



TESTIMONY OF

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BEFORE

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ON

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of Homeland Security”

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## **Introduction**

Chairman Green, Ranking Member Thompson, and distinguished Members of the Committee:

I appreciate the opportunity to appear before you to discuss the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS or the Department) Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 President's Budget.

Last month marked the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Department's creation, which brought together 22 agencies and 180,000 public servants from across the Federal Government in a determined national effort to safeguard the United States against foreign terrorism in the wake of the devastation wrought on September 11, 2001. DHS remains the largest reorganization of the federal government's national security establishment since 1947 and a testament to the grave threat we faced as a nation from terrorism brought to our shores by foreign actors and foreign terrorist organizations.

Twenty years ago, Americans seeking a way to serve their country joined the Department of Homeland Security to make meaningful contributions to the safety and security of the homeland. These first employees assembled chairs and desks in front of elevators, drew up initial plans and organization charts, and fought for a seat at the table. Over 32,000 of those early employees, whom we admirably refer to as "plank holders," are still proudly serving with the Department. Their service built the Department into the fit-for-mission organization it is today.

Over the past 20 years, the Department has responded to an increasingly dynamic threat landscape with leadership, new programs and capabilities, cross-component collaboration, and unflinching dedication to mission. Today we are the third largest department in the Federal Government with a 260,000-member workforce. Every day, our personnel interact with the U.S. public more than any other Federal agency as we ensure the safety of Americans in the skies and on the seas, promote lawful trade and travel, ensure the protection of our critical infrastructure, provide relief when disaster strikes, advance the security of cyberspace, combat human trafficking and online child sexual exploitation, protect communities from illicit drugs and weapons, stand watch at our borders, defend the United States' interests in the Arctic and the Indo-Pacific, guard our Federal buildings, and more.

Through all of our work, the Department is guided by twelve priorities that I established to ensure we are ready to address the threats of today and prepare for the threats of tomorrow. With these priorities in mind, I will share how we are confronting these threats and challenges, and how the President's Budget will ensure the Department has the resources to do so effectively.

The FY 2024 President's Budget for the Department, totaling \$103.2 billion, will ensure DHS has the resources to execute our mission to safeguard the American people and our homeland while also preserving our values. Of the \$103.2 billion requested, \$60.4 billion is discretionary funding, \$20.1 billion is for the Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) to support response, recovery, and resiliency during major disasters, and \$22.7 billion is mandatory funding and fee

collections. In addition to the \$103.2 billion, this year the Department is proposing up to \$4.7 billion in emergency designated funding for a Southwest Border Contingency Fund to provide additional resources to DHS in the event increased migration along the Southwest border exceeds pre-identified encounter thresholds.

Collectively, we may not have predicted today's diverse and complex threat environment when our Department was first created, but our mission has never been more vital, our agencies and officers have never collaborated more closely, and our nation has never been more prepared. The Department of Homeland Security was born out of tragedy and necessity. But in that necessity, we evolved and grew and we attracted and retained the very best talent America has to offer to solve its greatest challenges. This FY 2024 President's Budget will enable the Department to continue fulfilling our critical mission for the American people.

### **Securing the Border and Building a Safe, Orderly, and Humane Immigration System**

Violence, food insecurity, severe poverty, corruption, climate change, the COVID-19 pandemic, and dire economic conditions have all contributed to a significant increase in irregular migration around the world. In our hemisphere alone, failing authoritarian regimes in Venezuela, Cuba, and Nicaragua, along with an ongoing humanitarian crisis in Haiti, have driven hundreds of thousands of people to migrate to the United States and other countries. These movements are often facilitated by numerous human smuggling organizations that exploit migrants as part of a billion-dollar criminal enterprise. The depth of suffering that these migrants are willing to endure speaks to the desperation they feel about their prospects in their home countries.

Over the last several months, DHS has announced new processes for Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans and their immediate family members that combine an accessible, streamlined opportunity for eligible individuals to come to the United States via a lawful pathway with consequences for those who do not avail themselves of this pathway and instead cross the Southwest border without authorization. Nationals of these countries who do not avail themselves of this process and attempt to enter the United States without authorization will generally be returned to Mexico.

The coupling of these measures has led to a dramatic reduction in the numbers of Cubans, Nicaraguans, Haitians, and Venezuelans seeking to cross the Southwest border without authorization. Encounters of nationals from these four countries between POEs at the Southwest border declined from a seven-day average of 1,231 on the day this policy was announced on January 5, 2023, to a seven-day average of 46 on February 28, 2023—a drop of 96 percent. This reduction represents a decline of 99 percent from the early December 2022 high of 3,546 daily encounters, and occurred even as encounters of other noncitizens began to rebound from their typical seasonal drop.

While encounters of Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans between POEs at the Southwest border have plummeted, thousands of nationals from these countries have successfully followed the process for lawful entry. As of March 1, more than 66,000 Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans have, after being thoroughly screened and vetted, received travel authorization. More than 45,000 individuals have lawfully arrived through

commercial air travel at POEs to unite with supporters already in the United States, including more than 9,500 Cubans, more than 8,000 Haitians, more than 2,700 Nicaraguans, and more than 25,000 Venezuelans. The successful use of these parole processes and the significant decrease in illegal crossing attempts clearly demonstrates that noncitizens prefer to utilize a safe, lawful, and orderly pathway to the United States if one is available, rather than putting their lives and livelihoods in the hands of ruthless smugglers. Combining accessible legal pathways with consequences for those who fail to use those pathways works.

### *A Fair, Orderly, and Humane Immigration System*

The Biden-Harris Administration is committed to improving the nation's immigration system and safeguarding its integrity by efficiently and fairly adjudicating requests for immigration benefits. The FY 2024 Budget includes \$865 million for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to process increasing asylum caseloads, address processing times for immigration benefit requests, support the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program, and improve refugee processing to support the Administration's goal of welcoming up to 125,000 refugees in FY 2024.

The Budget also includes \$165 million for the Department's Management Directorate to support the design and construction of a third permanent Joint Processing Center along the Southwest border. This facility, with dedicated operating space for multiple agencies and organizations, will make processing more efficient and enable co-location operations, as appropriate. These projects will provide an integrated, whole-of-government solution for the processing of noncitizens encountered along the Southwest border.

### *Enhancing Border Security*

DHS is leading the implementation of a whole-of-government effort to secure our nation's borders and enforce U.S. immigration laws. CBP is responsible for securing the nation's borders to protect the United States against terrorist threats, combat and deter transnational crime, and facilitate lawful travel, trade, and immigration. ICE enforces more than 400 Federal statutes and stands at the forefront of our nation's efforts to strengthen border security and prevent the illegal movement of people, goods, and funds into, within, and out of the United States. The FY 2024 Budget provides almost \$25 billion for CBP and ICE, demonstrating significant investments in personnel and technology. For example, the Budget funds an additional 350 Border Patrol Agents, \$535 million for border security technology at and between POEs, and an additional 460 processing coordinators and assistants at CBP and ICE to further ensure Border Patrol Agents are in the field performing their critical law enforcement mission. The FY 2024 Budget also supports CBP's efforts to reduce reliance on DOD support along the Southwest border.

### *Southwest Border Contingency Fund*

The annual appropriations process makes it difficult to adjust operationally to changes at the Southwest border throughout the year. In recent years, the Department has relied on supplemental funding and internal funding realignments to respond to fluctuating levels of migrant encounters that strain appropriated resources. The FY 2024 Budget includes a

Southwest Border Contingency Fund of up to \$4.7 billion, an emergency funding source to respond to migration surges along the Southwest border that only becomes available if migrant encounters reach predetermined thresholds. Each fiscal year, the fund will receive appropriations quarterly if the number of encounters exceeds the pre-identified thresholds. The contingency fund can only be used for certain border management costs incurred by CBP, ICE, and FEMA, to include requirements such as soft-sided facilities, transportation of migrants, medical support, surge staffing, immigration detention beds, Alternatives to Detention, and the Shelter and Services Grant Program. When the specified encounter rates have been met, the Department will notify this Committee of its intent to use the resources made available through this Fund.

The Contingency Fund will help to relieve pressure on CBP's Border Patrol stations, facilitate ICE's enforcement of our immigration laws, and provide humanitarian assistance. To avoid potential operational risks created by realigning funds from base budgets, CBP and ICE will use the Southwest Border Contingency Fund for emergent border management requirements associated with potential migrant surges. The Fund will also allow FEMA to provide critical humanitarian resources and relief to local governments and non-profit organizations to help better manage the costs of noncitizen arrivals in their communities.

### **Investing in Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Protection**

The Department continuously evolves to counter emerging threats and protect Americans in our modern world. DHS will implement the President's vision outlined in the National Cybersecurity Strategy, working with partners across sectors and around the globe to provide cybersecurity tools and resources, protect critical infrastructure, respond to and recover from cyber incidents, and pave the way for a more secure future.

Our interconnectedness and the technology that enables it – the cyber ecosystem – exposes us to a dynamic and evolving threat environment, one not contained by borders or limited to centralized actors, and one that impacts governments, the private sector, civil society, and every citizen. As a result, cyber threats from foreign governments and transnational criminals remain among the most prominent threats facing our nation. Hostile nations like Russia, China, Iran, and North Korea, as well as cybercriminals around the world, grow more sophisticated and create more adverse consequences. The Department continues to make significant strides to address these threats, including the work of the Cyber Safety Review Board, pursuing international partnerships such as expanding the Abraham Accords to defensive cybersecurity, promulgation of the cybersecurity performance goals, and creating more mature public-private partnerships to secure and defend civilian critical infrastructure, including those upon which the Department of Defense (DOD) may rely.

In March 2022, the President signed into law the Cyber Incident Reporting for Critical Infrastructure Act (CIRCA), which requires the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency (CISA) to develop and implement regulations requiring “covered entities” to report “covered cyber incidents” to CISA no later than 72 hours after the covered entities reasonably believe that a covered cyber incident occurred, and to report ransom payments within 24 hours after a

payment resulting from a ransom attack is made. The information derived from these reporting requirements will increase CISA's ability to rapidly deploy resources and render assistance to victims suffering cyberattacks, analyze incoming reporting to identify trends, and quickly share that information with network defenders to warn other potential victims. The FY 2024 Budget includes \$98 million to help ensure CISA has the staffing, processes, and technology in place to successfully implement and utilize the information gained through CIRCIA.

The FY 2024 Budget is the first to request the transitioning of portions of the National Cybersecurity Protection System to a new Cyber Analytic and Data System (CADS). Over the past two years, Congress provided CISA with additional authorities and resources that in turn enabled unprecedented access to cybersecurity data across both Federal and non-Federal systems. This data will allow CISA to significantly decrease the time required to identify potential intrusions or vulnerabilities and take action to minimize potential harm; for example, by rapidly determining that threats identified across multiple agencies or companies are part of the same campaign or quickly assessing the breadth of a compromise to contain impacts more effectively. This data will only increase exponentially with the successful deployment of CIRCIA. Effectively leveraging this data requires new analytic capabilities and associated infrastructure, which CISA is implementing through CADS. CADS will provide a robust and scalable analytic environment capable of integrating mission visibility data sets and providing visualization tools and advanced analytic capabilities to CISA's cyber operators, allowing more rapid analyses to inform more rapid actions, and, in turn, reducing the prevalence of intrusions and exploitable conditions across Federal and critical infrastructure networks. This \$425 million request will allow CADS to expand the cyber mission systems engineering, mission IT infrastructure, and cyber operation tools and services needed to enable CISA cyber operators to fully achieve their mission objectives.

### **Countering Fentanyl**

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) work together to combat transnational criminal organizations (TCOs) and counter narcotics trafficking and other threats. For example, CBP's use of advanced analytics and targeting capabilities at the National Targeting Center allows CBP and partners to identify critical logistics, financial and communication nodes, and areas of weakness in illicit opioid trafficking networks. This information is shared with ICE's Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), which employs a suite of comprehensive criminal investigative techniques to combat drug trafficking into the United States, which primarily happens at ports of entry (POEs) rather than between POEs. Investigative techniques deployed by HSI include physical surveillance and authorized electronic surveillance, defendant and witness interviews, the use of confidential informants and sources of information, and Special Agents embedded with host country law enforcement. HSI investigates land border narcotics seizures and contraband smuggling events as part of its strategy to disrupt and dismantle the capabilities of TCOs and target sources of supply. Information resulting from these investigations is further shared with CBP to assist in locating and interdicting these smuggling attempts.

The shift in the illicit drug market towards synthetic opioids, primarily fentanyl and its analogs, led CBP to develop and implement the CBP Strategy to Combat Opioids. With the

support of Congress, CBP continues to make significant investments and improvements in drug detection and interdiction technology. CBP's extended border and foreign operations missions involve collaborating with U.S. and international partners to conduct joint maritime operations in the source, transit, and arrival zones of the Western Hemisphere. In collaboration with Joint Interagency Task Force South, CBP operates aircraft throughout North and Central America, conducting counter-narcotics missions to detect and thereby facilitate the interdiction of bulk quantities of illicit narcotics by partner countries and agencies. CBP seized 11,200 pounds of fentanyl in FY 2021 and 14,700 pounds in FY 2022. This compares to 2,804 pounds in FY 2019.

Analysts continue to assess that the vast majority of fentanyl that enters the United States moves through U.S. POEs. At our POEs, CBP's non-intrusive inspection (NII) program deploys technologies to inspect and screen cars, trucks, rail cars, sea containers, as well as personal luggage, packages, parcels, and flat mail through either X-ray or gamma-ray imaging systems. CBP Officers at our POEs use NII systems to help detect drugs, unreported currency, guns, ammunition, and other illegal goods, as well as human smuggling attempts, while having a minimal impact on the flow of legitimate travel and commerce. CBP Officers and Agents currently utilize over 370 large-scale systems and more than 3,500 small-scale NII systems to scan cargo and vehicles. In FY 2021, CBP executed FY 2019 funding to procure 123 additional large-scale NII systems to reach the current goal of 493 total systems. These additional units are expected to increase scanning to 40 percent of passenger vehicles and 70 percent of cargo vehicles along the Southwest border land ports of entry. These increases will represent a 2,000 percent gain in scanning capacity and dramatically enhance our enforcement and deterrence efforts. CBP will continue to utilize risk-based analysis to screen the remaining 60 percent of passenger vehicles and 30 percent of commercial vehicles through our existing layered enforcement strategy. The Budget request of over \$305 million in FY 2024 will allow CBP to identify, procure, and deploy enhanced inspection capabilities to interdict emerging threats in the land and mail environments, specifically within civil works activities for drive-through NII deployments, enhanced narcotic detection with a primary focus on fentanyl detection, inspection technology at mail and express consignment facilities, chemical analysis to enable interdiction of opioids, and systems integration.

HSI is the principal investigative arm of DHS and plays a critical role in countering narcotics trafficking by exchanging information, coordinating investigations, and facilitating enforcement actions with law enforcement partners abroad to deter the ability of TCOs to smuggle drugs, people, and contraband into and out of the United States. HSI has matured into one of the premier criminal investigative agencies in the world. In FY 2022, HSI conducted 11,535 narcotics-related criminal arrests and seized roughly 1.87 million pounds of narcotics, which included 20,981 pounds of fentanyl. Additionally, HSI Agents seized more than \$210 million in total currency and assets through their narcotics enforcement efforts.

The FY 2024 President's Budget includes \$40 million to support the Monroe Project operations along the Southwest border to combat illicit drug operations. The Monroe Project is a recent DHS-wide effort aimed at targeting criminal organizations responsible for distributing illicit fentanyl that killed more than 77,000 Americans last year. A key component of the Monroe Project is the consolidation of information to enable better data-driven decision-making. This funding also supports capacity enhancement for HSI Mexico and their Transnational

Criminal Investigative Unit, which is a critical component in the DHS strategy to disrupt and dismantle TCOs specializing in the production and distribution of fentanyl.

### **Combating Human Trafficking and Preventing Child Sexual Exploitation**

Combating the abhorrent crimes of human trafficking and child sexual exploitation and abuse (CSEA) is a top priority for the Department. These crimes target the most vulnerable among us, offend our most basic values, and threaten our national security and public safety.

Almost every office and agency in the Department plays a role in our counter-human trafficking mission. The DHS Center for Countering Human Trafficking (CCHT) coordinates the counter-trafficking efforts of 16 offices and component agencies, reflecting our commitment to combat this heinous crime from every angle: investigations and enforcement, intelligence, public education and prevention, policy innovation, victim protection and support, and more. HSI leads criminal investigations into sex trafficking and forced labor, making 3,655 human trafficking-related arrests during FY 2022, an increase of more than 50 percent over the previous fiscal year. Our human trafficking investigations led to 638 convictions, an increase of more than 80 percent over the previous year.

The FY 2024 Budget includes \$24 million for HSI Child Exploitation Investigations Unit (CEIU), an increase of \$17 million, to enhance HSI's capability to investigate international and domestic child exploitation. CEIU will utilize these resources to develop additional specialized sections within CEIU to focus on new and emerging threats, as well as the development of an online undercover program to ensure that HSI is utilizing all tools available to combat Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse around the globe. CEIU employs the latest technology to collect evidence and track the activities of individuals and organized groups who sexually exploit children using the open internet, DarkNet, chat rooms, peer-to-peer trading, and other app-based platforms. The Budget also includes \$22 million for HSI's Center for Countering Human Trafficking, a \$2 million increase. These additional resources will increase the number of investigators working to combat child exploitation and human trafficking.

### **Modernizing Coast Guard Operational Capability and Presence in the Arctic Region**

As a maritime nation, the United States depends on a strong and agile Coast Guard to enhance the nation's maritime safety, security, and economic prosperity. For 232 years, the Coast Guard has applied its broad authorities and capabilities to save lives, protect our waters, and defend our national interests. As challenges to our national security and global influence grow more complex, the need for a more adaptive and connected Coast Guard has never been greater. By confronting threats to the homeland wherever they emerge – from the Arctic to the Indo-Pacific – the Coast Guard secures our borders, saves lives, counters malign state behavior, prevents terrorism, and reduces physical and cybersecurity risks.

The FY 2024 Budget provides \$12.1 billion in net discretionary funding to sustain readiness, resilience, and capability while building the Coast Guard of the future to ensure the Service has the assets, systems, infrastructure, and support needed to enhance the nation's interests in an increasingly complex and connected world. The Budget continues efforts for the



Coast Guard's two highest acquisition priorities, the Offshore Patrol Cutter and the Polar Security Cutter, and advances the Great Lakes Icebreaker acquisition – an asset ensuring America's continued economic prosperity on our domestic waterways.

As climate change and strategic competition increasingly affect the geography, stability, and security of the Arctic region, Coast Guard presence and leadership have never been more critical. The FY 2024 President's Budget also requests \$150 million to support the acquisition of a commercially available polar icebreaker, including initial modifications, crewing, and integrated logistics support required to reach initial operating capability. The United States has vital national interests in the polar regions and the purchase of a commercially available polar icebreaker is a viable strategy to accelerate U.S. presence in the polar regions in the near term.

### **Modernizing Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Pay and Workforce Policies**

TSA is an intelligence-driven national security organization that combines the skills of its workforce, evolving security procedures, and technology to optimize resource utilization and mission effectiveness. The nation's economy depends on the implementation of transportation security measures that provide effective security against threats and ensure an efficient flow of people and commerce. TSA is committed to the highest level of security for the United States across all modes of transportation. Investment in enhanced security capabilities and technology will further strengthen TSA's ability to employ risk-based security measures to actively combat evolving threats to critical transportation infrastructure.

The FY 2024 Budget continues the FY 2023 initiative to increase TSA pay levels, making TSA pay comparable to private sector and Federal Government employees in similar positions, which will greatly assist in recruitment and retention efforts. The TSA workforce deserves to be fairly compensated at rates comparable with their peers in the Federal workforce. The Budget includes \$1.1 billion to ensure TSA employees are paid at a level that is no less than their counterparts on the General Schedule pay scale. An additional \$53 million covers the costs of pay systems conversion and establishes a labor relations support capability to manage expanded labor benefits and the right to appeal adverse personnel actions to the Merit Systems Protection Board. Enhancements to TSA pay supports the President's and my commitment to fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion in the Federal workforce.

The Federal Government has repeatedly leveraged TSA's unique authorities – including the ability to issue Security Directives and Emergency Amendments within hours of receiving information about a threat – to address cyber threats. This threat has grown dramatically in the past decade and that growth shows no sign of slowing down. Accordingly, the FY 2024 Budget includes an increase of \$10 million to conduct critical mission support functions to reduce the cyber threat to American critical infrastructure in both near and mid-terms, and in support of both surface and aviation sectors.

### **Supporting 2024 Presidential Campaign Security**

The U.S. Secret Service (USSS) carries out the unique and integrated missions of protecting senior leadership and investigating threats to the nation's financial system. Best

known for protecting the President, the Vice President, their immediate families, visiting heads of state, and other designated individuals, the USSS also protects the White House Complex, the Vice President's residence, foreign diplomatic missions, and other designated buildings. Further, it coordinates security at designated National Special Security Events, such as the State of the Union Address and the United Nations General Assembly, and protects our financial infrastructure by investigating counterfeiting, identity theft, computer fraud, and other crimes related to the financial security of the United States. Every four years, the USSS must also plan for the increased requirement related to the Presidential Campaign. The FY 2024 Budget includes \$191 million to ensure that the 2024 Presidential Campaign is adequately resourced for the protection of major candidates, nominees, their spouses, and nominating conventions. The funding supports the enhanced protection, security, travel, and overtime for the 2024 Presidential Campaign and includes resources to train USSS personnel and other Federal partner agencies. The President's Budget also continues to invest in USSS staffing, funding an additional 77 positions and bringing the total strength to 8,382, the highest in the Service's history.

### **Investing in Climate and Natural Disaster Resilience**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) strengthens the nation's ability to prepare for and respond to disasters of all types and magnitudes via partnerships with state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) governments, in part through its grant programs. The Budget includes increased funding for programs and activities that support FEMA's goals to lead whole-of-community efforts in climate resilience and promote and sustain a ready FEMA and prepared nation. As part of the Administration's efforts to address climate change, the FY 2024 Budget provides \$4.0 billion for DHS's climate resilience programs, a more than \$150 million increase from FY 2023 enacted. This is in addition to \$1 billion provided by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for FY 2024. The Budget helps SLTT partners build climate resilience through various FEMA grant programs. The Budget also includes more than \$500 million for flood hazard mapping, including the development of new data to support future flood conditions and their impacts.

The FY 2024 Budget provides a major disaster allocation totaling \$20.1 billion for FEMA to assist SLTT partners and individuals affected by major disasters and provides a total of \$3.2 billion to promote and sustain a prepared nation through FEMA grants to improve the nation's disaster resilience and implement preparedness strategies. This includes increasing the Nonprofit Security Grant Program by \$55 million to a total of \$360 million for target hardening and other physical security enhancements and activities by nonprofit organizations that are at a high risk of terrorist attack. This also includes \$50 million to establish a critical infrastructure cybersecurity grant program to support risk reduction strategies to protect critical infrastructure from cyberattacks. The Budget also provides \$145 million to support Disaster Relief Fund base requirements associated with emergency declarations, pre-declaration surge activities, Fire Management Assistance Grants, and disaster readiness and support activities.

## *Sustainability and Conservation*

The Administration remains committed to establishing the Federal Government as a leader in sustainability. The Budget includes \$123 million for DHS, as the third largest department in the Federal Government and the nation's largest law enforcement agency, to support integrated market-shaping investments into Zero-Emission Vehicles and charging infrastructure. The Budget also demonstrates the Administration's continued support for the strategic investment in the National Capital Region (NCR) for Headquarters and facility requirements at St. Elizabeths. The Budget includes \$264 million for the Department to consolidate its physical footprint across the NCR. In FY 2024, funding will be used for the construction of new facilities, including the Office of Intelligence and Analysis, at the St. Elizabeths West Campus, consolidation of the remaining Management Directorate and FEMA Headquarters from dispersed locations to a consolidated space, and the continuation of utilization improvements at the Ronald Reagan Federal Office Building for CBP.

## **Conclusion**

As DHS enters its third decade, the Department will continue to evolve and rise to the challenges posed by an ever-changing threat landscape. It is a great privilege to represent and serve alongside the DHS workforce that has time and again demonstrated exceptional skill and an unwavering commitment to keeping our country safe.

The FY 2024 President's Budget includes the necessary funding and authorities for DHS to carry out its wide-ranging mission. I am grateful to this Committee for your continued support and the opportunity to appear before you today. I look forward to working together and to answering your questions.