



Department of Justice

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias
Northern District of Georgia

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<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan/>

CONTACT: Patrick Crosby

(404)581-6016

FAX (404)581-6160

ATTORNEY GENERAL HONORS FOUR FEDERAL PROSECUTORS FROM ATLANTA FOR WORK ON RUDOLPH BOMBING CASE

Yates, Burby, Horn, Sumner and Task Force Given Honors in D.C.

ATLANTA—Four federal prosecutors from the United States Attorney's Office in Atlanta have been awarded the John Marshall Award by the Attorney General of the United States for their excellence in legal performance relating to the Eric Rudolph bombing case. Members of the Southeast Bomb Task Force, based in Atlanta and Birmingham, were also honored yesterday at the Department's 54th Annual Attorney General Awards Ceremony at Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C.

The John Marshall Award, one of the the Department of Justice's highest honors for Participation in Litigation, was awarded to Assistant U.S. Attorneys Sally Quillian Yates, R. Joseph Burby IV, and John Horn, and former Assistant U.S. Attorney Phyllis Sumner, as well as three Assistant U.S. Attorneys from the U.S. Attorney's Office in Birmingham. In its description of the award, the Justice Department stated:

"The team is recognized for their outstanding partnership in successfully investigating and prosecuting Eric Robert Rudolph for the deadly bombings in Atlanta, Georgia, and Birmingham, Alabama. Throughout the lengthy investigation, manhunt, discovery phase, pretrial hearings, and plea negotiations, the recipients displayed a deep commitment to obtaining justice for the victims of the three bombings in Atlanta and the bombing in Birmingham, and to protect the public from any future hard at the hands of this dangerous domestic terrorist. Their work exemplifies the highest degree of skill, professionalism, integrity, and dedication in the Department."

"The award recipients make me proud to be their colleague. They make me proud to be an American," said Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales. "Their dedication and achievements remind me why it is an honor to serve at the Department of Justice."

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias said of the award, "This high honor is a well-deserved tribute to the enormous skill and effort demonstrated by our four

colleagues, and their partners in Birmingham and the FBI and ATF, in ensuring that Eric Rudolph was brought to justice.”

The Attorney General also presented a Distinguished Service Award to the members of the Southeast Bomb Task Force, who pursued Rudolph for nine years after he attempted to disrupt the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta by detonating one of the largest pipe bombs ever in the United States. The explosion resulted in the death of one individual and the injury of over 100 others. Recipients of the award included: from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, John D. Behnke, John H. Cronier, James W. Cross, Jr., Daniel P. Sindall, and Darin C. Werking, Special Agents, Atlanta Division; Velda L. North, Support Services Technician, Atlanta Division; Linda R. Urheim, Intelligence Analyst, Atlanta Division; Alexander Borzym II, Special Agent, Detroit Field Office; H. Joseph Ronisisvalle, Special Agent, Birmingham Field Office; Todd P. Letcher and Tracey A. North, Special Assistants to the Deputy Director, Office of the Deputy Director; and Thomas J. Mohnal, Supervisory Special Agent, Laboratory Division. Also awarded, from the Federal Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, was Joseph R. Kennedy, Supervisory Special Agent, Chattanooga Field Office.

The Attorney General’s Annual Awards Ceremony provides an opportunity to recognize the extraordinary accomplishments of a number of U.S. Department of Justice employees as well as individuals from outside the Department.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-me-us), United States Attorney, or Charysse L. Alexander, Executive Assistant United States Attorney, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan.