



Department of Justice

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Northern District of Georgia

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UNITED STATES ATTORNEY ANNOUNCES RESIGNATION

David E. Nahmias Leaving on August 23 to Become a Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia

ATLANTA, GA - David E. Nahmias, the United States Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia, announced today that he will resign on August 23, 2009, to be appointed by Governor Sonny Perdue as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia.

“I am very proud of the accomplishments of my office over the past five years and of the professional way we have gone about our work,” said Nahmias. “I am deeply honored by my appointment as a Justice, and I look forward to beginning my service on the Supreme Court of Georgia. But I am also saddened to be leaving a great U.S. Attorney’s Office and the many dedicated and talented people here who work so hard every day to do justice for the citizens of our state and our nation.”

Nahmias was sworn in as the United States Attorney in Atlanta on December 1, 2004, after being nominated by President George W. Bush and confirmed unanimously by the Senate. As United States Attorney, Nahmias served as the chief federal law enforcement officer for a judicial district with over 6,000,000 residents that encompasses 46 counties in Northwest Georgia, including metropolitan Atlanta. He managed an office with approximately 90 lawyers (and 100 support staff) who represent the United States in almost all criminal prosecutions and civil litigation in federal court in the district. During his tenure, the office obtained more than a dozen new prosecutors.

As United States Attorney, Nahmias closely supervised and personally handled portions of numerous significant and high-profile cases, including the prosecutions of:

- Eric Robert Rudolph, who pleaded guilty and was sentenced to life in prison for a series of bombings including the attack at Centennial Park during the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games;
- Bill Campbell, the former Atlanta Mayor convicted at trial of corruption-related tax fraud and sentenced to 30 months in prison;

- Three Atlanta Police narcotics officers who pleaded guilty to conspiracy to violate civil rights by executing falsified search warrants, which resulted in the November 2006 police shooting death of 92-year old Kathryn Johnston in her Atlanta home, a case leading to significant reforms in the Atlanta Police Department;
- Two defendants convicted in the first major terrorism-support prosecution in Georgia; and
 - Clifford Harris, the popular entertainer known as "T.I.," who pleaded guilty to firearms charges and received a reduced prison sentence based upon a unique and extensive community service program that reached thousands of at-risk kids.

Nahmias also oversaw numerous other national security and terrorism matters; public corruption cases involving federal, state, and local officials; major mortgage, investment, procurement, health care, immigration, and tax fraud cases; civil rights and human trafficking, child sexual exploitation, gang, firearms, and other violent crime cases; and complex narcotics and money laundering cases; as well as significant civil False Claims Act cases and a variety of tort, employment discrimination, and other civil lawsuits against the United States and its agencies and employees. In addition, Nahmias led the creation of the co-located, multi-agency David G. Wilhelm OCDETF Strike Force, which opened in early 2007 and quickly became one of the most successful units in the nation at targeting cartel-level drug trafficking organizations.

At the national level, Nahmias was appointed by the Attorney General in 2005 and re-appointed in 2008 to serve on the Attorney General's Advisory Committee of U.S. Attorneys (AGAC), which reviews and recommends policies for federal prosecutors nationwide. He was appointed AGAC Vice-Chairman in October 2008 and previously was appointed as the Chairman of two major AGAC subcommittees -- Terrorism and National Security (September 2005-October 2007) and White Collar Crime (October 2007-present).

Nahmias grew up in Atlanta, Georgia, where he attended Briarcliff High School and was the state's STAR student. He attended Duke University, where he graduated second in his class and summa cum laude, and Harvard Law School, where he graduated magna cum laude and was an editor of the Harvard Law Review. He then clerked for Judge Laurence H. Silberman of the U.S. Circuit Court for the District of Columbia and for Justice Antonin Scalia of the Supreme Court of the United States.

After practicing with the law firm of Hogan & Hartson in Washington, D.C., Nahmias joined the U.S. Attorney's Office in Atlanta as an Assistant United States Attorney in January 1995. He initially handled a number of armed robbery, firearms, arson, and explosives cases, and worked extensively on the investigation of the Centennial Olympic Park and subsequent bombings that resulted in the indictment of Eric Robert Rudolph. Nahmias then worked in the Fraud and Public Corruption Section,

where he successfully prosecuted a Georgia State Senator on corruption charges and several personal injury lawyers and chiropractors on tax and fraud charges, and served as the co-lead prosecutor on a major investigation of public corruption in the City of Atlanta and Fulton County governments. His work was recognized in 2002 with the national Director's Award for Superior Performance by an Assistant U.S. Attorney.

A few weeks after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, Nahmias was detailed to the Department of Justice's Criminal Division in Washington to serve as Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General. In that capacity, Nahmias coordinated the investigation and prosecution of terrorist activity around the United States and in numerous foreign countries, assisted in counterterrorism policy-making, and served as a Justice Department liaison to other federal agencies on terrorism-related issues. On August 1, 2003, Nahmias was appointed as Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division, responsible for supervision of the Counterterrorism Section; the Fraud Section, which handled policy and litigation matters including corporate, securities, and health care fraud cases and the Enron Task Force; the Appellate Section; and the Capital Case Unit.

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.