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President Trump Praises Work of National Targeting Center



When President Donald Trump visited CBP's National Targeting Center (NTC) in Sterling, Virginia, on Feb. 02, he recognized the NTC as a key part of the U.S. border security mission.

"This is quite a facility," the President told a group, which included DHS Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen, CBP's Commissioner Kevin McAleenan, CBP officers, Air and Marine and Border Patrol agents, CBP personnel, senior officials from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Departments of Justice and State, as well as members of the press.

"These are the men and women [those at the NTC] that really know what's happening and know how to keep America safe," the President said. "They're real professionals."

Officers at the border and ports of entry check more than 1 million travelers and \$6.5 billion worth of imported products on average every day. The sheer volume of that traffic – ranging from cargo containers to mail and express consignment packages to individuals crossing the border – makes it impossible to inspect every entry. The NTC uses CBP's own seizure analysis and intelligence information, along with data gathered from other federal, state and local law enforcement sources, to target travelers and cargo that pose the highest risk to U.S. security, including the threat of terrorism, illegal migration, fake or dangerous goods and illegal drugs. CBP also partners with the U.S. Postal Service and commercial express carriers to target possible contraband coming into the country.

For more information, please visit CBP.gov or contact the Office of Congressional Affairs.

CBP Commissioner's Blog: Modernized Automation of Trade Processing Realized



U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Commissioner Kevin McAleenan recently announced that on Feb. 24, CBP completed the final major step in automating the import and export process within the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE).

"This is a monumental milestone for CBP—over 15 years in the making—an electronic system that streamlines and automates all phases of cargo processing, including pre-arrival, arrival, post release, exports, and partner government agency (PGA) integration into what we call a 'single window.'

ACE has been one of the most complex information technology projects ever undertaken by the federal government. CBP personnel developed over 5.3 million lines of code, automated 269 forms, input the regulations of more than 47 PGAs and added hundreds of thousands of users.

Thanks to the strong partnerships and collaboration across government and industry, we have crossed the finish line. With advanced, automated visibility to shipment data, federal agencies can expedite their import or export assessments at the border, speeding up the flow of legitimate trade across the border while also improving the security and safety of domestic businesses and ultimately the consumer.

Looking ahead, CBP will focus on sustaining all deployed ACE capabilities and ensuring ACE operates as a highly available, reliable system. There is an ongoing demand for additional and enhanced ACE capabilities, and CBP will continue to collaborate with the trade community, PGAs, and stakeholders to implement automated solutions that enhance secure shipments, streamline trade processes and strengthen enforcement of trade laws."

Please visit CBP.gov to read the Commissioner's Blog.

Border Patrol Academy Marks End of an Era

The U. S. Border Patrol Academy graduated Class 1083 in January, marking an end of an era. Class 1083 is the last to graduate from the long standing 66-day Academy, giving way for the newly-incorporated 117-day curriculum. As of now, all incoming classes will be part of the freshly-instituted 117-day Academy curriculum, which better prepares incoming agents in all facets of training. The curriculum will integrate the Spanish language program throughout the entire 117 days, making it possible for new agents to gain a better working knowledge of Spanish.

The new agents will be ready to use their training to serve their country in true Border Patrol fashion, which embodies the long-held motto, "Honor First." For more information, please visit CBP.gov or contact the Office of Congressional Affairs.



Through Agreement with CBP, Swinomish Tribe Begins Issuing Enhanced Tribal Card



Through an agreement with CBP, the Swinomish tribe began issuing Enhanced Tribal Cards (ETC) on Feb. 6.

ETCs serve the mutual interests of CBP and the tribe by expediting and facilitating cross-border trade and travel for members of the tribe, as well as providing a tribally issued secure travel document to eligible tribal members.

The issuance of ETCs strengthens CBP's commitment to work closely with our tribal partners and provides a secure, standardized identification document for tribal citizens to travel across our borders. The ETC helps ensure border security while protecting the tribe's rights and limiting impacts to their culture.

The Swinomish Tribe worked very closely with CBP to develop a secure, highly tamper resistant card that is a stand-alone Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) compliant document. Swinomish travelers arriving from a contiguous territory or the adjacent islands can use the ETC for entry into the U.S. at all land and sea ports of

entry. WHTI allows all U.S. federally recognized tribes to work with CBP to produce an ETC. The Swinomish Tribe will be the seventh U.S. federally recognized tribe approved to issue ETCs.

For more information, please visit CBP.gov or contact the Office of Congressional Affairs.

CBP's Air and Marine Operations Provides Eye in the Sky for Super Bowl LII



CBP's Air and Marine Operations (AMO) played a significant role in securing Super Bowl LII in Minneapolis, MN.

About 65 AMO personnel and six aircraft – three UH-60 Black Hawk and three AStar helicopters – worked the Super Bowl this year. They were part of a larger 150-plus force of AMO agents and officers, Border Patrol agents, CBP officers, import specialists and others from CBP locations all around the country dedicated to ensuring a safe and secure Super Bowl. In the air, AMO had two main missions: be the eyes in the sky and help keep the air space around U.S. Bank Stadium safe.

On game day, the Black Hawk crews assisted National Guard F-16 fighter aircraft, detecting, tracking and coordinating the interdiction of aircraft violating a temporary no-fly zone for miles around the stadium. The

coordination between CBP, the Department of Defense, other federal assets and local law enforcement was in the works for more than a year.

For more information, please visit CBP.gov or contact the Office of Congressional Affairs.

CBP Enforcement News

CBP Seizes \$31M in Counterfeit Perfume



CBP officers and import specialists assigned to the Los Angeles/Long Beach seaport complex seized 475,056 bottles of imported perfume bearing counterfeit trademarks in the recent months leading up to Valentine's Day. If genuine, the seized perfumes would have had an estimated manufacturer's suggested retail price of more than \$31 million.

"These interceptions attest to CBP officers and import specialists'

extraordinary vigilance and keen expertise in detecting, intercepting and seizing dangerous imports," said Carlos C. Martel, CBP Director of Field Operations in Los Angeles. "The theft of intellectual property and trade in fake goods threaten America's economic vitality and national security, and the American people's health and safety."

Visit CBP.gov for the full story.

Dulles CBP Seizes \$124K Combined in Unreported Currency



CBP officers seized \$124,694 during three currency reporting violations at Washington Dulles International Airport Feb. 7-8.

U.S. federal law is clear in regards to international travelers reporting to CBP officers all currency and other monetary instruments they possess during a CBP arrival or departure inspection.

Travelers may carry as much currency as they wish into and out of the United States. None of the currency or monetary instruments is taxed. For travelers who possess \$10,000 or more in currency or monetary instruments, they just take a few minutes to complete a U.S. Treasury Department financial form and continue on their journey.

In each case, CBP officers afforded the travelers multiple opportunities to truthfully report all currency, and discovered additional currency during baggage examinations. Visit CBP.gov for the full story.