



### In this Issue

CBP Advisory Council Kicks Off New Term with Optimism, Restructuring	1
CBP On the Hill: Measuring Outcomes to Understand the State of Border Security	1
CBP Enforcement News	2
CBP 10 Years Later	2
A Day in the Life of Homeland Security	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](http://WWW.CBP.GOV)

## CBP Advisory Council Kicks Off New Term with Optimism, Restructuring



CBP Deputy Commissioner David V. Aguilar welcomes COAC members to the first Meeting of the new term.

On March 6, 2013, the Advisory Committee on Commercial Operations of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (COAC) gathered in Washington, DC, for the first meeting of its 13th two-year term.

“You do this because of your interest in something that’s critically important to our nation,” CBP Deputy Commissioner, and COAC co-chair, David V. Aguilar told committee members in an opening statement. “You have brought substance to what we have done and I thank you for that and for what you are going to accomplish through 2015.”

The trade community expressed optimism that business and government leaders will work together to transform trade processes and improve the pace and security of cross-border commerce. The term began with a restructuring of the COAC subcommittees. Members of each subcommittee outlined subcommittee work plans and noted how the next steps will build on prior achievements. Highlights from the work plans are:

- **Trade Modernization Subcommittee** will continue its focus on CBP’s Centers of Excellence and Expertise, the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE), and the role of the broker.
- **Trusted Trader Subcommittee** is confident the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT) will remain and stand as a “pillar of supply-chain security.”
- **One U.S. Government at the Border Subcommittee** will focus on implementing the One U.S. Government Master Principles Document.
- **Trade Enforcement and Revenue Collection Subcommittee** is a new subcommittee formed by merging the former intellectual property rights, bonds and antidumping/countervailing duty subcommittees and adding regulatory audit.
- **Global Supply Chain Subcommittee** highlights that recent natural disasters with their potential for trade disruption have underscored the need for systems that secure trade and the global supply chain.
- **Exports Subcommittee** will focus on mapping U.S. and international export programs, policies and metrics to identify opportunities for growth and improvement.

Seven new COAC members took their oath of service at the start of the meeting, joining the 13 continuing members, to represent before CBP the diversity of interests of the trade community. More information on the COAC, and the full text of each subcommittee’s statement of work, are available on the [CBP Website](#).

## On the Hill: Measuring Outcomes to Understand the State of Border Security



On March 20, 2013, Office of Field Operations Acting Assistant Commissioner Kevin McAleenan, U.S. Border Patrol Chief Michael Fisher, and Office of Technology Innovation and Acquisition Assistant Commissioner Mark Borkowski testified before the House Homeland Security Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security at a hearing titled, “Measuring Outcomes to Understand the State of Border Security.” In a joint statement, the witnesses stated that, “the condition of the border cannot be described by a single objective measure. It is not a measure of crime, because even the safest communities in America have some crime. It is not merely a measure of resources, because even the heaviest concentration of fencing, all weather roads, 24-hour lighting, surveillance systems, and Border Patrol agents cannot seal the border completely.”

The CBP witnesses were joined on the panel by a fourth witness, El Paso County Judge Veronica Escobar. The full written testimony is available on the [CBP Website](#). The full webcast of the hearing can be found on the [Subcommittee’s 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](mailto:OCAInquiry@cbp.dhs.gov).

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

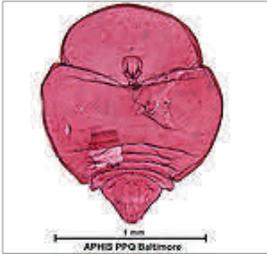
## CBP Enforcement News



### CBP Officers Seize \$1 Million Worth of Marijuana in Commercial Shipment

Nogales, AZ — On March 12, 2013, CBP officers at the Nogales Commercial Facility arrested the driver of a tractor-trailer for attempting to smuggle more than a ton of marijuana, hidden in a shipment of bell peppers, into the United States. After an anomaly was discovered using a commercial x-ray system, a CBP narcotics detection canine alerted to the presence of drugs. A further search led to the discovery of 280 packages of marijuana worth slightly more than \$1,068,000.

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



### CBP Agriculture Specialists Intercept Scale Insect at Airport

Baltimore, MD — On March 12, 2013, a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) entomologist confirmed that CBP agriculture specialists at Baltimore Washington Thurgood Marshall International Airport (BWI) discovered a new pest in the Baltimore area when they intercepted paraselenaspilus madagascariensis, a type of scale insect, while inspecting banana leaves found inside of a traveler's luggage. Scale insects can pose a significant agriculture threat because they draw sap directly from a host plant's vascular system weakening it. Scale insects also have a waxy covering, which makes them quite resistant to pesticides.

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



### U.S. Border Patrol Agents Seize Thousands of Pirated DVDs and CDs

San Diego, CA — On March 14, 2013, U.S. Border Patrol agents arrested a man in possession of nearly 3,000 pirated DVDs and CDs. Border Patrol agents arrested the man and confiscated the pirated items. Agents also took possession of two computer towers, a printer, and a 1995 Honda Accord. The suspect was turned over to Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations agents and faces charges for copyright infringement. The pirated items and computer equipment were seized by the U.S. Border Patrol.

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



### CBP Disrupts Drug Smuggling Attempts in Pacific—\$90M in Cocaine Seized

Corpus Christi, TX — On March 8 and 9, 2013, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Office of Air and Marine (OAM) and its interagency partners disrupted two separate maritime smuggling attempts resulting in the interdiction of more than 1,300 pounds of cocaine with a street value of more than \$90 million. On both days, P-3 aircraft crew, on patrol in the Eastern Pacific as part of a Joint Interagency Task Force South (JAITS), detected suspicious vessels off the coast of Guatemala.

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



## DHS and CBP at 10 Years

March 1, 2013, marked the tenth anniversary of the creation of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). DHS unified 22 legacy agencies with a common mission: to safeguard America and integrate our

Nation's capabilities to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from threats and disasters of all kinds. We invite you to learn more about CBP and our mission, and join us in this celebration of our ten-year anniversary. Please visit the [CBP Website](#) for more information.

Every day, DHS employees all over the country work to protect the American public from a range of threats, including terrorism, natural disasters, cyber attacks, and other emergencies and disasters.

Whether by air, sea, land, or in cyberspace, DHS' vigilance over the last 10 years helps keep our nation safe. Visit the [DHS Website](#) to learn more about *A Day in the Life of Homeland Security*.



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](mailto:OCAInquiry@cbp.dhs.gov).

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