



Transportation  
Security  
Administration

JUN 20 2019

The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings  
Chairman  
Committee on Oversight and Reform  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cummings:

Thank you for your letter dated May 20, 2019, co-signed by Chairman Stephen F. Lynch, requesting documents and information related to the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) support of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) efforts to address the humanitarian and security crisis at the U.S. Southwest Border.

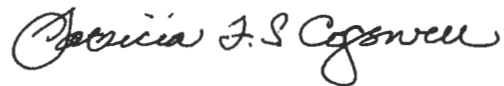
TSA, like other DHS Components, has solicited volunteers to deploy to the Southwest Border to assist with the historic surge in migrant arrivals. This influx has created operational challenges and stretched thin the resources of TSA's fellow DHS frontline agencies, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). To meet these challenges, TSA solicited volunteers from across the TSA workforce for specific support functions to assist CBP and ICE with the vulnerable populations arriving at the border so these agencies may focus on their border security responsibilities.

The TSA workforce has overwhelmingly answered this call to volunteer service in the same way our workforce has volunteered to assist the Federal Emergency Management Agency in the past for hurricane and disaster relief efforts. Based on CBP and ICE's stated needs, TSA anticipates that less than 1% of its 63,000 overall workforce will be selected for voluntary deployment. Given this number, TSA expects to be able to strategically manage deployments, minimizing the burden or operational impact to any individual airport or program area.

TSA will ensure the security of the traveling public remains paramount, and that security standards and processes are not impacted by any deployment.

Attached are responses to the questions posed in your letter. Please note the data in the attached spreadsheet reflects the number of volunteers on June 19, 2019. I have sent an identical response to Chairman Lynch. Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns with us. If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me directly or the TSA Legislative Affairs office at (571) 227-2717.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia F.S. Cogswell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

Patricia F.S. Cogswell  
Acting Deputy Administrator

Enclosures