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August 6th Princeton Regional Chamber Luncheon to Feature NJ Director of Homeland Security and Preparedness

Princeton, NJ – July 28, 2015 – The Princeton Regional Chamber of Commerce is hosting its Monthly Luncheon on Thursday, August 6, 2015 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Princeton Marriot Hotel and Conference Center in Princeton, featuring Director Chris Rodriguez of the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness.

Rodriguez will be speaking about the evolving threat landscape as it relates to New Jersey including counterterrorism and cybersecurity threats. “Over the last year as Director of the NJ Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (NJOHSP), I have prioritized the integration of our physical security mission with our cybersecurity mission,” says Rodriguez. “Our philosophy is informed by the reality that the physical and virtual worlds are increasingly interconnected and interdependent. As such, cybersecurity spans our organization, from training to exercising to critical infrastructure protection.”

He continues, “New Jersey’s cyber threat landscape is, in many ways, unique due to our State’s digital density. New vulnerabilities are allowing actors to commit a number of cybercrimes on small businesses, corporations, government agencies. And here in New Jersey, these cyber intrusions pose a direct threat to the day-to-day economic operations and are becoming a reality for our businesses and residents alike. The NJCCIC (New Jersey Cybersecurity & Communications Integration Cell) will allow us to bridge the information and intelligence divide between New Jersey’s public and private sectors.”

Prior to his appointment by Governor Chris Christie on July 26, 2014, Director Rodriguez served for more than a decade in the US Intelligence Community, where he held a variety of analytic and management positions. In these roles, Director Rodriguez monitored terrorist groups in the Middle East and South Asia, closely collaborating with partners at the federal, state, and local levels to identify and counter persistent threats to the United States and its allies.

Rodriguez has been recognized with several awards from the Director of National Intelligence for his leadership and professional achievements, both in the United States and abroad. He served in Iraq in 2006-2007 and has traveled to over two dozen countries. Born and raised in Morris County, Director Rodriguez holds a Bachelor's degree from Williams College and a Master's degree and PhD from the University of Notre Dame.

The luncheon at the Princeton Marriot Hotel and Conference Center features an active networking reception beginning at 11:30 a.m. followed by a buffet luncheon and Rodriguez’s speech ending at 1:30 p.m. The cost to attend is \$50.00 for Chamber members and \$70.00 for future members. Registration and further information is available online at www.princetonchamber.org.

Please direct all inquiries to Alice Barfield, Program Director, at (609) 924-1776, ext. 107 or alice@princetonchamber.org.

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The Princeton Regional Chamber of Commerce - The Princeton Regional Chamber of Commerce is a membership organization committed to promoting business growth within Central New Jersey and the Princeton Region. With more than 3,000 individual contacts and more than 1100 Member companies, the Princeton Regional Chamber of Commerce is proud to be the fastest growing Chamber in Central New Jersey, with its core membership primarily focused in the five central New Jersey counties, in addition to serving members as far away as New York, Philadelphia and Canada. More information about the Chamber can be found at www.princetonchamber.org.