

PLEASE STAND BY. PLEASE STAND BY. PLEASE STAND BY.

>> LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, PLEASE RISE FOR THE UNITED STATES AND THE OFFICIAL PARTY.
[APPLAUSE]

>> GOOD AFTERNOON, AND PLEASE BE SEATED. I AM BILL BAER FROM THE ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE RATE THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING TOGETHER FOR THIS SPECIAL CEREMONY TO CELEBRATE OUR 3083RD ATTORNEY GENERAL, LORETTA LYNCH STRAIGHT AT THE OUTSET, PLEASE JOIN ME IN WELCOMING ON THE STAGE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, LORETTA LYNCH, DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL SALLY SALLY YATES, LEE LOFTHUS, AND MONTY WILKINSON. [APPLAUSE] NOW, CAN I ASK YOU TO RISE ONCE AGAIN FOR THE PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS BY THE JOINT ARMED FORCES COLOR, THE MILITARY DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON, AND THE NATIONAL ANTHEM, PERFORMED BY THE U.S. ARMY BRASS QUINTET, AND BY -- SON BY A GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SPECIALIST -- SUNGB Y A GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SPECIALIST, ANTITRUST DIVISION.

>> ♪O SAY CAN YOU SEE BY THE DAWN'S EARLY LIGHT WHAT SO PROUDLY WE HAILED AT THE TWILIGHT'S LAST GLEAMING WHOSE BROAD STRIPES AND BRIGHT STARS THROUGH THE PERILOUS FIGHT O'ER THE RAMPARTS WE WATCHED WERE SO GALLANTLY STREAMING AND THE ROCKETS' RED GLARE THE BOMBS BURSTING IN AIR GAVE PROOF THROUGH THE NIGHT THAT OUR FLAG WAS STILL THERE O SAY DOES THAT STAR-SPANGLED BANNER YET WAVE O'ER THE LAND OF THE FREE AND THE HOME OF THE BRAVE ♪ ♪

>> LET'S EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION TO THE U.S. ARMY BRASS QUINTET, AND THE ONE WHOSE VOICE IS SO OFTEN GRACED THIS GREAT HALL. [APPLAUSE] I'M GOING TO ASK YOU TO KEEP STANDING FOR A COUPLE MORE MINUTES AS WE INVITE GIRL SCOUT TROOP 4071 FROM WASHINGTON, D.C. TO THE STAGE TO PERFORM THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

>> I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS, ONE NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL. MR.

BAER: PLEASE BE SEATED. AND LET US THANK GIRL STRUCTURE -- GIRL SCOUT TROOP 4071 FOR JOINING US THIS AFTERNOON. [APPLAUSE] ALL RIGHT, THERE ARE MANY SPECIAL GUESTS WITH US TODAY, AND WE WELCOME YOU ALL, APPRECIATE YOUR PARTICIPATION. ONE GUEST DESERVES A SPECIAL SHOUT OUT. PLEASE JOIN ME IN GIVING A VERY WARM WELCOME TO STEPHEN HARGROVE, HUSBAND OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. [APPLAUSE] STEVE, AS YOU JUST HEARD, THE ENTIRE DEPARTMENT GREATLY APPRECIATES THE ENORMOUS SUPPORT THAT YOU PROVIDE TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL EVERY DAY AS SHE HAS DEDICATED HERSELF TO SEEKING JUSTICE TO KEEPING OUR COUNTRY SAFE, AND ENSURING THAT THE LAW IS ENFORCED EQUALLY AND FAIRLY FOR ALL. LET THEM ATTORNEY GENERAL, YOU HAVE SHOWN US HERE AT THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, AND YOU HAVE SHOWN THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES YOUR PASSIONATE COMMITMENT TO EQUALITY AND JUSTICE. YOU HAVE SHOWN US THAT EVERY DAY SINCE BECOMING THIS NATION'S 83RD ATTORNEY GENERAL IN APRIL OF 2015, YOU HAVE WALKED THAT WALK THROUGHOUT YOUR LEGAL CAREER, IN AND OUT OF PUBLIC SERVICE. YOU HAVE TOUCHED SO MANY LIVES ACROSS THIS COUNTRY, YOU HAVE SHOWN THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY THAT THIS JUSTICE DEPARTMENT, THAT THIS JUSTICE DEPARTMENT IS COMMITTED TO

VIGOROUS, FAIR, EQUAL APPLICATION OF OUR LAWS. YOU HAVE SHOWN THOSE OF US PRIVILEGED TO WORK UNDER YOUR LEADERSHIP THAT DOING THE RIGHT THING IS ALWAYS THE RIGHT THING. YES, EVEN INCLUDING WHEN YOU DECIDED TO MOVE UP TO THE FIFTH FLOOR SO YOU COULD KEEP A CLOSER EYE ON ME. SMART MOVE, DOING THE RIGHT THING IS ALWAYS THE RIGHT THING. I COULD GO ON. I WOULD LIKE TO GO ON. LUCKY FOR ALL OF YOU, THAT IS THE PRIVILEGE OF OUR NEXT SPEAKER. AT THIS TIME, IT'S MY GREAT PLEASURE TO INTRODUCE OUR DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL, A WOMAN WHO FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS HAS PUT HER HEART, HER SOUL, HER BOUNDLESS ENERGY IN SERVING THIS PRESIDENT, THIS DEPARTMENT, AND THIS NATION. WHAT A LEGACY SHE HAS LEFT FOR US, THROUGH 27 YEARS OF SERVICE, INCLUDING 25 IN THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA. THOSE DEFINED FOR US ALL WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A COMMITTED AND EFFECTIVE PUBLIC SERVICE. PLEASE JOIN ME IN WELCOMING THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES, THE HONORABLE SALLY YATES. [APPLAUSE]

MS. YATES: THANK YOU, EVERYONE. THANK YOU FOR AN INCREDIBLY GENEROUS INTRODUCTION AND THANKS TO ALL OF YOU AS WELL. I AM DELIGHTED TO BE ABLE TO WELCOME YOU HERE TODAY AND REALLY PROUD TO BE ABLE TO SPEAK FOR OUR COLLEAGUES AT EVERY LEVEL AT THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AS WE RECOGNIZE THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OUR FEELERS -- FEARLESS LEADER, ATTORNEY GENERAL LORETTA LYNCH. I WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND A SPECIAL WELCOME TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S FAMILY, INCLUDING HER HUSBAND, STEVE, BUT ALSO HER BROTHER-IN-LAW, HER SISTER-IN-LAW, HER SISTER-IN-LAW NICOLE HICKS, AND HER NIECE, JASMINE HICKS. YOU KNOW BETTER THAN MOST OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S JOB IS NOT AN EASY ONE. IT'S RESPONSIBILITIES REQUIRE A GREAT DEAL OF UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT FROM LOVED ONES. SO BEFORE WE THANK ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH, I WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT WE THANK ALL OF YOU AS WELL FOR YOUR WILLINGNESS TO SHARE -- [APPLAUSE] THANK YOU FOR YOUR WILLINGNESS TO SHARE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WITH US HERE AT THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FAMILY, AND FOR HELPING HER TO SERVE WITH SUCH DISTINCTION AND GRACE. I FIRST MET THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WHEN WE WERE BOTH SERVING AS U.S. ATTORNEYS ON ATTORNEY GENERAL HOLDER'S ATTORNEY GENERAL'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE. I CAN TELL YOU THAT EVEN THEN, I ALONG WITH MY FELLOW U.S. ATTORNEYS NOTED HER UNWAVERING RESOLVE, HER DEVOTION TO THE LAW, AND HER UNFAILING CIVILITY. AS PRESIDENT OBAMA SAID WHEN HE NOMINATED HER, LORETTA MAY BE THE ONLY LAWYER IN AMERICA WHO BATTLES MONSTERS AND DRUGLORDS AND TERRORISTS AND STILL HAS A REPUTATION FOR BEING A PEOPLE PERSON. THAT REPUTATION IS WELL DESERVED. THOSE SAME CHARACTERISTICS HAVE DEFINED HER TENURE AS ATTORNEY GENERAL. OF COURSE, THOSE CHARACTERISTICS WERE FORGED THROUGH A REMARKABLE CAREER, SERVING AS ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY IN THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK BEFORE RISING TO THE LEVEL OF U.S. ATTORNEY IN THAT DISTRICT, NOT ONCE, BUT TWICE. SPEAKING AS ANOTHER LONG TIME AUSA AND U.S. ATTORNEY, I CAN TELL YOU THAT EXPERIENCE MEANS SOMETHING. NOT ONLY DOES IT REVEAL THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CHARACTER, BECAUSE SHE HAS SPENT THE MAJORITY OF HER PROFESSIONAL LIFE FIGHTING FOR THE IDEALS OF FAIRNESS AND EQUALITY AND JUSTICE THAT DEFINE THIS DEPARTMENT, BUT ALSO MEANS THAT SHE KNOWS WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE IN THE FIELD. SHE KNOWS WHAT IT'S LIKE TO DO THE HARD WORK THAT THE REST OF US UP ON THE STAGE TOO OFTEN TAKE CREDIT FOR. SHE KNOWS WHAT IT'S LIKE TO SPEND COUNTLESS HOURS AWAY FROM YOUR FAMILY IN THE MIDDLE OF A TRIAL OR INVESTIGATION. SHE KNOWS WHAT IT'S LIKE TO HAVE TO GRAPPLE WITH COMPLEX STATUTES AND UNWIND REDTAPE AND PERHAPS WORST OF ALL, SOMETIMES TO HAVE TO WAIT ENDLESSLY FOR AN ANSWER FROM MAIN JUSTICE. ALL

OF THESE THINGS THAT DRIVE LAWYERS AND AGENTS ABSOLUTELY CRAZY. AND SHE UNDERSTANDS THE DEVOTION THAT ALL OF THE FOLKS HERE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAVE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, AND TO THIS INSTITUTION, AND TO THE LAW. AND EVEN IN THE MIDST OF HER IMPOSSIBLY BUSY SCHEDULE, SHE HAS ALWAYS TAKEN THE TIME TO THANK THE AGENTS AND TRIAL ATTORNEYS AND SUPPORT STAFF WHO DO THE WORK AND MAKE THE CASES THAT MAKE JUSTICE REAL FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. BEING PULLED IN SO MANY DIRECTIONS WOULD FLUSTER MOST PEOPLE, BUT ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH IS NOTHING IF NOT UNFLAPPABLE. WE'VE SEEN THAT ALMOST DAILY AROUND HERE, CONGRESS DOESN'T RATTLE HER, REPORTERS DON'T FAZE HER, MEETINGS AT THE WHITE HOUSE ARE HANDLED WITH APLOMB, AND SHE'S NOT EVEN THROWN BY INTERNATIONAL SOCCER FEDERATION FLYING HER IMAGE OVER THEIR STADIUMS. I HAVE OBSERVED TIME AND TIME AGAIN IN DIFFICULT SITUATIONS THAT SHE IS LEFT UNDAUNTED AND IN CONTROL. AND THIS COOL AND COLLECTED COMPOSURE HAS HELPED THIS INSTITUTION AND THIS COUNTRY REMAIN STEADY IN TUMULTUOUS TIMES. AS MANY OF YOU WILL REMEMBER, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WAS SWORN IN ON THE DAY OF FREDDIE GRAY'S FUNERAL IN BALTIMORE. TENSIONS WERE HIGH. THE CITY WAS WRAPPED WITH MISTRUST AND FEAR. SHE SPOKE WITH COMMUNITY LEADERS, SHE MET WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND WHERE SHE UNEARTHED WHAT SHE LATER DESCRIBED, A COMMON SPIRIT, RESILIENCE, AND A SHARED DESIRE FOR PEACE AND UNITY. IN HER FIRST WEEK ON THE JOB, SHE HELPED CALM THE WATERS AND BEGAN THE WORK OF DEVELOPING SERIOUS REFORM TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S POLICIES AND CULTURE, EFFORTS THAT ARE BEARING FRUIT AS WE SPEAK. OVER THE COURSE OF ALMOST 2 YEARS, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TRAVELED TO 15 CITIES WITH THE ESSENTIAL GOAL OF STRENGTHENING TRUST BETWEEN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE. IN CITY AFTER CITY, IN COMMUNITIES AROUND THE NATION, SHE HELPED TO DEMONSTRATE THAT WE HAVE WITHIN US THE CAPACITY TO HEAL, TO GROW, AND TO FLOURISH TOGETHER. THAT WORK HAS NOT BEEN EASY, BUT ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH HAS BEEN DRIVEN BY A COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE THAT IS EVIDENT NOT ONLY FROM THE MANY YEARS SHE HAS SPENT IN THE TRENCHES TRYING CASES AND LEADING THE U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, BUT ALSO FROM HER TIME ON THE NATIONAL STAGE. SHE HAS ENSURED THAT THIS DEPARTMENT REMAINS A SOURCE OF STRENGTH AND SAID OORT -- SUPPORT FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE AMONG US. SHE HAS SPOKEN OUT TO OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT. SHE HAS STOOD UP FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN HAMMERED WITH UNJUST BINDS AND FEES. SHE HAS MARCHED ALONGSIDE INDIVIDUALS WHO CONTINUE TO FIGHT FOR THE CIVIL RIGHTS THAT THEY HAVE BEEN PROMISED THAT WE ALL TOO RARELY ENJOY. FOR MILLIONS OF OUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS AND FELLOW AMERICANS, HER MESSAGE WAS CLEAR. SHE SAW YOU. SHE STOOD WITH YOU. AND SHE WAS DETERMINED TO PROTECT AND TO SERVE YOU. LORETTA HAS MADE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF AMERICA TO BE MORE SAFE AND SECURE BECAUSE OF HER STEADFAST LEADERSHIP. SHE HAS MADE A DIFFERENCE FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE MORE FREE TO BE THEMSELVES BECAUSE OF HER DETERMINATION TO DO THE RIGHT THING. SHE'S MADE A DIFFERENCE IN HER WORK TO CREATE THE MORE PERFECT UNION, AND THE MORE JUST SOCIETY THAT HAS ALWAYS BEEN THIS DEPARTMENT'S SACRED MISSION. SHE'S MADE A DIFFERENCE TO US. ALL OF US HERE TODAY WHO HAVE BEEN PRIVILEGED TO JOIN HER IN THAT VITAL EFFORT TO HELP BEND THE ARC OF THE MORAL UNIVERSE JUST A LITTLE BIT FURTHER TOWARDS JUSTICE. LORETTA, I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP AND YOUR FRIENDSHIP. IT HAS BEEN AN HONOR TO WORK WITH YOU IN SERVICE OF THIS INSTITUTION THAT WE BOTH LOVE. IT HAS BEEN A PRIVILEGE AND A PLEASURE TO HELP LEAD THIS DEPARTMENT WITH MY FRIEND. ON BEHALF OF EVERYONE HERE AT THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, I WANT TO THANK YOU, ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH. THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING. AND AT

THIS TIME, IT'S MY PLEASURE TO INTRODUCE TO YOU ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LEE LOFTUS. THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE] MR.

LOFTUS: GOOD AFTERNOON, EVERYONE. IT IS A SPECIAL TREAT FOR ME TO PARTICIPATE IN TODAY'S EVENT. IT'S A REAL PRIVILEGE. I'VE BEEN FORTUNATE TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE AG SINCE MEETING HER WHEN SHE WAS ON THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE. I'VE BEEN FORTUNATE TO CONTINUE WORKING WITH HER THROUGHOUT HER TENURE AS ATTORNEY GENERAL. I KNOW FIRSTHAND HOW DEEPLY THE AG CARED FOR THIS DEPARTMENT AND CARED FOR THE DOJ CAREER EMPLOYEES AT THIS DEPARTMENT,, INCLUDING OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT BUREAUS AND THEIR EMPLOYEES, THE U.S. ATTORNEY'S ORGANIZATION, THE MAIN JUSTICE OFFICES, AND ALL THE OTHER COMPONENTS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. WHEN I THINK ABOUT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S TIME HERE, IT'S NOT THE BIG CASES AND THE BIG POLICIES AND THE BIG THINGS THE DEPARTMENT HAS ACCOMPLISHED. WHEN I THINK BACK, I THINK BACK TO SOME OF THE LITTLE THINGS THAT STRUCK ME AS SO IMPORTANT DURING THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S TIME. IT WAS THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DOING THINGS LIKE ARRANGING FOR THE SEPTEMBER 11TH SURVIVOR'S TREE TO BE BROUGHT DOWN FROM NEW YORK AND PLANTED IN OUR COURTYARD. IT WAS EATING WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL ON THE HILL AS SHE SAT WITH AN PRIVATELY TALK TO THE APPROPRIATORS, TELLING THEM ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF SUPPORTING THE DOJ. I JUST WANT TO SAY, THANK YOU ATTORNEY GENERAL, FOR DOING THOSE THINGS. IT MEANT A LOT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. WITH THAT, WOULD YOU KINDLY JOIN ME FOR A PRESENTATION UP HERE, IF YOU DON'T MIND. ONE OF OUR DOJ TRADITIONS HAS BEEN TO PRESENT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WITH A SHADOW BOX THAT INCLUDES THE JUDGES WORN BY OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENTS, OUR INSPECTORS, OUR DEPUTY U.S. MARSHALS, OUR CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS ACROSS THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE REPRESENTING OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT COMPONENTS. I WOULD LIKE TO, ON BEHALF OF OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT COMPONENTS AND THEIR EMPLOYEES, AND YOU ARE JOINED BY YOUR LAW ENFORCEMENT COMPONENT HEADS IN THE AUDIENCE TODAY, ON BEHALF OF YOUR LAW ENFORCEMENT COMPONENTS, WE HAVE A SHADOW BOX FOR YOU. AND FOR THE AUDIENCE, YOU PROBABLY CANNOT SEE IT THIS DISTANCE. WE HAVE THE BADGETS FROM THE BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS, AND EXPLOSIVES. THE BUREAU OF PRISONS, THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION, THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, INTERPOL WASHINGTON, SECURITY AND EMERGENCY PLANNING STAFF, THE INSPECTORS AT THE OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL, AND THE U.S. MARSHALS SERVICE. IT IS A DOJ TRADITION TO PRESENT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WITH THIS SHADOWBOX. [APPLAUSE] THAT IS TRADITION NUMBER ONE. THERE'S ANOTHER TRADITION AT THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND FOR THAT, I WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE THE DIRECTOR OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR U.S. ATTORNEYS, MONTY WILKINSON HAS ANOTHER GIFT FOR YOU. [APPLAUSE] MR.

WILKINSON: THANK YOU VERY MUCH, LEE. BEFORE WE GET TO THE SECOND PRESENTATION, MADAM ATTORNEY GENERAL, LIKE THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL, WHEN THINKING OF WHAT TO SAY TODAY, IT SEEMED FITTING TO BORROW FROM THE PRESIDENTS OR MARKS. HE DESCRIBED YOU AS A PEOPLE'S LAWYER, SOMEONE DRIVEN TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR THE PEOPLE SHE SERVES. THAT IS AN INCREDIBLY ACCURATE DESCRIPTION OF A REMARKABLE PUBLIC SERVANT, FRIEND TO US ALL, AND CHAMPION OF JUSTICE FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. AS YOU WELL KNOW, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SPENT THE FIRST SEVERAL YEARS OF THIS ADMINISTRATION SERVING OUR NATION AS UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK, AND AS A LEADER IN THE UNITED STATES

ATTORNEY COMMUNITY, FIRST AS THE VICE CHAIR AND THEN AS THE CHAIR OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE. ALL OF US IN THE UNITED STATES COMMUNITY FEEL VERY FORTUNATE TO HAVE WORKED WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL HER TIME ON THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE, AND FOR HER AS OUR ATTORNEY GENERAL. OVER THE YEARS, MANY OF US SPENT LONG HOURS WORKING WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, TACKLING DIFFICULT ISSUES FACING THE U.S. ATTORNEYS COMMUNITY, THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, AND ARE COUNTRY. AS A LOT OF YOU IN THIS ROOM CAN ATTEST, WHEN TIMES WERE TOUGH, IT WAS INSPIRING TO WATCH HER LEADERSHIP. MET THEM ATTORNEY GENERAL, WE HAVE ADMIRED YOUR UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, AND WE WILL ALWAYS BE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SERVICE. NOW I'D LIKE TO INVITE THE U.S. ATTORNEY FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK AND THE CURRENT CHAIR, AND THE U.S. ATTORNEY FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN AND THE VICE CHAIR TO JOIN US ON STAGE FOR THE NEXT PRESENTATION. SO, ANOTHER TRADITION HERE AT THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IS TO PRESENT THE OUTGOING ATTORNEY GENERAL WITH THE CABINET SHARE IN WHICH HE OR SHE SAT DURING CABINET MEETINGS AT THE WHITE HOUSE. -- CHAIR IN WHICH HE OR SHE SAT DURING CABINET MEETINGS AT THE WHITE HOUSE. AS A RESULT, MEMBERS HAVE ACQUIRED YOUR CABINET CHAIR. ON BEHALF OF ALL YOUR COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS HERE AT JUSTICE, IT'S OUR HONOR TO PRESENT IT TO YOU HERE TODAY. [APPLAUSE] NOW SIT BACK AND RELAX IN YOUR NEW CHAIR. YOU HAVE A SPECIAL TRIBUTE VIDEO THAT WAS PRODUCED BY THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE. -- WE HAVE A SPECIAL TRIBUTE VIDEO THAT WAS PRODUCED BY THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE. PRES.

OBAMA: IN A COUNTRY BUILT ON THE RULE OF LAW, THERE ARE A FEW, PERHAPS NO OFFICES MORE IMPORTANT THAN THAT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL. TODAY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE CAN HAVE NO GREATER ADVOCATE FOR THE RIGHT TO EQUALITY UNDER THE LAW, A GREATER PARTNER IN SECURING JUSTICE FOR ALL, THEN OUR ATTORNEY GENERAL, LORETTA LYNCH. [APPLAUSE]

ATTY. GEN. LYNCH: I, THE RIGHT ELIZABETH LYNCH, DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR THAT I WILL SUPPORT AND DEFEND --

>> FEW ATTORNEY GENERAL'S HAVE BURST ONTO THE WORLD STAGE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH DID TRADE SHE EXEMPLIFIED BOTH IN HER PERSON AND IN HER BACKGROUND THE COMMITMENT TO INTERNATIONAL RULE OF LAW.

>> IT'S BEEN REMARKABLE TO WATCH SOMEONE WHO IS SO SENSITIVE TO MESSAGING AND PERCEPTION, ALSO THOUGH, BE VERY BOLD ABOUT THE ACTION THAT SHE'S GOING TO TAKE SOMEBODY PUSHES THE WRONG BUTTON.

>> SHE HAS THIS VERY UNIQUE ABILITY TO BE ABLE TO CONNECT TO ALL STAKEHOLDERS, EVEN WHEN THEY HAVE VERY OR OPPOSING VIEWS, TO GET THEM TO AT LEAST SEE VARYING PERSPECTIVE AND APPRECIATE THE DIFFERENCES.

>> SHE'S GOT THE GRAVITAS, SHE'S GOT THE SMARTS, SHE'S GOT THE WORK ETHIC, THE EMPATHY I THINK IS REALLY IMPORTANT. SHE COMMANDS A ROOM, BUT SHE ALSO LISTENS TO PEOPLE.

>> LORETTA, YOU HAVE SHOWN WHO YOU ARE IN EVERYTHING YOU HAVE DONE. YOU HAVE UPHELD THE VERY VALUES OF THE OATH YOU ARE ABOUT TO TAKE.

>> I WATCHED IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM WHEN THE VICE PRESIDENTS WERE HER IN. TWO HOURS AFTER SWEARING IN, I HAD A MEETING WITH HER WITH REGARDS TO BALTIMORE. THE RIOTS HAD ALREADY OCCURRED. THIS WAS HER FIRST DAY IN OFFICE. I THINK WHAT THAT MOMENT SHOWED IS HOW THE JOB OF ATTORNEY GENERAL MEANS YOU NEED TO BE READY DAY ONE.

ATTY. GEN. LYNCH: TODAY THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IS OPENING AN INVESTIGATION INTO WHETHER THE BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT --

>> TO HEAR THE ATTORNEY FRESH OFF OF BEING SWORN IN, WITHIN AN HOUR, ONE THING THAT STOOD OUT WAS HER CALM DEMEANOR, HER KNOWLEDGE OF ALL THE ISSUES, AND HER THOUGHTFUL PROCESSING OF FIGURING OUT WHAT THE NEXT STEPS WILL BE. VERY STRATEGIC IN THINKING ABOUT HOW TO RESPOND. IT WAS CLEAR, IT FELT LIKE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL HAD BEEN THERE FOREVER AND SHE HAD BEEN DOWN THIS ROAD A FEW TIMES BEFORE.

>> I WATCHED HER ON TV AND KNEW THAT THE RIGHT PERSON WAS IN PLACE TO HANDLE THE VOLATILE SITUATION THAT WAS OCCURRING. TALKING ABOUT SOMEONE WHO WAS ABLE TO WALK IN AND COMMUNICATE IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE COMMUNITY KNEW THAT SHE WAS IN TUNE WITH WHAT THEIR CONCERNs WERE. AND ALSO, SHE WANTED THE POLICE TO KNOW THAT SHE WAS NOT AGAINST THEM, THAT SHE WAS WITH THEM, AND RECOGNIZED HOW DANGEROUS A JOB IT WAS THAT THEY WERE DOING.

>> I THINK LORETTA IS UNIQUE. SHE CONSIDERS HERSELF TO BE PART OF LAW ENFORCEMENT. THAT ALONE SENT A STRONG AND HEALING MESSAGE TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT SIDE OF THAT EQUATION. ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE EQUATION, SHE'S ALSO A REALLY GOOD LISTENER. SHE LISTENS AND SHE'S EMPATHIC TO PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES WHO MAY HAVE TENSE RELATIONSHIPS WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT. SHE HAS BEEN A GOOD AMBASSADOR ON ALL SIDES OF THAT ISSUE.

>> THE EVENTS AS THEY UNFOLDED, WHETHER FERGUSON, ERIC GARNER, BECAUSE OF HER UNDERSTANDING OF THE ISSUES OF THE DAY, THEY FIT PERFECTLY IN THE PRIORITY SHE HAD ALREADY SET AND THE MOMENTUM SHE ALREADY HAD, GARNERED AND GENERATED ACTIVITIES THE DEPARTMENT WAS MOVING FORWARD UNDER HER LEADERSHIP. THAT MADE US PREPARED TO RESPOND TO SOME OF THE MOST DIFFICULT CHALLENGES WE FACED. EVERY TRIP WE MADE, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL INSISTED AND WAS COMMITTED TO MAKING SURE THAT SHE STOPPED AT A POLICE DEPARTMENT TO TALK TO THE OFFICERS. OFF CAMERA, WHAT WE CALL A ROLL CALL. TO WATCH HER STAND THERE WITH 30, 40, SOMETIMES 100 POLICE OFFICERS, SOMETIMES THE OFFICERS HAD AS LITTLE TIME AS 6 MONTHS, SOME OF THEM 30 YEARS, AND TO REALLY ENGAGE THEM AND LISTEN TO THEM AND SHOW THEM THAT SHE UNDERSTOOD THE CHALLENGES OF THEIR JOB, AND THE AMOUNT OF RESPECT SHE GAVE THEM, EVERY PLACE WE WENT AFTER WE LEFT, THE RANK-AND-FILE OFFICERS WERE JUST IN AWE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND WHAT IT MEANT FOR HER TO UNDERSTAND THE CHALLENGES OF THEIR JOB AND TO SHOW THAT LEVEL OF RESPECT. IT MEANT A LOT TO THE RANK-AND-FILE.

ATTY. GEN. LYNCH: NEARLY A YEAR AGO, THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE RELEASED OUR FINDINGS IN AN INVESTIGATION OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OF FERGUSON, MISSOURI.

>> THE ATTORNEY GENERAL HAS THIS INCREDIBLE RESERVE OF EMPATHY AND ABILITY TO CONNECT WITH PEOPLE. SHE IS ALSO NOT AT ALL AFRAID OF BEING BOLD WHEN NECESSARY, AND I THINK OUR ACTIONS AND WAITING DAYS OF TRYING TO GET THE CONSENT DECREE APPROVED IN FERGUSON SHOWS SHE HAS ZERO TOLERANCE FOR SHENANIGANS AND GAMES, AND WILL BE VERY CLEAR EYED ABOUT WHAT THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT NEEDS TO DO AND HOW BOLDLY WE NEED TO ACT WHEN THERE IS A SERIOUS IMPEDIMENT TO JUSTICE. THE EYES OF THE NATION HAVE BEEN ON FERGUSON FOR MANY MONTHS. THERE WAS A REAL KIND OF REACTION TO HER ANNOUNCING THE LAWSUIT IN FERGUSON AS, THIS JUSTICE DEPARTMENT IS PUTTING ITS MONEY WHERE ITS MOUTH IS.

>> IN BOTH THE LEAD UP TO WHEN WE WERE NEGOTIATING THE CONSENT DECREE AND ALSO IN THE CHALLENGE TO THE NORTH CAROLINA SO-CALLED BATHROOM BILL, HB 2, THOSE WERE MOMENTS WHERE IT WAS VERY CLEAR, DON'T MESS WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

ATTY. GEN. LYNCH: LET ME SPEAK DIRECTLY TO THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY ITSELF. SOME OF YOU HAVE LIVED FREELY FOR DECADES. OTHERS OF YOU ARE STILL WONDERING HOW YOU CAN POSSIBLY --

>> TO HEAR THE NATION'S TOP LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER TO BE SO POWERFUL AND SO FORCEFUL, VINDICATING THE HUMAN DIGNITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS OF LGBT INDIVIDUALS, INCLUDING TRANSGENDER INDIVIDUALS, WAS ELECTRIFYING.

ATTY. GEN. LYNCH: NO MATTER HOW ISOLATED, NO MATTER HOW AFRAID, NO MATTER HOW ALONE YOU MAY FEEL TODAY, KNOW THIS, THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND THE ENTIRE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION POINT YOU TO KNOW THAT WE STAND WITH YOU AND WE WILL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO PROTECT YOU GOING FORWARD.

>> FIFA WAS AN ORGANIZATION THAT PEOPLE SUSPECTED WAS CORRUPT. THIS WAS NOT NEWS IN THAT REGARD. BUT NO ONE BELIEVE D THAT ANYONE WOULD HAVE THE COURAGE OR RESOURCES TO TAKE IT ON, AND SHE DID.

ATTY. GEN. LYNCH: THE NEW CHARGES, UNSEALED TODAY, HIGHLIGHT CORRUPTION SCHEMES PRINCIPALLY INVOLVING SOCCER OFFICIALS --

>> THE FIFA CASE IS PROBABLY ONE OF THE BIGGEST CASES EVER BROUGHT IN THE UNITED STATES. SOCCER IS A GAME OF THE REST OF THE WORLD. I SAW AS I WAS WALKING DOWN THE STREET IN ROME, PEOPLE CARRYING POSTERS OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF LORETTA LYNCH, WHICH WAS REALLY AMAZING, ESPECIALLY FOR THAT TIME.

>> SHE RESTORED FAITH NOT ONLY IN THE SENSE OF DEALING WITH INTERNATIONAL SPORTS, BUT WILLINGNESS TO FIGHT CORRUPTION REGARDLESS OF THE POWER OF THOSE THAT WERE BEHIND ORGANIZATION.

ATTY. GEN. LYNCH: THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAS FILED A CIVIL COMPLAINT SEEKING TO FORFEIT AND RECOVER MORE THAN \$1 BILLION IN ASSETS ASSOCIATED WITH AN INTERNATIONAL CONSPIRACY TO LAUNDER FUNDS STOLEN FROM ONE DEVELOPMENT --

>> SHE HAS BEEN SUPPORTIVE OF INTERNATIONAL WORK COUNTRIES ALL ACROSS THE WORLD AND THE CRIMINAL DIVISION. IN THIS DAY AND AGE,, MOST ANY SIGNIFICANT CRIME HAS AN INTERNATIONAL COMPONENT.

ATTY. GEN. LYNCH: TODAY WE HAVE UNSEALED AN INDICTMENT AGAINST7 ALLEGED EXPRESSED HACKERS EMPLOYED BY COMPUTER SECURITY COMPANIES --

>> THERE IS NO ONE THAT IS HAD THE SAME KIND OF INTERNATIONAL LAW BACKGROUND AS AN ATTORNEY GENERAL THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH HAS, SINCE SHE SERVED NOT ONLY AS U.S. ATTORNEY BEFORE, BUT ALSO HAD WORKED FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNE. AND THAT MAKES HER REALLY UNIQUE AMONGST THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S WE'VE HAD.

>> IT'S AMAZING TO HAVE AN ATTORNEY GENERAL WHO MADE LGBT WRITES A PRIORITY FOR HER OWN TENURE AT A TIME WHERE THERE HAS BEEN SUCH INCREDIBLE MOMENTUM AND YET THERE ARE STILL A LOT OF SETBACKS THE NEED DOJ INTERVENTION. SHE HAS BROUGHT A CONVICTION AND PASSION TO LGBT RIGHTS THAT I THINK HAS BEEN NOTICED FAR AND WIDE IN THIS COUNTRY AND WILL CERTAINLY BE VERY SIGNIFICANT MARK OF HER TENURE. WE WENT TO THE SCHOOL IN NEW YORK A FEW WEEKS AGO AND HAD A VERY SMALL MEETING WITH A SET OF LGBT STUDENTS AT THE SCHOOL, AND THEY JUST COULDN'T GET ENOUGH OF THIS ATTORNEY GENERAL. IN PART BECAUSE SHE WAS LISTENING SO INTENTLY, KIND OF EMPATHIZING WITH THEIR SITUATION, BUT ALSO TELLING THEM TO KEEP THE FAITH AND CONTINUE TO BE INSPIRED AND BECOME THE LEADERS THEY NEED TO BE TO CARRY FORTH THE FIGHT FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE. SHE WAS ABLE TO CONNECT WITH CHILDREN, WITH ADULTS, WITH PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN MARGINALIZED AND HAVE BEEN SOME OF THE MOST VULNERABLE AMONG US, AND INSPIRED THEM TO KIND OF FIGHT ON, AND TO DO SO WITH THE DIGNITY AND SUPPORT THEY NEED TO DO THAT.

>> SHE BELIEVES THE KIDS ARE OUR FUTURE , AND SHE BELIEVES THAT ONE OF THE GREATEST THINGS THE DEPARTMENT CAN DO IS ITS EFFORTS AND OUTREACH TO THE COMMUNITY, TO MAKE THE LAW AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ATTRACTIVE OPTION FOR CHILDREN. SHE ALSO RECOGNIZES THE SACRIFICE THAT PARENTS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT AND WORKING PARENTS, PERIOD, ARE MAKING, AND BELIEVES THAT WE ARE DUTY BOUND TO GET BACK TO THE COMMUNITIES AND SPECIFICALLY THE CHILDREN.

>> THERE WAS ONE TIME, I BELIEVE WE WERE IN MEMPHIS, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WAS TAKING A TOUR OF A MUSEUM AND WE RAN ACROSS A YOUNG GIRL WHO WAS HOLDING A SIGN, YOU INSPIRE ME. SHE WENT TO THE YOUNG LADY INSERTED TALKING TO HER. THE YOUNG LADY'S EYES, SHE WAS CRYING, HER MOTHER WAS CRYING. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SAID, YOU INSPIRE ME.

>> SHE HAS RISEN TO THE CHALLENGE AND INSPIRED ALL OF US TO BE THOUGHTFUL ABOUT HOW WE

APPROACH THIS WORK.

>> SHE'S ALWAYS THINKING ABOUT WHAT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE COMMUNITIES IN THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND BELIEVES THAT IS NEVER IN CONFLICT WITH THE BEST INTERESTS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT.

>> SHE CAN WALK IN AND TALK TO ANYBODY IN ANY STATION OF LIFE AND MAKE THEM FEEL THAT THEY ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT PERSON IN THE ROOM.

>> SHE EMPOWERS PEOPLE TO DO THEIR JOBS AND SHE HAS GOOD PEOPLE AROUND HER, SHE RECOGNIZES THEY HAVE TALENTS, AND SHE LETS THEM DO THEIR JOB AND SHE LETS HIM DO IT IN A WAY THAT BENEFITS THE ENTIRE DEPARTMENT AN ENTIRE COUNTRY.

>> SHE IS VERY CLEAR, EVEN IN THE FACE OF WHAT MAY BE PERCEIVED AS AN UNPOPULAR FIGHT OR A FIGHT THAT WILL GARNER A LOT OF BACKLASH, THE ONE THE LAW AND FACTS DEMAND A JUSTICE DEPARTMENT INTERVENTION IN THIS WAY, SHE DOES NOT HESITATE, AND SHE INSPIRES ALL OF US TO STAND UP FOR WHAT'S RIGHT AND TO HAVE HER BACKING DOING THAT OVER AND OVER AGAIN IN HER TENURE IS REALLY MEANT THE WORLD TO THE CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION, AND MORE IMPORTANTLY PERHAPS, TO THE NATION.

>> PEOPLE KNEW ON THE STREET THAT LORETTA LYNCH COULD BE COUNTED ON. NOT ONLY TO DO THE RIGHT THING, BUT TO DO THE COURAGEOUS THING.

>> SHE WAS ALWAYS IMPECCABLY DRESSED. WE LEARNED THAT SHE KNEW WHERE EVERY SINGLE OUTLET STORE IN THE WORLD WAS. I ONCE WENT TO ITALY AND ASK IF SHE KNEW ANY INTERESTING SITES AROUND FLORENCE. SHE TOLD ME THREE RETAIL OUTLETS WHERE YOU CAN GET GREAT DEALS ON PRADA.

>> THE ATTORNEY GENERAL IS A RELENTLESS NEGOTIATOR AND VERY GOOD AT BARGAINING. IN RWANDA I PURCHASED THIS TIE NOT AVAILABLE IN ANY STORE, AND THEY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S NEGOTIATION ON MY BEHALF, I THINK I SAVED AT LEAST HALF THE PRICE. ONE DOLLAR RATHER THAN TWO DOLLARS. IT ONLY TOOK HER HALF AN HOUR TO NEGOTIATE.

>> IF YOU ARE WASTING WORDS ARE SAYING A WHOLE LOT OF NOTHING, SHE GIVES YOU THAT BLANK LOOK, THAT KIND OF -- YOU KNOW YOU NEED TO START ALL OVER AGAIN.

>> I DON'T KNOW WHAT HER PLANS ARE EXACTLY AFTER SHE LEAVES OFFICE, I WOULD SUGGEST TO YOU AND ANYONE LISTENING THAT IF SHE'S AVAILABLE, YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT BUYING A HOUSE OR A CAR OR A TIE, BRING HER ALONG TO THE NEGOTIATING SESSION.

>> I HOPE AFTER LORETTA'S TENURE IS DONE, SHE WILL BE DOING SOMETHING SIMILAR TO WHAT I'M DOING, WHICH IS GETTING ON A PLANE TO SOMEWHERE AFTER JANUARY 20.

>> I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WILL DO NEXT, BUT I HOPE FIRST THAT SHE WILL

TAKE A LONG AND FABULOUS VACATION SOMEWHERE.

>> WHATEVER SHE DOES, WHEREVER SHE GOES HOME AND WHOEVER IS HAVE HER HIT THE JACKPOT. SHE IS THE COMPLETE PACKAGE, NOW WILL ONLY BRING LUSTER TO THE PLACE SHE LANDS. ♪
[APPLAUSE]

>> LADIES AND GENTLEMEN , THE 83RD ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES, THE HONORABLE LORETTA LYNCH. [APPLAUSE]

ATTY. GEN. LYNCH: THANK YOU, EVERYONE. THANK YOU SO MUCH. I TELL YOU, OF COURSE I HAVE ABLE SPEECH BUT THE PHRASE IT COMES TO MIND RIGHT NOW IS THAT MY HEART IS SO FULL OF JOY, GRATITUDE, LOVE FOR YOU ALL, APPRECIATION AND THANKS FOR EVERYTHING YOU HAVE GIVEN ME FOR A MOST 27 YEARS SINCE I JOINED THIS DEPARTMENT IN 1990. AND OF COURSE, WATCHING THAT WONDERFUL VIDEO, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR WORKING ON THAT. I APPRECIATE THAT SO MUCH. I PARTICULARLY LOVED THAT IT HIGHLIGHTS, I THINK, EVERY HAIRSTYLE I'VE HAD IS ATTORNEY GENERAL. IT HAS BROUGHT THIS EXPERIENCE HOME TO ME IN A VERY REAL AND VERY PERSONAL WAY. THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE I HAVE TO THANK FOR THIS MOMENT. SO, LET ME START WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN A FRIEND AND PARTNER FOR YERAS, ARS, AND THAT IS SALLY YATES. SALLY IS A DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL, THAT THAT IN NO WAY CONVEYS EVERYTHING SHE DOES FOR THIS DEPARTMENT, FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, AND EVERYTHING SHE'S DONE FOR ME. SHE HAS BEEN A FRIEND, A LEADER, A PIONEER. SHE IS ONE OF THE MOST TALENTED LAWYERS I'VE EVER ENCOUNTERED. SHE IS A KICK-ASS PROSECUTOR FROM WAY BACK. SHE IS THE REAL DEAL. SHE ABSOLUTELY IS. IF SALLY IS ON YOUR SIDE, YOU CAN GO THROUGH THE TRENCHES. AND WE HAD TO DO THAT ON A FEW OCCASIONS. AND THERE IS NO BETTER PARTNER THERE. SHE'S BEEN A CHAMPION FOR JUSTICE, SHE'S WORKED ON OUR CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM, SHE HAS LIVED THE CLEMENCY INITIATIVE. I THINK SHE MAY PERSONALLY HAVE MEMORIZ THE FILE OF EVERY INDIVIDUAL WHO'S GOTTEN CLEMENCY IN THIS ADMINISTRATION, BECAUSE SHE'S READ THEM ALL. AND SHE HAS WORKED TO MAKE AN DEPARTMENT STRONGER AND BETTER. YOU HAVE BEEN TIRELESS. FROM THAT TO WORKING ON OUR PRISON SYSTEM, THERE LITERALLY THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WHOSE LIVES HAVE BEEN CHANGED FOR THE BETTER BECAUSE YOU ARE IN YOUR CHAIR. AND I COUNT MYSELF ONE OF THEM. THANK YOU FOR THAT.
[APPLAUSE] SO, ARE FABULOUS MC. BILLB AER, ONCE HE WAS THERE, I REALIZED I NEEDED TO KEEP AN EYE ON HIM. BILL ENGINEERED THIS EVENT, ALONG WITH MY STAFF IN PLANNING IT. BACKSTAGE, WHAT BILL SAID TO ME IN HIS TRADEMARK -- HE SAYS, THERE'S GOING TO COME A TIME DURING THE PROGRAM WHEN YOU LOOK AROUND IN YOUR CHAIR WILL BE GONE. JUST GO WITH IT -- AND YOUR CHAIR WILL BE GONE. JUST GO WITH IT. LEE LOFTUS, WE HAVE WORKED ON ISSUES LARGE AND SMALL. I WILL TELL YOU SOME OF MY FAVORITE MEMORIES OF WORKING WITH YOU ARE DURING SOME OF OUR DARKEST TIMES, AND THOSE WERE SEQUESTRATION. WE ALL HAD TO SIT DOWN AND BREAKOUT RED PENCILS AND DO OUR BEST TO BED -- BOTH CARRY OUT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL HOLDER'S MANDATE THAT WE NOT HAVE EITHER LAYOFFS OR THE MANDATED DAYS OFF FOR DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES, BUT ALSO TO PRESERVE THE WORKINGS AND THE HEART AND SPIRIT OF WHAT WE DID. LEE AND HIS TEAM SAT WITH ME AND OTHERS. WE WERE ON AGAC AT THE TIME AS WELL AS WITH MONTY. THE OF CARING AND DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT IS JUST TREMENDOUS. LEE LOFTIS --LEE LOFTUS IS A TREASURE IN THIS DEPARTMENT, AND I WANT PEOPLE TO KNOW THAT.
[APPLAUSE] MONTY WILKINSON, I'M PRIVILEGED TO COUNT IS NOT JUST A COLLEAGUE BUT A FRIEND

FOR SEVERAL YEARS, EVEN IN MY FIRST INCARNATION IN THE DEPARTMENT IN THE 1990'S WHEN HE WAS ON HOLDER'S STAFF AND WE GOT TO KNOW EACH OTHER THEN. IT HAS BEEN SUCH A PRIVILEGE TO WORK WITH YOU, BOTH ON AGAC BUT TO GET TO KNOW YOU PERSONALLY, THROUGH THE TIME SET MONTY WOULD HIDE MY SUITCASE AND NOT TELL ME WHERE IT WAS, THE TIMES HE WHICH RYAN MAKE ME LATE FOR MEETINGS, SORT OF A BROTHER-SISTER RELATIONSHIP. MONTY'S SPIRIT AND MONTY'S HEART IS STRONG, AND IT BEATS FOR THIS DEPARTMENT. MONTY, I THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING YOU HAVE DONE AS WELL. [APPLAUSE] OF COURSE, I HAVE TO THANK THE PRESIDENT FOR ENTRUSTING ME WITH THE PRIVILEGE AND RESPONSIBILITY OF LEADING THE DEPARTMENT I LOVE, BUT ALSO FOR EXEMPLIFYING THE KIND OF LEADERSHIP HE EXPECTS OF EVERYONE IN THIS ADMINISTRATION. IT'S MY FIRM BELIEVE, AND I WILL SHOUT THIS FROM THE HIGHEST ROOFTOPS, THAT, OUR NATION IS A BETTER PLACE , IS A SAFER PLACE, A STRONGER PLACE. [APPLAUSE] BECAUSE OF EVERYTHING HE'S DONE FOR ALL OF US HERE AT THERE ARE TIMES WHEN -- THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S JOB IS A WONDERFUL JOB. IT IS THE MOST WONDERFUL JOB I'VE HAD THE PRIVILEGE TO HOLD. THERE ARE TIMES WHEN THERE'S A LOT TO DO, -- A LOT GOING ON. I THINK ABOUT WHAT HE HAS TO DO AND I GET OVER MYSELF. I THINK ABOUT ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER, HE HAS BEEN A FRIEND FOR YEARS , A MENTOR FOR ME AND I KNOW FOR MANY IN THIS ROOM AND DEPARTMENT, HE HAS BEEN A SOURCE OF WISDOM, INSPIRATION, GUIDANCE. HE TRUSTED ME WITH THE DEPARTMENT HE LOVED AND THAT IS A TREMENDOUS GIFT FOR A NEW ATTORNEY GENERAL COMING IN. I HAVE TO THANK HIM AS WELL. [APPLAUSE] ALL OF YOU WHO CAME OUT TODAY -- I SEE SO MANY FAMILIAR FACES IN THIS CROWD. MY COLLEAGUES, MANY OF WHO HAVE RETURNED HOME TO THE DEPARTMENT. ALSO, MY DEAR FRIEND TO COME TO JOIN ME. MY FRIENDS FROM ALL CORNERS OF MY LIFE, MANY OF HOME -- MANY OF WHOM HAVE TRAVELED TO BE HERE. YOU WILL ALWAYS BE DEAR TO ME. AS I SAID TO SALLY EARLIER, IS THE GOAL TO GET THROUGH IT WITHOUT CRYING OR ONLY TO CRY A LITTLE BIT? OF COURSE, I TURNED TO MY FAMILY, WITHOUT WHOM I WOULD NOT BE HERE, WITHOUT THERE UNWAVERING LOVE AND SUPPORT, AS WELL AS THEIR INSPIRATION. MY OWN FATHER'S EXAMPLE, MY MOTHER'S DIGNITY, AND MY GRANDFATHER'S COURAGE. THEY TAUGHT ME A LIGHT BASED ON PRINCIPLE AND INTEGRITY, THOUGH DIFFICULT, IS REALLY THE ONLY LIFE WORTH HAVING. I HAVE HELD ONTO THAT DURING SOME MOMENTS IN THE OFFICE WHEN YOU ARE TRYING TO MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION OUT OF A HOST OF OPTIONS, NONE OF WHICH REALLY ANSWER WHEN YOU REALLY NEED AT THE MOMENT. I HAVE LOOKED TO THEM. MY BROTHER IS HERE TODAY AND HIS WIFE, NICOLE. HE IS THE FIFTH GENERATION OF MINISTERS IN OUR FAMILY. HE IS THE TRUE ORATOR OF MY GENERATION AND I USED TO CALL HIM MY LITTLE BROTHER AND NOW I HAVE TO CALL HIM THE REVEREND DR. HE HAS GIVEN ME SUPPORT OVER EVERY CHALLENGE I HAVE EVER HAD. OF COURSE, MY WONDERFUL HUSBAND STEVE. HE IS THE PARTNER TO MY HEART AND MY BEST FRIEND. I TELL YOU THAT NOWHERE NEAR ENOUGH. [APPLAUSE]

ATTY. GEN. LYNCH: I WILL SAY THAT YOU HAVE ALWAYS UNDERSTOOD, MAYBE EVEN BETTER THAN I, MY CONNECTION TO THIS PLACE AND THIS DEPARTMENT. SOMETIMES, EVEN BETTER THAN I HAVE. YOU HAVE UNDERSTOOD MY NEED TO BE HERE IF YOU HAVE ALWAYS PUSHED ME TO MAKE THE MOST OF THE TWO MEN THIS OPPORTUNITY. ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE HARGROVE FAMILY WHO CAME TO SUPPORT ME, TODAY, ALL MY SWEARING-IN, THE EVENTS, THANK YOU AS WELL. AS I COME TO THE TIME AS I MARK MY END OF MY DAYS AS ATTORNEY GENERAL, IT HAS BEEN A TIME OF GREAT EMOTION, A DAY OF THANKS AND TREMENDOUS GRATITUDE, BUT ALSO A DATE FOR ME TO LOOK BACK. I HAVE HAD THAT PRIVILEGE TO TALK TO MANY OF YOU AND MEMORIES. IT WAS IN 1990 THAT I

JOINED THIS DEPARTMENT. I TELL YOU, THERE WERE TIMES WHEN IT SEEMS LIKE IT WAS JUST YESTERDAY, WHEN I FIRST WALKED INTO COURT AND HAD THE IMMEASURABLE HONOR OF SAYING, MY NAME IS LORETTA LYNCH AND I REPRESENT THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. IF YOU HAD TOLD ME THEN, IN THOSE DAYS, WHEN I WAS RUNNING TO GET TO COURT ON TIME AND HOPING THAT THE ELEVATORS WOULD WORK -- I SEE FAMILIAR FACES AND HEADS NODDING -- IF YOU TOLD ME THEN THAT THE PLACES THAT PUBLIC SERVICE WOULD TAKE ME AND THAT ONE DAY I WOULD HAVE EVEN GREATER HONOR OF LEADING THIS WONDERFUL DEPARTMENT, I DON'T THINK I WOULD HAVE BELIEVED YOU IN THOSE DAYS. BUT IF YOU TOLD ME THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WOULD BE MY PROFESSIONAL HOME FOR THE BETTER PART OF MY ADULT LIFE, I WOULD HAVE BELIEVED THAT, DEFINITELY. I WILL TELL YOU, IF YOU TOLD ME TODAY THAT THERE WAS A WAY TO TURN AROUND AND DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN, I WOULD. THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEND THESE GOLDEN YEARS IN THE COMPANY OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE FOUND PURPOSE IN THE DIFFICULT DECISIONS OF THE LAW AND STRIVE TO IMPACT THE LIVES OF REAL PEOPLE IS AN OPPORTUNITY THAT I AM SO FORTUNATE BEFELL ME. WHEN I THINK BACK TO THOSE EARLY DAYS AS A YOUNG PROSECUTOR, AND REMINDS ME ALSO OF THE PEOPLE WHO SUPPORTED ME THROUGHOUT MY CAREER, THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN THE STAFF AND THE ASSISTANCE TO HELP ME BOTH IN BROOKLYN IN HERE AS WELL. I WILL TELL YOU, I WOULD NOT BE WHERE I AM TODAY WITHOUT THEM -- WITHOUT BETSY ADAMS. THE FACT THAT SHE HAS STAYED HAS BEEN ONE OF THE GREATEST I HAVE HAD. I THANK YOU. I REMEMBER THOSE DAYS JOINING THE DEPARTMENT, SOME OF THE PEOPLE ARE HERE TODAY. JIM, YOU AND I WORKED TOGETHER BACK IN THOSE DAYS. YOU CAN NUMBER THE EXCITEMENT OF NOT KNOWING WHAT IS BEHIND THAT DOOR IN COURT WHEN GOING IN. I ALSO REMEMBER THE MOMENT THAT HOW LUCKY I WAS BECAME SO CLEAR TO ME. IT WAS A MOMENT NOT SO DIFFERENT IN THE LIFE OF A YOUNG USA. I WAS IN BROOKLYN, WITH A NARCOTICS CASE, AND BY WITNESS WAS AN OLDER MAN FROM PAKISTAN. HE SMUGGLED HEROIN INTO THE UNITED STATES. IT WAS IN THE 60'S AND HE WAS NOT THE TYPICAL PROFILE THAT WE SAW. HE WAS GOING TO TESTIFY IN A TRIAL THAT I WAS GOING TO BE CONDUCTING. I REMEMBER BEING IN MY OFFICE IN THE BASEMENT OF THE COURTHOUSE, NO WINDOWS AT THE TIME, AND I WAS GOING OVER THE COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH HIM. THE OLDER AUA SA -- THE OLDER AUSA WAS ASSIGNED TO HELP ME. I TOLD HIM, IF HE WAS TRUTHFUL, HE WOULD BE SENT HOME. HE LITERALLY FELL TO THE FLOOR AND HE KISSED MY FEET. IT WAS AN AMAZING MOMENT. MY FIRST THOUGHT WAS, THIS NEVER HAPPENED ON WALL STREET. WHAT THAT MADE CLEAR TO ME THAT WAS THE PROFOUND IMPACT THAT THE WORK THAT WE DO HAS ON ORDINARY LIVES, SOMETIMES MORE THAN WE REALLY COMPREHEND IN THE MOMENT WHEN YOU ARE RUSHING TO GET A CASE DONE OR A MEMO WRITTEN OR TO CLOSE OUT A MATTER AND RUSH ONTO THE NEXT THING AS WE ALL TEND TO DO. NOW, OVER THE COURSE OF MY TIME HERE AS A PROSECUTOR AND A U.S. ATTORNEY AND AS ATTORNEY GENERAL, I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SEE THAT IMPACT. I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SEE THE IMPACT NOT ONLY OF THE WORK THAT WE DO BUT THE LAW THAT WE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SHEPHERDING THROUGH THIS COUNTRY AND THE LONGER WE HAVE SWORN TO BE STEWARDS OF. I'VE SEEN THE IMPACT ON REAL PEOPLE AND HOW MUCH THEY LEAN ON THAT, HOW MUCH THEY LOOK TO THAT END ON US TO VINDICATE THE LAW ON THEIR BEHALF. LIKE A LOT OF YOU, AS A LAWYER, PROSECUTOR, ATTORNEY GENERAL, I HAVE SPENT MY TIME WITH A LOT OF UNHAPPY PEOPLE. NONE OF US ARE STRANGERS TO PROTESTS, STRANGERS TO COMPLAINTS ABOUT EITHER OUR WORK OR OUR CASE OR OUR POLICY OR DECISION. BUT PEOPLE WOULD NOT COME TO US WITH SUCH STRONG FEELINGS IF THEY DID NOT BELIEVE IN OUR POWER TO MAKE IT BETTER. THEY WOULD NOT. IF THEY DID NOT HAVE A FAITH IN US AND THE LAW THAT IT COULD BE USED TO MAKE THEIR LIVES THE ONES THAT

THEY WERE MEANT TO LEAD. AND IT IS TRUE THAT THE LAW IS STILL THE MOST POWERFUL TOOL THAT WE HAD TO CREATE A BETTER FUTURE. IT IS NOT PERFECT. ALTHOUGH IT PUSHES US TOWARD OUR BETTER SELVES. IT IS NOT ALWAYS BEEN WIELDED ON BEHALF OF THOSE WHO NEED ITS PROTECTIONS THE MOST. BUT, WE HAVE IN THIS COUNTRY MOVED EVER ONWARD IN OUR PUSH FOR THE TRULY EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW. IT IS THOSE PEOPLE, THE ONES WHO ARE OFTEN SO UNHAPPY OR THOSE WHO ARE PROTESTING, OR JUST ORDINARY PEOPLE, WHO BELIEVE THAT IT CAN BE DONE FOR THE ONES WHO ACTUALLY INSPIRE US TO PICK UP THAT CAUSE. TO HAVE FAITH IN THE LAW EVEN WHEN THE LAW DOESN'T SEEM TO BELIEVE IN THEM. I HAVE BEEN PRIVILEGED TO KNOW SOME OF THEM OR SO MANY OF THOSE ORDINARY PEOPLE , FROM A YOUNG PREACHER IN GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA , NEW TO A CHURCH WITH A YOUNG FAMILY AND YOUNG CHILDREN WHO WAS APPROACHED DURING CITIZENS -- APPROACHED DURING SIT-INS IN GREENSBORO AND ASKED IF THEY COULD USE HIS CHURCH DURING PROTEST MARCHES. THEY WANTED TO CHANGE 200 YEARS OF DISCRIMINATION AND THE LAW. HOW WOULD THEY DO IT? TO GO SIT DOWN. DID ANYONE THINK THAT WOULD WORK? YES, AND THAT IS WHAT CHANGE THAT LAW. FROM A YOUNG TEACHER, HIS WIFE, WHO SAID TO HERSELF ON A RURAL ROAD, DRIVING ACROSS THE STATE, STOPPING TO TAKE CARE OF PERSONAL NEEDS, THAT SHE WAS DONE SUBMITTING TO STATE SANCTIONED INDIGNITY. THAT KIND OF FAITH IN THE LAW, THAT KIND OF BELIEF THAT ACTIONS CAN CHANGE SYSTEMS DOES CHANGE SYSTEMS. I HAVE SEEN THAT HAPPEN. SO, WHEN PEOPLE COME TO US WITH COMPLAINTS OR CONCERNS, THEY ARE REALLY COMING TO US WITH THEIR FAITH AND THEIR HOPE THAT WE WILL PICK UP THEIR CAUSE AND MAKE IT BETTER. AND, THAT WE WILL IN FACT MAKE THINGS RIGHT. WHEN I LOOK AROUND, THIS ROOM, THIS DEPARTMENT, THIS COUNTRY, WITH ALL THE WORK WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO IN THE EIGHT SHORT YEARS WE HAVE BEEN TOGETHER -- I AM SO PROUD OF THE STEWARDSHIP THAT ALL OF YOU HAVE MAINTAINED AND ALL THE THINGS THAT YOU HAVE WROUGHT. YOU HAVE LIVED UP TO THE HOPE AND FAITH OF ALL THOSE PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO BRING US THEIR PROBLEMS, BRING US THEIR CONCERNS, BRING US THEIR FIERCE, BRING US THEIR VIEW THAT NO ONE IS LISTENING TO THEM. ALL OF YOU HAVE ANSWERED. IT HAS BEEN THE PRIVILEGE OF MY LIFE TO STAND WITH YOU AS WE ANSWERED THAT CALL. I KNOW THAT THE FAITH THAT I HAVE PLACED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAS BEEN PAID BACK SO MANY TIMES. AS I LEAVE HERE , BELIEF IN THIS FAITH STILL STANDS, THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, THIS DEPARTMENT , THIS BUILDING AND THIS PEOPLE, IS SO MUCH MORE THAN JUST THIS WALLS, MUST BE AND WILL BE A FORCE FOR GOOD IN THIS NATION. I KNOW THIS IS A TIME OF CHANGE AND UNCERTAINTY, A TIME OF ANXIETY. WHEN I LOOK AT WHAT WE HAVE WROUGHT, I AM OPTIMISTIC. I AM MORE CONFIDENT THAN EVER THAT WHATEVER THE TURN OF ANY ELECTORAL WHEEL, OUR WORK, THE WORK WE DO EVERY DAY AND WELL INTO THE NIGHT REMAINS URGENT AND IMPORTANT, AND YOUR CAPABLE HANDS WILL CONTINUE THE STEWARDSHIP OF JUSTICE IN THE DAYS TO COME. FUNDAMENTALLY, I LEAVE HERE WITH SUCH PRIDE IN ALL OF YOU AND WHAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO TOGETHER. BECAUSE TOGETHER, WE HAVE SHOWN THIS COUNTRY, THE WORLD THAT WE CAN SAFEGUARD OUR NATION IN A WAY THAT IS CONSISTENT WITH OUR CONSTITUTION. WE CAN PROTECT OUR SHORES AND NOT GIVE UP WHO WE ARE. WE DEFENDED NOT ONLY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE BUT AMERICAN VALUES. WE HAVE MADE OUR CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM MORE EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE, AND MORE FAIR. WE HAVE FOCUSED OUR RESOURCES ON STILL PROTECTING OUR CITIZENS FROM THE SCOURGE OF VIOLENT CRIMES AND NARCOTICS. WE DID THAT. WE WOKE A NETWORK OF SERVICES FOR THOSE WHO SERVED THEIR TIME IN PRISON, A NETWORK THAT WILL GIVE THEM A MEANINGFUL SECOND CHANCE IN OUR SOCIETY, A REAL ALTERNATIVE TO RECIDIVISM, AND A CHANCE TO TRULY COME HOME. TOGETHER, WE HAVE

TACKLE THE DIFFICULT WORK OF REPAIRING THE AFRAID TO TRUST -- REPAIRING THE FRAYED TRUST BETWEEN THOSE WHO WEAR THE BADGE AND THOSE WHO SEEK PROTECTION, PARTICULARLY IN COMMUNITIES OF COLOR. WE ALSO SENT A CLEAR MESSAGE THAT WE WILL NOT TOLERATE CRIMES THAT TARGET AMERICANS BECAUSE OF WHAT THEY LOOK LIKE OR DO THEY WORSHIP. WE EXTEND OUR HANDS TO THE MOST VULNERABLE CORNERS OF OUR NATION. THOSE CORNERS THAT NEED US THE MOST OR HAPPILY STABILITY -- NEED IS THE MOST BUT HAVE THE LEAST ABILITY TO SEEK OUR ASSISTANCE. VICTIMS OF CHILD ABUSE, NATIVE AMERICAN PARTNERS WHO ARE SUBJECT TO UNSPEAKABLE VIOLENCE. WE TOLD THEM THAT WE ARE HERE. WE DID THAT. TOGETHER, WE START WITH OUR LGBT BROTHERS AND SISTERS AGAINST INEQUALITY AND INJUSTICE, AND WE ENSURED THEY WOULD NO LONGER BE INVISIBLE TO THE CAUSE OF JUSTICE. WE SAW JUSTICE ACROSS THIS COUNTRY AND AROUND THE GLOBE. WHILE WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO GUARANTEE THE ABSENCE OF PAIN AND SUFFERING, DARKNESS AND SHADOWS, WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GUARANTEE THE PRESENCE OF JUSTICE. WE DID THAT. JUSTICE IS SO MUCH MORE, SO MUCH A PART OF ALL THE CASES THAT WE MAKE THAT IT IS ALSO THE PEOPLE THAT WE HAVE HELPED WHOSE LIVES WE ARE SAVED, AND THE HOPE THAT WE HAVE BROUGHT. WE DID THAT. RIGHT NOW, CERTAINLY WHEN WE ARE IN THE MIDDLE OF IT ALL, IT CAN BE HARD TO APPRECIATE THE MAGNITUDE OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WHAT YOU ALL HAVE BROUGHT. BUT, WHEN YOU ALSO HAVE A CHANCE TO REFLECT ON YOUR TIME HERE, I WANT YOU TO REMEMBER THAT EACH OF YOU HAS MADE A DIFFERENCE. IT MATTERED THAT YOU HELD THIS JOB AT THIS TIME. IT MATTERED THAT YOU WENT TO THESE HISTORIC HALLS OF THIS BEAUTIFUL BUILDING. IT MATTERED THAT YOU WERE THE ONE WHO IS SPEAKING, WRITING, FIGHTING ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. IT MATTERED TO YOU THAT YOU CHOSE TO DEVOTE YOUR TIME, YOUR TALENTS, YOUR ENERGY TO PUBLIC SERVICE. IT MATTERED TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY AND PLEASE KNOW HOW MUCH IT MATTERED TO ME. PLEASE KNOW THAT. NEVER DOUBT THAT THIS COUNTRY IS A BETTER PLACE BECAUSE OF YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS. THE CHANGES THAT WE LOOK BACK ON TODAY WOULD NOT HAVE HAPPENED WITHOUT EACH AND EVERYONE ONE OF YOU. YOU DID THAT. YOU SHOULD BE PROUD BECAUSE I AM SO PROUD OF YOU. THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

ATTY. GEN. LYNCH: I COULD NOT SAY ANYMORE, ANY LOUDER. BUT, AS WE ALL KNOW, TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON. NOW, MY TIME HAS COME TO LEAVE THE CHAIR OF ATTORNEY GENERAL. I WON'T DENY THAT LEAVING ALL OF YOU DOES IN FACT BRING SORROW BUT, I KNOW THAT BECAUSE OF JUSTICE IS GREATER THAN ANY ONE OF US. WHAT WE DO, WE DO TOGETHER. WE ARE BLESSED TO PASS IT ON. I AM SO HONORED THAT OUR DATE TOGETHER AT THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAS BEEN ONE OF HOPE AND PROGRESS FOR OUR NATION. I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT HOPE WILL CONTINUE, THAT PROGRESS WILL INDOOR -- WILL ENDURE. I HAVE HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF WORKING BESIDE YOU, WITNESSING YOUR SKILL, TENACITY, COMMITMENT. WHATEVER IS NEXT, WHETHER A CAREER PERSON STANDING ON OR POLITICAL APPOINTEE MOVING ON, YOU WILL ALL REMAIN SERVANTS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. YOU WILL ALL REMAIN CHAMPIONS OF PROGRESS AND YOU WILL REMAIN STEWARDS OF THE JUSTICE THAT HAS GIVEN ALL OF US, ESPECIALLY ME, SO MUCH. IT GIVES ME HOPE FOR THE FUTURE BECAUSE I HAVE FAITH IN YOU. AND NOW, MY COLLEAGUES, I NEED YOU TO KNOW, IT HAS TRULY BEEN THE HONOR AND THE PRIVILEGE AND THE JOY OF THE LIFETIME TO WORK FOR YOU AS YOUR ATTORNEY GENERAL. THANK YOU IS SUCH A SMALL PHRASE TO SAY FOR WHAT I FEEL FOR ALL OF YOU, BUT I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR JOINING ME ON THIS INCREDIBLE JOURNEY. IT HAS BEEN INSPIRING, EXHILARATING, THE ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME. OF COURSE, AS WE HAVE SAID, YOU NEVER LEAVE THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE BECAUSE YOU TAKE IT WITH YOU WHEREVER YOU GO. I

WILL TAKE ALL OF YOU WITH ME IN MY HEART. THANK YOU, AGAIN. GOD BLESS YOU ALL. [APPLAUSE]

>> AND NOW, WE'RE GOING TO HEAR FROM THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION BLACK AND GOLD PIPES AND DRUMS. ♪ [BAGPIPES PLAYING]

>> ON BEHALF OF THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION, LORETTA LYNCH, ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, YOU HAVE SERVED WITH HONOR, DUTY, AND INTEGRITY. WE ASKED NO MORE THAN ANY MAN OR WOMAN. IT IS TIME NOW FOR YOU TO LAY DOWN YOUR SWORD. -- LAY DOWN YOUR SWORD. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE AND MAY GOD BE WITH YOU. ♪ [BAGPIPES PLAYING] ♪ [APPLAUSE]

>> THANK YOU TO THE DEA BLACK AND GOLD PIPES AND DRUMS AND THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO WORKED TODAY TO PUT TOGETHER THE PROGRAM. THAT WAS AN INCREDIBLE VIDEO, THANK YOU FOR THAT. [APPLAUSE]

>> AND TO ALL OF OUR SPEAKERS TODAY , BILL AND LEE AND MO NTY, AND MOST OF ALL, THANKS TO ALL OF YOU FOR COMING TO JOIN US TODAY AS WE CELEBRATE AND SAY A FINAL THANK YOU TO OUR ATTORNEY GENERAL, LORETTA LYNCH. [APPLAUSE]

>> THIS CONCLUDES TODAY'S PROGRAM. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR COMING.