



## U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations



# TRADE ENFORCEMENT COORDINATION CENTERS

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) formed the Trade Enforcement Coordination Centers (TECC) to integrate and co-locate commercial fraud enforcement efforts. The TECC was established to disrupt criminal organizations engaged in commercial fraud by enhancing coordination, increasing direct communication, and unifying efforts to identify and combat trade fraud and intellectual property crime. Through the TECC model, CBP and ICE HSI proactively identify, interdict, and investigate inbound cargo that violates U.S. Customs laws and related laws and regulations. The TECCs promote interagency collaboration, information and resource sharing, and efficient communication to enhance the trade enforcement mission of the member agencies.



The TECC was created with specialized ICE HSI and CBP personnel to identify and seize illegally shipped goods moving in-bond in addition to reaching ICE HSI's goals of disrupting and dismantling criminal organizations which exploit the shipping industry for nefarious purposes. More specifically, ICE HSI conducts investigations aimed at stopping unfair trade practices that threaten our economy, restrict the competitiveness of U.S. industries, and place the health and safety of the American people at risk. ICE HSI's areas of investigation are the following, but are not limited to:

- Tobacco Smuggling
- Textile Fraud
- Anti-Dumping
- Unsafe Products for Consumption
- Endangered Species/Wildlife Violations
- Intellectual Property Rights
- In-bond Diversion
- Public Health and Safety
- NAFTA / Trade Agreement
- Environmental Crimes

There are currently twelve (12) TECCs nationwide in the following ports: Los Angeles, CA; Chicago, IL; El Paso, TX; Houston, TX; San Juan, PR; New York/Newark-Port Elizabeth, NJ; Detroit, MI; New Orleans, LA; Buffalo, NY; and Baltimore MD, Norfolk, VA, and Atlanta, GA.

