Alberto R. Gonzales Sworn In as New Attorney General

Alberto R. Gonzales was sworn in as the nation’s 80th Attorney General on February 3, 2005.

In his initial remarks to U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) employees, Attorney General Gonzales reminded them of their mission and noted they have “a special obligation to protect America against future acts of terrorism. We will continue to make that our top priority while remaining consistent with our values and legal obligations. That will be the lodestar that guides us in our efforts at the Department.”

Prior to serving at DOJ, he was commissioned as counsel to President George W. Bush in January of 2001. He served as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Texas. Before his appointment to the Texas Supreme Court in 1999, he served as Texas' 100th Secretary of State from December 2, 1997, to January 10, 1999. Among his many duties as Secretary of State, Gonzales was a senior advisor to then Governor Bush, chief elections officer, and the Governor’s lead liaison on Mexico and border issues.

Prior to his appointment as Texas Secretary of State, Gonzales was the general counsel to Governor Bush for three years. Before joining the Governor’s staff, he was a partner with the law firm of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. in Houston, Texas. He joined the firm in June 1982. While in private practice, Gonzales also taught law as an adjunct professor at the University of Houston Law Center.

Attorney General Gonzales was born in San Antonio, Texas, and raised in Houston. He is a graduate of Texas public schools, Rice University, and Harvard Law School. Gonzales served in the United States Air Force between 1973 and 1975 and attended the United States Air Force Academy between 1975 and 1977.

The Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative is a Federal Advisory Committee to the U.S. Attorney General and the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs.

Upcoming Events

**April 27-28, 2005**
Global Executive Steering Committee Meeting
Wyndham Washington, DC, Hotel
Washington, DC

**April 27-28, 2005**
Global Advisory Committee Meeting
Wyndham Washington, DC, Hotel
Washington, DC

**May 19-20, 2005**
Global Privacy Working Group Meeting
Westin Hotel
Denver, CO

**May 23, 2005**
Criminal Intelligence Coordinating Council Meeting
Hilton Alexandria Mark Center
Alexandria, VA

**June 8-10, 2005**
Global Justice XML Data Model User’s Conference
Georgia Tech Hotel
Atlanta, GA

For information on other training programs, conferences, and meetings that may be of interest, please visit the Event Calendar on the OJP IT Web site at www.it.ojp.gov.

OJP Leadership Changes

President Bush recently announced his intention to nominate Regina Schofield as the Assistant Attorney General (AAG) for the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), U.S. Department of Justice. Once officially nominated, Ms. Schofield must be confirmed by the U.S. Senate. Ms. Schofield currently serves as Director of Intergovernmental Affairs and White House Liaison at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), a position she has held since October 11, 2002. As Director, she is the senior advisor to the Secretary of HHS on state, local, and tribal perspectives regarding HHS policies and programs. Ms. Schofield will assume AAG leadership from Tracy A. Henke, who is currently serving in an acting capacity.
Ms. Henke was appointed to serve as Acting AAG of OJP in January 2005, taking over for Deborah J. Daniels. Ms. Henke has served as Deputy Associate Attorney General for DOJ since October 2003, a position she continues to hold in addition to her duties as Acting AAG for OJP. During her tenure as Acting AAG of OJP, Ms. Henke has taken a very active interest in the Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative (Global), providing guidance and direction on several major Global projects. Ms. Henke’s leadership has greatly benefited the initiative and is appreciated by Global members. Her knowledge and experience will be missed.

**CHAIRMAN’S CORNER**

**A word from GAC Chair Ken Bouche**

Hello! Well, this year has already brought tremendous change and accomplishments to Global. As you all know, we have a new United States Attorney General, Alberto Gonzales, and a new Acting Assistant Attorney General, Tracy Henke, leading us. The membership has elected Thomas O’Reilly as the Global vice chair, and our Working Group chairs have changed a bit, with Steve Correll now chairing the Global Infrastructure/Standards Working Group (GISWG), Chelle Uecker chairing the Global Security Working Group, Jeanette Plante chairing the Global Privacy and Information Quality Working Group, and then there is me... Seriously, thank you; I am truly honored and humbled to be serving as your chair.

As far as accomplishments go—what a quarter! DOJ has forged new alliances with DHS regarding the Global Justice XML Data Model, the groundbreaking work and training on the data model continue to lead the world, and the Criminal Intelligence Coordinating Council has recommended a variety of standards that help pave the way for true intelligence reform.

But enough about yesterday, let’s talk about tomorrow, specifically regarding the future philosophy of Global. While our future will remain deeply rooted in improving information sharing and availability for justice practitioners, it is time to alter our approach—slightly. Although Global was busy making recommendations to improve justice information sharing long before September 11, 2001, after 9/11, our focus shifted to supporting the sharing of more intelligence and also to sharing information with new partners like Fire, EMS, Public Health, and the newly created U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Additionally, we began to really struggle with how to recommend new policies, procedures, and practices for DOJ to support a new world of information sharing while balancing and protecting our civil liberties. Nonetheless, the justice community rallied, stronger bonds were formed, and the support of Global made a significant difference: we are sharing more, and we are safer.

So what about tomorrow? In his inaugural address, President George W. Bush said, “From the viewpoint of centuries, the questions that come to us are narrowed and few: Did our generation advance the cause of freedom? And did our character bring credit to that cause?” To that point, you will hear me ask time and again, how will our efforts help our children, their children, and the generations to come? How will the information sharing improvements that we recommend today make for a safer tomorrow, and how will these improvements contribute to a safer society in 2010 and 2050? Our world has changed, America is advancing freedom, and there is no turning back. Because of this, we must be prepared to gear up for a long fight to combat terror. Our contribution to this effort will be ensuring better information gets in the hands of those keeping us safe. I can think of no better group than Global to help forge these changes and support Attorney General Gonzales to truly improve the justice community.

Let me close with this. First, thank you to the Attorney General and the leadership at DOJ for all of their support. Secondly, thanks to our friends and colleagues who have moved on to new challenges, especially Deborah Daniels, Mel Carraway, Gerry Wethington, Cabell Cropper, and Tom Henderson; your leadership and contributions to the vital effort of information sharing are greatly appreciated. Most importantly, thank you to all of you for the work you have done and especially for your tireless efforts that lie ahead. Because of you, I believe our future is bright and our contributions will be great!
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Integrated Justice Information Systems Institute offered two opportunities to learn more about the Global Justice XML Data Model (Global JXDM).

A specialized Executive Briefing geared toward executives was held on February 28, 2005, in Arlington, Virginia. The briefing, attended by more than 200 managers and policymakers, provided basic definitions, foundational concepts, and a high-level overview of the data model. Acting Assistant Attorney General Tracy Henke, OJP; Director Domingo Herraiz, BJA; Chief Information Officer (CIO) Van Hitch of DOJ; and CIO Steve Cooper of DHS were among several key government officials to speak at the briefing. Several Global members also made presentations regarding XML successes and how to implement XML for maximum interoperability.

During the briefing, representatives from DOJ and DHS announced a collaborative partnership to enhance the Global JXDM by creating a data model that would enable and encourage use by government entities beyond the justice community. (Details of this collaborative effort can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.)

Following the Executive Briefing, a public training workshop on the Global JXDM, Version 3.0, was held on March 1-3, 2005, also in Arlington. The workshop was specifically designed for developers and practitioners in the field to provide the information needed to enable them to build applications using the Global JXDM, Version 3.0, and to use it effectively. Attended by 125 developers, the workshop was a highly technical session featuring hands-on exercises and experienced presenters. Topics covered included fundamentals of the Global JXDM, external enumerations, constraints, extension and substitution, relationships, subschema generator tools, and best practices. Early reviews indicated that participants found the workshop to be very informative and beneficial. Additional workshops of this type are planned for later in the year in other areas of the country.

DOJ and DHS Partner to Develop National Information Exchange Model

Officials from DOJ and DHS have announced a partnership to create an XML data model. Extensible Markup Language, or "XML," is an open standard that allows agencies to exchange data, regardless of computer system or platform. The model, known as the National Information Exchange Model (NIEM), will be an enhanced version of the DOJ-sponsored Global JXDM, which was first released in April 2003 as an XML-based framework to enable the entire justice and public safety community to effectively share information at all levels—laying the foundation for local, state, tribal, and national interoperability.

The Global JXDM has greatly improved the ability of justice and public safety agencies to share information. Today, over 50 justice information sharing projects are utilizing the Global JXDM to revolutionize the justice system.

Strong leadership in the development of the data model is being provided by DHS CIO Steve Cooper and DOJ CIO Van Hitch. It is anticipated that development of the data model will enable and encourage use by government entities beyond the justice community. It will also ensure long-term stability of the model and protect the investments of early adaptors of Global JXDM.

The GJXDM Executive Briefing, held on February 28, 2005, in Arlington, Virginia, for officials from both government and private-sector entities, focused on the development of NIEM. The briefing was viewed as the next step in this joint DOJ and DHS effort.

The partnership and collaboration of DOJ and DHS in this important endeavor will provide consistent guidance and a clear path for government entities in the area of information sharing, reduce development time and associated costs, and help provide needed tools in the fight against terrorism.

Meet Your New Global Leaders

The recent retirements of the former Global chair, Melvin Carraway, and the former vice chair, Gerry Wethington, created the need for election of new Global leadership. Global Infrastructure/Standards Working Group Chair and Global Elections Foreman Tom Henderson conducted the nomination and voting processes. Several very worthy candidates were nominated, and when the final votes were tallied, Kenneth Bouche was elected chair, and Tom O'Reilly was elected vice chair.
Colonel Bouche has served with the Illinois State Police for 21 years. During his extensive career, he has performed in a wide variety of roles, ranging from trooper and supervisor to a commander with patrol and investigative assignments. Presently, Colonel Bouche is the Deputy Director of the Information and Technology Command, where he leads the technological, information, research, criminal history, and strategic management functions of the Illinois State Police.

Additionally, Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich has appointed Colonel Bouche as Illinois’ representative to SEARCH, The National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics, where he has been elected to the SEARCH Board of Directors and chosen as the SEARCH representative to the Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative. Colonel Bouche currently serves as chair of the Global Intelligence Working Group and co-chair of the Criminal Intelligence Coordinating Council, in addition to his duties as chair of the Global Advisory Committee. He also guides Illinois’ integration efforts through his positions as the vice chair to Illinois Integrated Justice Information System (IIJIS) Governing Board and the chair of the IIJIS Planning Committee.

Thomas J. O’Reilly is the Administrator of the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, a position he has held since 1986. The Department oversees the State Police, Law, Criminal Justice, Gaming Enforcement, Racing, Alcoholic Beverage Control, Highway Traffic Safety, Civil Rights, Consumer Affairs, Juvenile Justice Commission, Domestic Security Preparedness Task Force, and Office of Counter-Terrorism; provides all legal services to state departments; directs statewide domestic preparedness planning operations and intelligence; directs the statewide law enforcement system; enforces all criminal laws; provides primary police services and forensic and technology support systems; operates all juvenile community and institution facilities and programs; and licenses and regulates business and professional operations.

Previously, Mr. O’Reilly served as the Department’s Assistant Director of the Division of Criminal Justice, Chief of Law Enforcement Programs for the New Jersey State Law Enforcement Planning Agency, principal planner of the Trenton, New Jersey, Police Department, and as an administrative assistant of the Mercer County, New Jersey, Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court.

**Gear Up for the Spring GAC Meeting**

Make plans now to attend the spring meeting of the Global Advisory Committee (GAC). Following the more interactive format established at last fall’s GAC meeting, panel discussions will be held regarding tribal projects and programs, and several success stories from the field will be highlighted. Global participation is a rare opportunity to represent your agency’s information sharing priorities and concerns to the whole of the justice-related community at one time.

When: Wednesday, April 27, 2005 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Thursday, April 28, 2005 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

Where: Wyndham Washington, DC 1400 M Street, NW Washington, DC 20005 (202) 429-1700