



U. S. Department of Justice

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November 17, 2008

The Honorable Michael Mukasey
Attorney General of the United States
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Judge Mukasey:

I am hereby submitting my resignation as United States Attorney for the District of New Jersey, effective 11:59 p.m. on December 1, 2008. It has been my great honor and privilege to serve for the past seven years as United States Attorney.

So much outstanding work has been done in this office over these years by the finest group of Assistant United States Attorneys that anyone could hope to work with every day. These 143 men and women serve with quiet dignity, determination and a commitment to public service that is so admirable in today's society. I will always be in their debt for all they have shared with me and all they have contributed to the cause of justice.

We entered office at a time of great stress for our nation and especially for the people of the State of New Jersey. More than 900 of our citizens lost their lives on September 11, 2001. It was meeting with the family members of those victims all across New Jersey that continued to inspire us to do all we could to help to prevent another terrorist attack. Those efforts helped us to bring two very consequential terrorism cases. In U.S. v. Hemant Lakhani, we secured a conviction and a 47-year prison term against a black market arms dealer who was attempting to sell shoulder fired missiles to alleged terrorist groups. Also, we indicted the "Fort Dix Six", the men who allegedly planned to attack Fort Dix and kill as many American soldiers as they could with fully automatic weapons. Their trial began in September in Camden.

A new level of attention was brought to the scourge of political corruption in this state and we are proud of the results. There have been more than 130 convictions of elected and appointed political officials in the last seven years without an acquittal. We have secured convictions of officials at every level of government, from the school board to the statehouse, and of both political parties. It is a record of fine AUSAs and agents working together, diligently and with integrity, to hold all New Jersey government officials accountable for their illegal conduct.

We reorganized our office in 2002 to increase effectiveness and efficiency and the results have been outstanding. Every year, from Fiscal 2002 to Fiscal 2007, our office prosecuted more criminal cases than had been done the year before. This allowed us to focus on key issues like securing convictions in more than 1,000 violent crime cases in the last seven years, including nearly 800 convictions of felons illegally using firearms. We have aggressively used the RICO statute against street gangs and established a new level of cooperation with the N.J. Attorney General and local prosecutors to make our streets safer.

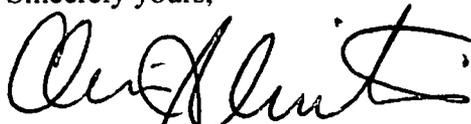
We placed significant resources on the issues of corporate crime and health care fraud. We used deferred prosecution agreements to fight corporate crime effectively, while avoiding the senseless loss of the jobs of innocent people that is often brought on by simply prosecuting the offending corporation. Whether it was prosecuting the former Chairman of Cendant (and securing a 12-year sentence), reforming Bristol Myers Squibb, the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and the multi-billion dollar artificial hip and knee industry through the use of DPAs or securing a \$265 million civil settlement against the state's largest health care system for Medicare fraud, this office has held businesses accountable for their illegal conduct.

The heinous crime of child exploitation was made a key priority and, as a result, two of the largest child pornography cases in the nation in the last seven years were originated in this office—the case against a Belarusian ring of child pornographers which led to 1,500 arrests worldwide and Operation Emissary, which led to more than 350 prosecutions in the U.S. alone. These cases, combined with our efforts against human trafficking, have made this District a dangerous place for child exploiters to do business.

Staffing in our satellite offices in Trenton and Camden was increased by 25% to address an historic understaffing of federal law enforcement in Southern New Jersey and prosecutions have risen dramatically as a result. We have maintained our long-standing commitment to battle labor racketeering and the influence of organized crime both from the New York and Philadelphia centered organized crime families.

For these reasons and so many others, it has been the greatest professional experience of my life to serve in the Department of Justice, to serve with the dedicated people of this office and to serve the people of New Jersey. I thank you for the opportunity to serve and for your noble efforts to restore pride and integrity to our Department in difficult and challenging times. I wish you all the best in your professional and personal endeavors in the years ahead.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Christie", written over a white background.

Christopher J. Christie
United States Attorney
District of New Jersey