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### 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)

## International Partnerships Facilitate Legitimate Trade and Travel



### Canada, U.S. Release Beyond the Border Progress Report

On December 14, 2012, the United States and Canada released a joint report on the significant progress made by the two countries toward advancing perimeter security and economic competitiveness since the launch of the Beyond the Border (BTB) Action Plan.

"In the first year," the White House report states, "we have made significant progress in achieving the vision of perimeter security and economic competitiveness through the activities outlined in the Beyond the Border

Action Plan. We have deepened our longstanding partnership to further advance our shared economic and security interests." Accomplishments highlighted in the report include:

- Mutual recognition of respective air cargo security programs for passenger aircraft, eliminating the need for re-screening, increasing the number of flights that can travel and allowing airports to shorten the time between flights.
- An operational model for a pilot program to inspect truck cargo well before the border, reducing wait times at the border, and resulting in increased throughput of goods each day.
- Additional benefits to trusted travelers, including expedited passenger screening at U.S. airports for Canadian travelers, making it easier to travel to more than one U.S. destination.

In addition to the progress made over the past year, the report also describes additional Beyond the Border initiatives that are underway, including the harmonization of trusted trader programs; the full implementation of an entry/exit program at the land border; the negotiation of a preclearance agreement for the land, rail, and marine modes; and an update to the existing preclearance agreement for the air mode.

For more information on Beyond the Border, please visit the [DHS Website](http://DHS Website). The full Beyond the Border Report is available on the [White House Website](http://White House Website).

### Mexico, U.S. Collaborate to Combat Sale, Importation of Counterfeit Goods

This past holiday season U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) participated in the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center's (IPR Center) Operation Holiday Hoax, an annual targeted effort to track down those who sell counterfeit and pirated products. The IPR Center, led by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), coordinated the efforts of CBP, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and the government of Mexico to conduct inspections at the ports as well as target stores, flea markets and swap meets involved in the importation, distribution and selling of counterfeit and pirated products in cities across the United States and Mexico. This is the third year that the IPR Center has conducted Operation Holiday Hoax. Last year's operation led to the seizure of more than 327,000 counterfeit and pirated items with a manufacturer's suggested retail price worth an estimated \$76.8 million.

"The protection of intellectual property rights is one of CBP's top priority trade issues," said Assistant Commissioner for International Trade Al Gina. "Operations like this protect American businesses and consumers. CBP works daily to keep counterfeit goods out of the U.S. and to bring producers and distributors of these goods to justice."

Last year, Mexico's Tax Administration Service conducted 845 inspections in the main ports of entry, executed 160 search warrants nationwide and seized 23.8 million counterfeit and pirated items including 10 tons of used clothing, cigarettes, electronics, tools and DVD's. The estimated value of the seized goods was 96.7 million pesos, or \$7.1 million.

The IPR Center is one of the U.S. government's key weapons in the fight against counterfeiting and piracy. To learn more about the IPR Center, visit [www.IPRCenter.gov](http://www.IPRCenter.gov).

The Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA) serves as the single point of contact within CBP for all 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](http://Congressional Resources) webpage for Frequently Asked Questions, News and Events, and other CBP Resources.

## CBP Enforcement News



### CBP Border Patrol Agents Seize Heroin, Marijuana Worth over \$250K

Del Rio, TX – From December 14 to December 18, 2012, CBP U.S. Border Patrol agents seized 249 pounds of marijuana and over two and a half pounds of heroin. During patrols, Eagle Pass North Station discovered almost 200 pounds of marijuana with an estimated value of \$155,600. Eagle Pass North and Del Rio Station agents working at checkpoints seized an additional 67 pounds of marijuana and 2.52 pounds of heroin with an estimated value of \$134,320. All cases were turned over to the Drug Enforcement Administration.

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



### CBP Officers Seize Marijuana at Texas Port of Entry

Presidio, TX – On Tuesday, December 18, 2012, CBP officers working at the Presidio port of entry seized 125 pounds of marijuana hidden inside a gas tank. The drugs have an estimated street value of \$100,000. A CBP officer selected the vehicle for a secondary exam after the driver seemed uncomfortable. A CBP drug sniffing dog searched the vehicle and alerted to the gas tank. The gas tank was removed and opened revealing two large metal boxes inside containing highly compressed marijuana. CBP officers took custody of the driver who was then arrested by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement special agents on federal charges in connection with the smuggling attempt.

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



### CBP Border Patrol Agents Intercept Three Methamphetamine Smuggling Attempts

San Diego, CA – Between December 16 and December 19, 2012, CBP Border Patrol agents in San Diego encountered a discernible increase in methamphetamine smuggling attempts at Border Patrol checkpoints when agents intercepted three methamphetamine smuggling attempts at three separate checkpoints. In all three incidents, the suspects attempted to hide the drugs in the vehicle, using a fire extinguisher and a battery casing to mask the drugs, or by inserting them into the rocker panels and seats. The three combined attempts resulted in the seizure of 43.69 pounds of methamphetamine with an estimated street value of \$873,800.

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



### CBP Officers Seize \$4.6 Million in Narcotics, Apprehend Homicide Suspect

San Diego, CA – During the weekend of December 15, 2012, CBP officers at ports of entry along the California-Mexico border seized more than \$4.6 million in narcotics and apprehended a fugitive wanted for homicide. CBP officers at the six land ports of entry intercepted 21 smuggling attempts involving marijuana, cocaine, methamphetamine, and heroin, totaling 1,753 pounds. The drugs were hidden in various areas of vehicles such as gas tanks, floors, quarter panels and doors. In all incidents, the drivers were transported to area detention facilities where they await arraignment. The homicide suspect was placed in the custody of the Calexico Police Department.

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

## Public-Private Partnerships Improve Border Security, Supply Chain Security and Global Trade



### 2012 East Coast Trade Symposium

– CBP's Frontline News takes viewers inside the 2012 East Coast Trade Symposium held November 27-28, 2012 at the National Harbor. CBP leadership and executives from the trade industry discuss the importance of public-private partnerships to the security and efficiency of international trade.



### Season 7 of Border Wars Premier

– CBP's Frontline News provides a backstage look at the premier of the 7th season of Border Wars. National Geographic Television producers and executives and CBP leaders discuss the successful relationship between CBP and National Geographic and express their excitement for the newest season.

### Upcoming Event: C-TPAT Conference January 8-10, Washington, DC



CBP is proud to announce the 2013 C-TPAT Conference scheduled for January 8-10, 2013 in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. The theme of this year's conference is *Unified Global Security: The Challenge Ahead*. The Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT) is the largest and most successful government-private sector partnership to emerge since 9/11. C-TPAT was launched in November 2001, with just seven major importers. Today, over 7,400 companies are enrolled, and these companies – critical players in the global supply chain – include United States importers, customs brokers, terminal operators, carriers and foreign manufacturers. For more information on C-TPAT and the upcoming conference, please visit the [CBP Website](#) or contact the Office of Congressional Affairs.

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