ABOUT CBP

CBP Mission
Protect the American people, safeguard our borders, and enhance the nation’s economic prosperity.

CBP Vision
Enhancing the nation’s security through innovation, intelligence, collaboration and trust.

KEY LEADERS

Homeland Security Secretary: Alejandro Mayorkas
Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Commissioner: Troy A. Miller
Deputy Commissioner: Robert E. Perez
Chief, U.S. Border Patrol: Rodney S. Scott
Executive Assistant Commissioner, Field Operations: William A. Ferrara
Executive Assistant Commissioner, Air and Marine Operations: Stephen A. Boyer
Executive Assistant Commissioner, Trade: Brenda B. Smith
Executive Assistant Commissioner, Enterprise Services: Benjamin “Carry” Huffman
Acting Executive Assistant Commissioner, Operations Support: Pete Flores

TOP RESPONSIBILITIES

Border Security: CBP secures America’s borders at and between ports of entry by stopping inadmissible people and illicit goods. CBP’s offices of Field Operations, Border Patrol, and Air and Marine Operations represent the largest federal law enforcement agency.

Trade: CBP works to secure and facilitate imports arriving in the U.S., accommodating the increasing volume and complexities of international trade. CBP protects U.S. agricultural resources through active inspections at ports of entry. With the Container Security Initiative, Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism, and the Automated Commercial Environment, CBP has a sturdy base of partnerships and technology to safeguard the American public and promote legitimate international commerce.

Travel: Over a million times each day, CBP officers welcome international travelers and returning U.S. citizens into the United States. CBP secures and facilitates legitimate travel by growing trusted traveler programs, embracing business transformation initiatives, fostering public-private partnerships, and employing robust targeting and risk assessment strategies. Working closely with stakeholders, CBP keeps international travelers informed, secures the travel environment, and promotes modern global tourism.

ON A TYPICAL DAY, CBP:

• Processed:
  » 650,178 passengers and pedestrians
    - 169,842 incoming international air passengers and crew
    - 35,795 passengers and crew on arriving ship/boat
    - 444,541 incoming land travelers
  » 187,049 incoming privately owned vehicles
  » 77,895 truck, rail, and sea containers
  » $6.64 billion worth of imported goods
• Conducted 1,107 apprehensions between U.S. ports of entry
• Arrested 39 wanted criminals at U.S. ports of entry
• Encountered 634 inadmissible persons at U.S. ports of entry
• Discovered 250 pests at U.S. ports of entry and 3,091 materials for quarantine - plant, meat, animal byproduct, and soil
• Seized:
  » 3,677 pounds of narcotics
  » $386,195 undeclared or illicit currency
  » $3.6 million worth of products with Intellectual Property Rights violations
• Collected approximately $216 million in duties, taxes, and other fees, including more than $204 million in duties
• Employed 63,685 men and women including law enforcement and trade personnel:
  » 25,756 CBP officers
  » 2,638 CBP agriculture specialists
  » 19,740 Border Patrol agents
  » 621 air interdiction agents (pilots)
  » 328 marine interdiction agents
  » 338 aviation enforcement agents
  » 1,033 trade personnel
• Deployed 1,434 canine teams and 127 horse patrols
• Flew 207 enforcement hours at and beyond the border, and within the nation’s interior
• Underway 74 float hours of enforcement missions in the U.S.
• Conducted operations in:
  » 106 countries with more than 697 CBP employees working internationally
  » 328 ports of entry within 20 field offices
  » 131 Border Patrol stations within 20 sectors including 36 immigration checkpoints
  » 74 Air and Marine Operations locations, including branches and units, National Air Security Operations Centers, and the Air and Marine Operations Center

Based on FY 2020 data
KEY PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

Global Entry: This program allows pre-approved, low-risk U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents expedited clearance upon arrival into the U.S. Participants enter using automated self-service kiosks and are generally exempt from routine CBP questioning.

Electronic System for Travel Authorization: ESTA is an automated system used to determine the eligibility of visitors from Visa Waiver countries prior to boarding a carrier to travel to the U.S. ESTA enhances the security of these travelers and will allow the U.S. government to continue to expand the program with our most trusted allies.

Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism: Under C-TPAT, importers who meet certain security standards are provided expedited processing benefits. This enables CBP to facilitate legitimate trade while focusing resources on unknown or high-risk shipments.

Automated Commercial Environment: ACE is a modernized commercial trade processing system with features designed to consolidate and automate border processing. It provides a solid technology foundation for all border security initiatives within CBP.

Centers of Excellence and Expertise: These centers work with the international trade community to transform CBP’s approach to trade operations. The Centers increase the use of uniform practices across ports of entry, help to timely resolve trade compliance issues nationwide, and further strengthen critical agency knowledge of key industry practices. Centers of Excellence and Expertise for 10 different industries operate nationwide.

Preclearance: Through CBP preclearance, CBP officers and agriculture specialists perform the same immigration, customs, and agriculture inspections of air passengers on foreign soil – prior to boarding a direct flight to the U.S. – without further CBP processing or security screening upon arrival. This creates opportunities for increased security, economic growth, and an improved passenger experience.

HISTORY

1789: The fifth act of the first Congress establishes Customs.

1862: The U.S. Department of Agriculture is created to “procure, propagate and distribute among the people new and valuable seeds and plants.”

1904: The U.S. Immigration Service is assigned a small force of mounted inspectors to patrol the border to prevent illegal crossings.

1912: The Department of Agriculture’s Plant Protection and Quarantine Program at ports of entry evolves out of the creation of the Federal Horticultural Board.

1924: Congress establishes the United States Border Patrol as part of the Immigration Bureau, an arm of the Department of Labor.

1993: Operation Hold the Line is established, marking a shift toward forward deployment to deter illegal border crossings.

2003: Bureau of Customs and Border Protection is established becoming the first joint border management agency in the world and the largest federal law enforcement agency in the United States.

2004: CBP begins receiving advanced information on cargo coming to the U.S. allowing the agency to further guard the country against terrorist threats.

2005: Hurricane Katrina strikes the Gulf Coast and the Florida panhandle. CBP assists in rescue and recovery and works to divert cargo traffic to other ports.

2010: Faisal Shazad, known as the Times Square Bomber, is apprehended at JFK Airport by CBP officers moments before escaping the United States.

2011: Centers of Excellence and Expertise become operational, bringing important new capabilities to CBP’s trade and security mission.

2011: CBP’s unmanned aircraft system is deployed to provide the National Weather Service and emergency responders with real-time images during the Red River floods in Minnesota and North Dakota.

2013: CBP marks the 10th anniversary of its founding in 2003.

2015: CBP’s Office of Air and Marine becomes Air and Marine Operations (AMO).