a Carlsbad, CA, resident reported it stolen on May 4, 2013.

- Visit the <u>CBP Newsroom</u> for the full story.

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