



A MESSAGE from the DIRECTOR

The events of September 11th have forever changed our nation and the FBI. Since that terrible day, the FBI's overriding priority has been protecting America by preventing further attacks. The FBI has made and will continue to make many significant changes in order to protect America. We have refocused our priorities to enable us to better accomplish our mission and we are making comprehensive changes in the overall structure, organization, and business practices of the FBI to ensure that we excel at everything we do.

Changes are occurring from top to bottom — from reassigning personnel to counterterrorism, to examining our hiring practices, to rethinking the scope and form of internal and external information sharing. FBI Headquarters has been restructured to make it more effective and efficient. We have centralized case management; realigned the workforce to address our priorities; and developed a central body of knowledge available to all field offices and to our partners in the Law Enforcement and Intelligence Communities.

These changes have allowed us to make significant contributions to the war on terrorism. Working with our partners over the past 28 months, we conducted numerous counterterrorism investigations, resulting in more than one thousand arrests and hundreds of convictions or pre-trial diversions. We broke up the Lackawanna Six, dismantled the Portland Seven, and put would-be shoe bomber Richard Reid behind bars. We investigated thousands of cyber intrusions, with one case involving a global criminal network reaching as far as the South Pole. We strengthened counterintelligence operations, placed counterintelligence squads in almost every field office, and created a counterespionage section at FBI Headquarters.





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Even as our efforts evolve, the FBI continues to meet its traditional responsibilities to uphold and enforce federal criminal laws of the United States. We pursued major corporate fraud schemes that accounted for billions of dollars in losses; the "collar bomb" incident in Pennsylvania; and sniper shootings in Maryland, Washington D.C., Virginia, West Virginia, and Ohio. The FBI has had successes against public corruption and continues to aggressively protect civil rights. In one hate crime investigation, a man was sentenced to death for killing a Sikh male in a parking lot.

We continue to improve our technology and are finding better ways to communicate with our federal, state, local, and international partners. To keep us focused on our principles, the FBI amended its core values to place new emphasis on accountability for our actions and leadership through example.

Looking forward, the FBI's greatest challenges will be to further improve its intelligence capabilities and strengthen its information technology infrastructure. The FBI will continue to develop its talents through ongoing training, and through the recruitment and hiring of analysts, technology experts, and individuals with language skills. The FBI's international presence will continue to grow, and we will continue our tradition of excellence in carrying out all of our responsibilities overseas and at home.

The FBI's 2004–2009 strategic plan serves as a high-level road map for the FBI to achieve its mission. While the strategic plan provides clear goals and objectives, it also includes the flexibility necessary to adjust quickly to evolving threats. Since the FBI's inception, the nation has turned to it to address the most significant threats, and the FBI has always responded. The strength of the FBI has been, and will always be, its people. The skill, determination, and sacrifice of the men and women of the FBI are outstanding, and I am extremely proud to serve as the Director of this extraordinary organization.

