BOSTON
JOINT TERRORISM TASK FORCE
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

PREAMBLE

This Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is entered into by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Boston Police Department (BPD) and outlines a cooperative effort to combat terrorism.

ARTICLE ONE:

PURPOSE OF MOA

This MOA establishes and delineates the mission and structure of the Boston Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) in addressing the complex problem of terrorism affecting the New England states of Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island.

The purpose of this MOA is to set out a common understanding of the policies and procedures the Boston Police Department and the FBI will follow in providing law enforcement service to the citizens of Massachusetts and the United States of America.

ARTICLE TWO:

MISSION OF THE JTTF

The mission of the JTTF will be to utilize the collective resources of the participating agencies for the prevention, preemption, deterrence and investigation of terrorism and activities related to terrorism, both actual and potential, occurring in or affecting the U.S. carried out by terrorist groups and/or individuals, as well as apprehending individuals committing such violations. All parties agree to abide by the Attorney General's Guidelines on General Crimes, Racketeering Enterprise and Domestic Security/Terrorism Investigations (AG Guidelines) and the Attorney General Guidelines for FBI Foreign Intelligence Collection and Foreign Counterintelligence Investigations as they pertain to International Terrorism matters. In addition, it is understood that personnel of the BPD shall be required to utilize only those investigative techniques consistent with their given standards and procedures.
ARTICLE THREE:

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE TASK FORCE

A. MEMBERS

The JTTF shall consist of personnel of Boston Police Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), the U.S. Customs Service (USCS), the Defense Criminal Investigative Service (DCIS), the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), the Lowell Police Department (LPD), the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), the Massachusetts State Police (MSP), the MBTA Police Department, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS), the U.S. Postal Inspection Service (USPIS), the U.S. Secret Service (USSS), and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

B. IDENTIFICATION OF OBJECTIVES

The Special Agent in Charge (SAC) of the FBI and participating agencies of the JTTF shall identify, agree upon, and articulate specific organizations and investigative objectives or matters assigned to the JTTF in accordance with the U.S. Attorney General Guidelines.

C. DIRECTION OF JTTF AND RESOURCE CONTROL

Responsibility for the overall policy and direction of the JTTF shall rest with an Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) of the FBI, who will closely coordinate with the Commissioner of Boston Police Department or their designees, on matters of mutual concern relating to such policy and direction, thus ensuring the absence of conflict.

Specific control over their JTTF resources and the continued dedication of these resources to the JTTF shall be retained by the participating agency heads, who will be kept fully apprized of all investigative developments by their respective subordinates.

D. SUPERVISION OF JTTF

The direct day-to-day supervision for matters assigned to the JTTF shall be the responsibility of the designated FBI Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) in conjunction with the designated supervisory personnel of the Boston Police Department. The FBI SSA will be responsible for administrative/operational matters directly associated with his/her Squad and the JTTF, such as assigning cases, shifts, and completion of written work necessary to make each squad and the JTTF operative and functional. Responsibility for the conduct of the JTTF members shall remain with the respective agency heads. All JTTF personnel will keep their respective superiors completely informed of pertinent developments.
E. PHYSICAL LOCATION AND SUPPORT

The FBI will provide office space for all JTF members and support staff. In addition, the FBI will provide all necessary secretarial, clerical, automation and technical support for the JTF.

F. COMMITMENT OF PERSONNEL

The FBI will assign an SSA (1) and at least ten (10) Special Agents. BPD will assign two (2) Detectives from the BPD.

All members of the JTF will be assigned full-time to the JTF. Continued assignment of members will be made at the discretion of their respective agencies consistent with FBI and BPD guidelines.

ARTICLE FOUR:

VEHICLES

The JTF agrees to provide the BPD task force members with a vehicle. The purpose of these vehicles is for surveillance, case management and investigation in connection with any JTF investigation. The vehicle provided by the FBI can be used for official use only in connection with matters investigated by the JTF.

In furtherance of the mission of the JTF and in compliance with existing FBI policy for operation of U.S. Government vehicles, the FBI hereby agrees and authorizes members of the BPD participating in the JTF to operate vehicles owned or leased by the FBI.

The BPD agrees to be responsible for tortious acts or omissions on the part of the BPD or their employees, and for any liability resulting from use of FBI owned or leased vehicles utilized by the BPD Task Force members, and for any damage to said vehicles as a result of any tortious action or omission on the part of the BPD or their employees.

ARTICLE FIVE:

RECORDS AND REPORTS

All JTF investigative records will be maintained at the Boston office of the FBI. Investigative reports will be prepared on FBI forms. Decisions for placement of all or part of said investigative records into BPD files or data bases shall rest with supervisory personnel of the FBI and the BPD in compliance with applicable standards and procedures governing the respective parties. Classified information will not be placed in
ARTICLE SIX:

SECURITY CLEARANCE/DEPUTATION

Due to various United States, Department of Justice and FBI regulations and laws regarding classified information, prospective members of the JTTF who do not possess Top Secret clearances previously granted by the FBI/DOJ will be subjected to full background investigation(s) with assignment contingent upon receipt of appropriate security clearances(s). All non-FBI personnel will be sworn in as Special Deputy United States Marshals. Security clearances will be granted for any applicable and relevant BPD managers or Supervisors up to, and including, the Police Commissioner. Investigative restrictions imposed by the BPD shall not be voided by deputation of their respective personnel. All members of the JTTF shall agree not to disclose any classified or sensitive information to non JTTF members without the express permission of the FBI and shall agree to execute any applicable nondisclosure agreements, as may be necessary or required by the FBI.

ARTICLE SEVEN:

INVESTIGATIVE EXCLUSIVITY

It is agreed that matters designated to be handled by the JTTF will not knowingly be subject to non-JTTF law enforcement efforts. Recognizing the amount of specialized entities within each member agency, it is incumbent upon each agency to make proper internal notification regarding JTTF existence, including its areas of concern. All information developed by the individual member agency, in the course of investigations prior to the JTTF, will be referred to the JTTF for review and coordination, with approval of the command staff of each member agency. The non-specialized entities of each member agency handle a myriad of different law violations; therefore, JTTF members should make an effort to keep abreast of law enforcement developments within their respective agencies, to ensure information involving JTTF members is referred to the JTTF.

It is also agreed there shall be no unilateral action taken on the part of any participating agency relating to JTTF investigations. All law enforcement actions will be coordinated and cooperatively carried out.

ARTICLE EIGHT:

SALARY/COMPENSATION

Salaries of JTTF members will be paid by their respective agencies. Overtime incurred in the performance of JTTF responsibilities, when allowable under federal law and to the
extent that federal funding is available for such purposes, will be reimbursed by the FBI so long as a separate overtime agreement is executed between the parties. Otherwise, overtime shall be compensated in accordance with applicable BPD overtime provisions and shall be subject to the prior approval of appropriate personnel.

ARTICLE NINE:

PROSECUTION

JTF investigations will conform to the requirements of federal prosecution rules and regulations and will generally be prosecuted in federal courts. It is recognized, however, that specific circumstances may, on a case-by-case basis, indicate that prosecution should be in a state court. The criteria for making such decisions will focus upon achieving the greatest overall benefit to law enforcement and the public, and effecting the greatest impact on terrorism.

ARTICLE TEN:

INFORMANTS/EXPENSES

The JTF will abide by the Attorney General's Guidelines on the Use of Informants and Confidential Sources. To the extent that BPD standards and procedures impose any greater restrictions upon the use of their informants and cooperating witnesses, such personnel shall be bound by those restrictions. Subject to appropriate FBI approvals, the FBI agrees to pay any reasonable and necessary expenses incurred by the JTF. The BPD agrees that prior to incurring such expenses, it will consult with the FBI's designated representative to ensure anticipated expenses will be in furtherance of JTF goals and objectives.

ARTICLE ELEVEN:

FORFEITURE

Any forfeiture realized as a result of cases worked by the JTF will be handled in accordance with applicable federal law and FBI guidelines. FBI guidelines will govern the sharing of seized and/or forfeited assets.

ARTICLE TWELVE:

MEDIA

No members of the JTF will discuss or otherwise reveal information relating to JTF investigations, or other FBI related investigations known to them, to any media representatives. All media releases on JTF matters will be mutually agreed upon and
coordinated jointly.

ARTICLE THIRTEEN:

LIABILITY

Unless specifically addressed by the terms of this MOA, the parties agree to be responsible for the negligent or wrongful acts or omissions of their respective employees. Legal representation by the United States is determined by the Department of Justice (DOJ) on a case-by-case basis. The FBI cannot guarantee the United States will provide legal representation to any Federal or state law enforcement officer or employee.

Congress has provided that the exclusive remedy for the negligent or wrongful act or omission of an employee of the United States government, acting within the scope of his/her employment, shall be an action against the United States under the Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA), 28 U.S.C. Section 1346(b), and Sections 2671 - 2680.

For the limited purpose of defending claims arising out of JTTF activity, state officers who have been specifically deputized and who are acting within the course and scope of their official duties and assignments pursuant to this MOA, may be considered an "employee" of the United States Government as defined in 28 U.S.C. Section 2671. See 5 U.S.C. Section 3374(c)(2).

Under the Federal Employees Liability Reform and Tort Compensation, Act of 1998 (commonly known as the Westfall Act), 28 U.S.C., Section 2679(b)(1), the Attorney General or his/her designee may certify that an individual defendant acted within the scope of his employment at the time of the incident giving rise to the suit. id., 28 U.S.C. Section 2679(d)(2). The United States can then be substituted for the employee as the sole defendant with respect to any tort claims. 28 U.S.C. Section 2679(d)(2). If the United States is substituted as defendant, the individual employee is thereby protected from suits in his official capacity.

If the Attorney General declines to certify that an employee was acting within the scope of employment, "the employee may at any time before trial petition the court to find and certify that the employee was acting within the scope of his office or employment." 28 U.S.C. Section 2679(d)(3).

Liability for any negligent or willful acts of JTTF members, undertaken outside the terms of this MOA will be the sole responsibility of the respective employee and agency involved.

Liability for violations of federal constitutional law rests with the individual federal agent or officer pursuant to Bivens.

Both state and federal officers enjoy qualified immunity from suit for constitutional torts, "insofar as their conduct does not violate clearly established statutory or constitutional rights of which a reasonable person would have known." Harlow v. Fitzgerald, 457 U.S. 800 (1982).

JTF officers may request representation by the U. S. Department of Justice for civil suits against them in their individual capacities for actions taken within the scope of employment. 28 C.F.R. Sections 50.15, 50.16.

An employee may be provided representation "when the actions for which representation is requested reasonably appear to have been performed within the scope of the employee's employment and the Attorney General, or his/her designee, determines that providing representation would otherwise be in the interest of the United States." 28 C.F.R. Section 50.15(a).

A JTF officer's written request for representation should be directed to the Attorney General and provided to the Chief Division Counsel (CDC) of the FBI division coordinating the task force. The CDC will then forward the representation request to the FBI's Office of General Counsel (OGC) together with a letterhead memorandum concerning the factual basis for the lawsuit. FBI/OGC will then forward the request to the Civil Division of DOJ together with an agency recommendation concerning scope of employment and Department representation. 28 C.F.R. Section 50.15 (a)(3).

If a JTF officer is found to be liable for a constitutional tort, he/she may request indemnification from DOJ to satisfy an adverse judgement rendered against the employee in his/her individual capacity. 28 C.F.R. Section 50.15 (c)(4). The criteria for payment are substantially similar to those used to determine whether a federal employee is entitled to DOJ representation under 28 C.F.R. Section 50.15(a).

ARTICLE FOURTEEN:

DURATION OF THE TASK FORCE

The JTF will continue for an indefinite period but participation may be terminated at any time upon the written notice of either party to this Memorandum of Agreement.
SIGNATORIES:

Charles S. Prouty
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Boston, Massachusetts

Commissioner Paul Evans
Boston Police Department
Boston, Massachusetts

Patrick Boland
Office of the Chief Contracting Officer
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12/9/02