

COMMITTEE ON  
**SCIENCE, SPACE, AND  
TECHNOLOGY**  
CHAIRMAN LAMAR SMITH



For Immediate Release  
July 31, 2014

Media Contacts: Zachary Kurz  
(202) 225-6371

**Statement of Research and Technology Subcommittee Chairman Larry Bucshon (R-Ind.)**  
Hearing on Technology Needed to Secure America's Border

**Chairman Bucshon:** Twelve years ago, the Homeland Security Act (PL 107-296) established the Directorate for Science and Technology (S&T Directorate) within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

The S&T Directorate manages and carries out science and technology research for our federal homeland security needs. The Directorate is also responsible for coordinating this research with other federal research entities. The Committee on Science, Space, and Technology shares oversight of the S&T Directorate with the Homeland Security Committee.

Since this spring, this Subcommittee had been planning a joint hearing with our counterparts in the Homeland Security Committee to hear from the Department of Homeland Security S&T Directorate. Unfortunately, we could not make our Subcommittee's calendars meet this month so we will use this hearing to inform a joint hearing in September. At that hearing, we will focus on testimony and discussion with the head of DHS S&T.

The DHS S&T Directorate is responsible developing new technologies from basic research to development for use, including technologies that can help to secure our nation's border. From unmanned aerial vehicles, to tunnel detection, from anti-counterfeit standards to biometrics, there are existing and promising new technologies that can act as force multipliers for border patrol agents and the Coast Guard to augment their day to day work on border security related issues.

We will hear this morning from the Government Accountability Office, which has issued a series of reports about DHS Technology research and development, and from two private sector experts, each of whom can contribute on a different aspect of border security technology. I look forward to hearing from all of our witnesses.

###