

FY 2010 Explanatory Notes

Office of Homeland Security

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EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS
OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Purpose Statement

The Office of Homeland Security (OHS) provides overall leadership and coordination of programs in the Department to plan for and respond to major natural and terrorist emergencies and threats. This involves coordination with mission areas/agencies for policy formulation, response plans, reporting, and action assignments to meet acute and major threats to the food and agriculture system and to key USDA assets. It also involves activation of the USDA incident management system and the Federal Response Plan responsibilities in the event of a major incident, oversight of USDA nationwide policies and procedures related to homeland security, and coordination with the Department of Homeland Security and other Federal agencies, public and private organizations.

The general authority of the OHS for managing all activities relating to homeland security is contained in Executive Order 13228 and the Homeland Security Presidential Directive -1.

The staff financed from this appropriation are located in Washington, D.C. As of September 30, 2008, there were 15 full-time permanent employees.

The OHS did not have any Office of Inspector General or Government Accountability Office evaluation reports during the past year.

Available Funds and Staff Years

2008 Actual and Estimated 2009 and 2010

Item	2008 <u>Actual</u>		2009 <u>Estimate</u>		2010 <u>Estimate</u>	
	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years
Direct Appropriation.....	\$931,000	4	\$974,000	6	\$2,994,000	18
Rescission	6,517	--	--	--	--	--
Total, Agriculture Appropriations.....	924,483	4	974,000	6	2,994,000	18
Obligations Under Other USDA Appropriations:						
Emergency Response Coordinator....	157,964	1	160,000	1	160,000	1
Security Detail.....	1,485,669	8	1,500,000	8	--	--
Biosecurity.....	50,000	--	--	--	--	--
Incident Command Training.....	150,000	--	--	--	--	--
National Level Exercise.....	300,000	--	--	--	--	--
Total, Other USDA Appropriations	2,143,633	9	1,660,000	9	160,000	1
Total, OHS.....	3,068,116	13	2,634,000	15	3,154,000	19

EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS
OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Permanent Positions by Grade and Staff Year Summary

2008 Actual and Estimated 2009 and 2010

Grade	<u>2008</u> <u>Washington, D.C.</u>	<u>2009</u> <u>Washington, D.C.</u>	<u>2010</u> <u>Washington, D.C.</u>
SES	1	1	1
GS-15	1	1	2
GS-14	0	2	4
GS-13	2	1	8
GS-12	0	0	1
GS-11	1	1	2
GS-7	0	0	1
Total Permanent Positions.....	5	6	19
Other Graded Positions end-of-year.....	10	9	--
Total, Permanent Full-Time Employment, end-of-year.....	15	15	19
Staff Year Estimate	13	15	19

Appropriation Language

For necessary expenses of the Office of Homeland Security, [\$974,000] \$2,994,000.

Lead-off Tabular Statement

Appropriations Act, 2009	\$974,000
Budget Estimate, 2010	<u>2,994,000</u>
Increase in Appropriation.....	<u>+2,020,000</u>

EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS

OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Summary of Increases and Decreases

(On basis of appropriation)

<u>Item of Change</u>	<u>2009 Estimate</u>	<u>Pay Costs</u>	<u>Program Change</u>	<u>2010 Estimate</u>
Office of Homeland Security	\$974,000	+\$20,000	+\$2,000,000	\$2,994,000

Project Statement

(On basis of appropriation)

	<u>2008 Actual</u>		<u>2009 Estimate</u>		<u>Increase or Decrease</u>	<u>2010 Estimate</u>	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff Years</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff Years</u>		<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff Years</u>
Office of Homeland Security.....	\$691,999	4	\$974,000	6	+\$2,020,000	\$2,994,000	18
Unobligated Balance.....	232,484	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total Available or Estimate.....	924,483	4	974,000	6	+2,020,000	2,994,000	18
Rescission.....	6,517	--	--	--			
Total, Appropriation.....	931,000	4	974,000	6			

EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS

OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Justification of Increases and Decreases

An increase of \$2,020,000 for the Office of Homeland Security (OHS) consisting of:

- (a) An increase of \$20,000 to fund increase.

This increase is needed to maintain the current level of staffing to ensure OHS provides leadership and coordination of Departmental programs to plan for and respond to major natural and terrorist emergencies and threats. Almost 90 percent of OHS funds are needed to cover salary and benefit costs. The proposed funding level is needed to cover pay and benefit cost increases for existing staff.

- (b) An increase of \$1,500,000 and 8 staff years for a Protective Security Detail.

An increase of \$1,500,000 including 8 staff years (1 Special Agent-in-Charge, 1 Deputy Special Agent-in-Charge, 5 Special Agents and 1 Administrative Support staff member) is requested to support the Secretary's Security Protection Detail, which was transferred to OHS from the Office of Inspector General in FY 2007.

The staff is responsible for conducting advance functions, driving, traveling and daily protection duties for the Secretary and Deputy Secretary when needed. It also provides investigative research and other intelligence functions for OHS. Duties consist of providing personal security protection to and from the residence to the office, while attending events and meetings of official nature outside the office, while on travel, within the United States and overseas, during periods of heightened threats or Federal Government alert that would require continuous protection. Supporting actions require the employees to coordinate the myriad details of security, logistics, communications, travel, accommodations, transportation and related administrative matters. In the past, these activities have been funded through assessments on other USDA agencies, which is an undue burden that takes funding away from mission essential activities.

- (c) An increase of \$115,000 and 1 staff year for a National Intelligence Analyst.

An increase of \$115,000 and one additional staff year is requested for a National Intelligence Analyst to strengthen USDA's policy coordination and program implementation related to food defense and agricultural security, by incorporating relevant national security information across appropriate USDA mission areas and agencies.

OHS is responsible for overseeing national security, homeland security, and emergency preparedness-related policies and programs across USDA, and for acting as a liaison on these matters with external partners at the Federal, State, local, Tribal, and industry levels.

During the past four years, the demands for national security information have increased dramatically. Information about threats to and vulnerabilities within the food and agriculture sector has increased. With the increase in funding, USDA will enhance its ability to analyze and act upon this information. The demands for additional intelligence, specific to USDA and its mission, have also increased considerably.

The acquisition and dissemination of national intelligence, used by USDA's most senior leaders, is currently run on an ad hoc basis. A contractor, assigned to work in the USDA Operations Center, is allotted approximately 2 hours per day to review hundreds of classified and unclassified web pages, in an attempt to gather relevant intelligence information, later disseminated to USDA leadership.

The contractor does not have an intimate knowledge and understanding of the USDA infrastructure and the individual national intelligence needs by mission area. Because of the time limitation, proper analysis cannot be performed; rather, the information is cursorily reviewed and distributed to leadership. Follow-up questions from USDA leadership are often left unanswered, leaving potential threats to domestic food and agriculture under addressed. The addition of a National Intelligence Analyst would enhance USDA's ability to provide a more appropriate level of attention and clarity to this information. Working closely with Departmental Administration, this individual would ensure that the national security information is delivered to the appropriate, actionable official within USDA, including the Secretary and Deputy Secretary.

USDA has a responsibility to proactively address intelligence-related issues well beyond the Department. Homeland Security Presidential Directives (HSPD)-9, *Defense of U.S. Agriculture and Food*, and HSPD-10, *Biodefense for the 21st Century*, both direct USDA to collaborate with other Federal agencies, including law enforcement and the intelligence community to enhance information and intelligence related to agricultural security and food defense.

A full time National Intelligence Analyst would collaborate closely with the multitude of USDA agencies that are responsible for food defense and agricultural security policies and programs to ensure we are meeting these requirements.

(d) An increase of \$385,000 and 3 staff years for the Biosecurity Team.

An increase of \$385,000 and three additional staff years is requested for a Food Defense/Food Biosecurity Policy Coordinator, Plant Biosecurity Policy Coordinator, and Animal Health Biosecurity Policy Coordinator. These coordinators are needed so that OHS may acquire subject matter expertise, program leadership capabilities, and enhanced policy oversight in the area of food defense and biosecurity.

OHS is responsible for overseeing homeland security and emergency preparedness-related policies and programs across USDA, and for acting as a liaison on these matters with external partners at the Federal, State, local, Tribal, and industry levels.

Since the office's inception, the level of activities that require oversight and the amount of subject matter expertise needed on hand have dramatically increased. In the past year, OHS has represented the Department at many meetings for White House-level Policy Coordinating Committees addressing a variety of homeland security and emergency preparedness issues. In order to best represent the Department, OHS has frequently had to "borrow" staff from USDA agencies with subject matter expertise to attend these meetings and represent USDA's interests. This manner of covering meetings and issues results in a lack of consistency, as different officials attend meetings over the course of the issue. These individuals each report their activities up to the OHS analysts. As a result, OHS analysts need to piece together the multiple reports from different officials to obtain a complete picture of the issue – in addition, the analyst needs to update each new representative in preparation for any meetings. This is a time consuming and resource intensive activity for the analysts and for the agency officials that are assisting the analysts. A team of individuals who can have a complete perspective on the food defense and biosecurity programs,

with the relevant scientific and policy expertise and experience, is needed. This perspective will allow USDA to enhance our activities in this area by better coordinating policies and programs, and reducing the burden on agency officials. By dedicating a team of biosecurity experts to OHS, the Department will be better represented at these high-level meetings via a consistent voice with perspective from all the related activities.

In this role, the individuals would collaborate closely with the multitude of USDA agencies that are responsible for food defense and biosecurity-related policies and programs to ensure cooperation and collaboration across agencies where appropriate and to obtain a complete picture of USDA goals for a given issue. In addition, the team would have a liaison function with State and private entities. Dedicating an individual to this role will enhance USDA's programs and will allow for increased State and private industry outreach.

The Department will benefit from enhanced coordination in all areas of food defense and biosecurity. Improving collaboration across agencies will allow for more effective and targeted programs that can leverage successes outside of an individual agency. If internal programs are better coordinated, then the Department will also have an improved ability to address food defense and biosecurity issues outside of USDA, at venues such as White House Policy Coordinating Committee meetings or other decision making forums.

Similarly, the Department will benefit from enhanced relationships with key constituents in the States and private sector since it will allow for more focused discussions and collaborations. There is an identified need for this enhanced coordination within USDA and externally.

The Federal Government, specifically USDA, has an obligation to coordinate with State, local, Tribal and private industry partners in the area of food defense and biosecurity issues. Specifically, HSPD-9 Defense of US Agriculture and Food directs USDA, as the Sector Specific Agency (SSA) for agriculture and food (meat, poultry and egg products) to lead efforts to enhance defense surveillance, protective programs, and related activities. Also, HSPD-7 directs all SSAs to collaborate with Federal, State, local and Tribal governments and private industry partners to protect the nation's critical infrastructure and key resources. This directive also names agricultural industries as part of our Nation's critical infrastructure.

If the budget is not provided, OHS will continue to rely upon ad hoc agency assistance for food defense and biosecurity expertise. However, as the tasks assigned to OHS continue to grow, the staff's ability to proactively address issues and provide Department-wide coordination in food defense and biosecurity will diminish. This is due to the time required to obtain agency expert assistance, to follow up with agency officials, and to prepare additional agency officials to represent the Department on these issues. Relying on ad hoc representation will lead to poor policy development, inconsistent implementation of policy, and inefficient use of government employee time and resources.

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OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Geographic Breakdown of Obligations and Staff Years2008 Actual and Estimated 2009 and 2010

	2008		2009		2010	
	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years
Washington, D.C.....	\$691,999	4	\$974,000	6	\$2,994,000	18
Unobligated balance.....	232,484	--	--	--	--	--
Total, Available or Estimate.....	<u>924,483</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>974,000</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>2,994,000</u>	<u>18</u>

Classification By Objects2008 Actual and Estimated 2009 and 2010

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>
Personnel Compensation:			
Washington, D.C.	\$514,102	\$655,000	\$1,830,000
11 Total personnel compensation.....	514,102	655,000	1,830,000
12 Personnel benefits	86,070	164,000	458,000
Total pers. comp. & benefits	<u>600,172</u>	<u>819,000</u>	<u>2,288,000</u>
Other Objects:			
21 Travel.....	31,635	50,000	387,000
22 Transportation.....	--	--	8,000
23.3 Communications, utilities, and misc. charges	16,660	20,000	32,000
24 Printing and reproduction.....	46	1,000	12,000
25.2 Other services	17,822	52,000	227,000
26 Supplies and materials	9,773	15,000	20,000
31 Equipment.....	15,891	17,000	20,000
Total other objects	<u>91,827</u>	<u>155,000</u>	<u>706,000</u>
Total direct obligations	<u>691,999</u>	<u>974,000</u>	<u>2,994,000</u>
<u>Position Data:</u>			
Average Salary, ES positions.....	\$156,939	\$163,217	\$167,624
Average Salary, GS positions	87,700	100,287	102,995
Average Grade, GS positions.....	13.3	13.6	13.6