

November 2, 2006

Mr. Andrew Weis
Staff Director, House Homeland Security Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness,
Science, and Technology
H2-176 Ford House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-6143

Dear Mr. Weis:

The events of September 11, 2001, and the response to Hurricane Katrina several years later, revealed serious deficiencies in government organization, systems and management. We cannot simply assume that government will work in a crisis; policymakers need to pay attention to the organization and management of agencies and programs to assure that they perform well.

Along with members of the Standing Panel on Executive Organization and Management of the National Academy of Public Administration and other nationally recognized experts, I am pleased to transmit to you *Meeting the Challenge of 9/11: Blueprints for More Effective Government*.

This book provides invaluable insights and recommendations on how to improve government organization and performance as our nation faces new and imposing threats here and abroad. The challenge of September 11 demands not only new policies, programs, systems and organizational relationships to deal with the threats, but also the revitalization of old programs and agencies to carry out their missions more effectively.

Meeting the Challenge of 9/11 tackles a wide range of issues, including:

- Designing an organization that provides a strong government capacity to deliver services citizens need and deserve.
- Making the Undersecretary for Management a key linchpin in bringing DHS functions together.
- Restoring the President's capacity to manage effectively.
- Using the imperative of national security to improve federal, state and local relations especially with critical services like police, fire and health.
- Capitalizing on tested and proven management strategies to surmount new and upcoming challenges for our nation.