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PORT STRENGTHENING SECURITY THROUGH FEDERAL GRANT

FEMA Port Security Grant Program Awards \$1.1 Million for Cyber Security and CCTV Enhancements

(BALTIMORE, MD) – The Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA) was awarded \$1,158,589 in the most recent round of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Port Security Grant Program. The funding is designated to strengthen cyber security initiatives and closed-circuit television (CCTV) capabilities at the state-owned, public marine terminals of the Helen Delich Bentley Port of Baltimore.

"Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the dedicated employees at the Port of Baltimore have continued to welcome the ships that maintain our supply chain and keep shelves stocked across our state," said Governor Larry Hogan. "Our world-class Port is already among the most secure in the United States, and this funding supports our commitment to protect Port employees and the cargo that travels in and out of Maryland."

For 11 consecutive years, the Port of Baltimore's public marine terminals have received a top rating on an annual security assessment conducted by the U.S. Coast Guard. The Port of Baltimore was also recognized earlier this year by Security magazine in its listing of top U.S. sea and airports for ongoing security programs and initiatives.

"Security is an essential part of day-to-day operations at the Port of Baltimore, and is critical for our workers and customers," said MDOT Transportation Secretary Greg Slater. "Maryland's recovery will depend on a vibrant port, and our focus on security gives clients confidence that Maryland is not only open for business, but is a secure place to conduct business."

"The Port of Baltimore already has a stellar reputation in the maritime industry for its security program, and this grant will help us make it even better," MDOT MPA Executive Director Bill Doyle said. "This grant reflects FEMA's confidence in our security initiatives, and we appreciate that support."

The Port of Baltimore generates about 15,330 direct jobs, with more than 139,180 jobs overall linked to Port activities. Last year the Port of Baltimore handled a record 43.6 million tons of cargo, including more than 11 million tons of general cargo at the public marine terminals.

The Port of Baltimore ranks first among the nation's ports for volume of autos and light trucks, roll on/roll off heavy farm and construction machinery, and imported gypsum. It ranks 11th among major U.S. ports for cargo handled and ninth nationally for total cargo value. ###