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July 11, 2018

The Honorable William B. Long
Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street, SW
Washington, DC 20472

RE: Support for the Port of Hueneme's FY17 Port Security Grant Program Application

Dear Administrator Long:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Port of Hueneme's FY2018 Port Security Grant Program (PSGP) application to strengthen and sustain the port's ability to manage security risks, maximize economic security, and provide greater efficiency in the regional and domestic supply chain.

A strategic, diverse security plan is paramount to the protection and wellbeing of the Port of Hueneme and its surrounding areas. As an ongoing effort to bolster the security of the port area and its waterways, this application includes proposed projects supported by the port's local Area Maritime Security Committee, comprised of a coalition of local government agencies, law enforcement teams, and maritime industries.

As each port and region of the country are unique and have individual security challenges, the Port of Hueneme is no different. Being a niche port in the region, the Port of Hueneme does not have its own police or fire department. Contracts for those services go through active memorandums of understanding (MOUs) with the City of Port Hueneme, City of Oxnard, and County of Ventura. As the cities of Port Hueneme and Oxnard are underserved and often underrepresented communities, budget constraints make it difficult to fund cost shares, compile information for grant applications, and administer grant awards.

Furthermore, the Port of Hueneme's security enforcement model is one where they depend on external resources for police, fire and enforcement operations. This collaboration emphasizes the Port of Hueneme's partnership approach to security and the critical need for all stakeholders to receive these PSGP grant funds. Therefore, the Port of Hueneme is submitting this application on behalf of the port and its stakeholders to ensure that the region does not fall behind in protecting against current and future security threats.

Transporting over \$9 billion in cargo annually, the Port of Hueneme serves the Western United States and Canada as a priority gateway to various world markets. Importing and exporting a diverse array of container and breakbulk cargo has positioned the Port of Hueneme as an economic engine for Ventura County and the Southern California region. The Port of Hueneme's business generates \$93 million in state and local taxes, which go to support local schools, fire and police departments, and much needed community development. In addition to providing over 13,600 good paying sustainable jobs to the region, the Port of Hueneme generates a \$1.5 billion economic impact.

The Port of Hueneme is applying for grant funding for the following four projects:

- **Cyber Enhancements and Maintenance:** The Port of Hueneme plans to continue to not only maintain, but enhance their information technology infrastructure and cybersecurity resiliency. Some of the integral items this enhancement include: 24/7 monitoring of virus activity and virus definition updates; server hardware performance; critical server updates; license and warranty renewals; firewall critical updates; auditing of firewall logs, continued internal security auditing; backup monitoring, management & administration; staff training; CCTV software and storage maintenance; and periodic disaster recovery tests and restoration.
- **Port Security Surveillance:** The Port of Hueneme is requesting automatic license plate recognition (ALPR) cameras for installation at the inbound and outbound gates of the port's main gate. The Port of Hueneme is requesting high definition security cameras with night vision and associated surveillance system of new and improved technologies that include infrared, 270 degree viewing, and pan, tilt, zoom capabilities. These will enhance the safety and security of our port and gives the Port of Hueneme the ability to track, record and store video data in one centralized location. The benefits of this investment include improved maritime domain awareness, expanded camera coverage for seaborne and perimeter threats, enhancing improvised explosive device detection, as well as adding to the Ports risk mitigation and port resilience.
- **Training & Exercises:** The Port of Hueneme plans to continue "Coastal Trident," their regional maritime security training and exercise program. This program allows the port and its multiple stakeholders to plan, train, exercise and collaborate together. These exercises keep the port and the surrounding areas more secure and resilient by improving interagency communications, addressing gaps to harden prevention and protection methods, and further mitigate potential threats. Since 2012, agency participation has exceeded 500 response personnel.
- **Physical Security & Intelligent Shipping Container Detection:** The Port of Hueneme is requesting funding to support the implementation of intelligent shipping container detection technology. Through the implementation of this technology, the port will be able to more efficiently and effectively monitor the throughput of

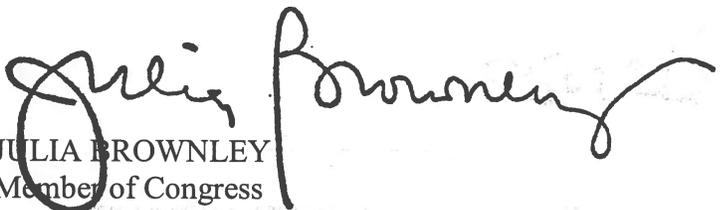
containers. By doing so, the Port of Hueneme will improve its awareness of which containers are where and for how long. Being a smart system, 24/7 operation of container scanning and data storage of the information will strengthen cargo governance and integration with existing security systems (LPRs and CCTV) enhancing prevention, protection, response and recovery capabilities of improvised explosive devices (IED), and chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, explosives (CBRNE).

Historically, the Port of Hueneme has been a responsible steward of Federal Port Security Grant Funding, and continues to have one of the highest drawdown rates of all U.S. ports. Collaborating with its Port Security Stakeholders, the Port of Hueneme provides multifaceted security to the human, industrial, and facility capital. As the only deepwater port between Los Angeles and San Francisco, the investment in the security of the Port of Hueneme is essential as imports and exports continue to increase from Central and Southern California.

For these reasons, I urge you to give full and fair consideration to the Port of Hueneme's Port Security Grant Program application, consistent with all relevant rules and regulations.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


JULIA BROWNLEY
Member of Congress