DEA Strategic Direction

Identify, Target, Investigate, Disrupt, and Dismantle the International, National, State, and Local Drug Trafficking Organizations that Are Having the Most Significant Impact upon America.
Major Smuggling Methods

- Go-Fast Boats
- Small Aircraft
- Containerized Cargo
- Bulk Freighters
- Fishing Vessels
- Couriers
Primary U.S. Ports Utilized by Traffickers

- Miami
- New York/New Jersey
- Los Angeles/Long Beach
- Houston
- Miami
COMMERCIAL MARITIME TRAFFICKING

COMMERCIAL CONTAINER OPERATIONS

- Consignments Originate in South America
- Onloaded in Port
- Concealment Method Often Unknown
- Container Numbers Rarely Identified
- Captain/ Crew Usually Non-Complicit and Unaware
- Boarding at Sea Usually Not Feasible
- May be Shipped Via Caribbean and Mexican Ports
- Traditional Shipping Lanes Utilized
- Interdiction May Depend on Host Nation Counterparts

36 KGS DISCOVERED IN DUFFEL BAGS ON TOP OF BOXES OF BANANAS EN ROUTE PORTUGAL & ITALY - M/V CALA PULA

33 KGS DISCOVERED IN CONTAINER OF BANANAS EN ROUTE WILMINGTON, DELAWARE – M/V DOLE COLOMBIA

1,410 KGS DISCOVERED IN CONTAINER OF WHEAT, LIQUID SOAP, AND FLOUR EN ROUTE MEXICO - M/V SANTA MONICA

1,780 KGS IN CONTAINER EN ROUTE NETHERLANDS - M/V EWL CURACAO
COMMERCIAL MARITIME TRAFFICKING

FREIGHTER OPERATIONS
➢ Usually 100-300FT, General Cargo Vessels
➢ Captain/ Crew Complicit

1,800 KGS SEIZED. VESSEL DEPARTED COLOMBIA EN ROUTE HONDURAS - M/V D’MARY

2,800 KGS SEIZED. VESSEL DEPARTED GUYANA EN ROUTE SPAIN - M/V LUNA DEL MAR

4,000 KGS SEIZED. VESSEL DEPARTED TRINIDAD EN ROUTE SPAIN - M/V CIUDAD DE OVIEDO

2,500 KGS SEIZED. VESSEL DEPARTED EUROPE, OLOADED IN WESTERN ATLANTIC EN ROUTE WEST AFRICA - F/V MARS
FREIGHTER OPERATIONS - ONLOADS

Freighters May Be Onloaded By A Variety of Vessels

Onload/Offload Usually Occurs At Sea
- Near Colombia or Venezuela Coast
- Western to Mid Atlantic
- G/F’s, S/V’s, or F/V’s Used

Majority of Recent Intel Indicates
West African/European Destinations

When En Route Caribbean Destination,
Traditional Shipping Lanes Used

Popular Caribbean Destinations
- Honduras
- Dominican Republic
- Mexico
- Haiti
FREIGHTER OPERATIONS - EASTERN PACIFIC

East Pac Use of Freighters Remains Intel Gap

M/V GATUN – 17MT Seized
- NOT Traditional Container Op
- Freighter Op
- Offloaded by G/F’s
- 2 of 10 Containers used for concealment

M/V OCEAN SONG/ PAOLA DAYAN
- 5MT/ 12MT seized
- Freighter Ops
- Offloaded by G/F’s
- Concealment Within Cargo Hold
Increasing Drug Threat from SUBMERSIBLES and SEMI-SUBMERSIBLES
Global Maritime Smuggling Routes

HEROIN
Global Maritime Smuggling Routes

MARIJUANA and HASH
“MACEL”

9.3 Tons of Cocaine
2,250 kilograms of cocaine were found concealed among 10 pallets of peaches in 500 grams jars inside containers aboard the maritime vessel SIERRA EXPRESS.

28.475 kilograms of heroin and 25.135 kilograms of cocaine were concealed inside three compressors about to be transported from Puerto Haina, DR to Carolina, PR.
Geographic View

Caribbean Sea

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Venezuelan Fishing vessel located by aircraft and interdicted 8 miles off the East Coast of Antigua.
“SAN FRANCISCO II”

16,000+ Pounds of Marijuana Seized
Port of Manzanillo, Mexico
20 Ton Pseudoephedrine Seizure
March 2007 Money Seizure in Mexico
$205 Million U.S. Dollars