

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISORY COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING
FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 2009**

The Homeland Security Advisory Council (HSAC) convened at 10:15 a.m. in Ballroom B of the University of New Mexico Student Union, MSC03 2200, BLDG. 60, Suite 3020, 1 UNM, Albuquerque, NM 87131. Judge William Webster, Chair, was presiding.

HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

JUDGE WILLIAM WEBSTER, CHAIR

GARY HART, VICE-CHAIR

LEE BACA

RICHARD CAÑAS

CHUCK CANTERBURY

DR. JARED COHON

CLARK ERVIN

ELLEN GORDON

JOHN MAGAW

JEFF MOSS

HAROLD SCHAITBERGER

DR. JOE SHIRLEY

KAREEM SHORA

DR. LYDIA THOMAS

CHUCK WEXLER

DR. SKIP WILLIAMS

U.S. GOVERNMENT ATTENDEES:

JANET NAPOLITANO, SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

ERIC HOLDER, U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL

GIL KERLIKOWSKE, DIRECTOR, NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY

ALAN BERSIN, ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND
SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR BORDER AFFAIRS

MIKE MIRON, ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISORY
COUNCIL

BART JOHNSON, ACTING UNDER SECRETARY FOR INTELLIGENCE AND ANALYSIS

TIM MANNING, FEMA'S DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR FOR NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS

TED SEXTON, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OFFICE OF STATE AND LOCAL LAW
ENFORCEMENT

JULIETTE KAYYEM, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL
PROGRAMS

BRIDGER MCGAW, ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY OFFICE OF THE PRIVATE
SECTOR

JOHN TORRES, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR OPERATIONS, IMMIGRATION
AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

MARCO LOPEZ, CHIEF OF STAFF, CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

DIANE DENISH, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF NEW MEXICO

MARTIN CHÁVEZ, MAYOR OF ALBUQUERQUE

SHERIFF LUPE TREVINO, VICE CHAIR SOUTHWEST BORDER TASK FORCE

AMBASSADOR JIM JONES, VICE CHAIR SOUTHWEST BORDER TASK FORCE

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

HSAC CHAIR WELCOMING REMARKS 2
SECRETARY NAPOLITANO REMARKS 3
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF NEW MEXICO AND MAYOR OF ALBUQUERQUE
REMARKS 4
INTRODUCTION OF HSAC MEMBERS 5
SWEARING IN OF HSAC MEMBERS 8
HSAC SOUTHWEST BORDER TASK FORCE UPDATE 9
HSAC QUADRENNIAL REVIEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE 10
HSAC SUSTAINABILITY AND EFFICIENCY TASK FORCE UPDATE 11
PRESIDENT OBAMA’S NATIONAL SOUTHWEST BORDER COUNTERNARCOTICS
STRATEGY 12
CLOSING REMARKS: 17

HSAC CHAIR WELCOMING REMARKS

JUDGE WEBSTER: Good morning. It's very nice to see so many of you in attendance this morning. I'd like to call this meeting of the Homeland Security Advisory Council to order. We are proceeding under statutory requirements, and I would like to say that we will not be taking questions from the public, but later on we'll explain to you how you can submit your comments to the HSAC.

Before we begin the meeting, we're honored to have with us the combined DHS Honor Guard. At this time if everyone will please rise and remain standing for the posting of the colors followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Thank you.

Good morning, again. My name is William Webster, and I am the Chairman of the Homeland Security Advisory Council, which we call HSAC for short. I'd like to welcome our members and the guests that we have here in attendance. For members of the public who are unfamiliar with the HSAC, the Council serves to provide independent advice to Secretary Janet Napolitano across the spectrum of Homeland Security efforts. This is our first official meeting with her and the DHS Leadership Team.

On today's agenda, the Secretary will swear in the HSAC members. You will hear from Secretary Napolitano, Attorney General Eric Holder, and Director Gil Kerlikowske who will be speaking. Today's public meeting is being watched live at several state and local fusion centers on the southwest border and the El Paso Intelligence Center. So we welcome everyone in centers who are watching us in person.

At this time, it's my honor to introduce the Secretary of Homeland Security who by her energy and leadership since January, due in part to her years as prosecutor and twice governor of Arizona, her name has become a household word in this country. We're very pleased and honored to have you with us.

SECRETARY NAPOLITANO REMARKS

SECRETARY NAPOLITANO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's a pleasure to be back in Albuquerque today for this meeting of the HSAC, the Homeland Security Advisory Council.

I always love coming back to New Mexico, the state that I grew up in, in Albuquerque, the city that I went to school in. For those of you from New Mexico, I'm a Sandia High School graduate. All right, there's a Highland High person down there.

But in any event, it's a great time to be back and to begin the work of this reinvigorated HSAC, which I believe is an integral part of the Department of Homeland Security, and is going to be an integral part of our efforts not only to provide me and the leadership team that we are assembling with advice about all the myriad issues that confront the Department, but also to help educate the American public and bring in leaders to tell the American public about what Homeland Security is, what it entails, and all of the efforts that we must undertake.

Because a federal government department cannot do homeland security by itself, this needs to be a department that leads efforts in homeland security. But every American has a role, every city has a role, every state has a role, every tribe has a role, and the private sector has a role. This is an area where we all share responsibility.

I will be swearing in the Council shortly, but this is the most representative, far-reaching and diverse HSAC ever. And I'm very pleased that some of the members were asked to stay on who I think are now referring to themselves, I heard earlier, as plank members. Well, we have our plank members, but we also have new members. So we have continuity moving forward to which we have added, like I said, a broad variety of individuals with important issues to bring to the Department of Homeland Security.

I also want to thank Director Gil Kerlikowske for coming to today's meeting. He is the new head of Office of National Drug Control Policy. He's the new drug czar. He is here to discuss the Obama Administration's new Southwest Border Counternarcotics Strategy. And he has a stellar background in law enforcement, but I think shares the recognition that in this area, we need to deal with law enforcement but we also need to deal with prevention and demand reduction.

I also look forward to Attorney General Eric Holder joining us later this morning. He is an indispensable partner with us in combating humans trafficking narcotics. He works very closely with the Department. The DOJ and DHS have a terrific amount of overlapping work in all kinds of areas.

Thanks as well to staff and local law enforcement officials who are watching at six Fusion Centers along the southwest border in Texas, California, and Arizona. I think this is the first time we have used technology to get a broader communication of these meetings. We hope to continue that as well.

We also appreciate here today the presence of Lieutenant Governor Diane Denish and Albuquerque Mayor Martin Chávez. Both are excellent partners for the Department of Homeland Security. And they are here demonstrating the absolute high caliber of cooperation and collaboration with state, local and tribal partners.

As we move forward, let me just conclude my opening remarks by reaffirming once again how important I believe this Council to be, how integral it is to our planning efforts moving forward, -- I do not view this as a ceremonial Council, I do view this as a working Council designed to make sure that this new department -- that is still rather new -- has the best advice that we can get.

So thank you everybody for being here and your attention. Judge Webster, I give the podium back to you.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF NEW MEXICO AND MAYOR OF ALBUQUERQUE **REMARKS**

JUDGE WEBSTER: Thank you, Madam Secretary. Now I'd like to ask the Lieutenant Governor of New Mexico, Diane Denish, if she would make a few remarks.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR DENISH: Good morning, everybody. Welcome to all of you who have traveled to be here today with us. I understand yesterday you had a very pleasant day here in New Mexico. Let me just say that I appreciate the invitation from the Secretary of Homeland Security to be here and say a few things this morning to welcome you to this meeting.

Governor Richardson and I both know that border security in the southwest is a very high priority. We also know that there are big challenges ahead for us and we are very encouraged by the Southwest Border Task Force. I'm honored that the Governor has asked me take the lead in this task force in working with the Homeland Security Department to make sure that our recommendations get where they need to be when we talk about New Mexico as one of four states that are on the border of Mexico.

We also know that the public and private partnerships that are being encouraged here are very important to the success of border security. None of us in the government and Homeland Security can do this alone. And so I'm very pleased to see so many of our business partners here today to gather a better understanding of how we can work together as public-private partners to make sure that we accomplish the goal of the Administration in terms of border security.

I want to say how pleased we are that our New Mexican, former Arizona governor is leading the charge at Homeland Security. We feel like we have an added benefit in that regard, not only because she was raised in Albuquerque, but because Secretary Napolitano, as governor of Arizona, has a very clear and real understanding of border security issues.

Let me just say that what's important to us in New Mexico is securing the borders in a way that doesn't trade off commerce and industry. We don't think we have to make a choice between the two, and that we can still facilitate commerce and industry across the border and we can have a very safe border.

As I travel around New Mexico to many small communities, especially those in the southwest and southern parts of New Mexico, we understand that in order for us to have what we need in terms of human resources, and in terms of resources in technology and communication, that this partnership with federal government is very important to us, to make it work and to for us to do our part.

So as the federal government pushes forward, let me assure you that New Mexico as a state wants to be your partner, to push forward, to make progress in this area, to secure the borders, make sure all of our citizens are safe, and to continue to facilitate commerce and industry across the border, which is so important to New Mexico.

And again, Judge Webster and Secretary Napolitano, thank you very much for the opportunity to be here today. I'm here to listen and learn, as you are, from many of these folks, and I look forward to the day.

JUDGE WEBSTER: Thank you very much, Lieutenant Governor. Now I'd like to invite the *Mayor of Albuquerque, the Honorable Martin Chavez, to say a few words to us.*

MAYOR CHÁVEZ: Well, thank you so much. In the interest of making our good friends in Washington nervous when mayors speak about foreign affairs, I will confess that I got up early yesterday to watch the President's speech from beginning to end. And I have never been prouder to have an American president represent me overseas as I was with the comments he made in Cairo.

I think it's going to make everyone's task, at least in the beginning, a little bit easier and make the states a bit safer.

I was the lone "boo" when the Secretary mentioned Sandia High School. I fear I forfeited any future career I might have with Homeland Security, but for those who are from Albuquerque, she did me one better, because I was from down at Highland.

I would like to introduce two people who are very important to public safety in the City of Albuquerque, of course, the Chief of the Albuquerque Police Department, Ray Schultz. Chief, if you could stand just a moment. And of particular note, because post-September 11th, we reorganized our public safety apparatus and created a Chief Public Safety Officer to coordinate all of our emergency response services, our police, our fire, and that's Pete Dinelli. He facilitates that for the City of Albuquerque.

So very simply, we welcome you to Albuquerque, Secretary. Every New Mexican is a fan of yours. We watch you from afar and we're so proud of what you've accomplished. And we're very proud to have all of you here in Albuquerque, because what you're doing is extraordinarily important to the city and the state. So thank you very much for being here.

INTRODUCTION OF HSAC MEMBERS

JUDGE WEBSTER: Thank you very much, Mayor. Now we have a tradition which we will adhere to at this time, particularly since many new members are being sworn in this morning along with the plank members, as they say, and I'm going to ask that the members, as they go around, try to be brief in their introductions of themselves. They are all distinguished and have unique advantages and experiences that will be of use to you.

And I'll start by saying that I have been associated with the Homeland Security Advisory Council since it was established shortly after the tragic events of September 11, 2001. In other lives, I spent 14 years leading, first, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and then the Central Intelligence Agency, both of which will be working closely with our Secretary and the Department of

Homeland Security. And I understand the importance of the work that she and the Department are doing.

SENATOR GARY HART: Judge Webster, thank you very much. My name is Gary Hart. I am your neighbor to the north and a former member of the United States Senate.

In the capacity as Co-Chair of the U.S. Commission on National Security for the 21st century created by President Clinton in the fall of 1998 and reporting to the new administration of George W. Bush in January of 2001, that Commission recommended the creation of a federal department or new federal agency to combine the border assets and protective services of the national government, Customs, Coast Guard, Border Patrol and Immigration Services, with the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

It was that, I think, original idea in January of 2001 that led to the creation of the Department of Homeland Security. So I'm honored to be invited by Secretary Napolitano to join this very distinguished group, and particularly as it is led by a distinguished American, William Webster.

SHERIFF LEE BACA: Hi, I'm Lee Baca, the elected Sheriff of Los Angeles County. And it's not difficult to figure out where my father was born, which was here in Albuquerque. And his father was born in Albuquerque. And my grandmother was born in Silver City. And the essence of being on this Committee is to help and to encourage others to help. I want to thank the Secretary for appointing me. And I'd like to congratulate Judge Webster for his great work.

But simply, I want to thank the people of New Mexico for the fact that I could run from my hotel to Garcia's Restaurant and eat all the red and green chili I could possibly have. Thank you for reminding me of my childhood.

MS. ELLEN GORDON: I'm Ellen Gordon. I spent most of my career working for the Lieutenant Governor of the State of Iowa in Emergency Management, and the Homeland Security Director and Advisor for our governor, Tom Vilsack most recently. I currently am Education Director for the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterrey, California. And I would like to say thank you, Secretary Napolitano, for being a part of this.

DR. SKIP WILLIAMS: My name is John "Skip" Williams. I'm the Provost and Vice President of Health Affairs at the George Washington University in Washington, D.C. I want to say this is a high honor, and I want to thank you, Secretary, for appointing me. I've been a member of the Advisory Council since 2003, and it's been an extreme honor to work with Judge Webster.

DR. JOE SHIRLEY, JR: Good morning, Secretary, everyone. My name is Dr. Joe Shirley, Jr, President of the Navajo Nation, the biggest Navajo nation in the northern hemisphere. It's really an honor to be appointed by the Secretary to serve on this very prestigious council. Thank you.

MR. CHUCK CANTERBURY: My name is Chuck Canterbury, I'm the National President for the Fraternal Order of Police. I'm a 25 year veteran police officer and I represent 325,000 rank-and-file officers that bring a unique perspective to this very, very austere group. And I'd like to thank the Secretary as well for allowing me to continue, if that makes me a plank member since 2003.

MR. JOHN MAGAW: My name is John Magaw. I've had the opportunity and the privilege of public service for almost 50 years now. I started out in law enforcement and rose through the ranks of the Secret Service and became the director. While being the Director of the Secret Service, we had a terrible tragedy in Waco. I was asked to move over by the President and the Secretary of the Treasury to help the ATF recover from that tragedy. After a number of years there, I then went to FEMA to help them with some issues and was there when 9/11 occurred. In between the change of administrations from President Clinton to President Bush, for a short time I was the acting Director of FEMA. And then they asked me to go over and help TSA get started. And so I was the Undersecretary of the Transportation Security Administration for really, a short period of time.

MR. CHUCK WEXLER: My name is Chuck Wexler. I'm the Executive Director of the Police Executive Research Forum in Washington D. C. Thank you, Secretary, for this honor to serve you and to serve the country. I'm a new member of the Council; I'm very excited to be here. Thank you very much.

DR. JARED COHON: My name is Jared Cohon, President of Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. My university is currently strong in all areas of science technology, and especially the cyber security area, which are an integral part of DHS. I've been on the council since it's beginning as well. I've played various roles. Most recently, I serve on the Secured Borders Open Doors Advisory Committee, created by Secretary Chertoff and Secretary of State Rice, to talk about and advise on the proper balance between openness and security. And I, too, am delighted to be continuing as partners. Thank you, Secretary Napolitano.

MR. HAROLD SCHAITBERGER: I'm Harold Schaitberger. I'm the General President of the International Association of Firefighters, the union which has the honor to represent over 300,000 of the very best in our nation, including the firefighters here in Albuquerque. I want to thank the Secretary for allowing the nation's firefighters a seat at this table. And we hope to provide contribution from the local and ground, and those that are first in and last out, and to be able to bring perspective to the work of the department, certainly of this Advisory Council, from those that really are the front end of response. We appreciate and are honored to have a seat at this table.

MR. CLARK ERVIN: I am Clark Ervin, the Director of Aspen Institute's Homeland Security Program. I'm grateful to you, Madam Secretary, for asking me to participate in this Council. I look forward very much to working with you. I was the first Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security during the Bush Administration. I was privileged to serve as the Chairman of the Transition Unit of the Department of Homeland Security. Again, thank you very much.

MR. RICHARD CAÑAS: Good morning, Madam Secretary and everybody. My name is Dick Cañas. I'm the Director of the Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness for the state of New Jersey. My background is primarily law enforcement and intelligence, having served with the Drug Enforcement Administration for over 24 years. During that period, I should note that I did serve with Secretary Napolitano when she was United States Attorney in Phoenix and I was the inspector in charge there. I worked four years on the National Security Council at the White House, also two years as the Director of the National Drug Intelligence Center, and currently for the past three years, reporting to Governor Jon Corzine. I'm thrilled and honored for this appointment and I really look forward to our effort.

MR. JEFF MOSS: My name is Jeff Moss. I am the founder and Director of Black Hat and DEFCON. I've had over 20 years of experience in information security, computer security. I'm also a small business owner, a new business in Europe. I have a full prospectus that I hope to share with the Committee on a practical applied approach to computer information security. And I think like all the other new members here, I'm very honored to have been invited to participate. And it's quite a compliment to be in the presence of such accomplished people. So I'll strive to earn all of your respect. Thank you.

DR. LYDIA THOMAS: Good morning, everyone. My name is Lydia Thomas. I'm the former President and Chief Executive Officer of Noblis Scientific Research and Engineering and Strategy Company, working in the public interest. I have spent more years, Madam Secretary, than I care to recall this morning, in two sectors that I believe are very important to the deliberations of this body: weapons of mass destruction and energy. And I hope to be able to bring that expertise, along with some other things I picked up over the years, to the deliberations here. Thank you very much for allowing me to remain on the HSAC. I love being a plank member.

MR. KAREEM SHORA: Good morning. My name is Kareem Shora. I'm the Executive Director for the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee in Washington, D.C. By profession, I'm a civil rights attorney. Mayor Chávez, you made a remark earlier making reference to the President's speech yesterday in Cairo, and I have to tell you, a lot of Americans and others share in those feelings. My immigrant father watched the speech with me yesterday morning, and he had tears in his eyes, because he saw true leadership and engagement. Madam Secretary, I'm here to add to the diversity of the Council and I thank you for the opportunity to do so.

JUDGE WEBSTER: Thank you very much. I think the members of the audience can see the rich diversity and the levels of experience that are reflected in this Advisory Council. I'm especially pleased by the new members who the Secretary has selected to join, and the existing ones who she was gracious enough to continue in our assignment. We come now to the point where we'll all rise, the plank members and the new members, stand in place, but rise together so that the Secretary can swear us in.

SWEARING IN OF HSAC MEMBERS

SECRETARY NAPOLITANO: Please raise your right hand. "I" state your name, "do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic, that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same, that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of office on which I am about to enter, so help me God." Congratulations.

JUDGE WEBSTER: Madam Secretary, you're better than the Chief Justice. I'd like to introduce Assistant Secretary Alan Bersin, and at the conclusion of his remarks, I'll invite Sheriff Trevino and Ambassador Jones, who are Co-Chairs of the Southwest Border Task Force to make any remarks that they choose to make. Secretary Bersin.

HSAC SOUTHWEST BORDER TASK FORCE UPDATE

ASSISTANT SECRETARY BERSIN: Thank you, Judge Webster and Madam Secretary. We thanked you yesterday for designating the Southwest Border Task Force as a subgroup of this Council.

We had our meeting yesterday, inviting people from across the southwest border, law enforcement officials from local and state agencies, security experts, and elected officials, such as Mayor John Cook of El Paso and Mayor Jerry Sanders, City of San Diego. On the law enforcement front, we have representation from Texas, Sheriff Trevino; from California, Sheriff Lee Baca, Los Angeles County Sheriff; and Sheriff Ogden from Yuma County, Arizona. The Task Force is chaired by Judge Webster. It is co-chaired by Sheriff Trevino and former Ambassador Jim Jones, both of whom contributed yesterday.

We spent time yesterday, Madam Secretary and Members of the Council, in providing an overview of the work that we hope to supply over the coming months to give the Secretary what she has asked for, which are concrete recommendations regarding how to respond to the wave of violence in northern Mexico stemming from unprecedented and heroic efforts by President Lupe Calderón to combat criminal syndicates and cartels that have led to violence, causing more than ten thousand deaths in the last four and a half years in northern Mexico.

And the Secretary has asked us to come up with concrete recommendations as to how we can guard against still more violence from that phenomena, which, parenthetically, Madam Secretary and our elected officials and all sheriffs, agree has not yet happened, although, as you know, we are prepared to deal with it if that eventuality comes to pass.

Nevertheless, we also understand there is significant violence caused by drug trafficking organizations and their representatives distributing narcotics in our nation's cities, both on the border and the interior. We understand that you want us to provide recommendations regarding that matter as well.

You've also asked us, as the Lieutenant Governor indicated, to have the first quality law enforcement members, coupled with an effort to recognize the more than \$350 billion a year in trade that takes place between the United States and Mexico. And the importance, while maximizing our security in public safety, of taking into account the importance to our economy and our social lives of the family relationships and the business relationships that exist across the border.

And lastly, we hope to provide you with recommendations that will enhance, as you've directed us, not only enforcement, but to maximize enforcement by engaging the state and local officials, private sector entities, and law enforcement in particular. We also want to engage unprecedentedly with the President of Mexico as we seek to support the efforts of the Calderón Administration.

And Judge Webster, with your leave, I would ask that the co-chairs be permitted to comment.

SHERIFF TREVINO: Thank you, Secretary Napolitano, for the privilege and honor of serving on the Task Force and especially of being Vice Chair. I think it's very important that it is made known that the state and local law enforcement perspective is very important if DHS wants to achieve its mission. And we thank you for being cognizant of that. And on behalf of all the other sheriffs, we would like to thank you.

We had a very lengthy discussion, and I believe that state and local law enforcement do have some contributions to the solutions to all the challenges that we're facing. Thank you.

JUDGE WEBSTER: Thank you, Sheriff. And Ambassador Jones, our former distinguished ambassador to Mexico and former member of Congress.

MR. JAMES JONES: Thank you very much. And Secretary Napolitano, thank you for appointing me as the Vice Chair, and I serve with a very distinguished Chair.

We did have a very robust discussion yesterday. The quality of the Task Force is supreme, excellent. I think out of that, we clearly recognize the balance between making our borders more economically efficient and securing both personal and national security, securing our borders for American Citizens.

In that regard, we did talk about how law enforcement at the federal level of the U.S. has improved immeasurably to cooperate better together. And there is clearly a need and a desire to make recommendations to you on how local law enforcement and local government and state government can be more of a partner in that cooperation.

We also discussed how at this time it's perhaps one of the best times for cooperation with the government of Mexico. There is a trust, thanks to President Obama and you, Attorney General Holder and others, there has been a trust created. And I think it's the best opportunity for our two governments, our two countries to work together. And we hope to be able to give some recommendations on how that can be improved.

The staff is going to compile some of the comments that were made. They will distribute it to the Task Force. And we hope to come back to you with some informal suggestions perhaps for the three heads of government and the heads of Mexico in August, certainly in the longer term, to give you both some support and ideas for immediate action. And then in the longer term, action that will help secure our country and make it more efficient economically.

So it's a pleasure and a privilege to be able to participate in this, and we look forward to working with you.

HSAC QUADRENNIAL REVIEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE

JUDGE WEBSTER: Thank you very much, Ambassador. We turn now for a report by Dr. Skip Williams, who is a member of the Quadrennial Review Senior Advisory Committee.

DR. SKIP WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As a subcommittee of the Homeland Security Advisory Council, HSAC, the Quadrennial Review Advisory Committee, called QRAC,

was established to provide recommendations and advice to the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security for the Quadrennial Homeland Security Review.

The QHSR culminates in a Congressionally-mandated report that is due to Congress in December of this year. Since its inception, the QRAC has met three times in the Washington, D.C. area.

The Committee has a diverse and representative membership with a wide range of areas of expertise. Membership has significantly changed with the new administration and we look forward to the appointment of several new members in the near future.

QRAC serves as an objective forum where members share independent advice in the form of ideas and feedback on key issues and questions that arise throughout the development of the QHSR.

Most recently, the Committee provided Deputy Secretary Jane Lute with advice on the draft of terms of reference and study group structure of the review. There are several study groups in the QHSR, Counter Terrorist Group and Domestic Security Management, securing our borders, smart and tough enforcement of immigration laws, preparing for war, responding to and recovering from disasters, DHS strategic governance, Homeland Security risk assessment, and Homeland Security planning and capabilities.

The QRAC will continue its work throughout the review. The schedule will be closely linked to the monthly in-progress reviews where study groups will brief out on progress and key issues. The Committee's final report to the HSAC will coincide with the final Quadrennial Homeland Security report.

HSAC SUSTAINABILITY AND EFFICIENCY TASK FORCE UPDATE

JUDGE WEBSTER: Thank you very much for your work in this function, and we appreciate all the work the Committee has been doing. I'll turn now for a report on the Sustainability and Efficiency Task Force headed by Dr. Lydia Thomas.

DR. LYDIA THOMAS: Thank you very much, Judge. President Obama has made it clear that in order to improve national security; we need to promote more energy efficiency as sustainable practices. Sustainable practices will save taxpayers money, reduce dependency on foreign oil, and serve as an example for average citizens on how they can participate in making our nation more secure. Further, by saving taxpayer dollars through sustainable practices, we will enable the Department to allocate more funds to protect the American people.

In support of the President's call for sustainable operating procedures, the Secretary has formed a task force under the HSAC and charged them with three very important activities.

One, to assess the options for sustainable operating procedures, and fiscal savings across the DHS as the mission relates to national security.

Two, to recommend immediate, actionable measures that DHS can take to increase fiscal savings via sustainable practices.

And three, and probably very important to the Secretary, to have a Department of Homeland Security serve as an example to other federal, state, and local agencies in implementing sustainable practices, which can save money, thus have less dependence on foreign oil and increase the security of the American people.

I have the privilege and honor of chairing this committee. The first co-chair has been selected, and that's Sunil Paul. And he sends his regrets to you, Madam Secretary that he could not be in attendance today. But he guarantees, as all of us do, our full support.

We are in the process of developing the full membership of the Task Force. We have our first meeting tentatively planned for June 29. We hope at that time to have drafted a schedule of activities for the entire Committee that we can discuss and go through and have then the input of the full membership. And we will be able to get back to you very soon with an interim report, hopefully, in the next few months, and then a final report by the end of the calendar year.

JUDGE WEBSTER: Thank you very much, Lydia.

PRESIDENT OBAMA'S NATIONAL SOUTHWEST BORDER COUNTERNARCOTICS STRATEGY

JUDGE WEBSTER: Ladies and gentlemen, we're pleased to introduce the next three and final speakers in the public section. And I will offer brief introductions for each of them, and then they will speak in sequence. We are very pleased to have with us U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, Secretary Janet Napolitano, whom you've heard briefly, and Director Gil Kerlikowske, all of whom will be speaking to you this morning.

Attorney General Eric Holder, Jr. was sworn in as the 82nd Attorney General of the United States on February 3, 2009. In 1997, Attorney General Holder was named by President Clinton to be the Deputy Attorney General, the first African-American named to that post.

Secretary Janet Napolitano was sworn in on January 21, 2009, and is the third Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. Prior to joining the Administration, Napolitano was midway through her second term as Governor of the state of Arizona. I guess she was the first woman appointed, too.

Director Gil Kerlikowske is a former HSAC alum. Director Kerlikowske was sworn in as the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy on May 2, 2009. He brings four decades of law enforcement and drug policy experience to the position, most recently serving nine years as the Chief of Police for the Seattle Police Department.

On behalf of the Homeland Security Advisory Council and its members, a warm welcome to you all. Mr. Attorney General, the floor is yours.

U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL HOLDER: Good morning. As soon as I got off the plane, I could see more people here from Washington, D.C. Some people I'd like to meet and interact with in Washington but I hardly get a chance to. But while we're out here, we'll have to have some conversations after this.

And Judge Webster, it's always a pleasure to see you. Thank you for that kind introduction. Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do for the American people. It's good to be up here in the southwest and away from Washington, D.C.

Preventing cartel and preventing cartel-associated violence from spreading to our border region, is one of this Administration's most important tasks. To the members of the Homeland Security Advisory Council, as well as many state and local law enforcement agencies, let me say that we appreciate your efforts and hope that we can help provide you with the support that you need. It is you who are on the front lines facing these issues every day and doing your best to protect our communities. We are grateful for your courage, we are grateful for your hard work, and we are committed to ensuring your continued success.

The National Southwest Border Counternarcotics Strategy that we will introduce today is an essential component of our comprehensive national response to the threats along the southwest border. Drug trafficking cartels spread violence and lawlessness throughout our border region and we attend to all of our communities, large and small.

By focusing our increased cooperation between the United States and the Mexican government, as well as enhanced communications with U.S. law enforcement agencies, the National Southwest Border is developing strategies that we can use today to provide effective ways to move forward that will cut down on the cartel and ultimately make our country much safer.

The strategy compliments the increases in border security resources, recently announced by the Obama Administration, of the Department of Homeland Security's operation plans for border-related contingencies, our cooperation with Mexico through the NARAB Initiative, and our national efforts to reduce the demand for illegal drugs at home.

This strategy is tough, it is smart, and it is balanced. The Department of Justice, along with the Department of Homeland Security and numerous other state and local agencies, all bring valuable expertise needed to disrupt drug trafficking and related criminal activity that lead to the devastating violence in Mexico and diminish the quality of life not only along the southwest border, but in many other areas of the United States as well. This fight must be a national priority.

Now our success requires all related agencies to communicate and work together, and separately. It all depends on our ability to continue to work effectively with our partner in government, Mexico. President Calderón has taken unprecedented steps to fight cartels in his country. His administration is showing in its actions that they are committed to nationally enhanced allies and is confident this will ultimately yield sustained progress against drug cartel activities in both of our nations.

The National Southwest Border Counternarcotics Strategy outlines the steps that we can take in the fields of intelligence, information sharing, border security, investigations and prosecutions, and law enforcement technology to continue building our success in partnerships on both sides of the border.

Of particular importance to me and to the Department of Justice are the components of this strategy aimed at enhancing the investigation and prosecution of drug traffickers, arms traffickers, and money launderers. To win this fight, we must pursue the most significant and strategic cases

against these cartels, their leaders and their operations. But just as important, we must enhance coordination among federal agencies and identify areas for improved coordination with our state and local partners, and bilaterally with the government of Mexico. Each of us in part will build upon existing successful programs, like interagencies that focus upon drug enforcement task forces, in El Paso, the Intelligence Center, and work bilaterally with our Mexican counterparts.

Ultimately, they will allow to us more effectively operate intelligently about cartel activities, target cartel vulnerabilities, and thereby give us the ability to arrest and prosecute cartel leaders and to dismantle cartel operations. It was a successful strategy that worked in the past, and it will be effective again.

Just yesterday in the eastern district of Texas, prosecutors arrested and indicted 17 individuals in a coordinated effort targeting alleged drug trafficking organizations.

Experience shows that the most effective means of attack on sophisticated criminal organizations such as the Mexican drug cartels is through the use of multi-agency task forces. Such task forces allow each participating agency to render specialized knowledge and expertise to bear against a common target.

To the pursuit of this strategy, we anticipate additional successes similar to what we achieved in Operation Accelerate, a 21 month multi-directed and bilateral narcotics trafficking and money laundering investigation targeting the cells of the cartel. This operation combined numerous individual investigations in the United States, Mexico, and Canada with a common focus on the drug trafficking activity of one of the largest Mexico drug cartels. Extensive cooperation and coordination with federal, state and local law enforcement partners has resulted in more than 750 arrests, seizure of \$59 million in illegal drug proceeds, more than 12,000 kilos of cocaine, 1,200 pounds of methamphetamine, 1.3 million ecstasy pills, and more than 160 weapons. This is the kind of effort we have to replicate.

This new strategy will include intelligence supported investigations and increase the number of agents and prosecutors and other criminal justice system personnel along the southwest border.

The strategy also acknowledges that drug trafficking organizations deal with more than illegal narcotics. We will address these drug trafficking rings in their cash smuggling, money laundering, and arms smuggling, as well.

While this new strategy will not solve all of our problems related to drug trafficking along the southwestern border around the United States overnight, it lays out a practical and effective new approach that I am confident will result in measurable and significant results.

I look forward to working with our partners in the days and weeks ahead as we implement strategies that bring to bear the full resources of the government against these organizations.

It is now my privilege to introduce my friend who I had the privilege to get to know as the United States Attorney and who is now my most trusted colleague, the Secretary of Homeland Security, Janet Napolitano.

SECRETARY NAPOLITANO: Thank you, and good morning. And thank you, Attorney General. It's good to see everybody again. We are here together, the three of us, because all three of our respective agencies, the Department of Justice, the Department of Homeland Security, and ONDCP, have critical roles in our ongoing fight against not just the drug cartels, but drug trafficking across the southwest border, and then with respect to the presence of the arms or the fingers of these organizations into the neighbors, the cities, the communities in every state of the United States.

This is a unified plan that is being announced today. It crosses, as I just mentioned, a number of different areas and coordinates them in many, many significant ways. It is a reinvigoration of an actual national strategy and national priority against drug trafficking.

Now, as has been mentioned, the Department of Homeland Security has been heavily engaged on the southwestern border since the advent of the Obama Administration. The Homeland Security Advisory Council has already heard a report from Alan Bersin on our efforts, but suffice it to say that we have added literally hundreds of agents in the field. We have added technology at the ports, things like scales that will measure vehicles to see if they're heavier than they ought to be. Things like scanners. We've added more dog teams, dogs trained to sniff not just drugs but also guns and cash both.

In addition to our enhanced efforts about traffic and contraband moving north, we are also engaged on a southbound strategy. Knowing that the cartels are fueled in part by the cash that is garnered by the sale of drugs in the United States and by arms that they can acquire in the United States, we are working to impede the traffic of that cash and those arms moving south. So for the first time, we are doing southbound inspections of rail, and we are now doing southbound inspections of vehicles, and working with the government of Mexico so that they themselves begin to do southbound inspections as well.

In addition to this, we are expanding our Secured Communities Program. Secured Communities is the name given to an approach that allows us to identify criminal aliens that are already located within our local jails. Basically, it allows local sheriffs' deputies and whoever is operating the jails to have immediate access to immigration data bases to know who is in the county, who is in the jail, who is in the country illegally so that the immigration status can be verified before whoever is in the jail is simply released back out into the public. This has proven very successful in its initial stages, so much so that in the FY10 budget, the Department has asked for a huge increase in the funding for Secured Communities so we can spread it across the country.

We think that by making it easier for law enforcement, working with local state and federal, to get access to this kind of data basis, we make for better law enforcement and we make for better use of our law enforcement dollars to identify those who are already in our country who is seeking -- who are violating our criminal laws. And a great number of these will be in jail because that have already violated the laws against drug trafficking; they're part of that network. So that is ongoing as well.

We are working to improve communication and intelligence sharing. We have smuggling patterns on both sides of the border, and we are working with our partners in the Department of Justice to handle a number of cases, but one in which I think we have particular interest, we can supply

information that will help in the prosecution of the crimes that augment drug trafficking, such as money launderers.

In addition to that, our international cooperation is very, very keen, and quite frankly, as someone who has been working on border-related matters for a number of years, we have an unprecedented opportunity working with the federal government of Mexico to take the fight against these cartels from both directions. And this is a window of opportunity that we should not let go by.

As the Attorney General mentioned, the NARAB Initiative is very important. This is a Congressional appropriations fund to provide resources, training and equipment for Mexican law enforcement. The goal, obviously, is to increase civilian law enforcement within Mexico; the task is to implement law enforcement within Mexico in an ongoing and sustained way.

So working with state and local, working to make better yield or better use of the dollars that we do have with things such as Secured Communities, working with the government of Mexico, those are all part of a cohesive strategy against the drug cartel and drug trafficking.

But let me close with the other part of this, because this is so very, very important. That is, we cannot just fight drugs at the border. We cannot just fight drugs by fighting the drug traffickers. We have to go after the distribution within the United States. Because it's not just the border that is at risk here. This is why this is an issue for Homeland Security. Because every community in every state in this country is experiencing the outreach of the drug traffickers and of those big, large multi-national cartels. So interior enforcement is key, and as well is the demand reduction.

In other words, how do we get at not just the supply side of this issue, but at the demand side in a more effective manner. That's what is meant when we say a comprehensive southwest border drug strategy, because it covers all of these elements, and a plan that is being released here covers these elements together.

Because without them all together, we will not achieve the kind of successes we should. So with that, let me introduce the head of ONDCP, Director Gil Kerlikowske, who will talk about the ONDCP aspect of this. Thank you.

DIRECTOR KERLIKOWSKE: Good morning, everybody. It's a pleasure to be here with you. I certainly want to thank the Secretary, also, to be with you again, and the Homeland Security Advisory Council. There are so many people on this Council that will serve you so well, and the Department of Homeland Security, and our nation as well. Twenty-five years ago, Judge Webster accepted my resignation from the FBI. And he has embodied throughout his whole career the importance of cooperation among law enforcement agencies. I'm so grateful to the Secretary and her team at DHS that put this strategy together. And the Attorney General at the United States Department of Justice.

Our common strategy that we're releasing today, we'll have the leverage, the talent and the energy as we face some of the most significant challenges in our country.

Now, there's been a lot of discussion, as there should be, about the drug and violence-related challenges faced by the government in Mexico and the steps they need to take to evict the cartel. I

have nothing but the greatest respect for the courageous efforts made by President Calderón in taking on the cartel in his administration.

We talk about the importance of working together as one team to stop the flow of drugs into our country, and as the Secretary mentioned, stop the southbound flow of currency.

This is a large, complex, and important undertaking, and I applaud all of the departments who work at these efforts. Clearly, the money and the weapons are just as important to the cartels as the drugs. The DHS and the DOJ are actively engaging and listening to state and local officials. I can't think of three people, the U.S. Attorney General, a former prosecutor, and a former police chief, that really recognize and appreciate and understand the importance of the cooperation we have to have and the support we have to provide to state and local officials.

Drug cartels operate in our cities and suburbs and rural areas, and without the help of state and local enforcement, the federal authorities would never have the detailed knowledge of how those cartel cells operate and distribute the drugs and collect the money and take the weapons. Shipments of both weapons and drugs cross the border into Mexico every year. They don't appear out of thin air. These are illegal organizations operating throughout the United States. They collect and move their contraband through the local communities. I'm committed to making sure that the federal agencies cooperate and share information and support local law enforcement agencies.

To better understand these criminal organizations, we have to collect and analyze the vast quantities of information. We have to invest the time and conduct the investigations and we have to use all of the tools that are available to us.

Part of the Obama Administration's efforts to turn this problem around, in addition to previous administrations, has been to issue this document released today, the National Southwest Border Counternarcotics Strategy. Each chapter contains specific recommended actions developed by a team of experts throughout the government. ONDCP, the office where I serve, is committed to ensuring the implementation of these plans. There are a number of specifics in here, some of which were mentioned by my colleagues.

As part of this plan, we also would provide a public report on the implementation of the counter strategies on the part of the Obama Administration which will be released soon. This will not only ensure accountability, but will make clear that combating the flow of drugs and money and weapons across the southwest border must be a core element of our nation's approach to the drug problem. I look forward to working with my colleagues here today, as well as my partners against crime, the local and state law enforcement agencies. And I thank you very much.

CLOSING REMARKS:

JUDGE WEBSTER: Thank you very much, Gil. I wish you continued success in your new assignment. And hope we'll have an opportunity to work with you, Attorney General Holder, and Secretary Napolitano. Again, we appreciate you coming.

At this time we're going to bring the session to a close. Members of the public and Fusion participants who are watching this live who would like to provide comments to the Homeland

Security Advisory Council may do so in writing. Please write to the Homeland Security Advisory Council, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Washington, D.C. 20528. You can also email us at hsac@dhs.gov. HSAC information may be found at WWW.DHS.GOV/HSAC. Our meeting notices are posted in the Federal Register in compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

Members, will you please stay in your places as our guests leave. Those in the audience are free to leave at this point. We appreciate your attendance and look forward to serving you in the future. This meeting is adjourned.