



STRENGTHENING HOMELAND SECURITY

"We are here to do the work that ensures no other family members have to lose a loved one to a terrorist who turns a plane into a missile, a terrorist who straps a bomb around her waist and climbs aboard a bus, a terrorist who figures out how to set off a dirty bomb in one of our cities. This is why we are here: to make our country safer and make sure the nearly 3,000 who were taken from us did not die in vain. Their legacy will be a safer and more secure nation."

[Obama Speech On U.S. Senate Floor, 3/6/07]

BARACK OBAMA AND JOE BIDEN: PROTECTING AMERICANS

The first responsibility of any president is to protect the American people. Yet, seven years after the 9/11 attacks, we are not as safe as we can and should be. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will take swift action to strengthen security for all Americans.

They will implement the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission to ensure that our brave police, fire, and paramedic professionals have the equipment, training and support they need. They will invest the resources necessary to improve our emergency preparedness and planning; increase the security of our transit systems, rail lines, and ports; and secure chemical and nuclear plants and other critical infrastructure. As president, Barack Obama will enhance our national resilience to all major risks – natural, accidental or terrorist – by ensuring the federal government works with states, localities and the private sector as a true partner in prevention, mitigation and response.

Barack Obama and Joe Biden's strategy for securing the homeland against 21st century threats is driven by the twin goals of preventing terrorist attacks on our homeland and investing in national resilience that enables people closest to a crisis to act and achieve a rapid return to normal. An Obama-Biden administration will make sure that the resources we devote to security are allocated based on risk, not politics. Their strategy will draw on the insights and experience of state, local and private sector leaders to better protect American families and communities.

As president, Barack Obama will help rebuild and strengthen our aging infrastructure so it can withstand disaster and, at the same time, spur the economic growth we need. An Obama-Biden administration will provide the nation with a robust homeland security policy that works to make us safer, that is fiscally responsible, respectful of America's civil liberties and that will prevent, confront and defeat 21st century threats.

PREVENT 21ST CENTURY ATTACKS ON THE HOMELAND

Barack Obama and Joe Biden believe that a range of risks, both natural and manmade, can have major consequences for the security, prosperity, and well-being of Americans at home and abroad. We need a president who understands these new security threats — and who has effective strategies for addressing them. Barack Obama worked with Senator Dick Lugar (R-IN) and others across the aisle to expand efforts to stop

smuggling of nuclear material and keep conventional weapons out of terrorists' hands. He worked to combat infectious diseases around the world and increase funding for biomedical research and prevention. He worked to protect the privacy of Americans, and he will keep the country and its citizens safe and secure.

Barack Obama believes that the central front in the fight against terrorism is Afghanistan and Pakistan, not Iraq. He believes we must urgently strengthen our efforts to thwart the resurgence of the Taliban and al Qaeda, and simultaneously reduce the risks to the homeland from potentially catastrophic manmade threats: nuclear and radiological weapons, biological and chemical attacks and cyber warfare. In an age of terrorism, these dangers take on new dimensions. Nuclear, biological, and cyber attacks all pose the potential for large-scale destruction and disruption. The capacity to inflict such damage is spreading not only to other countries, but also potentially to terrorist groups as well. Indeed, biological and cyber attacks can be derived from commercial technologies that cost relatively little to acquire and can be used with near anonymity. Barack Obama and Joe Biden have laid out comprehensive strategies for combating these threats to our security through a combination of presidential leadership, public investment and private sector involvement.

DEFEAT TERRORISM WORLDWIDE

Find, Disrupt, and Destroy al Qaeda: Obama and Biden will responsibly end the war in Iraq and focus on Afghanistan, the refuge for the terrorists who attacked us on September 11. He will send at least two additional combat brigades, more special operations forces, and \$1 billion in additional non-military aid to Afghanistan. Joining with Senators Biden and Lugar, Obama cosponsored bipartisan legislation to triple non-military assistance to Pakistan over a ten-year period while conditioning military aid on Pakistan making concerted efforts against insurgents and Al Qaeda in the tribal areas.

New Capabilities to Aggressively Defeat Terrorists: Barack Obama and Joe Biden will improve the American intelligence apparatus by investing in its capacity to collect and analyze information, share information with other agencies and carry out operations to disrupt terrorist operations and networks. Overseas, they will establish a Shared Security Partnership Program to invest \$5 billion over three years to help foreign intelligence and law enforcement agencies to target and disrupt al Qaeda and its affiliates. This program will include information sharing, funding for training, operations, border security, anti-corruption programs, technology, and the targeting of terrorist financing.

Prepare the Military to Meet 21st Century Threats: Barack Obama will not hesitate to use military force to take out terrorists who pose a direct threat to America. Obama and Biden will ensure that our military becomes more stealthy, agile, and lethal in its ability to capture or kill terrorists. They will recruit, train, and equip our armed forces to better target terrorists, and to help foreign militaries to do the same. To meet the security demands of the 21st century, Obama and Biden support an expansion of the military by adding 65,000 soldiers and 27,000 Marines to the active duty military. They will bolster our military's ability to speak different languages, navigate different cultures and coordinate complex missions with our civilian agencies.

Deny al Qaeda Safe Havens and Target Support Networks: From Africa to Central Asia to the Pacific Rim, some 60 countries are weak and failing with large swaths of territory beyond the control of any state. These countries must be prevented from serving as recruiting grounds and safe-havens for al Qaeda and its offshoots. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will double U.S. spending on international cooperation and development programs to \$50 billion a year by 2012, targeting the world's weakest states to extend the rule of law to ungoverned areas, build democratic institutions and address the concerns extremists groups use to recruit and raise funds. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will create Mobile Development Teams (MDTs) that bring together personnel from the military, the Pentagon, the State Department, and USAID, fully integrating U.S. government efforts in counterterrorism and post-conflict operations. An Obama-Biden Administration will also defeat al Qaeda in what the 9-11 Commission called "the Battle of Ideas" by returning to an American foreign policy

consistent with America's traditional values and by partnering with moderates within the Islamic world to counter al Qaeda propaganda. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will establish a \$2 billion Global Education Fund to work to eliminate the global education deficit and offer an alternative to extremist schools.

Restore American Influence and Restore Our Values: After a global outpouring of support immediately following September 11, America's standing in the world has plummeted. The 9-11 attacks showed us that terrorist networks transcend political boundaries: terrorists seek sanctuary in one country, train in a second, and solicit support in other countries. Consequently, thwarting their ambitions requires international partnerships in military, intelligence, law enforcement, financial transactions, border controls and transportation security. These relationships are essential to denying terrorist networks the space they need to operate. The decline in U.S. influence abroad undermines our ability to gain willing partners to advance our interests. To make diplomacy more effective, Obama and Biden will stop shuttering consulates and start opening them in the tough and hopeless corners of the world. They will expand our foreign service, and develop the capacity of our civilian aid workers to work alongside the military. Obama and Biden will double the Peace Corps to 16,000 by 2011. They will work with the leaders of other countries to build an international network of overseas volunteers so that Americans work side-by-side with volunteers from other countries. Obama and Biden will set up an America's Voice Corps to send Americans who are fluent speakers of foreign languages abroad to expand our public diplomacy. They will extend opportunities for experienced individuals such as teachers, engineers, and doctors to serve overseas. And, as president, Obama will expand international student exchanges with a goal of making study abroad the norm, not the exception, for undergraduate students. Obama and Biden will restore our values and set an example for the world that law is not subject to the whims of stubborn leaders and that justice is not arbitrary.

ENSURE NUCLEAR SECURITY

The nuclear threat facing our nation and the world is qualitatively different from the threat we faced before. Today, we confront the possibility of terrorists bent on our destruction possessing a nuclear weapon or bomb-making materials. We also face the threat of more countries acquiring a nuclear bomb or the means to make one. While the Bush Administration and John McCain went looking for nuclear weapons in Iraq – where there were none – they took their eyes off the real threat of terrorists and other rogue actors acquiring nuclear weapons. Barack Obama and Joe Biden have a comprehensive strategy for nuclear security that will reduce the danger of nuclear terrorism, prevent the spread of nuclear weapons capabilities and strengthen the nuclear nonproliferation regime.

Secure Nuclear Weapons Materials in Four Years: Barack Obama and Joe Biden will lead a global effort to work with other countries to secure all nuclear weapons materials at vulnerable sites within four years — the most effective way to prevent terrorists from acquiring a nuclear bomb. Despite our differences, Barack Obama understands the importance of working with Russia to make sure nuclear weapons and nuclear weapons materials in Russia and around the world are fully secured. Obama and Biden will work with other countries to develop and implement a comprehensive set of standards to protect nuclear materials from theft. They will increase funding by \$1 billion a year to ensure that within four years, the essential ingredients of nuclear weapons are removed from all the world's most vulnerable sites and effective, lasting security measures are instituted for all remaining sites.

End Nuclear Smuggling: Barack Obama and Joe Biden will fully implement the Lugar-Obama legislation to help our allies detect and stop the smuggling of weapons of mass destruction throughout the world. In the former Soviet Union, there are approximately 15,000-16,000 nuclear weapons and stockpiles of uranium and plutonium capable of making another 40,000 scattered across 11 time zones. People have been caught trying to smuggle nuclear materials to sell them on the black market. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will lead a global

effort to secure all nuclear weapons and material at vulnerable sites within four years. Obama will negotiate a verifiable global ban on the production of highly enriched uranium and plutonium for use in nuclear weapons.

Phase Out Highly Enriched Uranium (HEU) from the Civil Sector: HEU is not needed for the vast majority of civilian purposes and most reactors using HEU should be converted to operate on low-enriched fuel that cannot be used in nuclear weapons or shut down so that terrorists cannot get their hands on these materials. With Barack Obama's leadership, the U.S. will lead the effort to remove HEU from vulnerable research reactor sites around the world, assist in the conversion process, give unneeded facilities incentives to shut down, enhance physical protection measures pending HEU removal, and blend down recovered civil HEU for use as power reactor fuel.

Strengthen Policing and Interdiction Efforts: Barack Obama and Joe Biden will institutionalize the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI), a global initiative aimed at stopping shipments of weapons of mass destruction, their delivery systems, and related materials worldwide. They will expand the responsibilities of its members, not only in stopping illicit nuclear shipments, but also in eradicating nuclear black market networks. A stronger PSI will produce greater international intelligence and police cooperation, maintain tougher export controls and criminal penalties for violations, collaborate with transportation and logistics industry leaders to improve transparency and apply the tools developed to combat terrorist financing to shut down proliferators' financial networks.

Build State Capacity to Prevent Theft, Diversion, or Spread of Nuclear Materials: The global effort to stop nuclear proliferation is only as strong as its weakest link. UN Security Council Resolution 1540, which mandates that all nations implement effective domestic controls to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, provides a potentially powerful tool for getting countries to institute effective nonproliferation controls. The Bush administration has failed to make effective use of this tool. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will give the effort new impetus, working to lay out the essential steps to put strong systems in place and mobilizing international financial support to help states take those steps.

Convene a Summit on Preventing Nuclear Terrorism: Nuclear terrorism is not only a security threat to the U.S., it is a global danger that affects everyone. Barack Obama will convene a summit in 2009 (and regularly thereafter) of leaders of Permanent Members of the UN Security Council and other key countries to agree on implementing many of these measures on a global basis. This will instill a process of continuous high-level accountability for all efforts to prevent nuclear terrorism.

Eliminate Iran's and North Korea's Nuclear Weapons Programs Through Tough, Direct Diplomacy: Barack Obama will use tough diplomacy — backed by real incentives and real pressures — to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons and to eliminate fully and verifiably North Korea's nuclear weapons programs. Barack Obama will not take any options off the table, but he will emphasize first and foremost the power of tough, direct American diplomacy, backed by tougher sanctions, and make clear the substantial benefits to Iran and North Korea of abandoning their dangerous nuclear programs while simultaneously conveying the enormous costs to them should they fail to do so.

Strengthen the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA): The IAEA is understaffed and under-resourced at a time when demand for its expertise is growing. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will seek to ensure that the Agency gets the authority, information, people, and technology it needs to do its job. They will work to double the IAEA budget in the next four years (increasing the U.S. annual share to about \$225 million). They will press countries to adopt the "Additional Protocol," — which grants the IAEA the right to conduct more intrusive inspections, including at undeclared facilities — and seek agreement among members of the Nuclear Suppliers Group not to transfer nuclear technology to NPT countries that have not adopted the Additional

Protocol. They will work to gain agreement on effective global standards for nuclear safety and security. And they will call for establishing IAEA verification procedures that go beyond the Additional Protocol to strengthen the agency's ability to detect clandestine facilities and activities.

Control Fissile Materials: Barack Obama and Joe Biden will lead a global effort to negotiate a verifiable treaty ending the production of fissile materials for weapons purposes. As a complementary step, they will propose a new multilateral initiative to control existing fissile materials, under which nations will provide regular declarations of their fissile material holdings, secure their materials to the highest international standards of physical protection, declare increasing amounts of material as excess to defense needs and transform such excess materials to forms no longer useable in nuclear weapons as soon as practicable.

Prevent Nuclear Fuel from Becoming Nuclear Bombs: Barack Obama and Joe Biden will work with other interested governments to establish a new international nuclear energy architecture — including an international nuclear fuel bank, international nuclear fuel cycle centers, and reliable fuel supply assurances — to meet growing demands for nuclear power without contributing to the proliferation of nuclear materials and fuel production facilities.

Set the Goal of a Nuclear-Free World: Barack Obama and Joe Biden will set a new direction in nuclear weapons policy and show the world that America believes in its existing commitment under the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty to work to ultimately eliminate all nuclear weapons. Barack Obama fully supports reaffirming this goal, as called for by George Shultz, Henry Kissinger, William Perry, and Sam Nunn, and the specific steps they propose to move us in that direction. He has made clear that America will not disarm unilaterally. Indeed, as long as states retain nuclear weapons, the U.S. will maintain a nuclear deterrent that is strong, safe, secure, and reliable. But he will not authorize the development of new nuclear weapons. And Obama and Biden will make the goal of eliminating nuclear weapons worldwide a central element of U.S. nuclear policy.

Seek Real, Verifiable Reductions in Nuclear Stockpiles: Barack Obama and Joe Biden will seek deep, verifiable reductions in all U.S. and Russian nuclear weapons — whether deployed or non-deployed, whether strategic or non-strategic — and work with other nuclear powers to reduce global stockpiles dramatically by the end of his presidency. As a first step, Obama will work to secure Russia's agreement to extend essential monitoring and verification provisions of the START I Treaty before it expires in December 2009. And he will initiate a high-level dialogue among all the declared nuclear weapons states on how to make their nuclear capabilities more transparent, create greater confidence, and move toward meaningful reductions and the eventual elimination of all nuclear weapons.

Work with Russia to Increase Warning and Decision Time: Keeping nuclear weapons ready to launch on a moment's notice is a dangerous relic of the Cold War. Such policies increase the risk of catastrophic accidents or miscalculation. Barack Obama believes that we must address this dangerous situation — something that George W. Bush promised to do when he campaigned for president back in 2000, but did not do once in office. As president, Barack Obama will aim to work with Russia to end such Cold War policies in a mutual and verifiable manner.

Achieve Successful Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference in 2010: The last NPT Review Conference in 2005 proved to be an embarrassing failure — in large part because of the Bush administration's refusal to even discuss the disarmament commitments that all parties to the treaty had made in 2000. Another such failure could severely weaken the global effort to stem the spread of nuclear weapons. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will work with our allies and other countries to achieve a successful outcome in 2010 that strengthens

the NPT. The initiatives Barack Obama and Joe Biden pledge to undertake to enhance nuclear security and further U.S. commitments under the treaty will contribute greatly to that effort.

Appoint White House Coordinator for Nuclear Security: Everything involving nuclear weapons is inherently presidential and will require presidential leadership. Barack Obama will provide that leadership. He will appoint a deputy national security advisor to be in charge of coordinating all U.S. programs aimed at reducing the risk of nuclear terrorism and weapons proliferation. This person will work closely with him, the national security adviser, the director of the Office of Management and Budget, and senior officials of the relevant cabinet departments and will have budgetary oversight over all programs related to nuclear security.

Strengthen Nuclear Risk Reduction Work at Defense, State, and Energy Departments: To ensure nuclear security is a top priority in our relations with other countries and international organizations, in our defense and military policy, and in our nuclear weapons policy, Barack Obama and Joe Biden will organize the departments and staff that are responsible for these broad policy areas to ensure effective implementation of his comprehensive strategy for nuclear security.

STRENGTHEN AMERICAN BIOSECURITY:

Biological weapons pose a serious and increasing national security risk. The anthrax letter attacks of the fall of 2001 killed five people, seriously sickened seventeen and terrorized the nation in what became the worst biological attacks in U.S. history. Al Qaeda was attempting to develop biological weapons in Afghanistan before the U.S. discovered and disrupted its program in 2003. Al Qaeda or other adversaries may seek to use biological weapons to do great harm to American civilians or our military. The spectrum of possible biological threats is broad; it is unwise to assume that the next threat will look like the last one. The central concern is that as biological science and related technologies accelerate and as human and veterinary applications expand, the materials, skills and know-how needed to build and use bioweapons become ever more globally available.

Prevent Bioterror Attacks: Barack Obama and Joe Biden will strengthen U.S. intelligence collection overseas to identify and interdict would-be bioterrorists before they strike. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will expand the U.S. government's bioforensics program for tracking the source of any biological weapon so that the U.S. will be able to rapidly identify any adversary who uses a biological weapon and respond surely and swiftly. They will assist states to meet their obligations under UN Security Council resolution 1540 and the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention to prevent terrorists and states from developing and acquiring biological weapons.

Build Capacity to Mitigate the Consequences of Bioterror Attacks: Biological weapons attacks could lead to large-scale epidemics that sicken and kill thousands and cause great disruption and economic loss. A well-planned, well-rehearsed, and rapidly executed epidemic response can dramatically diminish the consequences of such attacks. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will support increased R&D to improve our sensor technologies to detect attacks at the earliest possible stage. They will ensure that decision-makers have the information and communication tools they need to manage disease outbreaks by linking health care providers, hospitals, and public health agencies. Much of what we need to defend against bioterrorism will also improve our ability to deal with naturally occurring disease and help prepare us to better cope with disasters of all kinds. Barack Obama and Joe Biden's pledge to invest \$10 billion per year over the next five years in electronic health information systems will not only improve routine health care, but in a biological crisis or other catastrophe, these systems will give health officials the crucial information they need to deploy resources and save lives. Barack Obama and Joe Biden introduced the Improving Emergency Medical Care and Response Act of 2007, which would have provided funding for programs to enhance emergency care systems throughout the country. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will also help hospitals form collaborative networks to deal with sudden surges in patients and will ensure that the United States has adequate supplies of medicines, vaccines and diagnostic tests and can get these vital products into the hands of those who need them.

Accelerate the Development of New Medicines, Vaccines, and Production Capabilities: The 21st century has been called the ‘biological century’ because of revolutionary advances in the life sciences and associated technologies. Even though these advances create new risks, they also provide us with a fundamental, new understanding of how living organisms work. We must support and promote further advances in a responsible manner. These advances will yield immense benefits in everyday life and also provide the drugs and vaccines upon which we will rely for our biodefense. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will build on America’s unparalleled talent and advantage in science, technology, and engineering, and the powerful insights into biological systems that are emerging, to create new drugs, vaccines, and diagnostic tests and to manufacture these vital products much more quickly and efficiently than is now possible. Unfortunately, the Bush administration has failed to take full advantage of the Bioshield initiative, which funds the purchase of medical countermeasures to protect against large-scale health disasters. Because of the unpredictability of the mode of biological attack, Barack Obama and Joe Biden will stress the need for broadly applicable vaccines and drugs and for more agile and responsive drug development and production systems. This effort will strengthen the U.S. biotech and pharmaceutical industry and create high-wage jobs.

Lead an International Effort to Diminish Impact of Major Infectious Disease Epidemics: Barack Obama was one of the first legislators to recognize the dangers of a potential avian influenza pandemic and was successful in securing \$25 million for U.S. agencies to combat and contain widespread outbreaks of avian flu in Southeast Asia, where new flu strains tend to originate. He also worked with other Senators to provide \$4 billion in funding to the Centers for Disease Control to combat avian flu, including more than \$3 billion to build a stockpile of antiviral drugs that had been in short supply. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will continue to promote international efforts to develop new diagnostics, vaccines, and medicines that will be available and affordable in all parts of the world.

PROTECT OUR INFORMATION NETWORKS:

Information networks and computers play a vital role in every facet of our lives and are critical to our nation’s economy, civil infrastructure, security, and military power. These networks, however, and the data that travels upon them, are under constant and increasing attack from foreign nations, terrorist organizations, and organized crime groups who are seeking to do damage to our nation, our companies, and our citizens. Despite mounting costs to consumers and major threats to the private sector, our national security, and our critical infrastructure, the Bush administration has been ineffective in protecting the nation’s critical networks and computer systems. The administration delayed implementing its own 2003 National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace and, as a result the problems we now face are even more severe. In January 2008, the Bush administration made a desperate effort to “stop the bleeding” of sensitive information to competitors and criminals with the Comprehensive National Cybersecurity Initiative, but, as with other administration initiatives, the president has chosen to shroud the plan in secrecy and proceed without adequate consultation rather than engaging the public and the private sector and leading the nation to address this threat. Today our nation still lacks a long-term strategy to address proliferating cyber espionage, to eliminate key points of vulnerability, and to help victims of everyday cyber crime ranging from online predators to identity theft. As president, Barack Obama will lead an effort, working with private industry, the research community and our citizens, to build a trustworthy and accountable cyber infrastructure that is resilient, protects America’s competitive advantage, and advances our national and homeland security.

Strengthen Federal Leadership on Cyber Security: The Bush administration was too slow on acting against the risks associated with cyberspace. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will declare the cyber infrastructure a strategic asset, vital to national security and the global economy, and develop and deploy systems to protect it. Poor management by the Bush administration resulted in the loss of critical information by the Veterans’ Administration and resulted in the disclosure of service members’ personal information. An Obama-Biden

administration will develop tight standards for securing America's personal information. They will establish the position of national cyber advisor who will report directly to the president and will be responsible for coordinating federal agency efforts and development of national cyber policy.

Initiate a Safe Computing R&D Effort: Our cyber infrastructure is fragile and vulnerable to attacks that can cause significant disruption to network operations and the integrity of information. We must enhance our information infrastructure to withstand disruption and ensure information is not breached or corrupted. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will support an initiative to develop next-generation secure computers and networking for national security applications.

Harden our Nation's Cyber Infrastructure: In the 21st century, the war-fighting capability of the United States will increasingly rely on cyber systems for everything from logistics to battlefield command. Many of the nation's most vital systems in the Defense Department and the Intelligence Community have been compromised and critical information that could be used against us by our enemies in a time of war has been eliminated. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will work with industry and academia to develop and deploy a new generation of secure hardware and software for our nation's critical cyber infrastructure.

Develop a Comprehensive Cyber Security and Response Strategy: Our nation often has difficulty detecting cyber attack and does not have sufficient tools or capability to identify the perpetrator and respond. Improved situational awareness will make early warning possible to stop attacks before they can succeed and to bring perpetrators to justice. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will ensure that the Obama-Biden administration develops a Cyber Security Strategy that ensures that we have the ability to identify our attackers and a plan for how to respond that will be measured but effective.

Protect the IT Infrastructure That Keeps America's Economy Safe: The public and private infrastructure that keeps America running, from electricity, water, and sewage, to oil and gas, air traffic control, voting systems, and finance are increasingly brought online to improve efficiency and reduce costs. As a result, these vital systems have become susceptible to online attacks originating from anywhere in the world. In 2007, the Idaho National Laboratory demonstrated that electrical generators could be physically destroyed by cyber attacks. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will work with the private sector to establish tough new standards for cyber security and physical resilience for critical infrastructure.

Prevent Corporate Cyber-Espionage: Maintaining America's competitiveness in the global economy requires keeping our innovative edge in software, engineering, pharmaceuticals, and other fields. Innovations in these fields are being stolen online from U.S. businesses at an alarming rate. These losses are making America less safe and less competitive and costing us jobs here at home. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will work with industry to develop the systems necessary to protect our nation's trade secrets and our research and development.

Develop a Cyber Crime Strategy to Minimize the Opportunities for Criminal Profit: Black markets for stolen information support increasingly virulent international cyber crime. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will shut down the mechanisms used to transmit criminal profits by shutting down untraceable Internet payment schemes. They will also initiate a grant and training program to provide federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies the tools they need to detect and prosecute cyber crime.

Mandate Standards for Securing Personal Data: Nearly 10 million Americans are victims of identity theft each year, costing more than \$55 billion. We must ensure that the privacy of personnel data in computer systems is better protected. The federal government must partner with industry and our citizens to secure

personal data stored on government and private systems. An Obama-Biden administration will institute a common standard for securing such data across industries.

Require Companies to Disclose Personal Information Data Breaches: As president, Barack Obama will back strong legislation to protect the rights of individuals in the information age. California and other states have laws requiring a company that may have disclosed a resident's personal information without authorization to inform the victim of the disclosure. Barack Obama believes that all Americans deserve the same right to know and will push for comparable federal legislation.

IMPROVE INTELLIGENCE CAPACITY AND PROTECT CIVIL LIBERTIES:

Improve Information Sharing and Analysis: The attacks of September 11th demonstrated the critical importance of information sharing. While some progress has been made, we are still not good enough at "connecting the dots." State and local emergency officials represent more than 95 percent of America's counterterrorism capability, but they too often do not get actionable intelligence from federal sources. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will improve our intelligence system by creating a senior position to coordinate domestic intelligence gathering; establishing a grant program to support thousands more state and local level intelligence analysts and increasing our capacity to share intelligence across all levels of government.

Give Real Authority to the Privacy and Civil Liberties Board: Created by legislation and recommended by the 9/11 Commission, the Privacy and Civil Liberties Board needs to be substantially reformed and empowered to safeguard against an erosion in American civil liberties. Despite naming members to the Board, the Bush Administration has not given the Board a real mandate, and the Board has not addressed the many civil liberties concerns of the American people. As president, Barack Obama will support efforts to strengthen the Board with subpoena powers and reporting responsibilities, will give the Board a robust mandate designed to protect American civil liberties, and will demand transparency from the Board to ensure accountability.

Strengthen Institutions to Fight Terrorism: Overseas, Barack Obama and Joe Biden will establish a Shared Security Partnership Program to invest \$5 billion over three years to improve cooperation between U.S. and foreign intelligence and law enforcement agencies. This program will include information sharing, as well as funding for training, operations, border security, anti-corruption programs, technology, and the targeting of terrorist financing. This effort will focus on helping our partners succeed without repressive tactics, because brutality breeds terror—it does not defeat it.

PREPARE FOR TERRORIST ATTACKS AND NATURAL DISASTERS

Allocate Funds Based on Risk: Barack Obama believes that the president and Congress should allocate our precious homeland security dollars according to risk, not as pork-barrel spending or a form of general revenue sharing. These dollars help states and localities prepare for disaster and fund first responder needs. To address this pressing issue, Obama introduced an amendment on the Senate floor to increase risk-based funding in the 9/11 bill. Obama's amendment was supported by the Families of 9/11 and former 9/11 Commissioners Lee Hamilton and Tim Roemer. As president, Barack Obama will look to the Quadrennial Homeland Security Review to help inform and shape reprioritization at the federal level. Obama and Biden support taking politics out of funding for homeland security and investing in city and state preparedness and resiliency in a way that will effectively and efficiently keep Americans safe.

Prepare Effective Emergency Response Plans: As our nation witnessed in the Hurricane Katrina crisis and its aftermath, too many localities do not have integrated emergency response plans to handle disasters. During recent floods in the Midwest and hurricanes in the Gulf, many state and local governments demonstrated they had learned many of the sobering lessons of Katrina. But there is still room for improvement. As an Illinois state legislator, Barack Obama passed legislation to improve Illinois' disaster preparedness for terrorism and

public health crises. Obama took his firsthand knowledge of state and local disaster planning to Washington where he has worked to provide greater federal tools and guidance to those responding to emergencies on the ground. Obama passed legislation to provide funding for planning for evacuating individuals with special needs from emergency zones and to create a National Family Locator System to help families locate loved ones after a disaster. As president, Obama will further improve coordination between all levels of government, create better evacuation plan guidelines, ensure prompt federal assistance to emergency zones, and increase medical surge capacity. He and Joe Biden will not only ensure states have evacuation plans for the special needs population, they will also provide federal support for implementing these plans in times of emergency.

Support First Responders: During emergencies our nation's first responders – police, firefighters, and emergency medical professionals – come to the rescue. They are first on the scene when disasters strike and deserve the tools necessary to get the job done safely and quickly. Unfortunately, over the past few years the Bush administration has repeatedly attempted to significantly reduce support for our nation's first responders. Barack Obama has consistently fought attempts to undercut this critical foundation of our homeland security system. Obama is committed not only to rolling back the funding cuts that have affected first responders, but also to increasing federal resources and logistic support to local emergency planning efforts.

Improve Interoperable Communications Systems: Our nation lost precious time during the 9/11 attacks and Hurricane Katrina because of the lack of a 21st century communications network for first responders, local governments, and federal agencies. A 21st century communications network must enable communications across city, county, and state lines and there must be a system by which the Federal government communicates with local entities. Barack Obama and Joe Biden support efforts to provide greater technical assistance to local and state first responders and dramatically increase funding for reliable, interoperable communications systems. Unlike the current administration, Barack Obama and Joe Biden will make solving the first responder communications problem a national priority. They will appoint a national Chief Technology Officer who will have the responsibility to ensure that the current non-interoperable plans at the federal, state, and local levels are combined, funded, implemented and effective.

Working with State and Local Government and the Private Sector: The risks facing this nation cannot be effectively prevented or managed by the federal government alone. Barack Obama knows that prevention, mitigation, response and recovery are primarily local issues. As the preparation for Hurricane Gustav demonstrated, the federal government must be a better partner to states and localities to support efforts to evacuate and protect the American people from disasters. The federal government must begin by listening to local concerns and acknowledging local priorities. The private sector has proven its willingness and ability to work in support of our nation's security, but they have not been fully engaged as a partner by the federal government. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will reach out to the private sector in order to leverage its expertise and assets to protect our homeland. Our city police, county sheriffs, firefighters, state police, public health professionals, EMTs, hospital staff, public works personnel, emergency managers, electric utilities crews, transportation workers, Red Cross volunteers – and so many more hometown heroes – must be confident of federal competence, cooperation, and support before, during, and after a disaster.

PROTECT CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Create a National Infrastructure Protection Plan: Financial networks, our energy grid, communication systems and other critical infrastructures are vital assets supporting our daily lives. They provide for and sustain America's vibrant economic and political systems and are essential for our safety, health, and security. As such, we must ensure that these infrastructures are robust, reliable, and resilient in the face of possible natural or man-made risks. In an Obama-Biden Administration, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will develop an effective critical infrastructure protection and resiliency plan for the nation and will work with the private sector to ensure that all real targets are prepared for disasters both natural and man-made. The DHS will meaningfully

engage with all levels of government and the private sector to make sure that security and planning efforts properly include the very agencies and businesses that will be required to respond in the event of an emergency. It will embrace both protection and resiliency as complementary elements of an integrated risk management strategy. The Bush administration created a National Asset Database, which was supposed to guide homeland security priorities, listing 77,069 potential U.S. targets including petting zoos and popcorn factories. Experts say this database is useless for prioritizing homeland security planning. Obama and Biden fought to create a meaningful National Asset Database that identifies and ranks the most critical infrastructure in the United States. With the help of Obama's leadership, the Department of Homeland Security is now required to engage in a dialogue and vetting process among all critical infrastructure owners and operators—at all levels of government and the private sector—and the Department of Homeland Security is also required periodically to periodically provide Congress with the ranking of critical infrastructure priorities to ensure that it remains effective, narrowly tailored, and updated.

Secure our Chemical Plants: Chemical plants are potential terrorist targets because they are often located near cities, are relatively easy to attack, and contain multi-ton quantities of hazardous chemicals. While a number of plants have taken steps to improve security, there are still major gaps, and the federal government has never established effective, permanent security regulations. Barack Obama worked with Senator Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) to introduce the Chemical Security and Safety Act that would establish a clear set of federal regulations that all plants must follow. The bill requires chemical facilities to enhance security, including improving barriers, containment, mitigation, and safety training, and, where possible, using safer technology, such as less toxic chemicals. As president, Barack Obama will work with Congress and all stakeholders to enact permanent federal chemical security regulations.

Ensure Safe and Secure Disposal of Nuclear Waste: Within the past five years, three nuclear power plants have reported missing spent fuel. The federal government must not only implement regulations and guidelines to account for all dangerous nuclear waste, but also ensure that nuclear power plants and waste facilities have the resources to keep terrorists from obtaining potential weapons. Barack Obama introduced the Spent Nuclear Fuel Tracking and Accountability Act in 2005 to create specific and uniform guidelines to track and control individual spent fuel rods or segments.

Improve Airline Security: Between October 2005 and January 2006, Government Accountability Office investigators were able to smuggle bomb components past federal screeners at all 21 airports they targeted. As a member of the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee, Barack Obama believes we must redouble our efforts to determine if the measures implemented after 9/11 are adequately addressing the threats our nation continues to face from airplane-based terrorism. Even though a law has been passed to screen 100 percent of airborne cargo for explosives by 2010, we must ensure that the Transportation Security Administration has the technology and manpower to conduct such screenings effectively. The airlines must be partners in this effort, but the TSA must be responsible for the screening. Obama and Biden have supported increased numbers of federal airport screeners and improved funding for aviation security. Airline passengers are still not screened against a comprehensive terrorist watch list. Such a list must be developed and used in a way that safeguards passengers' privacy while ensuring the safety of air travel.

Monitor our Ports: Despite the 9/11 Commission's strong recommendation that the government significantly improve port security, the Bush administration has consistently under-budgeted security at the nation's ports by billions of dollars. Barack Obama has been a consistent supporter of strengthening our port security, and voted to mandate screening of all inbound cargo to the U.S., improve scanning of cargo at foreign ports, and promote greater sharing of shipping data across nations. But cargo screening alone is not enough if our technology can't reliably detect deadly radiation. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will redouble our efforts to develop technology that can detect radiation and determine the danger it poses. They will work with the maritime transportation

industry to integrate this technology into their operations so as to maximize security without causing economic disruption.

Safeguard Public Transportation: Every weekday, Americans take 34 million trips on public transportation systems to get to work, school and beyond. Even though recent attacks have happened on public transit in Madrid, Mumbai, and London, the Bush administration has invested only a small fraction of the \$6 billion that transportation officials have said is necessary to implement needed security improvements. Barack Obama and Joe Biden believe that this critical hole in our homeland security network must be addressed. They will fight for greater information sharing between national intelligence agents and local officials and provide local law enforcement agencies with the everyday tools they need to protect their transportation systems. As a U.S. Senator representing Chicago, IL, one of the nation's major rail and air transportation hubs, Obama has consistently advocated stronger rail and transit security programs. Obama and Biden will push for increased patrols and explosive detection canine teams to deter and detect possible attacks on our nation's public transportation systems.

Protect Local Water Supplies: There are almost 170,000 public water systems in the United States. An attack on a drinking water system could contaminate or disrupt water service, impacting human health and compromising critical activities such as fire protection. Barack Obama introduced legislation, which passed the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, to provide \$37.5 million over five years to upgrade the monitoring and security efforts of drinking water systems. The bill also directs the Environmental Protection Agency and the Centers for Disease Control to develop the tools for drinking water systems to detect and respond to biological, chemical, and radiological contamination.

Improve Border Security: Americans know that our national border security system is broken, leaving our country vulnerable. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will push for increased border security while protecting legitimate travel and trade. Obama has been a consistent advocate of strengthening our borders and has voted to transfer \$367.6 million to add an additional 1,000 border agents to our nation's most vulnerable areas as well as increase funding overall for border protection efforts. Obama also believes that border security extends beyond our land borders and that increased federal attention must be paid to those who enter our borders by water and air, to include building and facilitating enhanced international cooperation to better interdict those who would exploit our global travel system or supply chains. Obama supports comprehensive immigration reform to ensure that we truly find a solution to this critical issue.

RESTORE AMERICA'S AGING INFRASTRUCTURE

President Dwight Eisenhower understood that investing in infrastructure was not only essential to our national security, but that it was also indispensable for our economy. It was his foresight and leadership that led to the creation of the Interstate Highway System in the 1950s. President Eisenhower was concerned that if the Cold War should ever get hot, Americans would need to mobilize quickly so he convinced Congress that the federal government should take the lead in helping to build interstate highways. Today, the security imperative for reinvesting in the structures that support our economy and modern way of life is different: the more fragile our infrastructure, the softer the target it presents for our adversaries and the more vulnerable we are to natural disasters. At a time when our housing sector and economy are stalling, such investments will also generate much needed jobs and build a 21st century foundation for economic competitiveness.

The United States once had highways, bridges, and airports that were the envy of the world. Today, our infrastructure is in perilous condition because of the Bush administration's failure to make necessary investments. In 2003, an overstressed power grid failed causing blackouts across the northeast. In 2005, poorly maintained levees left the city of New Orleans underwater in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. In 2007, the I-35 W Bridge collapsed as Minneapolis-area commuters were heading home from work. This summer it was

Midwesterners who lost their homes, small businesses, and farms when levees failed to hold back the rising waters of upper-Mississippi River.

Invest for Prosperity: The national security imperative to undertake a broad program of infrastructure reinvestment will have the benefit of strengthening America's economy not just in the short-term, but also over the course of several years. Every \$1 billion we spend on rebuilding our roads will directly and indirectly create 47,500 well-paying jobs – jobs that cannot be outsourced. Better roads and bridges also help reduce congestion, allow for the more efficient use of fuel, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Build-in Security: America faces terrorist threats and an enduring risk of natural disasters. The principal target of terrorist attacks and greatest risk to natural disaster disruptions is our critical infrastructure. Post-9/11 initiatives to ensure critical infrastructure protection have sought to impose new protective measures to older infrastructure. Building security into the original design of new infrastructure as it is replaced reinforces and protects our critical assets from the start, not as an afterthought, so that these vital assets are less vulnerable and more resilient to naturally-occurring and deliberate threats throughout their life-cycle.

Create a National Infrastructure Reinvestment Bank: Barack Obama and Joe Biden will address the infrastructure challenge by creating a National Infrastructure Reinvestment Bank to expand and enhance, not supplant, existing federal transportation investments. This independent entity will be directed to invest in our nation's most challenging transportation infrastructure needs, without the influence of special interests. The Bank will receive an infusion of federal money, \$60 billion over 10 years, to provide financing to transportation infrastructure projects across the nation. These projects will create up to two million new direct and indirect jobs and stimulate approximately \$35 billion per year in new economic activity.

Invest in a Smart Grid: Obama and Biden will pursue a major investment in our national utility grid using smart metering, distributed storage and other advanced technologies to accommodate 21st century energy requirements: greatly improved electric grid reliability and security, a tremendous increase in renewable generation and greater customer choice and energy affordability. Obama and Biden will establish a Grid Modernization Commission to facilitate adoption of Smart Grid practices to improve efficiency and security of our electricity grid. They will instruct the Secretary of Energy to: (1) establish a Smart Grid Investment Matching Grant Program to provide reimbursement of one-fourth of qualifying Smart Grid investments; (2) conduct programs to deploy advanced techniques for managing peak load reductions and energy efficiency savings on customer premises from smart metering, demand response, distributed generation and electricity storage systems; and (3) establish demonstration projects specifically focused on advanced technologies for power grid sensing, communications, analysis, and power flow control, including the integration of demand-side resources into grid management.

Modernize Our Water Infrastructure: Obama strongly supported the Water Resources and Development Act, which provided funding for modernizing our nation's locks, dams and levees. Obama's work to pass the Water Resources and Development Act has been praised by the National Corn Grower's Association and the American Soybean Association. As president, Obama will continue to ensure that the federal government invests in upgrading our important water infrastructure projects.

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