



19TH ANNUAL
**HOMELAND
SECURITY WEEK**

Presented By



**MARCH 17-18, 2026
MGM GRAND HOTEL AND CASINO RESORT
NATIONAL HARBOR, MARYLAND**

THREE STAR PARTNER



TWO STAR PARTNERS



ONE STAR PARTNERS



0700	REGISTRATION, BREAKFAST, & NETWORKING IN THE FOYER
0820	<p>CHAIR'S WELCOME REMARKS</p> <p>Nelson Balido, Chairman, Border Commerce and Security Council</p>
0830	<p>FIRESIDE CHAT: THE ROLE OF DHS S&T IN SECURING THE HOMELAND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advancing research and development to address emerging threats and capability gaps • Collaborating with industry, academia, and government partners to accelerate innovation • Transitioning cutting-edge technologies from the lab to operational use across DHS components <p><i>Moderator:</i> Nelson Balido, President, Border Commerce and Security Council</p> <p><i>Speaker:</i> Hon. Pedro Allende, Under Secretary for Science and Technology, Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology</p>
0930	<p>ADVERSARIAL AI ATTACKS: HOW TO DETECT, MITIGATE, AND DEPOLY DEFENSIVE STRATEGIES AGAINST THEM</p> <p>How will your AI systems be attacked by adversaries? Are your defenses ready? Will you be able to detect the subtle methods, tactics, and procedures being used? These attacks are not necessarily trying to shut down the system but cause you to make bad decisions in specific circumstances. There is no AI without Data. Data collection involves serious risk of bias and compromise. If training data is manipulated, your results may show a bird as a plane. It almost takes Superman to distinguish what went wrong. This talk will first cover types of data and model poisoning. Then it will broaden out into the AI attacks on the Supply Chain. Finally, it will touch on how to detect and mitigate these new kinds of attacks.</p> <p>Dr. Tommy Gardner, Chief Technology Officer, HP Federal</p> 
1000	<p>SECURING THE NATION'S CRITICAL INFRASTRUCUTRE IN A DIGITAL ERA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing national cybersecurity resilience against evolving digital and physical threats • Strengthening partnerships with federal, state, local, and private sector stakeholders • Driving innovation and preparedness to protect critical infrastructure systems at scale <p>Nick Anderson, (A) Director, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency</p>
1030	<p>NETWORKING COFFEE BREAK IN THE EXHIBITION HALL; SPONSORED BY APPIAN</p> 
1100	<p>OVERCOMING LEGACY SYSTEM CHALLENGES THROUGH MODERNIZATION, AUTOMATION, AND INNOVATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementing modernization initiatives that enhance efficiency and mission readiness across DOJ components • Leveraging automation, zero-trust architecture, and advanced threat detection to secure and streamline legacy systems • Driving a culture of innovation to reduce technical debt, strengthen cybersecurity, and sustain long-term IT transformation <p>Dr. Shantrell Collier, Chief Information Officer, Department of Justice</p>

<p>1130</p>	<p>FIRESIDE CHAT: MAKING AI WORK FOR THE MISSION: LESSONS LEARNED FORM THE COMMERCIAL SECTOR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to choose the right AI tools and make them work in day-to-day operations • The tension between adopting new technology and driving mission outcomes • Three practices commercial organizations use to make AI deliver more value <p>Moderator: John Costello, Senior Associate, Intelligence, National Security, and Technology Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies</p> <p>Speaker: Gerhard Pilcher, Vice President of Growth, Data, and AI, MANTECH</p> 
<p>1200</p>	<p>JIATF-401 PRIORITIES FOR 2026 AND BEYOND: STRENGTHENING JOINT COUNTER-THREAT OPERATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advancing JIATF-401’s mission to counter emerging threats through integrated joint, interagency, and multinational operations • Enhancing intelligence fusion, information sharing, and operational coordination across partner organizations • Prioritizing modernization, readiness, and agile mission support to address evolving adversary tactics in 2026 and the years ahead <p>Colonel Scott McLellan, Military Deputy, Joint Interagency Task Force North-401 (JIATF-401), US Army</p>
<p>1230</p>	<p>WHAT KEEPS SECURITY OPERATORS AWAKE AT NIGHT: LESSONS FROM THE FIELD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concept of Operations (CONOPS): Aligning detection technologies with real-world border and infrastructure security missions • Operational Needs: What operators actually require to maintain persistent, reliable situational awareness • Common Misconceptions: Where expectations around drones, radar, and perimeter detection often diverge from reality • Field Knowledge: Lessons learned from deployments across borders, critical infrastructure sites, and national security environments • Plus, an interactive discussion on emerging challenges and operator priorities. <p>Roy Schwartz, VP, Federal Sales, Echodyne Joseph Welch, Regional Sales Manager, US Government, Echodyne</p> 
<p>1300</p>	<p>LUNCH AND NETWORKING IN THE EXHIBITION HALL</p> <p>SPONSORED BY LEIDOS</p> 
<p>1430</p> <p>MISSION FORWARD: THE BUSINESS ENGINE FOR RESILIENT OPERATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Break down silos: Connect finance, logistics, and operations to create a real-time decision picture during incidents • Predict and stage resources: Use data and asset visibility to position critical equipment before it’s needed • Track operational costs in real time: Give leadership visibility into burn rates during multi-agency responses • Automate response systems: Link dispatch, ERP, and logistics to trigger procurement and deployment faster <p>Jamison Braun, SVP, Managing Director, US Public Services, SAP Americas</p> 	<p>1400</p> <p>WORKSHOP IN BEAU RIVAGE ROOM; SEATS LIMITED</p> <p>STARTING AT 1400, ENDING AT 1500</p> <p>LEVERAGING BLOCKCHAIN INTELLIGENCE TO TRACK CROSS-BORDER MONEY LAUNDERING ACTIVITY</p> <p>HOSTED BY ELLIPTIC</p> 

1500	<p>AI AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGY IN LAW ENFORCEMENT: BALANCING INNOVATION WITH SECURITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deploying AI and automation responsibly to improve investigative speed and accuracy • Managing data privacy, security, and oversight in operational technology environments • Collaborating across agencies and industry to develop ethical, secure AI tools for law enforcement missions <p>Karl Schumann, Deputy Assistant Director, Operational Technology, Federal Bureau of Investigation</p>	1515	<p>WORKSHOP IN BEAU RIVAGE ROOM; SEATS LIMITED</p> <p>STARTING AT 1515, ENDING AT 1615</p> <p>THE AGENT BUILDER EXPERIENCE Explore the world of Agentic AI as you dive into UiPath's Agent Builder. You'll learn how to create, design, and implement your own intelligent agent capable of using tools and knowledge bases. This workshop will give you hands-on experience with UiPath's Agentic AI capabilities, allowing you to create powerful, intelligent agents that can transform your business processes. In this session, learn how to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design and configure an agent using UiPath's low-code Agent Builder • Integrate specialized AI models and automation tools into your agent • Implement human-in-the-loop processes for escalation and review • Orchestrate end-to-end complex business processes with agents, robots, and humans <p>Lewis Bell, Senior Sales Engineer Description, UiPath</p> 
1530 NETWORKING COFFEE BREAK IN THE EXHIBITION HALL			
1600	<p>FIRESIDE CHAT: STATE DEPARTMENT CROSS BORDER COLLABORATION</p> <p>Moderator: Nelson Balido, President, Border Commerce and Security Council</p> <p>Speakers: Federico Montanez, Attorney General, State of Coahuila, Mexico</p>		
1630	<p>PANEL DISCUSSION: PROTECTING PUBLIC VENUES FROM EMERGING THREATS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessing the risk drones and other threats pose to stadiums, concerts, and other large public gatherings • Integrating CUAS solutions into event security planning and operations • Sharing best practices for managing threats at major events and public spaces <p>Moderator: Dr. Noor Razzaq, CEO, Institute for American Policy and Standards Innovation</p> <p>Speakers: Helmut Sphan, Director, Safety, Security, and Access, FIFA David Duncan, Senior Director, Operations, Breeder's Cup</p>		
1700	<p>CHAIR'S CLOSING REMARKS</p> <p>Nelson Balido, Chairman, Border Commerce and Security Council</p>		

1710

END OF CONFERENCE DAY ONE

DRINKS RECEPTION IN EXHIBITION HALL

0730	<p>REGISTRATION, BREAKFAST, AND NETWORKING IN THE FOYER</p> <p>SPONSORED BY AFFIGENT</p> 
0840	<p>CHAIR'S WELCOME REMARKS</p> <p>Nelson Balido, Chairman, Border Commerce and Security Council</p>
0845	<p>FIRESIDE CHAT: SECURING AMERICA'S BORDERS: A STRATEGIC OUTLOOK FROM CBP LEADERSHIP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CBP's strategic priorities for border security, trade, and travel in 2026 and beyond • Building a modern, adaptive CBP workforce and infrastructure • Aligning mission outcomes with interagency and international collaboration • Enhancing operational capabilities through data, tech, and innovation • Balancing enforcement and facilitation in a complex global landscape <p>Moderator: Nelson Balido, President, Border Commerce and Security Council</p> <p>Speaker: Ron Vitiello, Senior Advisor, U.S. Customs and Border Protection</p>
0930	<p>PROCESS DRIVEN-AI TO PROTECT THE HOMELAND</p> <p>Moderator: Nelson Balido, President, Border Commerce and Security Council</p> <p>Speakers: Raul Ortiz, Former Chief, Border Patrol Michael Chappell, CTO, Defense, Appian</p> 
1000	<p>MODERNIZING DEA BUSINESS OPERATIONS TO STRENGTHEN MISSION IMPACT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advancing modernization across finance, human capital, and enterprise systems to improve operational efficiency • Enhancing internal processes and accountability frameworks that support DEA's frontline enforcement mission • Integrating policy, planning, and communications to create a more agile and mission-aligned organization <p>Gary Owen, Associate Administrator, Chief Operating Officer for Business Operations, Drug Enforcement Administration</p>
1030	<p>NETWORKING COFFEE BREAK IN THE EXHIBITION HALL</p>

<p>1100</p>	<p>PANEL DISCUSSION: ZERO TRUST IN A WORLD OF AGENTIC AI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does agentic AI change the way organizations should think about Zero Trust? • What are the biggest security risks with autonomous AI agents? • What are the best practices for securing agentic AI systems? • Bonus: What should government agencies be doing now to prepare for agentic AI <p><i>Moderator:</i> Nelson Balido, President, Border Commerce and Security Council</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> Paul Beckman, CISO, Former CISO of DHS, MANTECH Christopher Cleary, Vice President, Global Cyber Practice, Former CISO of the Department of the Navy, MANTECH Michael Fowler, Senior Director of Research and Development, Elder Research, a MANTECH Company</p> 
<p>1145</p>	<p>AI-DRIVEN RISK INTELLIGENCE FOR BORDER AND HOMELAND SECURITY OPERATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deploying AI to generate evidence-based operational threat reports for frontline screening • Detecting behavioral and network indicators of violence, terrorism, and criminal ties via mobile & OSINT data • Turning high-volume evidence into timelines that support investigations, prosecutions, and intelligence analysis <p>Jim Penrose, Founder & CEO, Tranquility AI</p> 
<p>1215 LUNCH AND NETWORKING IN THE EXHIBITION HALL</p>	
<p>1330</p>	<p>A VIEW FROM THE WHITE HOUSE ON PRESIDENT TRUMP'S CYBER STRATEGY FOR AMERICA</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> James Burchfield, Veeam</p> <p><i>Speaker:</i> Will Loucks, Senior Director for Intelligence, Office of the National Cyber Director, White House</p> 
<p>1400</p>	<p>MISSION-CRITICAL READINESS AT SCALE: BUILDING CYBER OPERATORS ACROSS GOVERNMENT AND DEFENSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We'll explore why compliance checkboxes don't create combat-ready defenders, and how government and military organizations are shifting from policy-driven training to operational capability at scale. • We'll examine how scenario-based training mapped to real threat actor tactics gives security teams the repetitions they need to respond effectively when attacks happen — building operators, not just awareness. • We'll share lessons from supporting security-critical organizations worldwide on creating a continuous, scalable, and measurable training culture that strengthens SOC performance and adapts to evolving threats. <p>Ashu Savani, Co-Founder, TryHackMe</p> 

1430	THE CHALLENGE WITH A SWISS ARMY KNIFE: DECONFLICTING THE EVOLVING USE OF THE NATIONAL GUARD <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anticipating emerging homeland security and domestic response missions facing the Guard• Integrating new technologies and capabilities• Planning future mission requirements while maintaining operational flexibility Colonel Richard Szabo , Chief, NGB Future Operations, National Guard Bureau
1500	CHAIR'S CLOSING REMARKS & NETWORKING IN EXHIBITION HALL Nelson Balido , Chairman, Border Commerce and Security Council END OF CONFERENCE