

# Governor Christie Reaffirms Bi-State Law Enforcement and Homeland Security Cooperation With New York

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## New Jersey Enhances Security And Visibility Efforts With Regional Law Enforcement Partners

Trenton, NJ – In light of recent terrorist attacks, both overseas and that which took the lives of fourteen people in San Bernardino last week, and heightened states of alert around the globe, Governor Christie is taking steps to reaffirm and renew critical joint law enforcement efforts to increase security for the New York and New Jersey region. Today, Governor Andrew Cuomo signed an Executive Order renewing reciprocity for New Jersey law enforcement to operate in New York in bi-state transportation contexts under limited circumstances. Existing Executive Order authority in New Jersey currently provides New York law enforcement the authority to operate in those limited circumstances.

Governor Christie noted that in addition to this specific renewal and reaffirmation of security cooperation, the New Jersey State Police and their law enforcement partners have stepped up the presence of law enforcement officers to maximize public safety and provide a visible deterrent to criminal activity. While currently there is no immediate or credible threat to the region, today's action is an important precautionary measure in the continued effort to ensure the safety of the people of the region.

"The terror attacks and threats of the past weeks are jarring and bring a sharp focus to every American of the threat the West faces from radical Islam," said Governor Christie. "As Governor, my first and most solemn responsibility is ensuring the safety of the people in our state, and we are taking every step to ensure that the people and critical infrastructure of New Jersey and the region are protected against the threat of terrorism."

To that end, Governor Christie has authorized an expansion of the Homeland Security mission of the New Jersey State Police in coordination with the NYPD. In recent weeks, more than 100 additional troopers will add an extra layer of protection to the train stations and ferries operating between New York City and New Jersey. The added security will include both uniformed troopers and plainclothes detectives, canine teams, hazardous materials experts, marine assets and aviation over-watch.

"While there is no specific or credible threat, both history and intelligence informs us that the greater New York City and New Jersey metropolitan area remains a priority target for international terror organizations. Particularly in light of recent international terrorist attacks, we have added another layer to the blanket of security during this busy holiday season," said Colonel Rick Fuentes, Superintendent of the New Jersey State Police.

This enhanced security initiative is part of an ongoing collaboration between the New Jersey State Police, New York City Police Department, New Jersey Transit and Federal Air Marshal Service. New Jersey commuters can expect increased visibility at both ferry terminals and rail stations.

Last fall, responding to heightened threats of international terrorism across the globe, Governor Chris Christie and Governor Andrew M. Cuomo signed a Memorandum of Understanding, putting in place protocols for New Jersey and New York to improve security and law enforcement coordination, including intelligence-gathering and information-sharing to defend our residents and bi-state transit infrastructures against acts of terrorism. That bi-state agreement, which remains in effect, substantially increased security at transportation hubs and critical infrastructure in the metropolitan area.

The MOU addressed three primary areas of coordination: Enhanced intelligence gathering and information sharing; critical transit infrastructure protection; and reciprocal law enforcement powers between New Jersey and New York. Details on the MOU can be viewed [here](#).

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