PLEASE COMPLETE AND FAX THIS FORM BY SEPTEMBER 3, 2003, TO:
Kelly Shackelford
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United States Attorney: Jim Letten
District: Eastern District of Louisiana

Community Meeting Conducted or Scheduled (please include date, location, and a brief description):

MEETING CONDUCTED MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 2003:

Immediately following the receipt of the AG’s directives as set forth by Guy Lewis regarding dissemination of educational information about the Patriot Act, we scheduled a full ATTF meeting/forum which was announced four days in advance during a press conference, and three days in advance via press notice, in which both the press and the public were invited to attend. The meeting occurred at 9:00 A.M., in a large meeting room, in a state-of-the-art meeting facility known as the Pontchartrain Convention Center in Kenner, Louisiana (a suburb of New Orleans).

ATTENDEES: Attendees included all members of the ATTF (with approximately 100 attendees), representatives from three local network TV affiliates and the printed media (including AP), and members of the public. NOTE: Public attendance was sparse and consisted of a few individuals including Joe Cook, Executive Director of Louisiana ACLU. (On the previous Friday, he called and asked if he could attend and participate and I obliged, providing him with the opportunity to do a ten minutes opening statement. His later questions/challenges were inane and based upon misinformation, and he did not fare very well.)

DURATION: Approximately 2 ½ hours

PANELISTS: Myself (U. S. Attorney Jim Letten), Counter-Terrorism Coordinator, AUSA Linda Bizzarro, Counter-Terrorism Unit AUSA/IRS Irfan Saeed, and Appellate Unit Chief, Assistant U. S. Attorney Stephen Higginson

RESULT: Excellent! Good coverage in local print media, as well as local TV news including U. S. Attorney interviews. Also, some positive national coverage by virtue of AP wire story. (See examples attached)

OTHER PUBLIC DISSEMINATION:

• I (USA Letten) participated in two local radio talk shows effectively responding to cogent questions about the Act and its more controversial provisions on Wednesday, August 27, 2003 at 3:30 P.M. CST and on Wednesday, September 3, 2003 at 9:00 A.M. CST.
• Meeting with Associated Press on Wednesday, August 20, 2003. During a lengthy meeting with the local Associated Press editorial management and reports (five individuals in all) in which I was interviewed about our office’s priorities. I spent a considerable amount of time, on my own initiative, discussing the Patriot Act, Section 213, the Otter Amendment and other controversial/misunderstood provisions.

OTHER MEDIA EVENTS:

• AUSA Linda Bizzarro (CT Coordinator) and I are scheduled to make appearances and take calls on a two-hour local radio talk show to discuss provisions of the Patriot Act at a time and date to be announced.

• I am scheduled to be interviewed by a local TV news station on Friday, September 5, 2003 to discuss the provisions of the Patriot Act.

Names of Congressional Representative(s) Contacted and Nature of Contact:

U.S. Senator Mary Landrieu (D-LA): Contacted (b5). Senator Landrieu, whom I have known virtually all my life having attended grammar school with her and her siblings (her brother is an AUSA in our office) met me for a ½ hour face-to-face meeting on Tuesday, August 26, 2003 here in New Orleans.

U.S. Representative William Jefferson (D-New Orleans): In a (b5) breakfast meeting on Thursday, August 21, 2003, which lasted approximately one hour.

U.S. Representative David Vitter (R-Metairie): (b5). Telephone contact. Representative Vitter (whom I have known on a personal level for many years, b6) spoke with me via telephone on Wednesday, August 20, 2003.

U.S. Representative Billy Tauzin (R-Checkbay): Although I did not speak directly with Congressman Tauzin, I did speak with his Chief of Staff Martin Cancienne via telephone (because Congressman Tauzin has been out of New Orleans and on the road) (b5) He also voted against the Otter Amendment! I am scheduled to speak briefly with Congressman Tauzin this week via telephone, however.
U. S. Senator John Breaux (D-LA): Senator Breaux has been difficult to pin down due to his busy schedule. I was able to speak with members of his local staff last Monday, August 25, 2003, and have arranged to speak with him via telephone this week. (I'd like it to be known that I offered to travel to Washington, D. C. or anywhere else to accommodate Senator Breaux's busy schedule.) I will report on that conversation/meeting when it occurs.