

IMMIGRATION TO OUTPACE U.S. POPULATION GROWTH FROM BIRTHS SOON - Pg. 2

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# STARS CELEBRATE PROJECT SUNSHINE



Music legend Dionne Warwick is all smiles as she accepts award from Sony Music Entertainment Creative Officer Clive Davis during a gala honoring Project Sunshine, one of the city's volunteer organizations.

Warwick is on the board of the nonprofit and was honored for her generosity and contributions to the organization's programs.

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# Stars celebrate Project Sunshine



Dionne Warwick and Cheyenne Elliot

A galaxy of stars attended a sparkling gala to mark a milestone for one of the city's volunteer organizations, and brighten its coffers at the same time.

Proclamations from Gov. Andrew Cuomo and Mayor Michael Bloomberg hailed Project Sunshine as it celebrated 10 years of bringing



Damaris Lewis and David Diehl

recreational, educational and social service programs to children and their families.

A week full of activities highlighted the nonprofit's development and ended with the gala during which music legend Dionne Warwick was honored. "She has been a board member and it was time to recognize her



Nana Meriwether, Olivia Culpo and Logan West

for her tireless work and generosity through the years," said Lisa Stamm, the organization's development director.

In accepting her award, Warwick said she was appreciative and she is

prepared to be more involved. "Anything for the babies," she said.

The event itself raised more than \$700,000 that will support Project Sunshine programs.

Photos: Steve Eichner

## Government watchdog cites past flaw in U.S. no-fly list

WASHINGTON — An unknown number of people who were on the U.S. government's "no fly" list were able to travel on commercial flights using new names they received after entering the federal witness protection program, a government watchdog said on Thursday.

The Justice Department's inspector general said in a report that the witness protection program did not give the new identities to the Terrorist Screening Center, the agency that keeps the "no fly" list. The list

is used to bar those considered a security threat from boarding flights.

Failure to share the information had created a security risk, the report said, although Justice Department officials said in response that all participants in the witness protection program were thoroughly screened anyway.

About 700 people were in the witness protection program as of May 2012 because investigators had determined that cooperating with

the government had put their safety at risk.

Many had previous criminal convictions, and in the last six years, two people who in the past were suspected of supporting terrorism were admitted to the program, Justice Department officials said.

The witness protection program changed policy in May 2012, after the inspector general's office began its review, and started sharing information on witnesses who are former terrorism suspects, Justice

Department officials said.

U.S. officials pay close attention to how comprehensive the "no fly" list is because they consider it an essential tool to preventing attacks like those against the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon outside Washington on September 11, 2001.

The FBI has not identified any specific threats to public safety resulting from not sharing information about protected witnesses, Justice Department officials said.

## North America has enough summer power, but problems in Texas loom

North America should have enough power to meet electricity demands this summer, the region's electric reliability organization said.

But continued growth in power demand with only a small increase in power resources could cause problems in Texas, and a prolonged nuclear plant outage could keep power supplies tight in California, the North American Electric Reliability Corp (NERC) said.

NERC is a not-for-profit entity that develops and enforces power reliability standards in the United States. Its territory covers the continental United States, Canada and the northern portion of Baja California in Mexico.

"We expect the bulk power system will be able to meet the electricity demands this summer," John Moura, director of Reliability Assessment at NERC, said in a release.

"However, continued peak demand growth in Texas coupled with only a

small amount of new resources made available this summer is causing resource adequacy projections to fall below targets," he said.

NERC said it will closely monitor the situation in the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT), which oversees the power grid in most of Texas, as well as impacts from persisting drought conditions in the west.

In ERCOT, NERC said the anticipated reserve margin is 12.88 percent for this summer, which is below NERC's 13.75 percent target for the area.

NERC warned that insufficient reserves during peak hours could lead to increased risk of emergency operating conditions, including curtailment of interruptible load and even rotating outages.

Interruptible load includes mostly industrial companies that pay less for power with the understanding that their supplies may be reduced or cut

off if needed.

ERCOT, Texas regulators and Texas power companies have long been aware of the potential shortfall and have been taking action to tackle the problem for this summer and in the long term.

NERC also warned of tight power supplies in Southern California that may lead to "operational challenges" due to the continued shutdown of the San Onofre nuclear power plant since January 2012.

"A prolonged or extreme heat wave could result in localized controlled load shedding in San Diego and Los Angeles Basin to maintain integrity of the system," NERC said.

Power companies in California expect several system enhancements to be in service by the summer peak, which "should relieve some operational issues and support system flexibility during conditions of stress," NERC said.

NERC warned that increased reliance on wind and solar power resources in regions with a lot of renewable generation could pose challenges for some operators to get other plants online when the sun stops shining and the wind stops blowing.

NERC also said drought conditions west of Mississippi River could pose localized problems for some generators.

The retirement and retrofit of power plants to meet environmental regulations is not expected to cause immediate reliability concerns, NERC said.

NERC also said it was watching for above-average growth in peak demand in Texas and the West, that it was expecting an active hurricane season this summer, and that it was keeping an eye on increasing dependence on natural gas to fuel power plants across the country as coal units retire.