



## Office of the Attorney General Washington, D.C. 20530

November 9, 2009

### A MESSAGE FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Every day the men and women of the Justice Department keep the country safe and bring to justice those who would do us harm. In the past year, without letting our guard down in the fight against global terrorism, the Department has refocused its traditional missions and embraced its historic role in fighting crime, promoting and upholding our most fundamental civil rights, preserving the environment, ensuring fairness in the marketplace, cracking down on corporate and mortgage fraud and corrupt public officials, and enhancing state, local, and tribal law enforcement efforts.

This year, new interagency partnerships have been established with the Department of Homeland Security to address the growing issue of drug and weapons smuggling along the Southwest Border, and with the Department of Health and Human Services to combat Medicare fraud. To coordinate interagency efforts against violent international organized crime organizations, the Department has created a new International Organized Crime Intelligence and Operations Center. In addition, the Department won a record \$2.3 billion health care fraud settlement, the largest in the history of the Department of Justice, as well as a record federal recovery settlement of \$540 million for the Medicaid Program.

Also this year, the Department celebrated several important anniversaries. September marked the 15th anniversary of the Violence Against Women Act, which was signed into law on September 13, 1994. This critical legislation was created in recognition of the severity of the crimes associated with domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The anniversary also marks 15 years since the creation of the Department's Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), which administers financial and technical assistance to communities around the country to facilitate the creation of programs, policies, and practices aimed at preventing violence against women. The Environment and Natural Resources Division (ENRD) also celebrated its centennial anniversary this year. Founded in 1909 as the Public Lands Division, ENRD has litigated groundbreaking cases in the fields of public lands, natural resources, and environmental and administrative law, and has acquired millions of acres for conservation and other governmental purposes.

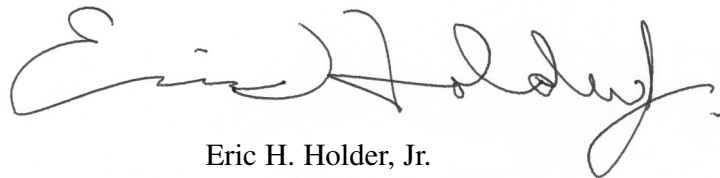
While the Department works to fulfill its vital missions of fighting terrorism, fraud, and violent crime, it is committed to maintaining strong program and fiscal

management. Prepared pursuant to the Reports Consolidation Act of 2000 and guidance in Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circulars A-11, A-123, and A-136, the FY 2009 Department of Justice Performance and Accountability Report contains: our performance report, as required by the Government Performance and Results Act; our audited consolidated financial statements, as required by the Chief Financial Officers Act and the Government Management Reform Act; and a statement of assurance regarding our internal control and financial management systems, as required by the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act (FMFIA).

The Department again earned an unqualified audit opinion on our FY 2009 consolidated financial statements. For the third straight year, no material weaknesses were identified at the consolidated level in the auditor's report on internal control. While we continue as a Department to demonstrate noteworthy progress, we are committed to pursuing actions to correct areas where we have deficiencies.

The Department conducted its annual assessment of the effectiveness of internal controls to support effective and efficient programmatic operations and compliance with applicable laws and regulations (FMFIA Section 2), and to determine whether financial management systems conform to government-wide requirements (FMFIA Section 4). Based on the results of this assessment, I provide qualified assurance that the Department met the objectives of FMFIA. The assessment did not identify any system's non-conformances required to be reported under FMFIA Section 4; however, the assessment identified two material weaknesses required to be reported under FMFIA Section 2 - one related to prison crowding and the other related to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's past issues with the use of National Security Letters. In addition, I provide reasonable assurance that the Department's internal control over financial reporting met the objectives of OMB Circular A-123, Appendix A.

The financial and performance data presented in this report are complete and reliable, providing timely and useful information on Department of Justice accomplishments to the American taxpayers. The Department is pleased with this past fiscal year's mission accomplishments, and we will continue to be resolute in our quest to protect our citizens by addressing terrorism and crime and working to enforce our federal laws with integrity.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Eric H. Holder, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Eric H. Holder, Jr.