



May 3, 2022

**When Borders Don't Matter:
Defending the Homeland Against Biological Threats**

OBJECTIVE

Provide the Bipartisan Commission on Biodefense with a better understanding of the: (1) biological incidents that affect homeland and national security; (2) roles and responsibilities of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in addressing biological threats; and (3) opportunities to enhance national biodefense.

SCHEDULE

11:00 – 11:30 am **Opening Remarks**

11:30am – 12:30pm **Panel One: Contributions of the DHS Operational Components**
Federal officials will provide their views on how DHS operational components contribute to biodefense, related needs and requirements, and the relationship between the operational components and dedicated biodefense programs within the Department.

Todd Wiemers (Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard)

Assistant Commandant for Capabilities, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security

Kevin C. Harriger

Executive Director, Agriculture Programs and Trade Liaison, Office of Field Operations, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security

12:30 – 1:15 pm **Break for Lunch**

1:15 – 2:15 pm **Panel Two: Efforts to Protect Against Biological Threats**
Former federal officials former congressional staffer will provide their views on DHS biodefense research and development, biological detection and surveillance activities, and the future of DHS biodefense activities.

The Honorable Reginald Brothers, PhD, MS

Chief Executive Officer, BigBear.ai; former Under Secretary for Science and Technology, Department of Homeland Security

Vayl Oxford, MS

Strategic Advisor and Director for Global Security Strategy, Savannah River National Laboratory, Department of Energy; former Director, Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Department of Defense

Michelle Woods, MPA

Associate Director, Homeland Security Operational Analysis Center and Homeland Security Research Division, and Senior Defense Researcher, RAND Corporation; former Director for Homeland Security, Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, U.S. Senate

2:15 – 2:30 pm

Break

2:30 – 3:30 pm

Panel Three: DHS Partnerships with Stakeholders

State official, county association representative and National Laboratory representative will provide their views on DHS support for non-federal biodefense activities.

Abel J. Schall

Director, Delaware Emergency Management Agency

Brett Mattson

Legislative Director, Justice and Public Safety, National Association of Counties

Nicholas Generous, MS, MPH

Program Manager for Chemical and Biological Defense, National Security and Defense Program Office, Los Alamos National Laboratory

3:30 – 3:45 pm

Closing Remarks

3:45 pm

Adjourn