



Home

Newsroom

Media

Administration

NJ's Priorities

Contact Us

Press Releases

Public Addresses

Executive Orders

Press Kit

Reports

Home > Newsroom > Press Releases > 2012 > Governor Chris Christie Selects Edward Dickson as Next Director of Homeland Security and Preparedness

## Governor Chris Christie Selects Edward Dickson as Next Director of Homeland Security and Preparedness

Thursday, February 9, 2012 • Tags: [Appointments](#)

Dickson Brings Accomplished Career in Security and Law Enforcement to New Role

**Trenton, NJ** – Governor Chris Christie today announced his selection of Edward Dickson, a law enforcement professional with nearly 30 years of experience in federal law enforcement and corporate security, as New Jersey’s next Director of the Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness. Dickson, who currently serves as Director of Investigations in the Internal Security Department of the Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation, served in the Federal Bureau of Investigation from 1983 to 2008, including time as Section Chief of the Counterterrorism Division and as the Assistant Special Agent in Charge in the FBI’s Newark Division from 2001 to 2004.

“I am proud to name Edward Dickson as our state’s next Director of Homeland Security and Preparedness, bringing his extensive career portfolio in federal law enforcement and most recently in corporate security to this Administration,” said Governor Christie. “Given Edward’s qualifications, his passion for security issues, and his commitment to public service, I have no doubt that the effectiveness and professionalism that was established by our Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness under Charlie McKenna will continue and grow under Edward’s leadership. I thank him for returning to public service for the people of New Jersey.”

Edward Dickson has served as the Director of Investigations in the Internal Security Department of the Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation (DTCC) since 2008, where he is responsible for the management of internal corporate investigations, the maintenance and technical support for all security operations, security procedures and protocols,

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and the day-to-day security oversight for two domestic locations. Dickson is a former federal law enforcement professional, having served in a multitude of roles at the Federal Bureau of Investigation from 1983 to 2008.

From 2006 to 2008, Dickson was the Section Chief of the FBI's Counterterrorism Division, where he was responsible for oversight of a diverse operational support portfolio, including the FBI's Domestic Terrorism program and Special Events program. He provided direct oversight of the National Joint Terrorism Task Force and instituted national and international working groups, with agency participants, to meet ongoing threats and initiatives. From 2004 to 2006, Dickson served as Inspector in the FBI's Inspection Division, directing over 20 internal compliance audits to ensure FBI goals and employee performance were sustained in accordance with established Congressional, Department of Justice, and FBI policies and procedures.

Dickson spent four years in New Jersey in the FBI's Newark Division as Assistant Special Agent in Charge from 2001 to 2004. In that capacity, he was responsible for the management of all Counterterrorism and Counterintelligence investigations in the FBI's eighth largest field office immediately following the September 11, 2001 attacks in New York City. Dickson managed more than 80 personnel from over 35 local, state, federal, and intelligence agencies on the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) and initiated critical strategic information sharing initiatives with New Jersey law enforcement entities that are still utilized within the Division today.

Under Governor Christie's leadership and the tenure of former Director McKenna, the Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness has established a record of accomplishment in providing for the safety, security and readiness of the state and people of New Jersey:

- Established the New Jersey Suspicious Activity Reporting System (NJSARS) as the centerpiece of our efforts to detect terrorism, which is responsible for collecting "tips and leads" from law enforcement, the private sector and citizens through its 24/7 tip line staffed by the Counter Terrorism Watch (CTWatch) Unit.
- Increased the number of counties connected to NJDEX, an information sharing tool that provides law enforcement personnel with direct access to local and disparate records management systems that contain searchable information on persons, incidents, vehicles, locations and other investigative information.
- Led the effort to deploy the State's P-25 interoperable radio network into the UASI region of the state.
- During Hurricane Irene, directed the establishment of state mega shelters, to house thousand of evacuees from the shore region of the state.
- Directed an annual assessment of all state threat information together with all 21 county Offices of Emergency Management and prosecutor offices to assure transparent and informed funding allocation decisions.
- Ensured that New Jersey received its fair share of federal homeland security funds, overseeing more than \$147 million in federal homeland security funds awarded for use in and around critical New Jersey regions and throughout the entire state.
- Increased anti-radicalization efforts by enhancing outreach efforts with the Muslim Community, through establishing positive relationships with the Elders & Imams of the state's largest Mosques.

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