

<b>Question#:</b>	1
<b>Topic:</b>	Detecting Fentanyl
<b>Hearing:</b>	Oversight of Federal Efforts to Combat the Spread of Illicit Fentanyl
<b>Primary:</b>	The Honorable Frank Pallone Jr.
<b>Committee:</b>	ENERGY & COMMERCE (HOUSE)

**Question:** In your testimony, you note that “Drug Trafficking Organizations and Transnational Criminal Organizations continually adjust their operations to circumvent detection and interdiction by law enforcement.” We would like further information on the current capabilities of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to address the fentanyl crisis and the evolving threat it poses. Please provide further information on the following:

Is CBP's ability to detect fentanyl limited by the current array of tools available to CBP?

**Response:** U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) utilizes an array of tools to aid in the identification of illicit substances such as fentanyl. As Transnational Criminal Organizations rapidly evolve their smuggling methods, CBP must rapidly evolve its capabilities to detect, identify, and interdict this ever-changing threat to protect the American public.

As there is no single tool that works for all situations, CBP utilizes a layered identification field testing strategy that includes Raman and Fourier-Transform Infrared spectroscopy, Immunoassay strips, Narcotic Identification tests, CBP’s Laboratory and Scientific Services personnel, and equipment to aid in presumptive identification of unknown substances and that chemicals CBP encounters daily. Raman Spectroscopy is an inelastic scattering phenomenon that probes molecular vibrations to provide a molecular fingerprint of materials. Fourier-Transform Infrared Spectroscopy is a form of vibrational spectroscopy that relies on the absorbance, transmittance, or reflectance of infrared light. CBP is constantly trying to identify new and innovative technology to aid in these layered enforcement and identification strategy efforts.

**Question:** If so, what additional tools would be helpful to assist CBP in detecting fentanyl?

**Response:** With continued support from Congress, CBP, in coordination with our internal and external partners, will continue to refine and further enhance the effectiveness of our detection, interdiction, and identification capabilities to combat transnational threats and the entry of illegal drugs into the United States. The continued support of CBP’s current efforts to identify new and innovative technology to aid in the layered enforcement and identification strategy efforts, to include safety measures for frontline personnel and procurement of additional chemical screening, detection, and identification tools, is instrumental in the fight against this ever-evolving threat.

<b>Question#:</b>	2
<b>Topic:</b>	Fentanyl Intelligence
<b>Hearing:</b>	Oversight of Federal Efforts to Combat the Spread of Illicit Fentanyl
<b>Primary:</b>	The Honorable Frank Pallone Jr.
<b>Committee:</b>	ENERGY & COMMERCE (HOUSE)

**Question:** Is the extent of CBP’s intelligence on the scope of the fentanyl crisis limited to what CBP has been able to seize?

**Response:** CBP’s intelligence related to the scope of the fentanyl crisis goes beyond CBP seizures to include collection emphasis messages and analysis of global supply chains. CBP has well-established relationships with foreign partners, which includes the FIVE EYES countries (United States, Canada, Australia, United Kingdom, New Zealand) and works extensively with them on determining foreign flows and production activity. Additionally, CBP coordinates and communicates with state and local partners to maintain a consistent understanding of the fentanyl threat picture nationally, not just at the borders, which includes CBP collaborating with the Office of National Drug Control Policy High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area program. CBP shares drug-related intelligence and trends with various members of the Intelligence Community. CBP also monitors user forums to see the latest discussions among users to see what the latest trends are, including new analogues for sale and who is selling them.

**Question:** Other than seizures, what else is CBP doing to understand the quantity, methods, and sources of illicit fentanyl entering the country?

**Response:** Beyond seizure data, CBP reviews other available intelligence and law enforcement reporting to understand the overall fentanyl threat, which includes the quantity, methods, and sources of illicit fentanyl and fentanyl precursors entering the country. CBP Laboratories and Scientific Services is able to perform pollen analysis to attempt to geolocate the origin and smuggling routes of certain seizures to assist investigators and intelligence personnel in solving criminal or civil legal issues. CBP also leverages collaboration with other federal, state, and local agencies. This includes working closely with the Office of National Drug Control Policy High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area program and continuous work with other laboratories and the medical community, including coroners and medical examiners, to identify emerging drug threats.

<b>Question#:</b>	3
<b>Topic:</b>	Interdictions
<b>Hearing:</b>	Oversight of Federal Efforts to Combat the Spread of Illicit Fentanyl
<b>Primary:</b>	The Honorable Greg Walden
<b>Committee:</b>	ENERGY & COMMERCE (HOUSE)

**Question:** I recently visited the Southwest border to tour border facilities, including a U.S Customs and Border Protection (CBP) facility in Yuma, Arizona. I learned drug interdictions on the whole are down across the Yuma Sector as the CBP checkpoints were shut down for months because CBP agents could not man the checkpoints during the border emergency given the huge influx of people crossing the border. How many interdictions of illicit fentanyl and other narcotics were interdicted at the Yuma Sector during the first six months of 2018 and how many interdictions of illicit fentanyl and other narcotics were interdicted during the first six months of 2019? Please distinguish between interdictions of illicit fentanyl and other narcotics at ports of entry and interdictions either between ports of entry or at interior checkpoints in the Yuma Sector.

**Response:** Below represents the illicit fentanyl and other narcotics (heroin, morphine, and oxycodone) seizures within the first 6 months of both calendar year (CY) 2018 and CY 2019 both at and between ports of entry within the Yuma Sector area.

Narcotics	At POEs				Between POEs			
	Drug Seizures		Incident Count		Drug Seizures		Incident Count	
	CY18	CY19	CY18	CY19	CY18	CY19	CY18	CY19
FENTANYL	34.39	28.78	6	24	6.88	37.35	2	6
OTHER NARCOTI	28.82	42.49	9	10	33.65	4.69	15	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>63.21</b>	<b>71.27</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>40.53</b>	<b>42.04</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>10</b>

Note(s): Other Narcotics = Heroin, Morphine, Oxycodone. Data represents first 6 months of each CY. San Luis is the only Port of Entry within the Yuma Sector.

**Question:** How many interdictions of illicit fentanyl and other narcotics occurred at the Southwest border during the first six months of 2018 and how many interdictions of illicit fentanyl and other narcotics occurred during the first six months of 2019? Please distinguish between interdictions of illicit fentanyl and other narcotics at ports of entry and interdictions either between ports of entry or at interior checkpoints along the Southwest border.

**Response:**

OFO Southwest Land Border Drug Seizures				
Drug Type	1/1/2018 to 6/30/2018		1/1/2019 to 6/30/2019	
	Incident Count	Seizure Weight (lbs)	Incident Count	Seizure Weight (lbs)

<b>Question#:</b>	3
<b>Topic:</b>	Interdictions
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<b>FENTANYL</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>612.22</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>1,512.23</b>
<b>ALL OTHER DRUGS TOTAL</b>	<b>3,028</b>	<b>177,623.29</b>	<b>3,253</b>	<b>198,713.81</b>
COCAINE	370	9,070.05	348	8,503.87
CRYSTAL METHAMPHETAMINES	188	5,635.71	538	24,565.12
ECSTASY	2	0.00	6	0.07
GAMMA HYDROXY BUTYRATE	1	1.46		
HASH,LIQUID (HASH OIL)	7	3.82	43	93.58
HASHISH	2	4.50	3	5.04
HEROIN	270	2,167.21	292	2,332.40
KETAMINE	4	29.66	4	9.22
LSD			4	0.01
MARIJUANA	1,044	132,090.29	983	127,671.47
MARIJUANA PLANTS	1	0.15		
METHAMPHETAMINE	788	28,256.30	674	35,136.07
METHYLPHENIDATE (RITALIN)	2	0.14	10	0.89
MORPHINE	2	0.07	3	1.28
OPIUM	1	6.97	1	0.01
OTHER DRUGS, PRESCRIPTIONS, CHEMICALS	305	252.01	294	315.31
OXYCODONE(OXYCONTIN)	10	1.63	20	10.93
PEYOTE	4	1.35	3	1.63
PRECURSOR CHEMICALS EXCEPT EPHEDRINE	8	88.66	3	40.26
PSILOCYN OR PSILOCYBIN MUSHROOMS	1	0.68	3	0.04
STEROIDS	16	5.56	21	26.62
SYNTHETIC CANNABINOIDS - ALL TYPES	2	7.09		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,101</b>	<b>178,235.50</b>	<b>3,417</b>	<b>200,226.04</b>

**USBP Southwest Border Drug Seizures**

<b>1/1/2018 to 6/30/2018</b>	<b>1/1/2019 to 6/30/2019</b>
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<b>Topic:</b>	Interdictions
<b>Hearing:</b>	Oversight of Federal Efforts to Combat the Spread of Illicit Fentanyl
<b>Primary:</b>	The Honorable Greg Walden
<b>Committee:</b>	ENERGY & COMMERCE (HOUSE)

Drug Type	Incident Count	Seizure Weight (lbs)	Incident Count	Seizure Weight (lbs)
<b>FENTANYL</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>185.94</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>148.39</b>
<b>ALL OTHER DRUGS TOTAL</b>	<b>4,737</b>	<b>253,728.58</b>	<b>3,003</b>	<b>143,525.36</b>
CAPSULES	7	0.62	3	0.07
COCAINE	231	2,725.64	175	2,771.91
ECSTASY	29	0.43	16	0.83
HASHISH	66	15.59	34	6.24
HASHISH OIL	38	283.10	43	5.00
HEROIN	93	301.11	94	350.90
LSD	13	0.12	4	0.01
MARIJUANA	3,663	244,636.70	2,139	133,042.20
METHAMPHETAMINE	445	5,726.53	384	7,114.87
MORPHINE	1	0.19	1	0.01
OPIUM	1	6.80	2	0.27
OTHER DRUGS OR BARBITURATES	44	20.91	59	224.74
PILLS	103	10.70	48	8.20
SMALL PILLS	3	0.13	1	0.12
<b>SBO Total</b>	<b>4,756</b>	<b>253,914.52</b>	<b>3,026</b>	<b>143,673.76</b>

**Question:** How many methamphetamine and fentanyl seizures occurred in the United States during the first six months of 2018 and in the first six months of 2019?

**Response:**

<b>OFO Nationwide FEN &amp; METH Drug Seizures</b>				
<b>Drug Type</b>	<b>1/1/2018 to 6/30/2018</b>		<b>1/1/2019 to 6/30/2019</b>	
	<b>Incident Count</b>	<b>Seizure Weight (lbs)</b>	<b>Incident Count</b>	<b>Seizure Weight (lbs)</b>
<b>METHAMPHETAMINES</b>	<b>2,372</b>	<b>35,995.24</b>	<b>1,796</b>	<b>65,863.55</b>

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CRYSTAL METHAMPHETAMINES	256	5,798.63	670	29,568.03
METHAMPHETAMINE	2,116	30,196.60	1,126	36,295.53
<b>FENTANYL</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>852.81</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>1,628.67</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,718</b>	<b>36,848.05</b>	<b>2,074</b>	<b>67,492.22</b>

Drug Type	1/1/2018 to 6/30/2018		1/1/2019 to 6/30/2019	
	Incident Count	Seizure Weight (lbs)	Incident Count	Seizure Weight (lbs)
FENTANYL	19	185.94	23	148.39
METHAMPHETAMINE	445	5,726.53	384	7,114.87
<b>Total</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>5,912.46</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>7,263.26</b>

<b>Question#:</b>	4
<b>Topic:</b>	Checkpoints Closed
<b>Hearing:</b>	Oversight of Federal Efforts to Combat the Spread of Illicit Fentanyl
<b>Primary:</b>	The Honorable Greg Walden
<b>Committee:</b>	ENERGY & COMMERCE (HOUSE)

**Question:** According to a July 17, 2019 article in the Washington Examiner, "Drugs pour in from Mexico as Border Patrol forced to focus on migrants," seven Border Patrol checkpoints in southern New Mexico have been shut down since late March 2019. If this information is correct, why were these checkpoints closed?

**Response:** U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) leadership made the tough decision to close immigration checkpoints in El Paso Sector based on an operational need to address high numbers of apprehensions associated with the migrant crisis. Resources were reallocated from checkpoint operations to processing and transportation.

**Question:** How many border checkpoints have been closed to move personnel to the border to assist with apprehend, process, and care for the high number of migrants and migrant families arriving?

**Response:** Effects stemming from the migrant crisis resulted in the closures of 10 permanent checkpoints (7 in El Paso and 3 in Yuma) to include periodic closures of Tucson Sector checkpoints in support of processing and transportation overflow.

<b>Question#:</b>	5
<b>Topic:</b>	Fentanyl Sources
<b>Hearing:</b>	Oversight of Federal Efforts to Combat the Spread of Illicit Fentanyl
<b>Primary:</b>	The Honorable Brett Guthrie
<b>Committee:</b>	ENERGY & COMMERCE (HOUSE)

**Question:** How much of the illicit fentanyl is coming in directly from China?

**Response:**

<b>OFO Fentanyl Seizures from China FY18, FY19TD-8/31/2019*</b>				
<b>From Country*</b>	<b>FY 2018</b>		<b>FY 2019</b>	
	<b>Incident Count</b>	<b>Seizure Weight (lbs)</b>	<b>Incident Count</b>	<b>Seizure Weight (lbs)</b>
CHINA	314	278.34	12	11.58
* From country data is not a mandatory field and should only be used as an estimate of total seizures				

**Question:** How much of the illicit fentanyl is coming from Mexico?

**Response:**

<b>OFO Fentanyl Seizures from Mexico FY18, FY19TD-8/31/2019*</b>				
<b>From Country*</b>	<b>FY 2018</b>		<b>FY 2019</b>	
	<b>Incident Count</b>	<b>Seizure Weight (lbs)</b>	<b>Incident Count</b>	<b>Seizure Weight (lbs)</b>
MEXICO	171	1,514.45	255	1,808.88
* From country data is not a mandatory field and should only be used as an estimate of total seizures				

**Question:** How much illicit fentanyl is coming from Canada?

**Response:**

<b>OFO Fentanyl Seizures from Canada FY18, FY19TD-8/31/2019*</b>				
<b>From Country*</b>	<b>FY 2018</b>		<b>FY 2019</b>	
	<b>Incident Count</b>	<b>Seizure Weight (lbs)</b>	<b>Incident Count</b>	<b>Seizure Weight (lbs)</b>
CANADA	72	14.86	197	5.24
* From country data is not a mandatory field and should only be used as an estimate of total seizures				



<b>Question#:</b>	6
<b>Topic:</b>	Fentanyl Shipments
<b>Hearing:</b>	Oversight of Federal Efforts to Combat the Spread of Illicit Fentanyl
<b>Primary:</b>	The Honorable Brett Guthrie
<b>Committee:</b>	ENERGY & COMMERCE (HOUSE)

**Question:** With regard to parcel shipments of illicit fentanyl, how many of these shipments are through United States mail?

**Response:** The Office of Field Operations (OFO) does not measure U.S. Postal Service (USPS) mail seizures. OFO does not have visibility on USPS seizures within domestic mail as this is the equivalent of United States mail. OFO enforcement actions are limited to international mail and OFO does not inspect domestic mail.

**Question:** How many illicit fentanyl shipments through foreign mail?

**Response:**

OFO Fentanyl Mail Seizures FY18, FY19TD-8/31/2019				
Conveyance	FY 2018		FY 2019	
	Incident Count	Seizure Weight (lbs)	Incident Count	Seizure Weight (lbs)
MAIL(S)	442	150.17	238	19.96

**Question:** How many illicit fentanyl shipments through air express carriers?

**Response:**

OFO Fentanyl Express Consignment Seizures FY18, FY19TD-8/31/2019				
Conveyance	FY 2018		FY 2019	
	Incident Count	Seizure Weight (lbs)	Incident Count	Seizure Weight (lbs)
EXPRESS CONSIGNMENT(Z)	73	116.01	33	111.46

<b>Question#:</b>	7
<b>Topic:</b>	AED
<b>Hearing:</b>	Oversight of Federal Efforts to Combat the Spread of Illicit Fentanyl
<b>Primary:</b>	The Honorable Brett Guthrie
<b>Committee:</b>	ENERGY & COMMERCE (HOUSE)

**Question:** How is advanced electronic data (AED) going to help target and intercept packages containing fentanyl?

**Response:** Advance electronic data is analyzed by the Automated Targeting System, the National Targeting Center, and local Advanced Targeting Units to identify shipments for secondary examination.

**Question:** On average, how many packages are coming into our international mail facilities (IMF) on any given day?

**Response:** The average volume of mail processed on any given day through the international mail facilities is approximately 1.25 million pieces.

**Question:** How many of those packages currently come with advanced electronic data (AED)?

**Response:** CBP is currently receiving advance electronic data (AED) on approximately 70 percent, or 875,000 pieces of international mail per day.

**Question:** How reliable and useful is the advanced electronic data when it comes to helping mail entities and law enforcement interdict packages containing narcotics?

**Response:** AED is a critical element in the layered enforcement strategy CBP utilizes to identify cargo for examination. Accurate and reliable AED is critical to our targeting efforts to ascertain legitimate shipments transactions from those involved in illegal and illicit business transaction utilizing the US Postal Services.

<b>Question#:</b>	8
<b>Topic:</b>	Fentanyl Through the Mail
<b>Hearing:</b>	Oversight of Federal Efforts to Combat the Spread of Illicit Fentanyl
<b>Primary:</b>	The Honorable Brett Guthrie
<b>Committee:</b>	ENERGY & COMMERCE (HOUSE)

**Question:** What unique challenges does fentanyl pose as opposed to other narcotics when it comes to detecting and interdicting fentanyl coming in through the mail?

**Response:** Fentanyl is often shipped in very small quantities, due to its potency. These minute amounts make detection and interdiction challenging.

**Question:** What more would law enforcement need in order to be best positioned to interdict more packages containing narcotics, like fentanyl?

**Response:** CBP is working to re-engineer and modernize the International Mail Facilities operations to increase the volume and speed of mail inspected. Future investments in infrastructure and technology will provide parcel sorting, singulation, and processing equipment, which is fully integrated with Non-Intrusive Inspection (NII) equipment. The new NII equipment will incorporate Automated Threat Recognition and targeting algorithms. This technology will independently identify and route high-risk packages for examination. These investments will dramatically improve CBP's ability to inspect, detect, and interdict threats within international mail.

<b>Question#:</b>	9
<b>Topic:</b>	SUPPORT Act
<b>Hearing:</b>	Oversight of Federal Efforts to Combat the Spread of Illicit Fentanyl
<b>Primary:</b>	The Honorable Brett Guthrie
<b>Committee:</b>	ENERGY & COMMERCE (HOUSE)

**Question:** What is the status of implementation of SUPPORT Act provisions related to advanced electronic data or debarment authorities related to illegal imports of drugs?

**Response:** CBP’s Office of Trade (OT), Regulation and Rulings (RR), has developed a draft regulations package pursuant to Title VIII, Subtitle A – Synthetics Trafficking and Overdose Prevention, Section 8003 - Mandatory Advance Electronic Information for Postal shipments. The document is currently under review by Office of Field Operations (OFO) executive management. Upon completion of the review, the document will be submitted to CBP’s Acting Commissioner for final approval. The document will then be submitted to the Department of Homeland Security for signature. Finally, the document will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for review and approval.

Pursuant to Title VIII, Subpart A – Synthetics Trafficking and Overdose Prevention, Section 8002 – Customs Fees, OT, RR, is currently developing draft regulations related to the new fee for Inbound Express Mail items. CBP anticipates the document will then go to OFO review and then for signature by CBP’s Acting Commissioner. The OFO executive management review and approval process can take several weeks to complete. Once the OFO process is completed, the document must then be submitted to the Department of Treasury for approval/signature and an OMB review.

**Question:** How has the SUPPORT Act changed the way in which you all operate on a day-to-day basis?

**Response:** Although CBP’s regulations related to Sections 8002 and 8003 of the Act will not be implemented until after December 31, 2020, a number of administrative improvements have already been developed and operationalized that allows a more efficient process. CBP has developed a technical solution in an effort to analyze the quality of information received from foreign postal operators. CBP has also automated the process of reviewing monthly sample shipments of international mail to regularly assess data quality and identify areas targeted for improvements.

Currently over 45 fleet post offices provide some advance electronic data on international mail shipments to the United States Postal Service, advance electronic data for inbound mail shipments has increased from approximately 1 percent in FY 2015 to more than 70 percent today.

<b>Question#:</b>	10
<b>Topic:</b>	FDA and CBP Agreement
<b>Hearing:</b>	Oversight of Federal Efforts to Combat the Spread of Illicit Fentanyl
<b>Primary:</b>	The Honorable Brett Guthrie
<b>Committee:</b>	ENERGY & COMMERCE (HOUSE)

**Question:** In April 2019, the FDA and CBP signed an agreement to maximize inspection and detection capabilities in order to prevent illegal and harmful products such as fentanyl from the United States through the international mail facilities. What are some of the results from this agreement so far?

**Response:** As directed by the SUPPORT Act, CBP continues to collaborate with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to implement the Letter of Intent, which was agreed to by the agencies in April 2019. Due to legal and privacy requirements, the agencies are currently working to draft the individual system Memoranda of Agreement that will facilitate the required information sharing by granting access to the appropriate CBP systems for FDA personnel. The agencies are also working to identify and resolve any legal or operational issues. Finally, the agencies are working to develop a joint approach to facility usage that also takes into account the impacts to General Services Administration and the U.S. Postal System.

<b>Question#:</b>	11
<b>Topic:</b>	Data Collection
<b>Hearing:</b>	Oversight of Federal Efforts to Combat the Spread of Illicit Fentanyl
<b>Primary:</b>	The Honorable Brett Guthrie
<b>Committee:</b>	ENERGY & COMMERCE (HOUSE)

**Question:** How can data collection be improved to bolster your agency's intelligence and ability to interdict packages or seize narcotics, such as fentanyl?

**Response:** Machine learning and advanced data analytic solutions could potentially enhance CBP strategic capabilities to increase package seizure rates.

<b>Question#:</b>	12
<b>Topic:</b>	Information on Potency
<b>Hearing:</b>	Oversight of Federal Efforts to Combat the Spread of Illicit Fentanyl
<b>Primary:</b>	The Honorable Brett Guthrie
<b>Committee:</b>	ENERGY & COMMERCE (HOUSE)

**Question:** According to law enforcement officials, CBP data measures the fentanyl seizures in pounds without reflecting the differences in potency such as the 90 percent pure fentanyl from China to only seven percent pure fentanyl from Mexico. Should CBP seizure data also include information on fentanyl potency?

**Response:** Current sentencing guidelines for fentanyl are not based on purity, therefore, CBP Laboratories and Scientific Services does not conduct quantitative analysis on fentanyl seizures.

**Question:** How can information on potency be expressed in seizure statistics?

**Response:** CBP does not currently collect or report on potency and would be unable to include potency as a statistic, when reporting seizure data. Current sentencing guidelines are not based upon purity levels; therefore, front-line personnel do not test for potency as part of the seizure process, and the system of record does not capture such information.

<b>Question#:</b>	13
<b>Topic:</b>	Coordination Research
<b>Hearing:</b>	Oversight of Federal Efforts to Combat the Spread of Illicit Fentanyl
<b>Primary:</b>	The Honorable Brett Guthrie
<b>Committee:</b>	ENERGY & COMMERCE (HOUSE)

**Question:** Are labs at DEA, CBP, and FDA coordinating on fentanyl research and sharing fentanyl samples for each agency's specialized testing?

**Response:** CBP Labs does not conduct fentanyl research, but does provide its federal partners detailed information of laboratory findings in regards to fentanyl, fentanyl analogues and other opioids. In regards to sample sharing, CBP laboratories does not transfer seized samples to other agencies. Sample transfers to federal partner laboratories are initiated through requests to CBP's Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures Division.



<b>Question#:</b>	14
<b>Topic:</b>	Geolocation
<b>Hearing:</b>	Oversight of Federal Efforts to Combat the Spread of Illicit Fentanyl
<b>Primary:</b>	The Honorable Brett Guthrie
<b>Committee:</b>	ENERGY & COMMERCE (HOUSE)

**Question:** CBP's written testimony mentions pollen testing and analysis is being conducted by CBP's Laboratories and Scientific Services scientists to geolocate illicit opioid shipments. Are labs at other agencies working on testing techniques that could help geolocate illicit fentanyl shipments?

**Response:** Unlike plant-based drugs, there are no sub-molecular markers contained within synthetic drugs to indicate geographic origin. An alternative means to determine geolocation comes from environmental contamination of the samples, through substances such as pollen. CBP Laboratories and Scientific Services is not aware of any other federal government lab looking at other means to geolocate synthetic drugs at this time.

**Question:** Could federal labs work to complement each other's effort to enhance geolocation of illicit fentanyl shipments?

**Response:** Potentially yes; however, at this time, CBP Laboratories and Scientific Services is not aware of any other federal government lab looking at other means to geolocate synthetic drugs.

<b>Question#:</b>	15
<b>Topic:</b>	Naloxone Training
<b>Hearing:</b>	Oversight of Federal Efforts to Combat the Spread of Illicit Fentanyl
<b>Primary:</b>	The Honorable Susan Brooks
<b>Committee:</b>	ENERGY & COMMERCE (HOUSE)

**Question:** In your [prepared] testimony, you highlighted how trained officers are receiving naloxone and that 9 life-saving doses had been administered. So, I applaud those efforts, but wanted to ask a few follow up questions:

Are the officers receiving a community-use naloxone product?

**Response:** OFO issues Narcan™ Nasal Spray, 4 milligrams (mg) dosing, which has been approved by CBP physician oversight and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Protocol.

**Question:** And what sort of training are the officers receiving? If they are not receiving a community use product: it seems to me that more officers would be able to carry and deploy naloxone if the agency was prioritizing community-use naloxone products like Narcan nasal spray.

**Response:** Required Computer-Based Training has been created and posted in the DHS Performance and Learning Management System (PALMS). The video course is designed and intended to educate and prepare CBP employees for safe-handling procedures when you encounter fentanyl or other unknown substances.

Training for non-medical personnel use of naloxone was developed by OFO, and the Office of Health Affairs, within the DHS Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction (CWMD) Office. This training includes Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation, Automated External Defibrillator, and naloxone administration, and is approved by the DHS Chief Medical Officer.

OFO and USBP each have naloxone training programs. USBP continues to train its personnel on naloxone use and recently updated its naloxone training presentation. As of August 22, 2019, CBP requires all current and new employees (sworn/non-sworn) to view the award-winning training video entitled “Fentanyl: The Real Deal.” The video is a result of a partnership between the Office of National Drug Control Policy, CBP, 10 federal agencies, and 24 non-governmental partners. The video was designed for public safety responders and was released last year to promote officer safety; and specifically, the safe handling of fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, and other synthetic opioids. The video complements the White House Fact Sheet entitled “Fentanyl: Safety Recommendations for First Responders.” The video is available on YouTube for all to access and view and the fact sheet is available on the White House website.

<b>Question#:</b>	15
<b>Topic:</b>	Naloxone Training
<b>Hearing:</b>	Oversight of Federal Efforts to Combat the Spread of Illicit Fentanyl
<b>Primary:</b>	The Honorable Susan Brooks
<b>Committee:</b>	ENERGY & COMMERCE (HOUSE)

USBP has observed recent increases in narcotic seizures involving known or suspected fentanyl and has responded by establishing uniform training guidelines for safe handling, selection and use of personal protective equipment, and testing procedures to ensure uniformity and operational consistency.

In addition to standardized training procedures involving the recognition, general safe handling, transportation, and storage of narcotics, in October 2018, USBP implemented a voluntary nationwide Non-Healthcare Provider Nasal Naloxone program and training protocols to assist personnel with learning the dangers, symptoms, and treatment options to mitigate the potential risk of exposure to fentanyl. Through this program, USBP established a training curriculum and protocols to protect employees, and others, from exposure to opioids by governing the storage, control, accountability, and administration of intranasal naloxone. In addition to this program, the administration of naloxone is also available via trained and certified USBP Emergency Medical Services providers such as Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics.

<b>Question#:</b>	16
<b>Topic:</b>	Access to Naloxone
<b>Hearing:</b>	Oversight of Federal Efforts to Combat the Spread of Illicit Fentanyl
<b>Primary:</b>	The Honorable Susan Brooks
<b>Committee:</b>	ENERGY & COMMERCE (HOUSE)

**Question:** Do you know the percentage of trained CBP officers who have access to naloxone?

**Response:** Naloxone has been deployed to all OFO field offices for placement where contraband is handled. As of August 13, 2019, approximately 24 percent (5,054) of the OFO workforce has been trained in naloxone administration. Considering not all OFO personnel are assigned to areas where contraband is handled (e.g. office, targeting, training, etc.), it would be accurate to say that OFO has deployed naloxone to all areas identified by the field as having risk factors for exposure to opioids. Additionally, OFO stands ready to deploy additional naloxone, as requested by the field.

**Question:** How about the percentage out of all CBP officers?

**Response:** Naloxone has been deployed to all OFO field offices for placement where contraband is handled. As of August 13, 2019, approximately 24 percent (5,054) of the OFO workforce has been trained in naloxone administration. Although not all OFO personnel are assigned to areas where contraband is handled (e.g. office, targeting, training environments, etc.), OFO has deployed naloxone to all areas identified by the field as having risk factors for exposure to opioids. Additionally, OFO stands ready to deploy additional naloxone, as needed by the field.

<b>Question#:</b>	17
<b>Topic:</b>	Deployment of Naloxone
<b>Hearing:</b>	Oversight of Federal Efforts to Combat the Spread of Illicit Fentanyl
<b>Primary:</b>	The Honorable Susan Brooks
<b>Committee:</b>	ENERGY & COMMERCE (HOUSE)

**Question:** You highlighted the role of naloxone in protecting your employees and the public. There was legislation that passed last Congress focused on ensuring that CBP has tools to screen for fentanyl, and a similar bill introduced to allow local law enforcement agencies to screen - but it seems like that is only part of the solution, and that Congress could work on similar legislation to ensure there is access to adequate supplies of naloxone to protect your employees and the public.

So, I wanted to ask both you if you would support Congress providing funding to increase the deployment of naloxone to your employees?

**Response:** Yes, OFO would support funding to increase the deployment of naloxone to employees. However, in addition to the funds needed to purchase more naloxone (which expires every 1.5-2 years), additional funding would be needed to train end-users, instructors, and Emergency Medical Services providers, and for acquisition and maintenance of training equipment and supplies. All of which contribute to the chain of survival for anyone exposed to a hazardous substance.