

delays in OMB's receipt and processing of mail sent through the U.S. Postal Service, respondents are encouraged to submit comments by fax to: (202) 395-6974.

Dated: January 13, 2005.

Anna Marsh,

Executive Officer, SAMHSA.

[FR Doc. 05-1217 Filed 1-21-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4162-20-M

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Security of Aircraft and Safety of Passengers Transiting Port-au-Prince, Haiti

AGENCY: Transportation Security Administration, DHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This Notice informs the public that the Department of Homeland Security has determined that Port-au-Prince International Airport in Port-au-Prince, Haiti does not maintain and carry out effective security measures. Pursuant to this Notice, all United States and foreign air carriers (and their agents) providing service between the United States and Port-au-Prince International Airport are directed to provide written notice of this determination to any passenger purchasing a ticket for transportation between the United States and Haiti and to post notice of the determination at United States airports in accordance with statutory requirements.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Tiedge, Director, International Affairs, Transportation Security Administration, 601 South 12th Street, Arlington, VA, 22202, Telephone: (571) 227-2257, E-mail:

David.Tiedge@dhs.gov.

Notice: Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 44907(a), the Secretary of Homeland Security is authorized to assess periodically the effectiveness of the security measures maintained by foreign airports that handle air carriers that serve the United States or that may pose a "high risk of introducing danger to international air travel." If the Secretary determines that a foreign airport does not maintain and carry out effective security measures, the Secretary is required to "notify the appropriate authorities of the government of the foreign country of the decision and recommend the steps necessary to bring the security measures up to the standard used * * * in making the assessment." 49 U.S.C. 44907(c).

Further, the Secretary must: (a) Publish the identity of the foreign

airport in the **Federal Register**, (b) post the identity of such airport at all United States airports at which scheduled air carrier operations are provided regularly, and (c) notify the news media of the identity of the airport. 49 U.S.C. 44907(d). In addition, the statute requires all air carriers providing service between the United States and the foreign airport in question to provide written notice of the determination, either on or with the ticket, to all passengers purchasing transportation between the United States and the airport. 49 U.S.C. 44907(d)(1)(B).

On December 22, 2004, the Secretary of Homeland Security notified the Government of Haiti that, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 44907, he had determined that Port-au-Prince International Airport, Port-au-Prince, Haiti, does not maintain and carry out effective security measures. This determination is based on Transportation Security Administration (TSA) assessments that reveal that security measures used at Port-au-Prince International Airport do not meet the standards established by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is issuing this Notice pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 44907(d)(1) to inform the public of this determination. DHS directs that notice of the determination be displayed prominently in all United States airports with regularly scheduled air carrier operations. Further, DHS will notify the news media of this determination. In addition, as a result of this determination, 49 U.S.C. 44907(d)(1)(B) requires that each United States and foreign air carrier (and their agents) providing transportation between the United States and Port-au-Prince International Airport shall provide notice of DHS's determination to each passenger buying a ticket for transportation between the United States and Port-au-Prince International Airport, with such notice to be made by written material included on or with such ticket.

Dated: January 13, 2005.

Tom Ridge,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 05-1244 Filed 1-21-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Directorate of Science and Technology; Notice Designating Homeland Security Centers of Excellence

AGENCY: Science and Technology Directorate, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Homeland Security is designating lead universities as Department of Homeland Security Centers of Excellence.

DATES: The designation made in this Notice is effective on January 24, 2005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Laura Petonito, Deputy Director, University Programs, Science and Technology Directorate, Department of Homeland Security, Washington, DC 20528; telephone 202-254-5840, facsimile 202-254-6165; e-mail *laura.petonito@dhs.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Section 308 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, Pub. L. 107-296, 116 Stat. 2170 (Nov. 26, 2002) (HSA) (6 U.S.C. 188), as amended by the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003, Pub. L. 108-7, div. L, § 101(1), 117 Stat. 526 (Feb. 20, 2003), directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to sponsor extramural research, development, demonstration, testing and evaluation programs relating to homeland security. As part of this program, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is to establish a university-based center or centers for homeland security (Homeland Security Centers of Excellence or Centers).

The Centers are envisioned to be an integral and critical component of the Department's capability to anticipate, prevent, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks. The Centers will leverage multidisciplinary capabilities of universities and fill gaps in current knowledge.

Section 308(b)(2)(B) of the HSA lists fourteen areas of substantive expertise that, if demonstrated, might qualify universities for designation as university-based centers. The listed areas of expertise include, among others, food safety, first responders, multi-modal transportation, and responding to incidents involving weapons of mass destruction. However, the list is not exclusive. Section 308(b)(2)(C) of the HSA gives the Secretary discretion to consider additional criteria beyond those

specified in section 308(b)(2)(B) in selecting universities for this program, as long as the Department issues a **Federal Register** notice explaining the criteria used for the designation.

The Secretary has previously designated three other Centers: (1) University of Southern California—Center for Risks and Economic Analysis of Terrorism Events; (2) University of Minnesota—National Center for Food Protection and Defense; and (3) Texas A&M University—National Center for Foreign Animal and Zoonotic Disease Defense. The designation of only one of these Centers was noticed in the **Federal Register** due to the use of other criteria than established in section 308 of the HSA. See 68 FR 66842 (Nov. 28, 2003).

Criteria

In 2002, the National Research Council (NRC) issued a report entitled “Making the Nation Safer: The Role of Science and Technology in Countering Terrorism.” In this report, the NRC recommended a number of substantive areas for research that could contribute to national security. Among other areas, the NRC report focused on how studying the phenomenon of terrorism from a social and behavioral perspective could help to interpret fragments of intelligence information, to broaden understanding of terrorists’ modes of actions, and perhaps ultimately assist the Department in figuring out how to curtail such actions.

The Department agrees that research in these areas will contribute significantly to the Department’s ability to identify, and select among, options for enhancing national security. The behavioral and social sciences can provide knowledge of and insights into the responses of individuals and organizations to the threat of terrorism and to terrorist events. Through such research and educational strategies, a broad base of understanding will likely develop leading to models for intervention of terrorist activities as well as resiliency strategies for the United States homeland society.

Solicitation of Interest and Designation

The DHS Centers are envisioned to be an integral and critical component of the new “homeland security complex” that will provide the Nation with a robust, dedicated and enduring capability that will enhance our ability to anticipate, prevent, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks. On July 6, 2004, DHS sought proposals from universities that wished to be designated as the DHS Center of Excellence on Behavioral and Social Aspects of Terrorism and Counter-

terrorism. The notice, made available on Federal Business Opportunities (<http://www.fedbizopps.gov/>) and <http://www.grants.gov>, identified behavioral and social aspects of terrorism as one of the key areas of expertise needed by DHS. The focus of research and education will be in areas of the individual and social factors in persuasion and recruitment for participation in terrorist activities and development of intervention strategies, individual and group behaviors and dynamics, preparation and resilience of individuals and groups and cognition of information.

DHS received 27 proposals and evaluated them through a peer-review panel process that included scientific expertise from the federal government, peer-institutional faculty and the private sector. After analysis of the panel evaluations, six sites were chosen for further evaluation in the form of site visits. Based on this evaluation, the selection team recommended that the fourth Center of Excellence, specifically concentrating on behavioral and social aspects of terrorism, be sited at the University of Maryland.

The University of Maryland, with partners at the University of California at Los Angeles, the University of Colorado, the Monterey Institute of International Studies, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of South Carolina and a host of individual scientists from other numerous institutions, will conduct research and education on the subjects of behavioral and social aspects of terrorism and counter-terrorism. This site is particularly positioned to investigate the social and psychological impacts of terrorism. Through the engagement of its partners and a few of the scientists in the other established Centers of Excellence, the University of Maryland will embark on research and education concerning individual terrorists, the dynamics of terrorist organizations, and societal impact of terrorism on the United States. The goals of this research and education are to provide strategies for the disruption of terrorists and terrorist organizations and to embolden the resilience of United States citizens. Thus, these strategies embracing awareness and anticipation to response and recovery to terrorism and counter-terrorism will be examined.

Designation. Accordingly, the University of Maryland has been designated as a Homeland Security Center of Excellence on Behavioral and Social Aspects of Terrorism and Counter-terrorism pursuant to section 308 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended.

Dated: January 13, 2005.

Tom Ridge,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 05–1242 Filed 1–21–05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410–10–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[USCG–2005–20114]

Chemical Transportation Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces meetings of Subcommittees of the Chemical Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) on the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 472 Standard, and on Hazardous Cargo Transportation Security (HCTS). The Subcommittee on the NFPA 472 Standard will meet to discuss the formation of a marine emergency responder chapter in NFPA 472, *Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents*. The Subcommittee on HCTS will meet to discuss security issues relating to the marine transportation of hazardous materials in bulk. These meetings will be open to the public.

DATES: The Subcommittee on the NFPA 472 Standard will meet on Tuesday, February 8, 2005, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Subcommittee on HCTS will meet on Wednesday, February 9, 2005, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Thursday, February 10, 2005, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. These meetings may close early if all business is finished. Written material and requests to make oral presentations should reach the Coast Guard on or before February 1, 2005. Requests to have a copy of your material distributed to each member of a Subcommittee should reach the Coast Guard on or before February 1, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Both the Subcommittees on the NFPA 472 Standard and on HCTS will meet at American Commercial Barge Line (ACBL) Company, 1701 E. Market St., Jeffersonville, IN, on the fifth floor. Send written material and requests to make oral presentations to Commander Robert J. Hennessy, Executive Director of CTAC, Commandant (G–MSO–3), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593–0001. This notice is available on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Commander Robert J. Hennessy,