

**The Honorable John Carter
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Committee on Appropriations
Cybersecurity Briefing
Witnesses**

**Suzanne Spaulding, Under Secretary, NPPD
Dr. Phyllis Schneck, Deputy Undersecretary for Cybersecurity, NPPD
Ann Barron-DiCamillo, Director, US-CERT, NPPD
10:00 AM | Tuesday | April 29, 2014 | H-405, The Capitol
Opening Statement As Prepared**

Hearing is called to order –

This morning we welcome:

- Suzanne Spaulding, Under Secretary for the National Protection and Programs Directorate
- Dr. Phyllis Schneck, Deputy Under Secretary for Cybersecurity
- Ann Barron-DiCamillo, Director of the US Computer Emergency Readiness Team

You are here today to explain how DHS is mitigating cybersecurity threats and protecting our Nation's civilian networks and critical infrastructure. Thank you for joining us.

We all know the U.S. continues to be the target of massive cyber-attacks which threaten the country's economic competitiveness and the security of our Nation. NPPD leads the effort to protect the Nation's critical infrastructure, to protect our civilian government networks, and to collaborate with the private sector to enhance cybersecurity. So, it is clear you all have a very important mission and we must make every dollar count.

Unfortunately, this Committee continues to be concerned about the pace at which the Department executes funds provided by Congress, and the delays associated with NPPD's mission to provide adequate, risk-based, and cost-effective cybersecurity to civilian government networks, including the Continuous Diagnostics & Mitigation program (or CDM).

In addition to answering our questions today, it's my understanding that you will first update us on the threat of evolving cyber-attacks, including the recent exploitation of vulnerabilities in Microsoft Internet Explorer and *Heart-bleed*, a serious vulnerability in widely used software that protects traffic on a large number of websites.

A few administrative items for the Members and staff in attendance:

- (1) This briefing is classified at the Top Secret / SCI level – the highly sensitive material that we discuss today is not to be discussed in an unauthorized setting, and

- (2) Members and staff should have already divested themselves of **all** electronic devices before entering the room.

Your written statement will be placed in the record, so I ask you to take five minutes to summarize it. Before we get started, I'd like to turn to Mr. Price, our distinguished Ranking Member, for any remarks he'd like to make.

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