



# CITY OF SAN ANTONIO

**Julián Castro**  
Mayor

**For Immediate Release**  
August 18, 2009

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## **With Activation of Cyber Command, San Antonio Emerges As 'Cyber City USA'**

San Antonio, TX – United States Air Force officials today activated the 24th Air Force, also known as the Air Force Cyber Command, at Lackland Air Force Base.

Under the command of Maj. Gen. Richard E. Webber, the 24th Air Force will be responsible for cyber operations in the service of the nation's defense and to prosecute what President Obama has called "the future face of war."

A city known more for its Riverwalk and the Alamo, San Antonio has quietly emerged as America's leading city for public and private sector investment in cyber security and assurance. Dubbed "Cyber City USA" by the local chamber of commerce, San Antonio is already home to the National Security Agency's (NSA) Texas Cryptology Center, and a new NSA data center and campus now occupy a shuttered Sony chip manufacturing facility.

Nearly 80 defense contractors, including dozens focused on information security, call San Antonio home, and two local universities, the University of Texas at San Antonio and Our Lady of the Lake University, are recognized as national centers of excellence in information security education.

"President Obama has prudently focused on securing our nation's digital networks," said San Antonio Mayor Julián Castro. "Today's activation of the Cyber Command is vital to our national defense, and San Antonio is proud to play an important role. What Silicon Valley is to software and San Diego is to biotech, San Antonio is to cyber."

During the transfer ceremony, Maj. Gen. Webber said the command's mission is to incorporate cyber security into every aspect of the Air Force.

This command "brings together all that we have in the Air Force to defend our mission in an increasingly challenging environment," Webber said.

Gen. Robert Kehler, commander of the Air Force Space Command at Peterson AFB in Colorado Springs, Colo., noted San Antonio's unique position to host the 24<sup>th</sup> Air Force because it is already home to leading public and private sector experts on cyber issues.

"It goes without saying," Kehler said, "San Antonio is a great fit for this type of mission."