



CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

# PAX 501

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On September 11, 2001, our nation witnessed cowardly acts of hatred directed against innocent American citizens on American soil. We witnessed incomprehensible destruction and the loss of thousands of lives. Yet, in the wake of this devastation, we also witnessed acts of incredible courage, honor, and self-sacrifice by and on behalf of Americans.

These events will have a profound effect on us, both personally and professionally. They will leave an indelible mark in our hearts and on our conscience. The assault will also influence law enforcement's response to threats of terrorism. The way Americans view our national safety and how we protect it in the 21<sup>st</sup> century will change.

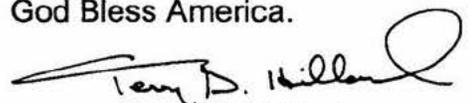
Since that tragic day, every federal and local law enforcement agency has reevaluated their readiness for a terrorist strike. Like our counterparts around the country, the Chicago Police Department has reviewed its emergency procedures and plans. We will continue to reexamine our responses during the weeks and months ahead.

As a Department, we will also continue to be mindful of our mission and purpose. We will continue to work closely with governmental agencies and private-sector organizations to ensure that viable contingency plans are in place. To protect all citizens and communities against acts of domestic terrorism and crimes of hate, the Chicago Police Department will continue to operate in the highest state of alert.

In the wake of this national crisis, I wish to acknowledge the actions of the members of this fine Department. On September 11<sup>th</sup>, as the United States braced itself for more attacks, I observed quick mobilization and response to high-risk facilities throughout the city. I also observed police officers prepare to do what was required in order to safeguard the lives and property of our citizens. Our quick response to this national crisis stands as a credit to the professionalism of our members. It demonstrates the strength of our convictions and spirit.

I commend you all for your response, commitment, and dedication on that terrible day. I offer special gratitude to the officers who were the first to arrive at critical locations in the districts and around the loop. Thank you for the long days and uncertain hours that you have spent, prepared to protect the lives and property of all our citizens.

Thank you for a job well done. God Bless America.

  
Terry G. Hillard  
Superintendent of Police