



Department of Justice

United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott
Eastern District of California

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UNITED STATES ATTORNEY ANNOUNCES RESIGNATION, EFFECTIVE 1/4/09 *McGregor W. Scott Has Served as United States Attorney since March 2003*

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that he has tendered his resignation to President Bush as United States Attorney for the Eastern District of California. Scott, who has served as United States Attorney since March 2003, will leave office on January 4, 2009.

“I wish to thank President Bush for providing me with the greatest professional experience and honor of my life. I am very proud of what we have accomplished in this office on my watch,” Scott said. “We have worked very hard these 5 ½ years to advance the goals of the Department of Justice. We have been firmly committed to protecting our citizens from terrorist attacks, reducing gang and gun violence, protecting our children from predators, reducing the availability of meth, cocaine, and marijuana in our communities, and protecting the taxpayers through our civil division.”

During his tenure, Scott set as a top priority establishing a “one team” approach among local, state, and federal law enforcement to address the crime issues in California’s Central Valley. Particular areas of emphasis have been gangs, child exploitation, and drug trafficking.

The Department of Justice has tapped Scott to assist in a number of significant nationwide efforts, including a two-year appointment to the Attorney General’s Advisory Committee under both Attorneys General John Ashcroft and Alberto Gonzales. He also has chaired the Controlled Substances Committee, the Methamphetamine Working Group, and the Computer Forensics Working Group for the United States Attorneys. Scott also served as chair of the National Meth Chemicals Initiative, which twice served as host to the attorneys general of the United States and Mexico to coordinate the efforts of those nations to combat the methamphetamine problem.

Scott has successfully advocated for greater resources for his office and federal agencies in the Eastern District, citing to the profound growth in population in the Central Valley in the past two decades. During his tenure, the number of allocated Assistant United States Attorneys has grown from 60 to approximately 80. He secured dedicated prosecutor positions for child exploitation offenses, cybercrime, asset recovery, immigration violations, and fire litigation.

“Whether criminal or civil Assistant United States Attorney, administrator, or support staff member, witnessing the dedication and professionalism of the men and women comprising this office has truly been inspiring,” stated Scott.

Addressing the impending housing market meltdown and increased revelations of rampant mortgage fraud, in 2007, Scott established a Mortgage Fraud Crimes Task Force, comprised of his office, the FBI, the IRS, HUD, the California Department of Real Estate, and others.

Among significant cases prosecuted by his office during his tenure were:

- *United States v. Hamid Hayat*, the “Lodi Terrorism” case; convicted at trial for terrorism related offenses pertaining to attending a terrorist training camp in Pakistan and returning to the United States with the intent to commit violent jihad.
- *United States v. Union Pacific Railroad*; obtained record-setting \$102 million fine for negligently causing 2000 Storrie Fire in Lassen and Plumas counties.
- *United States v. Baxter Dunn, Monty McFall, N. Allen Sawyer, Lynn Bedford, & Tyler Reves*; obtained convictions for corruption offenses against San Joaquin County Sheriff Baxter Dunn, lobbyist Monty McFall, former executive director of Governor Davis’ Office of Criminal Justice Planning N. Allen Sawyer, former San Joaquin County Board of Supervisor member Lynn Bedford, and legislative aide Tyler Reves.
- *United States v. Pitch Dark Family, et al.*; obtained convictions under federal RICO Act for multiple homicides and drug trafficking against members of a violent organized street gang operating out of Vallejo.

Scott served as District Attorney of Shasta County from 1997 to 2003 and began his legal career in 1989 as a Deputy District Attorney with the Contra Costa District Attorney’s Office. He is a 1989 graduate of the University of California Hastings School of Law and received his Bachelors of Arts from Santa Clara University in 1985. On September 30, 2008, he retired as a lieutenant colonel with the United States Army Reserve after 23 years of service.

Scott is married to Jennifer Urbanski Scott, and they have three sons, Mac, Spencer, and Mitchell.

In making this announcement, Scott noted it always has been his intent to resign at the end of the Bush Administration, regardless of the outcome of the November 4, 2008 presidential election.

On stepping down from his post in January, Scott will join the Sacramento office of a national law firm as a law partner.

Under Department of Justice procedures, the Executive Office of United States Attorneys will appoint an Acting United States Attorney to assume responsibilities on an interim basis between Scott’s departure and the Presidential appointment and Senate confirmation of a new United States Attorney under the next administration. “I fully expect that First Assistant Larry Brown, who has served me extremely well throughout my tenure, will be appointed as the Acting United States Attorney in January,” Scott noted.

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