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**Subject:** DHS Tomorrow's News - July 23, 2010

*Press Office*  
**U.S. Department of Homeland Security**  
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# Tomorrow's News

July 23, 2010  
Contact: DHS Press Office (202) 282-8010

**Headquarters:**

- \* Nothing to report at this time

**Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA):**

- \* [FEMA Continues to Monitor Tropical Storm Bonnie, Encourages Americans to Be Prepared](#)

**U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS):**

- \* Nothing to report at this time

**U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE):**

- [ICE's Online Detainee Locator System](#)
- [ICE Operation Flicker Finds Child Exploitation in Federal Agencies](#)
- [PBS Houston Interview](#)

**U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP):**

- [Media Inquiry About PETA Letter To Commissioner Bersin Regarding CBP El Paso Canine Death](#)

**Transportation Security Administration (TSA):**

- \* [Photography at TSA Security Checkpoints](#)
- \* [Safety of Lithium Batteries on Aircraft](#)

**U.S. Coast Guard (USCG):**

- \* Nothing to report at this time

**National Protection and Programs Directorate (NPPD):**

- \* Nothing to report at this time

**United States Secret Service (USSS):**

- \* Nothing to report at this time

**Science and Technology (S&T):**

- \* Nothing to report at this time

**Office of Health Affairs (OHA):**

- \* Nothing to report at this time

**Intelligence and Analysis (I&A):**

- \* Nothing to report at this time

**Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC):**

- \* Nothing to report at this time

**Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO):**

- \* Nothing to report at this time

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**FEMA CONTINUES TO MONITOR TROPICAL STORM BONNIE, ENCOURAGES AMERICANS TO BE PREPARED**

As Tropical Storm Bonnie moves toward the Gulf Coast, FEMA continues to monitor the storm and stands ready to support state, territory and local officials in the region and the Gulf Coast to ensure they have the resources to respond if needed. FEMA also continues to urge everyone in the region to take steps now to ensure they are prepared for possible severe weather.

***Update:***

The National Hurricane Center (NHC) has issued a tropical storm warning for the Florida east coast from Deerfield Beach southward including the entire Florida Keys and Florida Bay and along the west coast of Florida, northward to Englewood, also from Destin, Florida to Morgan

City, Louisiana, including Lake Pontchartrain. The NHC has also issued a tropical storm watch for the east coast of Florida, north of Deerfield Beach to Jupiter inlet and Lake Okeechobee. A warning means that tropical storm conditions are expected somewhere within the warning area within 36 hours. A watch means that the conditions are possible within the watch area, generally within 48 hours.

***Talking Points:***

- "We continue to monitor the storm and FEMA personnel continue to work closely with state, territory, and local officials to ensure they have the support they need," said FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate. "The most important thing for people living in the area to do right now is to ensure their family is prepared and to follow the instructions of local officials. For more information and helpful tips, anyone can visit [www.Ready.gov](http://www.Ready.gov)."
- FEMA has life-saving and life-sustaining commodities and supplies strategically located across the country to support states in their response. These supplies, including water, meals, tarps, blankets, generators and other essential items, can be replenished through the national logistics supply chain.
- In Florida and locations around the Gulf Coast alone, more than one million liters of water, 1.8 million meals, 70,000 rolls of plastic sheeting, 260,000 tarps, 250,000 blankets, 60,000 cots and 300 generators are available for use as needed. FEMA has conducted resource support planning and preparations with all hurricane-prone states and territories for the current hurricane season to ensure a coordinated disaster response, if needed.
- The storm's tract is currently moving west-northwestward toward the Gulf of Mexico. FEMA also remains in close contact with our federal partners at the National Hurricane Center and the U.S. Coast Guard. If the tract continues in that direction, the Unified Area Command will make any decisions regarding the movement of assets and workers involved with the BP Deepwater Horizon Operations.

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**ICE'S ONLINE DETAINEE LOCATOR SYSTEM**

ICE Acting Director of the Office of Detention Policy and Planning Phyllis Coven and ICE Privacy Director Lyn Rahilly publicly launched and demonstrated ICE's new internet-based tool designed to assist family members, attorneys and other interested parties in locating detained aliens in ICE custody.

***Talking Points:***

- \* ICE's Online Detainee Locator System (ODLS), is located on ICE's public website, <http://www.ice.gov/locator>, and provides users with information on the location of the detention facility where a particular individual is being held, a phone number to the

facility and contact information for the ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) office in the region where the facility is located.

- \* ODLS users will be able to locate detained aliens by two different search methods. First, users can search by entering an individual's alien registration number, also known as their "A" number, and their country of birth. Users can also search by entering an individual's first name, last name, country of birth and date of birth.
- \* Since the ODLS will be available for use on ICE's public website, the agency is committed to ensuring detainee privacy while making ODLS a useful tool for family members, attorneys and other related parties. Therefore, responses to ODLS queries are only generated if the data entered is an exact match of data in the system.
- \* On Aug. 6, 2009, ICE Director John Morton announced that the agency was undertaking sweeping reforms of the immigration detention system to improve medical and mental healthcare, conditions of confinement, fiscal prudence and ICE's critical oversight of the system. ICE's Office of Detention Policy and Planning (ODPP) was also created in August 2009 to spearhead the agency's detention reform efforts. The creation and activation of the ODLS is one of many concrete steps ICE is taking to implement these reforms.

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## **ICE OPERATION FLICKER FINDS CHILD EXPLOITATION IN FEDERAL AGENCIES**

In April 2006, ICE's Cyber Crimes Center (C3) Child Exploitation Section (CES) initiated an investigation into a criminal organization that was operating or controlling numerous commercial child exploitation websites. The investigation began with the identification of the commercial child exploitation website known as "Home Collection." The Department of Defense Inspector General has issued a report that includes information about Operation Flicker.

### ***Talking Points:***

- \* The investigation revealed that a criminal organization was operating in excess of 200 different commercial child exploitation websites. In addition, the organization used various PayPal accounts to process the payments for access to the member-restricted websites.
- \* ICE's Cyber crimes Center sent U.S.-based leads to ICE field offices around the country; some of those may have been referred to federal agencies. If cases were worked by different federal agencies, they are nevertheless included in the final numbers for

statistical purposes.

- \* Foreign leads would have been sent to the appropriate ICE Attaché offices.
- \* Overall, since 2006, there have been 416 criminal arrests and 5 administrative arrests; 343 indictments; 348 convictions; 1,142 seizures. In the most recent reporting period, Jan. 1, 2010 thru May 31, 2010, there were 23 arrests, 17 indictments, 34 convictions and 14 seizures.

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### **PBS HOUSTON INTERVIEW**

ICE's Houston Field Office Director Kenneth Landgrebe interviewed with the PBS affiliate in Houston on ICE's Secure Communities initiative

#### ***Talking Points:***

- \* ICE's Secure Communities program provides an effective tool to help ICE identify aliens in the criminal custody of law enforcement with little or no cost to our law enforcement partners
- \* Applying this biometric information sharing tool improves public safety by enabling ICE to prevent the release of convicted criminal aliens back into our communities when they complete their sentences.
- \* Since ICE began using this enhanced information sharing capability in October 2008, immigration officers have removed from the United States more than 8,500 criminal aliens convicted of Level 1 crimes, such as murder, rape and kidnapping. Additionally, ICE has removed more than 22,200 criminal aliens convicted of Level 2 and 3 crimes, including burglary and serious property crimes, which account for the majority of crimes committed by aliens.

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### **MEDIA INQUIRY ABOUT PETA LETTER TO COMMISSIONER BERSIN REGARDING CBP EL PASO CANINE DEATH**

KFOX-TV is updating a story they originally did on a CBP canine death in El Paso earlier this month. The newest angle involves a letter the animal rights group PETA addressed to CBP Commissioner Bersin about the incident and asking the agency to install heat sensors in CBP canine vehicles.

#### ***Talking Points:***

- While the referenced correspondence has not yet reached the CBP Commissioner's office, it is extremely important to convey to all interested parties that CBP and the El Paso Field Office consider this incident a terrible tragedy. The fact is that CBP lost a very important member of our agency and the incident is being handled with a great deal of careful internal system reviews, as well as dealing with the emotional effects that this loss has had on our employees and our agency.
- The El Paso Field Office of CBP has not received the report of the internal investigations conducted, so all the facts are not yet available for response purposes.
- CBP has invested a considerable amount of time, effort and resources to ensure that our employees and canines are working in the safest environment possible within the reasonable limits of our work areas. CBP does utilize heat sensor alarms in our canine vehicles.
- As soon as the results of the investigation are made available locally, CBP will be in a better position to respond to the inquiries in this case. Please be aware that even when this case comes to a conclusion, the agency will most likely not be able to discuss the specifics regarding any disciplinary action that may be taken.
- Finally, the information you received indicating that Border Patrol canine teams use a kennel master is not accurate. Border Patrol canines are housed at the homes of their respective handlers.

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## **PHOTOGRAPHY AT TSA SECURITY CHECKPOINTS**

*Washington Post* expects to publish a story about photography in public places. The story will address mass transit and airport environments as well as police stops. The reporter inquired about an incident at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA) that occurred earlier this year in which an individual was questioned by TSA staff for taking photographs at a security checkpoint and local law enforcement responded. The individual involved was also detained by DC police for taking photographs of a police stop on another occasion.

### ***Talking Points:***

- TSA does not prohibit photographs at screening locations; however, local laws, state statutes, or local ordinances may. We recommend contacting your local airport authority in advance to ensure you are familiar with their local procedures.
- While TSA does not prohibit public, passengers or press from photographing, videotaping, or filming at screening locations, TSA may ask a photographer to stop if they are interfering with the screening process or taking photos of X-ray monitor screens in a checkpoint. The same guidelines apply to media.
- Members of the press should contact TSA's Office of Public Affairs prior to filming or taking photographs at a security checkpoint. While there is a difference between taking

a casual photo and someone conducting surveillance, travelers should not be surprised if TSA or local law enforcement inquires about their actions.

- This is important to ensure the safety of the traveling public and something our officers may do as part of their security mission.

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## **SAFETY OF LITHIUM BATTERIES ON AIRCRAFT**

*USA TODAY* is expected to publish a story questioning the safety and security of lithium batteries in carry-ons and checked baggage.

### ***Talking Points:***

- TSA has thoroughly studied lithium-ion and lithium batteries, commonly found in laptop computers and cameras, and determined they cannot be used as an explosive and are not a security threat in personal (carry-on) quantities. Consequently, they are permitted in the cabins of passenger aircraft by TSA.
- While there is no security threat associated with either lithium-ion or lithium batteries, for safety reasons the Department of Transportation (DOT) prohibits spare lithium batteries to be transported in checked baggage on passenger aircraft because of the potential fire hazard.
- TSA officers conducting checked baggage screening may notify the airlines just as they would with any hazardous materials.
- TSA will continue to work closely with its partners in DOT on potential aviation safety and security issues, and TSA security officers are continuously trained to find explosive threats.

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## **MONDAY'S EXPECTED EVENTS**

- 9:30 AM EDT      Bruce McConnell, Counselor to NPPD Deputy Under Secretary Philip Reiting, will participate in a roundtable discussion about the future of public-private cybersecurity partnerships at the Center for Strategic and International Studies  
1800 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C.  
OPEN PRESS
- 1:15 PM CDT      Secretary Napolitano and TSA Administrator Pistole will make an aviation security announcement and participate in a media availability at EAA AirVenture 2010  
Press Headquarters  
1001 W. Waukau Ave.

## **MONDAY'S EXPECTED PRODUCTS**

### **Headquarters:**

- The press office expects to issue a press release of about Secretary Napolitano's announcements during her trip to Oshkosh, WI.

### **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA):**

- FEMA will issue an advisory on Administrator Fugate's remarks at the National Disability Policy Summit

### **U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS):**

- \* Nothing to report at this time

### **U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE):**

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### **U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP):**

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### **Transportation Security Administration (TSA):**

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### **U.S. Coast Guard (USCG):**

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- \* Nothing to report at this time

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**WEEKEND DUTY OFFICERS**

<b>CBP</b>	Mark Qualia, [P6/b(6)]
<b>TSA</b>	Sarah Horowitz [P6/b(6)]
<b>ICE</b>	Brandon Alvarez-Montgomery [P6/b(6)] (Saturday)
	Cori Bassett [P6/b(6)] (Sunday)
<b>USCG</b>	LCDR Christopher O'Neil, [P6/b(6)]
<b>USCIS</b>	Chris Rhatigan, [P6/b(6)]
<b>USSS</b>	Ed Donovan, [P6/b(6)]
<b>FEMA</b>	Brett McMillan [P6/b(6)]
	Cheria Brown [P6/b(6)]

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