

**DHS Accountability Act of 2012**  
**Recent Key Findings of the Oversight Subcommittee**

**CORRUPTION & MISCONDUCT**

- Combined in FY2011, CBP and ICE had 9,073 allegations of employee misconduct including 893 for corruption such as personnel collaborating with drug smugglers and filing fraudulent travel documents.
- CBP agents repeatedly working with drug trafficking organizations to smuggle guns and drugs through an airport. Approximate 5,800 complaints against CBP employees in FY2011 resulted in 730 investigations. Last year there were 403 arrests throughout DHS.
- TSA had 612 allegations of misconduct in FY'11. Dozens of officers have been fired for allowing thousands of pieces of luggage onto flights without proper screening and for taking bribes allowing passengers expedited security checks.
- Between October 2009 and September 2010 at Newark Liberty Airport, TSA screeners stole as much as \$30,000 from unsuspecting passengers who were trying to get through security to board their plane. In Orlando, passengers had laptop computers stolen from their luggage.
- Airport security badges were found issued to employees who had not undergone a complete Security Threat Assessment.

**ACQUISITIONS MISMANAGEMENT**

- The DHS Inspector General, in a November 2011 report, concludes the Department has major challenges, including acquisition, information technology, grants, and finances.
- The GAO concludes many DHS management functions are high risk, including acquisitions, information technology, finances, human capital and integration, all resulting in performance problems and mission delays.

**WASTED TAXPAYER DOLLARS**

- DHS has failed to develop and acquire new technologies to address the various threats including border surveillance, screening equipment, and nuclear detection equipment.
  - SBInet – the Secretary ended the original program after costing taxpayers nearly one billion dollars to monitor only 53 miles of the Southwest border.
    - Failed due to the lack of effective program management, poorly defined program requirements, inaccurate cost estimations, limited access to expert guidance, and unavailable and unreliable performance data to make informative decisions.
    - CBP wasted \$69 million in purchasing steel to build border fences. It purchased more steel than needed, incurred additional storage costs, paid interest on late payments, and approved a higher priced subcontractor.
  - ASP – DHS spent \$230 million on the Advanced Spectroscopic Portal program before it was cancelled.
    - ASP was designed to improve radiation and nuclear detection capabilities at our seaports and land border crossings but failed due to inaccurate data and poor acquisition management, which resulted in underestimated costs and overstated benefits.

#### INEFFICIENCY

- Last year, DHS collected about \$230 million in fees from other agencies to pay for 2,500 facility risk assessments. However, DHS's Federal Protective Service completed only four of those assessments. The agencies that paid for the service but got nothing in return ended up conducting their own risk assessments.

#### EMPLOYEE MORALE

- Two federal surveys, Federal Viewpoints and Best Places to Work, found that DHS ranks 31 out of 33 federal organizations for best places to work.
- 37% of DHS's 200,000 employees believe senior leaders motivate them.
- 37% are satisfied with their senior leaders' policies and practices.

#### LEADERSHIP

- DHS has not prioritized the missions outlined in its key strategies, which may hinder its ability to effectively manage risks moving forward.
- Management challenges continue such as weaknesses in the acquisition oversight process, implementing human capital initiatives, and lack of financial data integration.
- Areas of duplication within the Department exist.

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