

Homeland Security Advisory Council Summary of Teleconference Held on August 10, 2005

The Homeland Security Advisory Council (HSAC) held a public conference call on August 10, 2005, convening at 3:00 p.m. EST.

The HSAC convened via teleconference for the purposes of: 1) receiving reports from the Private Sector Information Sharing Task Force; and 2) deliberating on its final report.

In accordance with the provisions of Public Law 92-463, the public conference call was open to the public from 3:05 p.m. to 3:35 p.m.

Council Members Attendance:

Judge William Webster

Herb Kelleher

Duane Ackerman

Kathleen Bader

Chuck Canterbury

Jared Cohon

Ruth David

Mayor Patrick McCrory

Rich Stephens, Private Sector Information Sharing Task Force Member

U.S. Department of Homeland Security Staff on the Conference Call:

Secretary Michael Chertoff, Department of Homeland Security

Daniel Ostergaard, Homeland Security Advisory Council, Executive Director

Richard Davis, Homeland Security Advisory Council staff

Jeff Gaynor, Homeland Security Advisory Council staff

Mike Miron, Homeland Security Advisory Council staff

Candace Stoltz, Homeland Security Advisory Council staff

Kathryn Knapp, Homeland Security Advisory Council staff

Valerie Smith, Office of Public Affairs

David Barron, Customs and Boarder Patrol

Richard Russell, Director, Information Sharing & Collaboration, Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection

Tara Riordan, Business Liaison Assistant Director, Private Sector Office

Sigal Mandelker, Counselor to the Secretary, Office of the Secretary

Al Martinez-Fontz, Special Assistant to the Secretary, Private Sector Office

Reference Materials:

The Homeland Security Private Sector Information Sharing Task Force report has been made available via the HSAC web page at www.dhs.gov/hsac.

Meeting:

Judge William Webster welcomed the members of the Homeland Security Advisory Council and the listening public to the conference call to discuss the final report of the Private Sector Information Sharing Task Force. Judge Webster noted that Mr. Joe Grano has resigned as Council's Chairman to pursue new business ventures; both he and Secretary Chertoff praised Mr. Grano for his leadership.

Judge Webster then introduced Mayor McCrory, the Chair of the Task Force to highlight the findings and recommendations of the Private Sector Information Sharing Task Force. The report is a consensus document reached by all members of the Task Force. The Task Force was tasked to develop recommendations to guide the private sector and the Department (DHS) when sharing homeland security information. The report discusses information collection and sharing requirements; public/private information sharing process; laws, rules and policies that affect public/private information sharing; and partnering with the communications media on an ongoing basis. Judge Webster emphasized the need for sharing homeland security information as opposed to waiting for an event to occur.

Mayor McCrory outlined the report's recommendations:

- 1. DHS and the Private Sector should work in collaboration to develop a formal, and objectively manageable, homeland security intelligence/information requirements process;
- 2. DHS should adopt a tiered approach to infrastructure vulnerability information sharing;
- 3. DHS needs to be flexible and responsive in accommodating diversity within and among Private Sector critical infrastructure sectors:
- 4. DHS should continue to develop a network integrated model for information flow;
- 5. DHS should promptly and decisively revise its rules and policies for information sharing;
- 6. DHS should pro-actively invest in a better-informed and more engaged media through specific targeted programs aimed at developing a stronger working relationship between the government, the media and the Private Sector in major incidents;
- 7. The Homeland Security Advisory System should be refined to provide more specific guidance to the Private Sector and to the public, including changes in warning levels.

Mayor McCrory completed his presentation and Mr. Kelleher added that the recommendations are specific and indicate whether legislative, regulatory, mechanical or attitudinal action needed to be taken.

Judge Webster indicated a transmittal memo would be drafted and sent to the Secretary along with the report.

The public conference was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. EST.

Public Attendance

More than 20 members of the public were on a "listen only" mode.

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.

Judge William Webster
Acting Chairman
Homeland Security Advisory Council