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## Letter from the Assistant Commissioner: Summer Travel Season



I'm Pete Ladowicz, Assistant Commissioner for CBP's Office of Congressional Affairs. With summer in full swing, this issue of Access focuses on summer travel. Travel is a key economic driver; according to the U.S. Travel Association, in 2017, \$1,036 billion in traveler spending generated \$2.4 trillion in economic output and supported 15.6 million American jobs.

At CBP, we work hard to facilitate safe and legal travel, from our Preclearance operations to the technological innovations that improve the passenger experience while maintaining the highest standards of security.

In this issue of Access, we answer some common travel questions, celebrate a decade of Global Entry, and share the latest expansion in facial recognition biometrics. We also share some of our upcoming recruitment events—information you can pass along to interested constituents.

**Are there topics you'd like to see covered in a future issue of Access? Let us know at [OIAInquiry@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:OIAInquiry@cbp.dhs.gov). We are here to serve you. Have a safe and happy summer.**

## Global Entry Celebrates 10 Years of Expediting International Travel with Launch of Facial Recognition Pilot at Orlando International Airport



Last month, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) announced the integration of facial biometrics into Global Entry as the program celebrates 10 years of expedited clearance for pre-approved, low-risk travelers arriving in the United States. CBP launched a pilot program today at Orlando International Airport (MCO) integrating facial recognition into Global Entry kiosks.

"CBP is moving towards Global Entry 2.0—making Trusted Travelers entry into the United States even faster and more secure by utilizing facial recognition technology," said CBP Commissioner Kevin McAleenan. "On an average day, 10 percent of international air travelers use Global Entry kiosks to streamline their arrivals process, reducing wait times and increasing efficiency."

Since 2008, Global Entry membership has grown to more than 5.4 million members directly enrolled in the program and another 2 million trusted travelers, enrolled in NEXUS or SENTRI, eligible to use Global Entry kiosks. The program has expanded eligibility to foreign nationals from more than a dozen participating countries and Global Entry kiosks are available at 74 airports worldwide.

Global Entry has grown substantially since launching as a pilot program on June 6, 2008 with a few hundred members at three international airports. In the last three years, enrollment has grown more than 100 percent and Global Entry kiosks are now available at 61 U.S. international airports and 13 Preclearance airports in Aruba, the Bahamas, Canada, Ireland, and United Arab Emirates.

For more information, please visit [CBP.gov](http://CBP.gov) or contact the Office of Congressional Affairs.

## You Asked: Do I Need a Passport to Go on a Cruise?

Most cruises beginning and ending in the same location are considered "closed-loop," meaning they begin and end at the same port in the United States and travel within the Western Hemisphere. U.S. citizens on closed-loop cruises are able to enter or depart the country on the cruise with proof of citizenship, as required by WHTI.

However, it is possible that one or more of the destination countries on your itinerary requires a passport to enter their country. In that case, the cruise line would require that passengers have a valid passport to board, even if it is not a U.S. requirement. You should always check with your cruise ship, travel agent, and destination country to confirm the requirements for entry into the foreign countries you will be visiting.



[CBP.gov/Careers](http://CBP.gov/Careers)

Vigilance



Integrity



Service to Country

## CBP and Otter Products Partner to Prevent Counterfeit Protective Phone Cases from Entering U.S.

This summer, U.S. Customs and Border Protection announced a new formal partnership arrangement with Otter Products, LLC, maker of OtterBox and LifeProof brand phone cases, as part of the [Donations Acceptance Program](#).

Under its partnership with CBP, Otter Products will donate authentication devices that CBP officers and import specialists may use to quickly and accurately detect counterfeit Otter Products merchandise entering the United States.

“Building off the success of localized enforcement efforts, CBP is now working hand-in-hand with Otter Products to target and deploy authentication devices on a nation-wide scale,” said Todd C. Owen, Executive Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations. “CBP’s formal partnership with Otter Products will help us broadly deliver these highly effective tools to the front line officers and trade specialists who need them most.”

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

## Learn More: CBP and Facial Recognition Technology

Based upon its commitment to innovation and public-private partnerships, CBP built a facial biometric matching service to support airport and airline stakeholder integration for biometric exit and other passenger services. A facial biometric capture device (camera) can be installed at an airline or airport departure gate without any significant changes to existing airport physical infrastructure. A [biometric entry-exit system](#) based on facial recognition is minimally disruptive to the flow of travel.

Currently, CBP is testing biometric exit at 13 major airports across the United States. The facial recognition verification process takes less than 2 seconds, with a 99 percent matching rate. CBP chose facial biometrics because it seamlessly integrates into the airport boarding process. CBP compares the photographs of travelers with those that are already on file in DHS holdings. No new data is required.

CBP has facial recognition operations in Orlando, Miami, Atlanta, New York JFK, San Diego, Houston (Intercontinental and Hobby), Washington Dulles, Las Vegas, Chicago O’Hare, and Preclearance locations in Aruba, Abu Dhabi, and Ireland (Shannon and Dublin).

CBP also has partnerships with Delta, Jet Blue, British Airways, Lufthansa and Air New Zealand and will continue to expand public-private partnerships to advance biometric exit and enhance the passenger experience from curb to gate.



## CBP Announces 20 Potential Partnerships for New and Expanded Services



In June, CBP announced 20 tentative selections for new [reimbursable services agreements](#) to promote economic growth in cross-border trade and travel across the country.

These public-private partnerships in California; Delaware; Florida; Georgia; Hawaii; Louisiana;

Massachusetts; Missouri; New Jersey; New York; Pennsylvania; Puerto Rico; Texas; and Virginia will allow approved private sector and state and local government entities to reimburse CBP for expanded services for incoming commercial and cargo traffic and international traveler arrivals.

“As trade and travel continue to grow, these partnerships allow us to keep pace, while ensuring the safety and security of the travelers and cargo arriving in the United States,” said Commissioner Kevin McAleenan. “By working with our public-private partners, we are able to maximize our resources to facilitate legitimate trade and travel, which directly supports our local and national economies.”

Since its establishment in 2013, CBP has expanded the Reimbursable Services Program to 149 stakeholders, providing over 483,000 additional processing hours at the request of our partners—accounting for the processing of more than 10 million travelers and over 1.4 million personal and commercial vehicles.

Learn more at [CBP.gov](#) or contact the Office of Congressional Affairs.

## CBP Recruitment Corner

CBP is recruiting hundreds of mission-critical positions in both law enforcement and non-law enforcement roles. These positions include Customs and Border Protection Officers, Border Patrol Agents, Air Interdiction Agents, Marine Interdiction Agents, and numerous professional support staff positions, such as Information Technology Specialists. For a complete list of non-law enforcement positions click [here](#). Job opportunities are located nationwide.

### Upcoming Recruitment Events

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|-------------------|---|
| July 8 - 14, 2018 | <b>2018 Montana Junior Police Leadership Academy</b><br>2260 Sierra Road East<br>Helena, MT 59602<br>8 a.m. - 3 p.m.                            |
| July 12, 2018     | <b>New Mexico Law Enforcement Hiring Expo</b><br>Albuquerque Marriott<br>5151 San Francisco Rd. NE<br>Albuquerque, NM 87109<br>11 a.m. - 3 p.m. |
| July 17, 2018     | <b>Texas Workforce Solutions Job Seminar</b><br>1601 Veterans Blvd. Ste. 1<br>Del Rio, TX 78840<br>10 a.m. - 12 p.m.                            |

Find more recruitment events at <https://www.cbp.gov/careers/events>.

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.