February 1, 2005

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

THROUGH: 

General Counsel

FROM: 

Asa Hutchinson
Under Secretary for Border and Transportation Security

Jack L. Johnson, Jr.
Chief Security Officer

SUBJECT: 

Revised Delegation of the Chair of the Interagency Security Committee

Purpose

To revise the Delegation for the Chair of the Interagency Security Committee (ISC) to the Chief Security Officer for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

Background

On October 19, 1995, Executive Order 12977 established the ISC to enhance the quality and effectiveness of security in and protection of Federal buildings and facilities and to address continuing government-wide security for federal facilities. Specifically, the duties and responsibilities of the ISC are to:

(1) Establish policies for security in and protection of Federal facilities;
(2) Develop and evaluate security standards for Federal facilities, develop a strategy for ensuring compliance with such standards, and oversee the implementation of appropriate security measures in Federal facilities; and
(3) Take such actions as may be necessary to enhance the quality and effectiveness of security and protection of Federal facilities, including but not limited to:
   a. Encouraging agencies with security responsibilities to share security-related intelligence in a timely and cooperative manner;
   b. Assessing technology and information systems as a means of providing cost-effective improvements to security in Federal facilities;
c. Developing long-term construction standards for those location with threat levels or missions that require blast resistant structures or other specialized security requirements;
d. Evaluating standards for the location of, and special security related to, day care centers in Federal facilities; and
e. Assisting the Secretary of Homeland Security in developing and maintaining a centralized security data base of all Federal facilities.

Executive Order 12977 specified that the Administrator of General Services or his designee chair the ISC, and that Federal Protective Service (FPS) provide support services for the ISC. The Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296) transferred these ISC functions and responsibilities to the Secretary of Homeland Security, and Executive Order 13286 (February 28, 2003) implemented the transfer by replacing the “ Administrator of General Services” with the “Secretary of Homeland Security” as a primary member and Chair of the ISC. Subsequently, the Secretary delegated his authority to chair the ISC to the Assistant Secretary for Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The Assistant Secretary for ICE, in turn, delegated this authority to the Director of FPS.

Discussion

The DHS Chief Security Officer and Under Secretary for Border and Transportation Security have agreed that the ISC functions and responsibilities are more appropriately placed at the Department level within the Office of Security.

The Chief Security Officer is responsible for providing overall security policy guidance and oversight for the Department. Therefore, the Office of Security would be an appropriate place for the ISC functions and responsibilities to reside. Such integration of DHS physical security policy functions would significantly enhance effectiveness and efficiency in this area, and will reduce redundancies.

Rationale for Transfer. The Office of Security is uniquely situated to provide Department-wide leadership in overseeing and coordinating physical security policies, procedures, standards, and practices among all DHS directorates. In addition, the Office of Security would be able to integrate physical security functions with all other security disciplines within the Department, including administrative security, access control, security training and awareness, personnel security, internal security, operations security, and special security programs. Further, the Chief Security Officer can provide timely reporting to the Department leadership, as he reports directly to the Deputy Secretary, without intermediary.

Benefits Achieved. If the ISC functions and responsibilities are moved to the Office of Security, the enhanced stature will serve to:

- Raise the visibility of physical security issues within the Department;
- Ensure focus on funding and resources for physical security functions;
- Improve the ISC leadership’s ability to interact with senior officials throughout the Federal government; and
• Ensure that physical security policies and standards are coordinated and implemented consistently.

This revised Delegation will also help to organize the Department’s security structure similar to other agencies within the Administration and in line with government-wide best practices for security program management and oversight. Further, since the ISC is an effective vehicle for addressing the physical security needs across the Administration, this revised Delegation will enable the Department to meet the requirements of Executive Order 12977. With the Chief Security Officer as its Chair, the ISC will be well situated to assist the Department in carrying out the initiatives contained in the Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD) 7 dated July 31, 2003, with respect to the protection of Federal facilities.

Coordination

The transfer of ISC functions and responsibilities and this revised Delegation have been closely coordinated with and gained the concurrence of the Federal Protective Service, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (including the Office of Principal Legal Advisor), and Border and Transportation Security Directorate.

If the Secretary concurs with the recommendation below and revises the Delegation of the Chair of the ISC, the Chief Security Officer will consult and coordinate with the Federal Protective Service as needed. As well, the Federal Protective Service will cooperate and consult with the DHS Office of Security on matters relating to the physical security of Federal facilities.

Recommendation

The Secretary should sign the attached Delegation of the Chair of the Interagency Security Committee to the Chief Security Officer for the Department of Homeland Security.

[Signature] 2/1/25  
Date

[Signature] Date

Non-concur
DELEGATION OF THE CHAIR
OF THE INTERAGENCY
SECURITY COMMITTEE TO
THE CHIEF SECURITY
OFFICER

1. Purpose
This is a delegation of authority to the Chief Security Officer to chair the Interagency Security Committee (ISC). The ISC was established in accordance with Executive Order 12977 (October 19, 1995) and is responsible for establishing policies for security and protection of Federal facilities; developing security standards and strategies for such facilities; and taking actions to enhance the quality and effectiveness of the security and protection.

2. Delegation
Pursuant to the authority vested in the Secretary of Homeland Security by Section 2 of Executive Order 12977, as amended by Section 23 of Executive Order 13286 (February 28, 2003), I hereby designate the Chief Security Officer to serve on my behalf as the Chair of the ISC and delegate to the Chief Security Officer all authorities granted to the Chair by Executive Order 12977, and such other acts as necessary to perform the duties and responsibilities of the Chair of the ISC.

3. Re-delegation
This authority may be re-delegated to another official within the Office of Security.

4. Authorities
5. **Office of Primary Interest**

The Office of Security is the office with primary interest in this delegation.

6. **Cancellation**

This Delegation 7035.1 supersedes previous delegations regarding the Interagency Security Committee issued by the Secretary or other officials of the Department of Homeland Security, or any subsequent re-delegation.

[Signature]

Acting Secretary