STATEMENT OF GORDON J. WHITING, MEMBER, FEDERAL RETIREMENT THRIFT INVESTMENT BOARD, BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

April 10, 2008

Mr. Chairman, my name is Gordon J. Whiting and I too would like to thank you, other members of the Committee, and the staff for conducting this hearing today. The Thrift Savings Plan has become a critical element for the retirement security of nearly four million Federal employees and members of the uniformed services. It has been my privilege to serve as a plan fiduciary and member of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board. I am grateful for the opportunity to continue this service.

When I last appeared before you in 2002, you focused my attention on two issues: working cooperatively with other agencies and ensuring that participants have the financial knowledge to make informed decisions. I want to assure you today that we have continued to pursue these goals with notable success throughout my tenure.

In today's fast-paced financial world, we need to be sure that the TSP remains nimble yet grounded in the fundamental principles established for it in law. You have my commitment today that I will continue down that path, exercising both prudence and deliberate speed. Thank you again for your consideration of my nomination to this important position.