

**The Department of Homeland Security:
A Compilation of Government Documents
Relating to Executive Reorganization**

Compiled by
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INTRODUCTION

Governmental structures are frequently refined as our political system evolves. Sometimes events force what seems to be quicker and more extensive change. The terrorist attack of September 11, 2001, was such an event. On October 8, 2001, President George W. Bush signed an Executive Order creating the Office of Homeland Security within the Executive Office of the President (Exec. Order No. 13,228). This was just the beginning. One year later, on November 25, 2002, the Homeland Security Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-296, was signed into law, creating a new cabinet-level department and the largest executive reorganization since the Department of Defense was created in the late 1940s. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) opened for business on January 25, 2003, with the goal of combining twenty-two agencies in a one-year time frame.

DHS is organized around five major Directorates: Border and Transportation Security, Emergency Preparedness and Response, Science and Technology, Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection, and Management. A preliminary organizational chart issued by DHS is included here.

This publication is an on-going compilation of selected government documents, most issued in an electronic format. It has two purposes. One is to provide current researchers with a single place to find, in print, the core government documents relating to this massive executive reorganization. The other is to ensure availability of these electronically disseminated documents for future researchers. Reprints include documents from the Executive and Congressional branches. The Homeland Security Act of 2002 is included here, but not its legislative history.

The documents are arranged chronologically to provide researchers with perspective and for ease of updating the set. Finding tools include the Table of Documents and the List of Documents by Type. The bibliography contains selected articles and reports. It is difficult to separate the issue of reorganization from issues of homeland security and threat assessment, so some of titles in the bibliography discuss security issues extensively, but all have some bearing on the organization of the new Department.

Documents included here were identified as of March 31, 2003. Internet addresses, when appropriate, are included immediately before each document.

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