Responsibility Meter Report

Trump orders TSA workers paid during DHS funding breakdown

administrative · Washington, D.C., United States · 2026-03-27

Event harm: 61.6 · Confidence: 74.7

Summary

President Donald Trump signed an executive action directing the Department of Homeland Security to pay Transportation Security Administration workers after the DHS funding breakdown stretched into a prolonged shutdown. The move came after airport delays, absenteeism, and warnings of possible closures intensified pressure on the administration and Congress.

Top actors

1. President Donald Trump | culpability 41.6 | confidence 88.0
2. Congressional DHS funding deadlock leadership | culpability 36.2 | confidence 68.0
3. DHS operational leadership | culpability 30.9 | confidence 68.0

Formulas

eventHarm = (20*severity + 12*scale + 15*irreversibility + 12*targetVulnerability + 15*rightsInvasion + 16*intentionality + 10*duration) / 5

actorResponsibility = (15*authorship + 18*decisionPower + 10*interpretivePower + 12*executionControl + 10*knowledge + 8*foreseeability + 8*discretion + 6*benefit + 8*concealment + 5*repeatSystemRole) / 5

confidence = (25*sourceQuality + 20*evidenceCompleteness + 20*roleClarity + 20*attributionCertainty + 15*recencyStability) / 5

culpability = actorResponsibility * eventHarm / 100

Sources

- Associated Press: AP report on Trump signing the TSA pay order
- Associated Press: AP follow-up on TSA paychecks and lingering airport disruption