



The Maryland Port Administration PRESS RELEASE

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GOVERNOR O'MALLEY ANNOUNCES THAT PORT RECEIVES 'EXCELLENT' COAST GUARD SECURITY ASSESSMENT

Fourth Straight Year for High Honor

(BALTIMORE, MD) --- Governor Martin O'Malley announced today that the Maryland Port Administration (MPA) received an excellent security assessment of the Port of Baltimore's six public marine terminals from the U.S. Coast Guard. This marks the fourth consecutive year for an excellent Coast Guard review for the Port. Coast Guard Sector Baltimore conducts an annual and comprehensive security exam for all of the Port's public facilities. The MPA manages the Port of Baltimore's Dundalk, Seagirt, North Locust Point, South Locust Point (including the Cruise Maryland passenger terminal), Fairfield and Masonville marine terminals.

"The most basic responsibility that any government, federal, national, or local has --is to protect the well-being of our people," said Governor O'Malley. "In Maryland, we have 12 core capacity goals to improve homeland security, and among them is improved transportation security. Thanks to our federal and state partners who have worked together to make significant investments and improvements, the Port is among the most secure in the nation for four years in a row."

In a letter to Maryland Port Administration Executive Director James J. White, U.S. Coast Guard Captain of the Port Mark P. O'Malley called the assessment 'excellent' and said, "The success of this year's exam was due in large measure to the outstanding professionalism, commitment, and dedication exhibited by the operations and port security departments and Maryland Transportation Authority Police. The efforts MPA has made to renovate facilities while also establishing more effective security risk mitigation strategies has demonstrated your continued dedication to securing your facilities."

In the last few years, security improvements made by the MPA have included:

- Implementing real-time video surveillance;
- Becoming one of the first major U.S. ports to require the federally-mandated Transportation Workers Identification Credential (TWIC);
- Installing a state-of-the-art entry system for trucks at the Dundalk Marine Terminal that includes a gate pass system for cargo trucks; video cameras on the inbound and outbound lanes; and an intercom system between the truck lanes and a gate security building.
- Enhanced perimeter fencing and radiation portal monitors that check all containers leaving the Port by truck for radioactivity. **-MORE-**

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The Port of Baltimore ranks 11th nationally for the total dollar value of cargo and 13th for the amount of cargo tonnage handled out of 44 port districts in the U.S. Through the first 11 months of 2011, the Port of Baltimore ranked as the top port in the nation out of 360 U.S. ports for handling farm and construction machinery, autos, trucks, imported forest products, imported sugar and imported gypsum. Baltimore ranked second in the U.S. for exported coal, imported salt, imported aluminum, and imported iron ore.

Business at the Port of Baltimore generates about 14,630 direct jobs, while about 108,000 jobs in Maryland are linked to port activities. The Port is responsible for \$3 billion in personal wages and salary and more than \$300 million in state and local taxes.

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