



Homeland Security

Homeland Security Advisory Council Summary of Meeting Held on March 22, 2005

The Homeland Security Advisory Council (HSAC) convened at 9:30 am (EST) on March 22, 2005, at The Westin Charlotte, Charlotte, North Carolina.

The HSAC met in Charlotte for the purposes of: 1) receiving reports from Senior Advisory Committees and current Task Forces; 2) receiving briefings from DHS staff on Departmental initiatives; and 3) holding roundtable deliberations and discussions among HSAC members.

In accordance with the provisions of Public Law 92-463, the meeting was open to the public from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. Following the public session, the Secretary issued a determination that portions of the HSAC meeting concerned matters excluded from the Open Meeting Requirements.

Council Members Attendance:

Joseph J. Grano, Jr., Chair
Judge William Webster, Vice Chair
Frank Cilluffo
Dr. Ruth David
Herb Kelleher
Mayor Patrick McCrory
Dr. Lydia Thomas
Governor Mitt Romney (*Via conference call*)
Allan Zenowitz (ERSAC member)

U.S. Department of Homeland Security Staff Attendance:

Secretary Michael Chertoff
Daniel Ostergaard, Homeland Security Advisory Council, Executive Director
Richard Davis, Homeland Security Advisory Council staff
Jeff Gaynor, Homeland Security Advisory Council staff
Mike Miron, Homeland Security Advisory Council staff
Candace Stoltz, Homeland Security Advisory Council staff
Kathryn Knapp, Homeland Security Advisory Council staff
Al Martinez-Fonts, Private Sector
Carlos Kizzee, Office of General Counsel

Public Attendance:

Due to the media interest in the session contents, numerous members of the press were present at the public session. The Department received no comments or matters for consideration from the public.

Reference Materials:

Any reference materials received, issued, or approved by the HSAC have been made available via the HSAC web page at www.dhs.gov/hsac.

Meeting:

Chairman Grano called the HSAC to order and introduced Charlotte Mayor, Patrick McCrory. Mayor McCrory provided opening remarks, welcoming the group to Charlotte and highlighted a few of Charlotte's "high target" assets. Chairman Grano then introduced Secretary Michael Chertoff, welcoming the Secretary to his first HSAC meeting. Secretary Chertoff provided a few opening remarks, thanking council members for contributing their time and reminding the group of the effort involved with securing the homeland. The Secretary also spoke of the loss of Charlotte's David Wilhelm, an Immigration and Customs Enforcement agent. Chairman Grano called for an update from the four Senior Advisory Committees and Task Forces:

1. Critical Infrastructure Task Force (CITF)
As reported by: Dr. Ruth David

The CITF representation was diverse. Great efforts went into making sure all key Critical Infrastructure stakeholder groups were represented. The Task Force was also mindful that a great deal of history and energy has gone into the Government's critical infrastructure protection programs and they will continue to review and learn from previous studies.

Dr. David recapped briefings presented to the Task Force on March 21st. Dr. David noted the receipt of a briefing from James Caverly of the DHS Infrastructure Protection organization and a presentation on ongoing and growing domestic and international Critical Infrastructure Resilience initiatives. Dr. David highlighted the infrastructure failure and economic consequence, modeling efforts of Dr. Sean Gorman of George Mason University that the Task Force received in joint briefings with the Private Sector Information Sharing Task Force.

Dr. David reported that the Task Force's next meeting, to be held in late April, would have continued focus on "critical infrastructure resilience."

2. State and Local Senior Advisory Committee
As reported by: Governor Mitt Romney

Governor Romney summarized the State and Local Intelligence and Information Sharing Working Group that reported out its findings and recommendations at the HSAC December meeting. The members of the Working Group are now in the outreach phase, contacting their Federal, State, local and tribal counterparts to share their findings and recommendations. At the December meeting the HSAC requested if the Working Group could develop a series of standards or functional requirements to guide the State, local and tribal entities as they put in place these fusion centers. Governor Romney informed the HSAC that the Working Group should be able to report its findings and recommendations on homeland security intelligence and information fusion in April 2005.

3. Private Sector Information Sharing Task Force
As reported by: Mayor Patrick McCrory

Mayor McCrory highlighted that the Private Sector Information Sharing Task Force has been formed to develop recommendations on the appropriate roles of the Private Sector in the collection, analysis, dissemination, and use of Homeland Security information – and how those efforts should be integrated with those of the Intelligence Community to ensure the delivery of tailored, timely, and actionable information to its stakeholders.

Mayor McCrory highlighted the Task Force briefings heard on March 21st including those in the joint session with the Critical Infrastructure Task Force.

Mayor McCrory spoke highly of the briefing received from Art Fierro, FBI Supervisory Special Agent, and the Director of the Homeland Security Information Network – Critical Infrastructure. This is a government/private sector success story. The system is currently providing timely homeland security information to 40,000 State, local, tribal and private sector entities. Most importantly – these entities are communicating with each other on information sharing priorities and in the process are building trust (“something no amount of money can buy”).

The Task Force, Mayor McCrory noted, will be reporting out its recommendations to the HSAC at the June 23rd meeting.

4. Preventing the Entry of Weapons of Mass Effect on American Soil Task Force
As reported by: Dr. Lydia Thomas

March 21st was the Task Force’s first meeting. The Task Force was divided into three subgroups: Air, Land and Sea in an effort to allocate work load and resources proportionately among Task Force members. The Task Force Subgroup Chairs included Norm Augustine (Air), James Schlesinger (Land) and David

Abshire (Sea). Dr. Thomas noted this task force is focused on creating a “defense-in-depth” architecture for purposes of keeping weapons of mass effect out of the United States. Dr. Thomas indicated the subgroups will be meeting in May, with interim reports out to the HSAC in June. The projected deadline for the Task Force’s recommendations to the HSAC was set for October 15th.

5. HSPD-13 Task Force
As reported by Mr. Frank Cilluffo

Mr. Cilluffo made brief comments as this Task Force had just been formed. The Task Force is focusing on Maritime Security. Mr. Cilluffo indicated recommendations were expected to be reported out to the HSAC in late April.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am EST.

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.



Joseph J. Grano, Jr.
Chairman
Homeland Security Advisory Council