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February 28, 2006

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ILWU PORT SECURITY DIRECTOR TO TESTIFY BEFORE SENATE COMMITTEE REGARDING SERIOUS GAPS IN PORT SECURITY FUNDING AND ENFORCEMENT

*Port Security Director for west coast dockworkers to address funding shortfalls
and port security vulnerabilities*

- WHO:** Michael Mitre, Port Security Director of the INTERNATIONAL LONGSHORE AND WAREHOUSE UNION (ILWU).
- WHAT:** Hearing of the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation on whether U.S. ports are safe
- WHEN:** Tuesday, February 28, 2006 at 2:30 p.m.
- WHERE:** Room 562 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building
- WHY:** Since September 11, 2001, the International Longshore and Warehouse Union has been working closely with the U.S. Coast Guard and members of Congress to enforce domestic port security regulations outlined in the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002. However, as ILWU Port Security Committee Director Michael Mitre's testimony will reflect, the Federal government has not provided adequate funding to enforce and implement the security regulations. Mitre will also identify specific vulnerabilities that threaten our ports and communities.

Please visit the ILWU website at www.ilwu.org for more information.

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[Statement by ILWU President James Spinosa on Dubai Ports World contract](#), Feb. 23, 2006

["Coast Guard Warned of Port Deal Intel Gaps,"](#) Associated Press, Feb. 27, 2006

["Securing America's Ports,"](#) Letter by ILWU International President James Spinosa to the New York Times, June 1, 2005

["Loopholes Seen in U.S. Efforts to Secure Ports,"](#) New York Times, May 25, 2005

["Key Cargo Security Programs Can be Improved,"](#) GAO report, May 26, 2005

["GAO: Lack of security clearances jeopardizes maritime security,"](#) April 2005

["Preparing for the worst, Disaster teams still addressing lessons learned in 2003 dirty-bomb drill,"](#) San Diego Union-Tribune, June 13, 2005

["U.S. Borders Vulnerable, Officials Say,"](#) New York Times, June 22, 2005