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News Release

New USCIS Office Enhances Internal Security

WASHINGTON—Created two months ago, the Office of Security and Integrity (OSI) for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is allowing the agency to better focus on management and professional integrity within its own ranks.

USCIS Director Emilio Gonzalez announced the creation of the office on March 15 explaining that OSI would allow USCIS to sharpen its focus on critical organizational security for its employees and facilities.

“USCIS must be the fairest, most secure, professional national immigration agency in the world,” Gonzalez said. “In order to succeed in that mission, we must ensure that our own security and integrity is beyond reproach and that our employees and facilities are secure. We developed OSI with that purpose in mind. Through the office, we will elevate and increase the visibility of USCIS internal security and integrity programs.”

OSI opened its doors last month following an internal review that recommended combining the audit liaison and internal self-inspection functions of the Office of Planning, Budget and Finance with operations of the legacy USCIS Office of Security and Investigations.

Over the next year, USCIS plans to almost triple OSI’s staff from its size of 64. Director Gonzalez calls the expanded security and integrity training enhancements ‘critical’ as the agency continues to fine-tune security procedures.

The newly consolidated office is undertaking a strategic development process with respect to organizational, functional and resource goals. Included in those plans are a program to hire more security and investigative specialists and a plan to establish an increased focus on integrity at USCIS’ immigration officer basic training course at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Brunswick, Ga.