MEMORANDUM FOR: All Chief Patrol Agents
All Directors

FROM: Michael J. Neely
Chief
U.S. Border Patrol

SUBJECT: Implementation of the CBP National Standards on TEDS

As a result of an agency-wide effort to create a unified policy related to safety, security, and care of those in our custody, the following on Transport, Escort, Detention, and Search (TEDS) standards will be used by all U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) personnel as outlined in Commissioner R. Gil Kerlikowske’s memorandum, Implementation of the CBP National Standards on Transport, Escort, Detention, and Search (TEDS).

The USBP Hold Rooms and Short Term Custody policy, dated January 31, 2008, is still applicable. It addresses detention standards for the short-term custody of persons arrested or detained by Border Patrol agents and detained in hold rooms at Border Patrol stations, checkpoints, processing facilities, and other facilities that are under CBP control. In addition to transport, escort, detention, and search provisions, TEDS incorporates requirements related to sexual abuse and assault prevention and response, care of at-risk individuals in custody, and personal property.

The TEDS document is a CBP overarching policy that reinforces current practices and working conditions. Moreover, in the absence of more prescriptive policies issued by the U.S. Border Patrol, the TEDS standards apply. These standards were developed with current policies and procedures from CBP’s Office of Field Operations and the U.S. Border Patrol, as well as several other CBP-wide documents, current guidance to the field, best practices, and requirements found in applicable Federal law and regulation.

Management and agents are responsible for ensuring compliance with TEDS requirements when conducting their duties. TEDS is available at http://www.cbp.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cbp-teds-policy-20151005_1.pdf. My staff is in the process of developing training that will be sent to all sectors upon its completion. Please ensure that this memorandum is disseminated to all employees under your purview.

Staff should refer any questions regarding the TEDS standards to the Policy Division’s Acting Associate Chief (06), in the Strategic Planning and Analysis Directorate.