

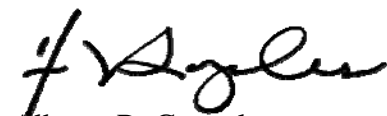
A MESSAGE

FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

More than five years have passed since September 11, 2001, when horrific terrorist attacks claimed the lives of thousands of our fellow Americans. Those events have reminded us of the rich – but perishable – blessings of liberty. They gave us all a new appreciation for what we have to lose: a free and prosperous country, where we and our children can live without fear in the pursuit of happiness. At the Department of Justice, we have redoubled our commitment to defend our great Nation and her people.

When I laid out my strategic vision for the Justice Department, I made it clear that our mandate comes from a long history of protecting the American dream. That mandate is clearly reflected in the first goal of the *2007-2012 DOJ Strategic Plan*: “Prevent Terrorism and Promote the Nation’s Security.” But our mission at the Department is not limited to fighting terrorism. True liberty likewise depends on safe neighborhoods, equal opportunity, and government and corporate integrity. In addition to the fight against terrorism, the Justice Department will focus on five additional priority areas in the coming years: violent crime, drug trafficking, cybercrime, civil rights, and public and corporate corruption. I have charged the Department to focus on these priorities because I believe that success in these areas will help safeguard the American dream in the 21st century.

As the threats facing America have changed, the Department of Justice has changed to meet them. Our core objective is simple, but vitally important: we must meet every challenge to the security and liberty of the American people. I have seen in the eyes of the men and women who serve within the Department of Justice both a joy of service and an unyielding determination – together, we are committed to meeting the goals set out in this plan to protect and to serve the American people and our great Nation.



Alberto R. Gonzales