



New Jersey Office of Homeland Security & Preparedness **NEWS**

Jon S. Corzine, Governor

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For Immediate Release

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New Jersey Office of Homeland Security & Preparedness Ranked #2 in *Security Magazine's* Top 500 Rankings of Agencies Nationwide

- Ranked in Top 10 for 2nd Year in a Row (Government Category); Highest Ranking in Region -

HAMILTON —New Jersey ranked second among Federal/State/Local Government entities in *Security Magazine's* 2009 Security 500 Rankings November issue, New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (OHSP) Director Richard L. Cañas announced today. Overall, New Jersey ranked behind only the California Office of Emergency Services in the “Federal/State/Local Government” industry sector category. *Security Magazine*, a monthly publication geared toward security executives, focuses on the management issues facing top security professionals in both the public and private sectors.

Security ranked the top 500 security public and private organizations by various industry sectors. This year's survey included assessments in 16 key sectors, such as Banking, Education, Finance, Government, Healthcare, Information Technology and Transportation. The ranking methodology was based on information from several sources, including data supplied directly by the organizations and data obtained through public resources and records. 42 government federal, state and local government agencies from throughout the United States and Canada were assessed. For 2009, New Jersey ranked ahead of neighboring governmental entities, such as, the New York City Office of Emergency Management (ranked 3rd), and the New York State Emergency Management Office (ranked 5th). New Jersey also ranked higher than the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, (CIA) (ranked 9th) and the U.S. House of Representatives (ranked 24th).

“New Jersey's high ranking is a result of the hard work and dedication by hundreds of law enforcement, emergency management and homeland security professionals from multiple federal, state and local agencies,” said Cañas. “I am gratified that our collective good work has been recognized by *Security* magazine. This distinction serves as yet another example of New Jersey's significance in national homeland security matters and solidifies our role as a national leader.”

Governor Corzine created the Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (OHSP) after taking office in 2006 and appointed Cañas as its first Director. OHSP is responsible for leading the state's counter-terrorism and preparedness efforts. OHSP oversees and distributes discretionary state and federal homeland security and preparedness funds on behalf of the State of New Jersey, which is considered at greater risk of a terrorist attack because of its close proximity to New York City and Philadelphia, population density, heavy reliance on mass transit and high concentration of critical infrastructure sites in and around urban, suburban and rural areas.

More information about *Security Magazine* and detailed information about this year's rankings can be found at www.securitymagazine.com. More information about OHSP can be found at www.njhomelandsecurity.gov.

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