

Department of Justice

Strategic Plan

*Fiscal Years 2014-2018*

# A MESSAGE FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



Shortly after beginning my first job as a line attorney at the Department of Justice nearly 35 years ago, I discovered that I had been given a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. I had the chance to be part of a highly skilled and motivated group of extraordinary men and women who were reaffirming our Nation's founding principles of liberty, equality, and security; helping to shape America's future; and taking innovative and collaborative steps to protect our fellow citizens.

Today, as Attorney General, I have the privilege of leading this great organization. As I look toward the future, I am focusing our actions in four key areas to fulfill one core mission: protecting the American people. First and foremost, we will protect Americans from terrorism and other threats to national security, both at home and abroad. Second, we will protect Americans from the violent crimes that have ravaged too many communities, devastated too many families, and stolen too many promising futures. Third, we will protect Americans from the financial fraud that devastates consumers, siphons taxpayer dollars, weakens our markets, and impedes our ongoing economic recovery. And, finally, we will protect those most in need of our help – our children; the elderly; victims of hate crimes, human trafficking, and exploitation; and those who cannot speak out or stand up for themselves.

The Department's strategic goals reflect the above four key areas of focus. Our goals are: Strategic Goal 1, *Prevent Terrorism and Promote the Nation's Security Consistent with the Rule of Law*; Strategic Goal 2, *Prevent Crime, Protect the Rights of the American People, and Enforce Federal Law*; and Strategic Goal 3, *Ensure and Support the Fair, Impartial, Efficient, and Transparent Administration of Justice at the Federal, State, Local, Tribal, and International Levels*. These three goals provide the framework that supports my priorities.

This *Strategic Plan* highlights our efforts to support all of these priorities in our multiple roles as law enforcer; litigator; and partner with state, local, tribal, and international governments. It describes our strategies for protecting our people from terrorists; our citizens, institutions, and environment from harm; and all individuals involved in the judicial process – including those housed in our prisons – from danger and fear.

It is through the commitment to justice by the individuals who make up this organization that I envision future generations of Americans continuing to enjoy the freedoms and opportunities that our forefathers sought. This *Plan* describes our contribution to helping this great democracy continue to develop and flourish. But we are not finished. As we consider where we must go from here, I am reminded of the words 35 years ago of my first boss and one of my heroes, Attorney General Edward Levi, "the agenda of the Department is inevitably unfinished...[and] is also always boundless."

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eric H. Holder, Jr.".

*Eric H. Holder, Jr.*