Homeland Security Investigations
Build on Proud Traditions, Forging a New Legacy

The law enforcement badge is a symbol that conveys authority and proudly identifies the holder as a protector of the peace. The newly designed Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) badge respectfully depicts both the world changing events that created our department and agency, while honoring the rich traditions of both legacy agencies, the United States Customs Service (USCS) and the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS).

In the center of the badge is the seal of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The seal is symbolic of DHS's mission to prevent attacks and protect Americans. The eagle's wings break through the inner circle into the outer ring, suggesting DHS will break through traditional bureaucracy. Centered on the eagle's breast is a shield divided into three sections containing elements that represent the American homeland - air, land and sea. In the tradition of the Great Seal of the United States, the eagle's left talon holds on olive branch with 13 leaves and 13 seeds, and the right talon grasps 13 arrows.

The nine rays located above the DHS seal represent both the month of September and the crown of the Statue of Liberty, which was a symbol of INS and proudly depicted no the legacy INS shoulder patch. The 11 stars below the DHS seal represent both the 11th day of September and the 11 original U.S. Customs Districts as depicted on the legacy USCS shoulder patch.

It is my privilege to issue you this badge which honors our past and represents the legacy we shall leave to those who follow in our footsteps.

Honor - Service - Integrity

James A. Dinkins
Executive Associate Director
Homeland Security Investigations