



## **National Association of Assistant United States Attorneys**

12427 Hedges Run Dr. • Ste 104 • Lake Ridge, VA 22192-1715

Tel: (800) 455-5661 • Fax: (800) 528-3492

Web: [www.naausa.org](http://www.naausa.org)

---

**EMBARGOED UNTIL JUNE 25, 2:00 PM  
CONTACT DENNIS BOYD, 703-426-4266**

### **FEDERAL PROSECUTORS ARE VULNERABLE TO ATTACK, NAAUSA TELLS CONGRESSIONAL PANEL**

At least one out of every two federal prosecutors have been threatened or assaulted at some point during their career as a prosecutor, the president of the National Association of Assistant United States Attorneys told a Congressional panel on Wednesday. That finding comes from a recent survey of the nation's crime fighters conducted by the National Association of Assistant United States Attorneys.

"The recent, brutal attack upon a female federal prosecutor in a Brooklyn courtroom by a drug criminal awaiting sentencing sadly illustrates the vicious harm that awaits Assistant United States Attorneys inside and outside the courtroom," NAAUSA President Richard Delonis told the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, during a hearing on the oversight of the 93 United States Attorneys Offices.

According to data compiled by the Department of Justice's Executive Office for United States Attorneys, Delonis said, threats against United States Attorneys and Assistant United States Attorneys tripled between 2002 and 2007. The murders of two federal prosecutors – Tom Wales in Seattle, Washington in 2001 and Jonathan Luna in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania in 2003 – also remain unsolved.

Delonis called for the implementation of a series of security measures to better protect federal prosecutors and their families, including home alarm systems, secure parking, security training and wider authority to carry firearms.

---

**President:**  
Richard L. Delonis  
ED of Michigan

**Vice President:**  
Steven H. Cook  
ED of Tennessee

**Treasurer:**  
Robert Gay Guthrie  
ED of Oklahoma

**Secretary:**  
Rita R. Valdrini  
ND of West Virginia

Approximately 5,600 career Assistant United States Attorneys in 93 U.S. Attorney Offices across the country are integrally involved in fighting terrorism, gangs, drug trafficking and other crimes, as well as defending the government's interests in civil litigation.