



# BORDER SECURITY SYMPOSIUM

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Different times, different  
solutions.....

.....but a threat is still a threat



**Homeland Security**

# Texas Homeland Security Alliance

- | A non-profit organization established 2003
- | A collaborative aggregator
  - Enhance public / private partnerships
  - Collaborate government, educational institutions, industry partnerships
- | Provide education venues and events



# Vision

- To create an *alliance* that provides a focal point to promote technology and business solutions for the *Homeland Security* initiative.



# TxHSA Mission

The Texas Homeland Security Alliance mission is to work with critical infrastructure segments to identify product and service solutions which address security vulnerabilities and provide improvements in homeland security preparedness.

<http://txhsa.net>



*“True individual freedom cannot exist without economic security and independence.”*

Franklin Delano Roosevelt



# Objectives

- Support Economic Development
  - Business Procurement Opportunities
- Provide Education and Awareness
- Support Advanced Technology
  - Products & Services
- Build Collaboration
  - Public, Private, Academic



# Events

- | Emergency Readiness Conference, Aug. 2003
- | Emergency Readiness Conference, Aug. 2003 and Oct. 2004 in partnership with UTD
- | Addressing Cyber Threats of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century with Greater Dallas Chamber, Feb 2005
- | North Texas Security Symposium, May 2005
- | Understanding the Shelter Hub: San Antonio's response to Hurricanes Katrina & Rita, Dec. 2005
- | Border Security, Apr. 2006



# Key Messages

The Texas Homeland Security Alliance is here to assist

- Provide input to THS
- Business to Business Support
- Education
- Collaboration
- R&D



# Texas Homeland Security Alliance Overview



# Critical Infrastructures

- Border & Transportation Security
- Emergency Preparedness & Response
- Information Analysis & Infrastructure Protection
- Science & Technology
- Management
- Coast Guard
- Aerospace and Defense
- I.T. and Cyber Security
- Citizenship & Immigration Services Inspector General



*“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.”*

Martin Luther King, Jr.





# Homeland Security

## Border Security Facts

- Mexican Border: 43 Ports of Entry.
- 2,000 miles along the southern borders of California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas.
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) within DHS responsible for detect & prevent illegal entry to U.S.
- Currently, apprx. 11,000 CBP agents patrol nearly 6,000 mi. of international borders – Canada and Mexico.
- Federal agents, State and Local law enforcement, and Sheriffs' departments support border patrol.



“A Line in the Sand: *Confronting the Threat at the Southwest Border*” prepared by  
Majority Staff of the House Committee on Homeland Security Subcommittee on  
Investigations

Michael T. McCaul, Chairman

# Texas Southern Border

- | **18 ports of entry in Texas**
- | **Texas-Mexico border spans 1200 miles.**
- | **Major interstate highways and trains provide access through Brownsville, McAllen, and Laredo.**
- | **Laredo, TX described as “key ingress into U.S.” by U.S. Border Patrol Chief.**



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# 2005 Southwest Border Facts

- | Appr. 1.2 million illegal aliens apprehended in 2005
- | 165,000 not from Mexico, 650 from special interest countries – identified to harm U.S.
- | Over 8 million lbs. of illegal drugs seized, est. at only 10% to 20%



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# Key Challenges cont.

## | **Illegal immigration**

## | **Drug cartels**

- **Gangs** – Zetas, est. 30,000 gangs, 800,000 members in U.S.
- **Human trafficking**
- **Smuggling**

## | **Serial Offenders – rapists, murderers**

- **Sex offenders** – 2% of illegal immigrants, 240,000 illegal immigrants in U.S. – est. 960,000 victimizations in 88 mo.

## | **Terrorists** – 41% + OTM's since 9/11 and 88% Special Interest Aliens crossed in TX, including Hezbollah and al-Qa'ida in 2005



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# Border Security Initiatives

- | **Operation Rio Grande, Feb. 2006**
- | **Secure Border Initiative (SBI)**
  - SBI-net launched May, 2006
- | **Operation Jump Start - National Guard assist U.S. CBP, May, 2006**
- | **FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Forces**
  - detect & investigate terrorists
- | **FY07 HS Appropriations bill, Oct. 2006**
- | **Secure Fence Act of 2006, Sept. 2006**
- | **Operation Wrangler, Jan. 2007 – Interagency law enforcement surge effort.**



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*“The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.”*

Winston Churchill

