

The Importance of Biometrics in the U.S. Government's Response to 9/11

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Recent Personal History

Chief of Staff

Department of Homeland Security

October, 2003 – March, 2005

Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations

Department of Homeland Security

January, 2003 – October, 2003

Senior Director, Intergovernmental Affairs

White House Office of Homeland Security

October, 2001 – January, 2003

Response to 9/11

White House Office of Homeland Security

Established October 8, 2001 by Presidential Executive Order

Led by an Assistant to the President for Homeland Security

Governor Tom Ridge (PA)—First Homeland Security Advisor

Charged with integrating the federal government's homeland security responsibilities: detection, deterrence, prevention, protection, preparedness, response and recovery

Responsible for developing the country's *National Strategy for Homeland Security*

National Strategy for Homeland Security

Safeguarding the American way of life:

Democracy

Liberties

Security

Economics

Culture

Creation of the Department of Homeland Security

National Strategy for Homeland Security--Biometrics

Biometrics provide a unique capability to confirm personal identity without reliance on less accurate methods such as names, numbers or demographic information

11 major Science and Technology initiatives, including biometric technology for identification

Implementation of the Enhanced Border Security and Visa Entry Reform Act, including the requirement that foreign visitors possess travel documents with biometric information.

Create “smart borders”: prevent terrorists from coming into the country while promoting the efficient flow of goods and services by an increased use of biometric identification information.

Creation of the Department of Homeland Security

The Department of Homeland Security

Merging of 22 agencies

Border and Transportation Security

Information Analysis/Infrastructure Protection

Science and Technology

Emergency Preparedness and Response

Integration of State and Local Government and the Private Sector

Building relationships with the International Community

Education of the Public

The Department of Homeland Security

Vision Statement:

Preserving our freedoms, protecting America. . .we secure our homeland.

Mission Statement:

We will lead the unified national effort to secure America. We will prevent and deter terrorist attacks and protect against and respond to threats and hazards to the nation. We will ensure safe and secure borders, welcome lawful immigrants and visitors, and promote the free-flow of commerce.

Department of Homeland Security FY'06 Budget Priorities

Revolutionizing the Borders

Strengthening Law Enforcement

Improving National Preparedness and Response

Leveraging Technology

Creating a 21st Century Department

Source: '06 DHS Budget-In-Brief

DHS 2nd Stage Review

Increase Overall Preparedness

Create Better Transportation Security Systems

Strengthen Border Security and Reform Immigration Processes

Enhance Information Sharing

Improve DHS Financial Management, Human Resource Development,
Procurement and Information Technology

Realign the DHS Organization

Require 10-Fingerprint Scan for Foreign Visitors

Department of Homeland Security Biometrics

United States Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology
(US-VISIT)

Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) Program

The First Responder Partnership Initiative

Joint Office of Identification and Credentialing

Department of Homeland Security-- US-VISIT

Goals:

Enhance the Security of our citizens and visitors

Facilitate legitimate travel and trade

Ensure the integrity of our immigration system

Protect the Privacy of our visitors

US-VISIT Successes

Processed over 35 Million Travelers

Air/Sea ports of entry register 80,000-100,000 people per day.

Registration number expected to be 50 Million in 6 months, which would make US-VISIT the largest fingerprint repository in the world.

US-VISIT Successes

5,000 Watch List Hits

Approx. 750 of those denied entry—not flagged through a biographical watch list, but as a result of a match to the biometric watch list

283 expedited removals

33 notices to appear

94 extraditions

36 criminal prosecutions

Other Biometric Programs

Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC)

Using biometrics to validate an individual's rights for physical access to sensitive transportation facilities

Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12

Building a common identification credential for federal employees and contractors

The First Responder Partnership Initiative

Identifying the National Capital Region's First Responders through a smart card credentialing effort, using FIPS 201 and contactless chip standards.

Biometrics and Privacy

Privacy must be central to the development of biometrics.

Biometrics can serve to enhance privacy by ensuring that the right controls are integrated into the system.

Biometrics can help to safeguard identity, facilitate access to information and bolster privacy technologies.

Conclusion

Biometrics:

A key to improving the nation's security

Beneficial to safeguarding our citizens' privacy

Will enhance our economic efficiencies