



NEW YORK STATE
DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor

Jerome M. Hauer, Ph.D., MHS, Commissioner

April 30, 2014

John S. Pistole
Administrator
Transportation Security Administration
601 South 12th Street
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Administrator Pistole:

In recognition of the increasing vulnerability to New York State from increased volumes and shipment frequencies of crude oil, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo issued Executive Order 125 on January 28, 2014, directing state agencies to immediately conduct a comprehensive review of New York State's crude oil accident prevention and response capacity. In addition, the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services is assessing the threat to these shipments from criminal or terrorist adversaries and whether future outreach activities to the freight rail sector is needed. As such, I am writing to propose collaboration on future rail sector outreach efforts.

In New York State, *Operation Safeguard* is an outreach initiative designed to educate the private sector on how to recognize and report suspicious activity potentially related to acts of crime or terrorism. Since implementation of the program in 2004, the State's law enforcement community has educated approximately 100 professions or fields, and has provided a mechanism to report such activity through the New York State Toll-Free Terrorism Tips Line (1-866-SAFE-NYS). Law enforcement taskings are directed from the New York State Intelligence Center (NYSIC)—the State's fusion center—based on threat or outreach gaps. As Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Surface Transportation Inspectors in New York State have conducted outreach visits in the past, coordination via NYSIC of our state personnel with your local New York State TSA representatives on outreach is vital to eliminating duplication of effort. NYSIC has previously coordinated outreach with TSA aviation elements with success.

Additionally, my staff would like work with appropriate TSA surface inspection personnel to identify critical rail nodes for placement into our Operation Safeguard visit database. This will provide a solid starting point for law enforcement to conduct visits, and will contribute to smarter outreach with the rail sector going forward.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this important initiative.

Sincerely,

Jerome M. Hauer, Ph.D., MHS
Commissioner

cc: Marisa Maola, TSA Regional Federal Security Director, Northeast Region
Edward Pearce, TSA Regional Surface Inspector, Northeast Region