

June 16, 2005

Mr. John Brennan  
Interim Director  
National Counterterrorism Center  
NCTC 2W148  
Liberty Crossing Building  
Washington, DC 20505

Dear Director Brennan:

We write with respect to last year's final report of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (the 9/11 Commission) and subsequent legislative action, including Public Law 108-458 (The Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004). Specifically, we are interested in your actions to implement the recommendations of the Commission.

The purpose of our inquiry is to assess the performance of Departments and agencies of the government – both through panel discussions and the issuance of a “report card” to the public on the Commission’s recommendations one year later – on steps taken to make the American people safer and more secure.

We appreciate that there are extensive reporting requirements in PL 108-458. We do not seek to duplicate those requirements; our purpose is to inform the American public about efforts underway to protect them. We would appreciate your summary of initial steps you have taken to fulfill the recommendation of the Commission (p.403):

“We recommend the establishment of a National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC), built upon the foundation of the existing Terrorist Threat Integration Center. Breaking the older mold of national government organization, this NCTC should be a center for joint operational planning *and* joint intelligence, staffed by personnel from the various agencies. The head of the NCTC should have authority to evaluate the performance of the people assigned to the Center.”

We thank you in advance for your time and attention, and welcome any additional observations you wish to make. We would appreciate your reply by August 15, 2005.

On behalf of the former Commissioners, we would also like to invite you to meet with us to discuss these topics, privately or publicly.

Should you or your office have any questions, please feel free to contact us directly or through the 9/11 Public Discourse Project.

With best regards,

Thomas H. Kean

Lee H. Hamilton

CC: Andrew H. Card, Jr.