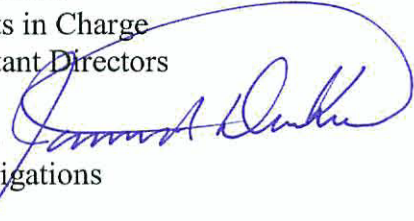




**U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement**

FEB 17 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director
All Assistant Directors
All Special Agents in Charge
All Deputy Assistant Directors

FROM: James A. Dinkins 
Director of Investigations

SUBJECT: Expansion/Reorganization of the Headquarters Financial,
Narcotics & Public Safety Division / Creation of the National
Border Enforcement Security Task Force Unit (NBU)

The Border Enforcement Security Task Force (BEST) program has expanded exponentially in the past Fiscal Year (FY) to bring the total number of task forces to seventeen (17). The ICE Office of Investigations (OI) Headquarters Division 2 (D2) currently manages the BEST program from within the Contraband Smuggling Unit (CSU). The formalization of the BEST program as well as the projected growth of the program due to Congressional appropriations necessitates a more focused and dedicated management structure for the BEST program. To more effectively manage, coordinate, maintain, and promote the BEST program OI has created a dedicated National BEST Unit (NBU) within D2.

Under the NBU, the BEST will continue to function as a Department of Homeland Security mandated ICE-led program with the goal of increasing its level of recognition within the law enforcement community and the general public, domestically and abroad. Additionally, the NBU will ensure the concepts which have made the BEST a success; intelligence driven investigative efforts, international and multi-agency collaboration, and co-location and shared resources, are maintained and more effectively supported.

The NBU will consist of two sections; Programs and Operations, which will ensure the field is adequately equipped to carry out their missions while simultaneously promoting the BEST's program and its unique capabilities within not only DHS, but in the Washington, D.C. area to Members of Congress, Congressional staff, other law enforcement agencies and other key law enforcement stakeholders. CSU and Human Smuggling and Trafficking Unit (HSTU) will continue to oversee the national contraband and human smuggling efforts of ICE, while the NBU will provide a programmatic platform to the ICE effort to address the continuing border violence. A point of contact within the NBU will coordinate and de-conflict BEST activities with ICE Headquarters Operations, Human Smuggling and Trafficking Center (HSTC), and the HSTU. The NBU will assist ICE domestic and international offices in attacking the underlying criminal activity fueling border violence through the coordination of initiatives

such as Operation Armas Cruzadas, Operation Firewall, the Weapons Virtual Task Force, and the Border Liaison Officer program.

Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) will serve as the Acting NBU Unit Chief for a period of 60 days to oversee the implementation of the unit. In the interim, for further questions, please contact Unit Chief (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@dhs.gov at 202-732-

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)