

DRAFT**June X, 2002**

The Honorable Robert S. Mueller, III
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
J. Edgar Hoover Building
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20535-0001

Re: FBI Special Agent Robert G. Wright, Jr.**Dear Director Mueller:**

I understand that Special Agent Robert G. Wright, Jr., of the Bureau's Chicago Division, was responsible for the seizure of approximately \$1.4 million dollars in HAMAS terrorist money in June 1998 that was linked to an alleged financier of Osama bin Laden, and that Special Agent Wright initiated the creation and existence of the HAMAS terrorist enterprise in the United States from 1993 through 1999. Having met personally with Special Agent Wright, I have also learned he has a thorough understanding of the means and techniques by which terrorists "launder" money through complex financial arrangements and "front" charity organizations in order to support their criminal activities. Special Agent Wright appears to be a credible source of important, valuable information that can assist the FBI in pursuing terrorists who threaten our citizens and interests.

Despite this, I have been advised by his counsel that the Federal Bureau of Investigation has formally removed him from counterterrorism investigations and not substantially consulted with him in any other appropriate way following the September 11, 2001 attacks. In light of the recent disclosures of Special Agent Coleen Rowley, I have questions as to why the FBI and the Department of Justice have not made use of Special Agent Wright's expertise, background and knowledge.

- Has the FBI found Special Agent Wright's investigative work accurate and credible?

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- What has the FBI accomplished in pursuit of the investigation started by Special Agent Wright, code named, "Vulgar Betrayal"?
- Was there a point in time when either the criminal investigation and/or the civil investigation (resulting in the June 1998 seizure of \$1.4 million) of the Vulgar Betrayal operation were suspended or terminated?
- If Vulgar Betrayal was suspended or terminated, did the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois concur with the suspension/termination of the criminal investigation or the civil investigation?
- If Vulgar Betrayal has been re-opened, what predicated that action?
- Why was Special Agent Wright specifically prohibited from working on matters related to the September 11th attacks?
- Is it practice at the FBI to denigrate or dismiss the investigative work of Special Agent Wright or others who may disclose the Bureau's negligence and obstruction?

Special Agent Wright has advised me that he has prepared a manuscript entitled *Fatal Betrayals of the Intelligence Mission* that explains and details his investigative efforts concerning terrorists operating within the United States, and that the FBI is withholding the release of the manuscript. I ask that you immediately provide me with a copy of Special Agent Wright's manuscript. I also would like a copy of the written answers Special Agent Wright and his colleague, Special Agent John B. Vincent, prepared on March 31, 2002, in response to questions posed by *New York Times* reporter Judith Miller.

In addition, Special Agent Wright should be afforded "whistleblower" status and the appropriate protections effective immediately.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter. I look forward to your answers to my questions and to receiving a copy of Special Agent Wright's manuscript shortly.

Sincerely,

Arlen Specter

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