

PUBLIC SPEAKING OPPORTUNITIES

I. Purpose

This directive establishes the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) policy with respect to the acceptance of public speaking invitations by DHS employees.

II. Scope

This directive applies to all DHS Headquarters elements.

III. Authorities

This directive is governed by numerous Public Laws, such as:

- A. Public Law 93-502 (Freedom of Information Act, as amended).
- B. Public Law 93-579 (Privacy Act of 1974).

IV. Definitions (Not applicable)

V. Responsibilities

The Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, Under Secretaries, and other senior DHS officials shall ensure that all DHS personnel comply with this directive.

VI. Policy & Procedures

- A. ***DHS Personnel:*** Requests for DHS personnel to speak before non-governmental entities or at forums attended by the public should be coordinated with the Office of Public Affairs (OPA). Speeches that have policy implications, or that address sensitive policy or political issues, shall notify DHS OPA for guidance and review of the speech before delivering the speech in public. DHS personnel appearing on panels or other similar public forums should advise DHS OPA. DHS personnel must comply with all laws and policies safeguarding the unauthorized disclosure of official information.

B. **Questions or Concerns Regarding the Process**: Any questions or concerns regarding this directive should be addressed to the Office of Public Affairs.