

Memorandum

FILE CAM/HIDTA

RECEIVED

AUG - 4 1994



U.S. Attorney's Office  
for the District of Columbia

Subject

FBI Participation in Northern  
Metropolitan Area of HIDTA

Date

August 4, 1994

To

Eric H. Holder, Jr.  
United States Attorney for the  
District of Columbia

(10)pm

Lynne A. Battaglia  
United States Attorney for the  
District of Maryland

It is my understanding that an agreement was reached between you and Larry Potts, with the concurrence of Danny Coulson, which would call for the collocation at the Northern HIDTA site of two FBI special agents who would investigate matters in conjunction with the other agents/officers also collocated at the HIDTA site. It was also agreed that these two investigators would have the authority to act as coordinators between HIDTA and non-collocated FBI squads involved in the investigation of drug trafficking and violent crime activity. Specifically, these two agents would have the authority to ~~commit to work~~ commit to work on ~~the HIDTA targeted~~ HIDTA targeted groups or individuals. By such commitments, the FBI would agree to coordinate their investigations of HIDTA targets with the other agencies participating in HIDTA. This mandatory coordination should eliminate wasteful duplication of effort.

Please confirm this understanding with Larry Potts today since I promised representatives of the Deputy Attorney General and of the Assistant Attorney General (Criminal Division) an answer when they called me last evening expressing an interest in assisting me in this matter.

Thank you for all of your support and assistance. It is appreciated.


ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE	
		July 29, 1994	
TO: (Name, office symbol, room number, Agency/Post)		Initials	Date
1.	Jamie Gorelick	JG	
2.	cc Dennis Corrigan <i>DM</i>		
3.			
4.			
5.			
REMARKS:			
Re: <u>Lynn Battaglia HIDTA letter</u>			
<p>At the AGAC meeting, Lynn gave me the attached letter requesting your assistance in resolving an issue relating to the co-location of FBI agents to investigate HIDTA cases. Yesterday, Eric Holder called and asked for an opportunity to resolve the issue without bringing in the DAG or AG. This morning, he called to say that he had resolved the issue. I will take care of talking to Lynn.</p>			
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FROM: (Name, org. symbol, Agency/Post)		Room No. --Bldg.	
Merrick B. Garland <i>MBG</i> Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General U.S. Department of Justice		4206-Main DOJ	
		Phone No. 202-514-2105	

*Merrick*

*as a reminder to make the call to Lynn.*

*Thanks Dennis*

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		Phone No.	
		<b>202-514-2105</b>	

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*United States Attorney  
District of Maryland*

*Lynne A. Battaglia  
United States Attorney*

*820 United States Courthouse  
101 West Lombard Street  
Baltimore, MD 21201-2692*

*410-962-2458 ext. 366*

*410-962-4822*

July 26, 1994

The Honorable Jamie S. Gorelick  
Deputy Attorney General  
United States Department of Justice  
10th and Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Jamie:

On March 1, 1994, the Attorney General held a joint press conference with the heads of the federal law enforcement agencies to announce, among other things, the federal law enforcement community's response to the growing problem of violent crime. All 94 United States Attorneys, or their principal Assistants, were linked via telephone to this event. During the conference it was emphasized that a principal component of this effort against violent crime was the key leadership role to be played by each United States Attorney. All participants acknowledged that this was a critical factor in attacking this problem in a coherent manner, especially so in an era of dwindling resources.

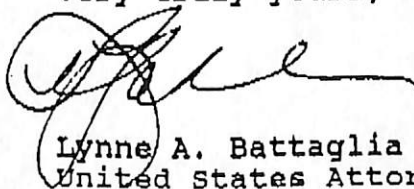
In keeping with that mission, my office has met with all of the law enforcement agencies in my district, federal, state and local, and we were one of the first to submit a violent crime initiative to the Attorney General. Also, I have taken a leadership role in the newly designated High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) for the Washington/Baltimore Region and serve as the Chair of its governing body, the Executive Committee. The formation by Dr. Lee Brown of this HIDTA was an attempt by him to allow the law enforcement and drug treatment communities to come together in more effectively attacking the problems of drug trafficking and the violent crime so often associated with it. Key to Dr. Brown's efforts in attempting to create a more efficient mechanism to deal with the crime problem is the requirement that all participating agencies co-locate their HIDTA designated personnel. In compliance with that request, and also because it is my opinion that co-location does create a synergistic effect, we have put together a plan for the Northern Metropolitan Area of our

HIDTA region which I firmly believe will be a model in effectively targeting and investigating violent drug trafficking gangs. Newly appointed Baltimore Police Commissioner Thomas C. Frazier is in complete agreement with this plan and has dedicated 18 detectives of all ranks to this task force. I have attached hereto a synopsis of this plan. It should be noted that a similar plan is being proposed for the Southern Metropolitan Area of our region which will include a co-located task force in Prince George's County, Maryland, among other places.

I am very pleased with the progress which we have thus far made in better coordinating our efforts and in setting up a program that will enable us to become more efficient. It is absolutely essential, however, that all agencies involved in the fight to curtail violent crime and drug trafficking participate in the HIDTA program in order for it to realize its goal. As you can see from the Northern Metropolitan Area plan, the Federal Bureau of Investigation is providing personnel to assist in the gathering of intelligence, an essential function. There is, however, no commitment from the FBI to provide personnel to investigate HIDTA cases in conjunction with other agencies. This is, in my opinion, a serious drawback to the ultimate effectiveness of our HIDTA. I would note that the FBI is collocated in at least two other HIDTA's, Houston and Miami, and the reports coming from those areas support my position that collocation of all agencies is essential.


I wanted to bring this matter to your attention so that we can discuss it and reach a reasonable resolution before this impasse creates serious problems. I am at your disposal to meet with you and anyone else you suggest to favorably resolve this issue.


Very truly yours,




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United States Attorney

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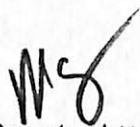
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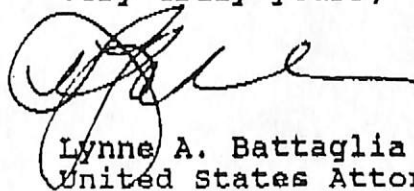
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