

# **Homeland Security Advisory Council (HSAC) Meeting**

**June 11, 2007 Meeting**

## **Summary of Closed Sessions**

Warwick New York Hotel

**New York, New York**

HSAC Executive Director Doug Hoelscher called the meeting to order and provided administrative remarks and an outline of the day's activities. Michael Balboni, New York Deputy Secretary for Public Safety and Frank Cruthers, Deputy Commissioner, New York City Fire Department, and Joe Bruno, Commissioner, New York City Office of Emergency Management, provided welcoming remarks.

Two of the HSAC's subcommittees gave administrative updates on recent and future activities. Emergency Response Senior Advisory Committee (ERSAC) Chairman Dr. Richard Andrews reported on the April 11, 2007, meeting of the ERSAC in Los Angeles, California. Included were mentions of the National Response Plan re-write, Target Capabilities List (HSPD-8) and Medical Surge capacity shortfall. Members expressed interest in having more pre-decisional input on operational documents such as the National Response Plan, Sector Specific Plans, and the National Infrastructure Protection Plan. Private Sector Senior Advisory Committee (PVTSAAC) Chairman Herb Kelleher reported on the April 10, 2007, meeting of the PVTSAAC in Dallas, Texas. The PVTSAAC will focus on ways to improve information sharing between the private sector and DHS and state and local partners and will specifically focus on ways to improve private sector inclusion in state and local fusion centers. Doug Hoelscher also announced new members of the HSAC and HSAC subcommittees including: Los Angeles County Supervisor, Don Knabe (HSAC), Dr. John "Skip" Williams (HSAC); Mayor David Wallace (State and Local Officials Senior Advisory Committee -- SLSAC); Indiana State Senator Thomas Wyss (SLSAC); and Mr. Nelson Balido (PVTSAAC).

Deputy Director Harvey Johnson, Federal Emergency Management Agency, provided a briefing to HSAC members on several issues. Discussion included an overview of "old FEMA" versus "new FEMA," FEMA core competencies, public perception of FEMA, the use of reserve staff and volunteers, and status of pre-decisional documents including the National Response Plan.

Vice Commandant Vivien Crea, United States Coast Guard, discussed the Coast Guard's "layered defense" strategy for our coasts and ports through Maritime Domain Awareness. Other items included container security – new scanning and inspection systems, plans for port security implementation and use of resources, small vessel security, WMD concerns, maritime intelligence, NCR low level air interdiction, drug smuggling, and the recent Catalina Island events.

Assistant Secretaries for Intergovernmental, Anne Petera, Public Affairs, Ed Fox, Private Sector, Al Martinez-Fonts, and Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Jeff Runge spoke with the members regarding pre-decisional issues and outreach for key partners.

Director Emilio T. Gonzalez, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS), spoke on current and planned initiatives in CIS transition, new fee structures, and growth and planning efforts for the impact immigration reform will have on CIS.

Deputy Commissioner, New York Police Department, Counter Terrorism Department, Richard Falkenrath provided the lunch time discussion on current challenges in the relationship between state and local partners and the Department of Homeland Security. He discussed with members issues regarding pending NYPD initiatives and operations.

Assistant Secretary Julie Myers, Immigration and Customs Enforcement spoke about ongoing enforcement issues and initiatives including shifts in enforcement strategies.

Secretary Chertoff and Congressman Peter King discussed ongoing challenges and priorities for securing the homeland. Secretary Chertoff swore in new members of the HSAC and its subcommittees, and members discussed pending decisions with the Secretary and the Congressman. Some of the discussions included potential adjustments the Department is preparing to make if immigration reform legislation emerges successfully.

DHS Chief of Staff, Chad Sweet, and Chief Human Capital Officer, Marta Perez, discussed current and planned initiatives to improve the culture within the Department.

Homeland Security Advisory Council

Phone: 202-447-3135

[hsac@dhs.gov](mailto:hsac@dhs.gov)