



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

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**U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR THE SOUTHERN
DISTRICT OF NEW YORK HONORED WITH
MULTIPLE DIRECTOR'S AWARDS**

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced today that five present or former Assistant United States Attorneys for the Southern District of New York, along with law enforcement agents and paralegals with whom they worked, received awards today at the Department of Justice's 24th annual Executive Office for United States Attorneys (EOUSA) Director's Awards Ceremony. A total of 132 award recipients were recognized for their excellence in law enforcement. Recipients included Assistant United States Attorneys, litigation and information technology support personnel, and others who have made outstanding contributions in federal, state and local law enforcement. U.S. Attorney GARCIA said, "The recipients of the Director's Awards are honored today for their exemplary work and dedication to public service."

Assistant United States Attorneys MARCUS A. ASNER and JESSICA A. MASSELLA, along with United States Postal Inspector JAMES ANTONINO, and FBI Special Agents ROBERT FULLER and RUSSELL CASTROGIOVANNI, received the 2007 *Director's Award for Superior Performance by a Litigative Team* for their successful investigation, prosecution, and resolution of one of the largest ever identity theft case involving 3 defendants and more than 30,000 victims.

Assistant United States Attorneys KARL METZNER and JENNIFER G. RODGERS, former Assistant United States Attorney VICTOR L. HOU, Paralegal Specialist JENNA KIDNEY, along with FBI Supervisory Special Agent BRIAN J. MURPHY, FBI Special Agent KEVIN RANIERI, and NYPD Detective JOHN WHITE received the 2007 *Director's Award for Superior Performance by a Litigative Team* for their successful investigation and prosecution of Rafiq

Sabir, Tarik Ibn Osman Shah, Mahmud Faruq Brent, and Abdulrahman Farhane for charges relating to a conspiracy to provide material support to al Qaeda.

"Those that we are honoring today are some of the Department's finest public servants, " said Acting Attorney General PETER D. KEISLER. "Through their leadership and integrity in carrying out the Department's mission, those of us in the Department and the citizens in the communities they serve can be proud of the duties they perform on our behalf every day. "

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