



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

2111 West Roosevelt Road
Chicago, Illinois 60608
January 15, 2010

Dear Fellow Law Enforcement Partner:

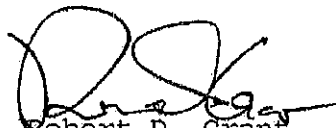
In today's world, the importance of timely information sharing between law enforcement partners cannot be overstated. One only has to look to the recent events in Chicago, where Chicago Police officers provided suspicious activity information to the FBI, which when coupled with other information already in the possession of the FBI, resulted in the arrest of Michael C. Finton for allegedly attempting to detonate an improvised explosive device outside the Federal Building in Springfield, Illinois. In a separate incident, a Chicago Police officer identified a white male speaking Urdu and exhibiting suspicious behavior in a park on Chicago's north side. Further observations, again coupled with outside intelligence, led to the arrest of David Headley, for allegedly plotting terrorist attacks overseas.

In 2008, the FBI launched eGuardian as a pilot program aimed at facilitating information sharing between Federal, State, Local and Tribal law enforcement partners. The program went online, nationwide, in January 2009. The program eGuardian is a web-based unclassified national terrorism information tool that links Joint Terrorism Task Forces (JTTF) and Fusion Centers with Federal, State, Local, and Tribal law enforcement partners for the sharing of suspicious activity reporting. The program provides state and local users a platform to report actionable information (with a potential terrorism nexus), so it can be analyzed at a recognized fusion center, disseminated for investigative action, and ultimately result in investigative findings that are shared with law enforcement partners. The program provides visibility of incident reports to all users so that links and patterns can be identified and placed into the appropriate context.

FBI Chicago will be providing a series of eGuardian presentations for police departments with an interest in learning more about the eGuardian program. The presentations will take place on February 1, 2, and 3 at various locations throughout northern Illinois.

I am looking forward to your feedback on this program.

Sincerely,



Robert D. Grant
Special Agent in Charge

*To attend one of the presentations, or to obtain more information on the eGuardian program,
please contact [REDACTED]*