

OBP 130/2.1-C



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

SEP 09 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR: See Distribution List

FROM: Michael J. Fisher
Chief
U.S. Border Patrol

SUBJECT: U.S. Border Patrol Title Clarification

The United States Border Patrol was established on May 28, 1924. Following the March 1, 2003, establishment of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the merger of the United States Border Patrol (USBP) into U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), the title *U.S. Border Patrol* was unofficially translated into various forms, including *CBP Border Patrol*, *Office of Border Patrol*, and simply, *Border Patrol*. These forms were particularly visible in the press and often incorrectly used by other Federal government agencies. This has led to further confusion and misidentification of both USBP and CBP, including CBP being identified as *U.S. Customs and Border Patrol*.

For the purpose of clarification, the proper title of our agency component remains *U.S. Border Patrol*. When used in the context of CBP and DHS, the proper title is *U.S. Border Patrol*, *U.S. Customs and Border Protection*, *Department of Homeland Security*. The appropriate acronym for the U.S. Border Patrol as an entity remains *USBP*. This title has been broadly used and recognized since the creation of the USBP. Your assistance with clarification within your respective components will help to eliminate confusion in the press and within other Federal government offices.

Prior to 2003, the national headquarters element of the U.S. Border Patrol, located in Washington, DC, was commonly referred to as *Headquarters-U.S. Border Patrol (HQBOR)*. After the merger, the headquarters element has often been called the *Office of Border Patrol (OBP)*.

For the sake of further clarification, the national headquarters of the U.S. Border Patrol can be referred to as *Office of Border Patrol* or U.S. Border Patrol Headquarters. *OBP* is appropriate as a three-letter designator only when used to refer solely to our Headquarters element.

Thank you for your assistance in clarifying this issue. As always, I am available to answer any questions that you may have regarding this clarification at (202) 344-2050.

Distribution: All Assistant Commissioners
Chief Counsel