



FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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January 20, 2006

Honorable George W. Bush
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Bush:

On behalf of the 24,000 members of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA), I want to offer our support for Ernest D. Strange Jr. as the next Assistant Administrator for Law Enforcement/Director of the Federal Air Marshal Service (FAMS) at the Transportation Security Administration.

Mr. Strange recently served for three years as the Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Air Marshal Service in Atlanta, Georgia supervising over 300 Federal Air Marshals.

Prior to that, Mr. Strange spent twenty-nine years with the Drug Enforcement Administration, working his way up from a street agent through the ranks to one of the top five Senior Executive Service (SES) Assistant Administrator positions in that agency. Mr. Strange was the Chief of Intelligence for DEA, managing a program of over 1,000 special agents and analysts prior to his retirement. During his tenure at DEA, Mr. Strange received the DEA Administrator's Award for Exceptional Service on two separate occasions and ten Sustained Superior Performance Awards.

Mr. Strange also was appointed by the Governor of Mississippi to a cabinet level position as the Director of the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics for a two year period.

Mr. Strange has had a distinguished law enforcement career and a broad range of law enforcement management experience. He is held in high regard by the men and women of the Federal Air Marshal Service who served under him during his tenure with the FAMS.

The men and women of the Federal Air Marshal Service and TSA Law Enforcement deserve a strong, ethical, highly experienced law enforcement leader like Mr. Strange, to restore stability and unity within the Federal Air Marshal Service, which has been consistently wrought with internal dissension and low morale.

Since the Transportation Security Administration is responsible for the safety and security of Americans engaging in air travel and other forms of mass transit, it is imperative that you appoint a strong experienced law enforcement leader to serve as the TSA Assistant Administrator for Law Enforcement/Director of the Federal Air Marshal Service. Effective law enforcement leadership is necessary within TSA to secure our nation's transportation systems and prevent terrorist's attacks.

Please feel free to contact me at 717-938-2300, if I can be of any assistance to you or members of your staff.

Sincerely,

Art Gordon
National President

CC: DHS Secretary Michael Chertoff

Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association