



Canadian/American Border Trade Alliance

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE TRAVEL INITIATIVE – NEW REQUIREMENTS

RESULT OF 9/11 COMMISSION FINDINGS SIGNED INTO LAW IN THE INTELLIGENCE BILL

Participated in briefing by: Ambassador Maura Harty, Assistant Secretary of State for Consular Affairs and Elaine Dezenski, Assistant Secretary Policy & Planning, Dept. Homeland Security

Intent is to raise security through identity while facilitating movement of people. Raises the bar of travel in the Western Hemisphere to that of the balance of the world while standardizing documents to maximize flow and minimize Officer determination time.

NEW LAW:

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| Phase 1: Effective December 31, 2005 | All US, Canadian and Bermuda citizens will require a passport to enter the US by air or sea from the Caribbean, Central and South America, Mexico, Panama and Bermuda. |
| Phase 2: Effective December 31, 2006 | Same individuals will require a passport or Air NEXUS card (where available) to enter the US by air or sea from travel anywhere in the Western Hemisphere including Canada. |
| Phase 3: Effective December 31, 2007 | Same individuals will require a passport or Air NEXUS or NEXUS or FAST or SENTRI registered low-risk traveler card or Laser BCC for Mexicans to enter the US by land, air or sea. |

Proposed rule making will be issued in next few days with a 60 day public comment period.

Sidebar info:

- 60 million US citizens have passports. 8.8 million new issued in 2004. Project 10.5 million new in 2005, 12 million new in 2006, 14 million new in 2007 and 17 million new in 2008.
- 40 percent of Canadians have passports. Expect that to rise to 55% by end of 2008.
- New US passport will be available end of 2005 to include a 64kb chip with a digitized photo to sharply reduce identity theft and theft of documents.

I strongly articulated the need to announce repeatedly and through layered marketing programs and initiatives that registered low-risk traveler programs identification was fully compliant and that further participants could use the designated lanes at land borders to avoid queues and be known as low risk before approaching the primary booth thus aiding maximizing flow.

Briefing mentioned plan to ultimately reach a global enrollment low-risk traveler card for all modes.

There is an Unintended Consequence that must be quantified and reviewed. The occasional and the spur of the moment travelers who will just not cross anymore as opposed to the normal crossers who will get NEXUS and find the policy facilitates and improves their crossing experience.