Thank you, Senator. It indeed is a privilege and an

honor to be able to address this committee on the issue of foreign

terrorism, having experienced it personally.

I was the senior executive responsible for the World Trade Center

Complex in February 1993. Four years ago at 12:18 in the

afternoon, this country received a rather startling wake-up call. For

the first time, a major foreign terrorist act was committed on U.S.

soil, and not only on U.S. soil, but it was targeted at the heart of

our free economic system.

At 12:18 that day, on a snowy afternoon, a massive explosive device

equivalent to 1,500 pounds of explosives was detonated below

the World Trade Center in the heart of this Nation’s and the

world’s financial capital.

It is clear that the intent of the foreign group was to inflict massive

loss of human life, and a lasting and permanent disruption of

our economic system and our way of life. To fully appreciate the

impact of this act and the threat it still poses, I need to set it in

a context by describing for you the World Trade Center complex,

its purpose, its location, and its component parts.

The trade center is located in the heart of Lower Manhattan in

the world financial district. It is the single largest international

commercial complex in the world. It is owned and operated by the

Port Authority of New York and New Jersey as a facility for international

trade and commerce, and the port authority was created

by the U.S. Congress 75 years ago.

It contains seven buildings surrounding a 5-acre plaza on a 16-

acre site. You best know it for its twin towers, which are emblematic

of New York and this country worldwide. These towers rise

1,350 feet in the air, being the second and third tallest structures

in the world.

The complex in fact is equivalent to a small or medium-sized

American city. It houses 50,000 workers on any one particular day,

and it can have as many as 80,000 visitors, for a population of

about 130,000.

It contains 12 million square feet of commercial office space, the

size of downtown Cleveland’s commercial office district. It has 3

million square feet of space below grade. It has a 400,000 square

foot shopping center, the equivalent of a major shopping center.

It has three subway lines and the Path Interstate Railroads,

which stop in it as a major transit hub. It has a major ticketing

center. It has an 826-room international hotel. It has the world-famous

observation deck, which is visited by 2 million international

visitors a year, and of course Windows on the World, the famous

restaurant on top of the other tower.

It is a major hub for media. It houses the broadcasting facilities

for the major TV, 22 stations, with the antenna, which is the major

broadcasting facility for the region in New York.

Below the trade center is its operating guts and parking for

2,000 vehicles.

It has 375 commercial leases and over 1,000 businesses, international

businesses that engage in trade and commerce on a daily

basis. To give you some examples, the New York Commodities Exchange

is located in the trade center. Those are the five exchanges

that set the market for world oil, the COMEX Exchange, the

NYNEX Exchange, the exchanges that set the world market for

precious metals, gold, et cetera , the exchanges that set the market

for cotton and textiles, and the exchanges that set the market for

other types of metals and futures.

It is a banking and international center. Eighty percent of all

U.S. treasuries are traded or brokered through facilities at the

World Trade Center.

It is an international phone exchange, with all of the international

phone lines and all the phone lines serving the financial

district going through its bowels. The loss of those phone lines

would mean a major disruption in world communications of financial

data. It would also mean, for instance, the loss of the three airports because of the air traffic control system telecommunications

going through that facility.

It represents the home for business and governments from 60

countries, and State and Government agencies, including U.S. Customs,

Secret Service, et cetera . The Government of Thailand, the

Republic of China, the Government of France, et cetera , are all located

there.

The bomb was placed at the Trade Center between the two towers.

I have two graphics here which display this for you. The crater

itself was absolutely enormous. It was half the size of a football

field, and what this particular photograph shows you is the south

wall of the north tower.

The bomb was placed immediately adjacent to the south wall of

the north tower, 1,500 pounds of explosives intended by those that

placed it there to cause the tower to topple. Fortunately, they were

not successful in their goal of doing that.

As Judge Duffy commented in the sentencing in the first trial,

they were intending on killing everybody in the complex, 130,000

people.

Found within the locker where the explosives were contained was

also a barrel of cyanide, and there was cyanide missing. The speculation

was that they tried to lace the bomb with cyanide as well

to assure the death of the people in the Trade Center.

It resulted in the loss of six lives and one unborn child. If they

had succeeded they would have killed tens of thousands and injured

many more.

More than that, though, it would have been a total disruption to

our system here in this country and the economic loss would have

been measured in the billions, not just the $600 million that we

talk about now, because the businesses and the economic activities

would have been disrupted for a long period of time to come.

What was and should our response be? The Governor of the State

of New York when he saw this responded on what does he tell the

16 million people in the State of New York as to how they continue

to go on in the face of this, and he answered his own question. He

said normalcy was the rule of the day, that we needed to establish

a normalcy and continue our way of the life.

Mitigation of the act. We brought the Trade Center back in 3

weeks. We brought its businesses back, we had the Governor move

back, and businesses continue. We mitigated the economic loss and

the human tragedy.

I must commend ATF and the FBI for the work they did in the

quick investigation, determining who was responsible for this, the

apprehension, and the quick prosecution and punishment.

Last, constant vigilance, balancing our need to preserve and protect

our free society and its personal freedoms and our market

economy with the measures which are necessary to preserve it at

its core.

An example of this is, the Trade Center is no longer an open access

facility. There is controlled access to the towers. We are ringed

with very heavy planters to give us a hard core exterior. There is

no public parking. There is perimeter security. There is the use of

modern technology to ensure the security within the complex, patrols

and the use of human labor to do that as well.

We are trying to preserve the sense of free movement and avoid

the perception of an armed camp. We are trying to stop the threat

at the perimeter of the Trade Center, rather than allowing it in.

When you visit New York and the World Trade Center, it will always

be there standing tall for you to see. When you look upon it,

let it reawaken you to the ever present danger of global terrorism.

Thank you for the opportunity.

Literally, tens of thousands of people would have

been killed in such an event. The towers themselves handle about

20,000 in each of the towers, so you had 40,000 I think directly vulnerable

to the loss of their life. The complex itself had 130,000. You

would have had severe and extended injury to a good portion of

that population that was in the complex if, in fact, the towers had

come down.

There are organized steps that have been calculated

to both receive early warning as well as to secure against

this type an event. I would rather not discuss the particulars.

Senator, my only comment on that is to the extent

that these activities are well-funded, then our job becomes a lot

harder in terms of preventing it or stopping it at our borders, and

it causes us to expand a lot more in financial resources and human

resources in terms of prevention. To the extent that they continue

to be funded well, to that extent the threat grows.

Senator, I appreciate the courtesy.