

# Homeland Security: The Concept, the Organization

Chapter 1

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## A Concept of Homeland Security

- The concept of Homeland security was broached long before the September 11 Attacks
  - Many previous terrorist attacks against Americans and American interests
- After September 11, these ideas where turned into policy
  - Resulted in major changes in the structure of government

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## A New Concept: The Homeland Security Enterprise

- Resulted from the 2010 Quadrennial Homeland Security Review (QHSR)
  - Revised the definition of homeland security to incorporate a more global/comprehensive approach
  - Created the concept of a "homeland security enterprise" (HSE)
- HSE defined as:
  - "The Federal, State, local, tribal, territorial, nongovernmental, and private-sector entities, as well as individuals, families, and communities who share a common national interest in the safety and security of America and the American population."
- DHS is but one component of this

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A New Concept (cont.)

- Homeland Security is also the intersection of evolving threats and hazards with traditional governmental and civic responsibilities for:
  - Civil defense
  - Emergency response
  - Law enforcement
  - Customs
  - Border control
  - Immigration

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A New Concept (cont.)

- Homeland security:
  - Breaks down longstanding stovepipes of activity that have been and could still be exploited by those seeking to harm America
  - Also creates a greater emphasis on the need for joint actions and efforts across previously discrete elements of government and society

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A New Concept (cont.)

- Important concept
  - Stresses diversity of organizations and individuals that have homeland security responsibilities
  - No single person/entity is responsible
    - It is a shared responsibility!

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### A New Concept (cont.)

- DHS has defined three concepts as the foundation for a comprehensive approach to homeland security
  - 1) **Security:** Protect the homeland and its people, vital interests, and way of life
    - Often deals with global systems
  - 2) **Resilience:** Foster individual, community, and system robustness, adaptability, and capacity
    - Interdependent systems
  - 3) **Customs and exchange:** expedite and enforce lawful trade, travel, and immigration
    - Linked to security, but sometimes at odds

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### A New Department

- 11/25/2002 - President Bush signed the Homeland Security Act of 2002
- Former PA Governor Tom Ridge became the first DHS Secretary
- The greatest federal reorganization since Truman consolidated the Defense Department
  - Joined more than 179,000 federal employees from 22 existing federal agencies



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### A New Department (cont.)

- DHS charged with a threefold mission of:
  - 1) Protecting the United States from further terrorist attacks
  - 2) Reducing the nation's vulnerability to terrorism
  - 3) Minimizing the damage from potential terrorist attacks and natural disaster

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### A Country-wide Role

- Other Federal Agencies
- State and Territorial Governments
- Tribal Governments
- County Governments
- Local Governments
- Critical Infrastructure Key Resource (CIKR)  
Owners and Operators
- Small-Businesses

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