

Statement of Sen. Orrin G. Hatch
before the
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban

On the Nomination of Stuart Alan Levey
to be Under Secretary for Enforcement
Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence
at the Department of the Treasury.
May 15, 2003

Mr. Chairman, Senator Sarbanes, Members of this Committee,

As you know, it is a custom in the Senate that allows us to introduce nominees before committees that are usually constituents, or, in other cases, close friends. I am proud and honored to say that, while Stuart Levey is not a constituent, he is a close personal friend whose impressive career I have had to pleasure to admire since he first came to Washington.

Stuart likes to say I've known him since he became a Member of the Bar, and, in fact that is correct. A graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School - graduating, by the way, *summa cum laude* and *magna cum laude*, respectively - he entered private practice in here in Washington in 1990, and he quickly built a well-deserved reputation as an expert litigator on white collar crime. He served as special counsel for our former colleague, Senator Danforth, before he joined the Department of Justice.

Since September 11, we in the Congress have worked as closely as possible with President Bush to craft a national response to international sub-state terrorism. We have recognized that, in fighting and seeking to defeat this new enemy, we needed a strategic approach to monitoring, disrupting and closing the international network of terrorism financing. Such an approach required creating authorities for the executive, and reorganizing our agency counter-terrorism structure.

Perhaps Congress' greatest contribution so far was the passage of the USA PATRIOT Act, where we created authorities to monitor financial networks. The Administration has furthered a strategic approach to terrorist financing when, earlier this year, it announced the creation of the Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence, with a new Undersecretary at the Department of Treasury. I commend the President for nominating Stuart Levey to fill this position.

And I thank the Chairman and ranking Minority member of this Committee for expediting the nomination of the President's choice to fill this position. Stuart Levey has the knowledge, experience, and character to fill this post. I believe Stuart understands the strategic requirements for integrating intelligence analysis with enforcement, as well as the need to

build on our growing international coordination in checking and eliminating the international financial networks of terrorism. I believe that you can see, in reviewing his work as Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General, where he served Justice's coordinator with the Policy Coordinating Committee on Terrorist Financing and the NSC's Counterterrorism Security Group, that he developed in-depth knowledge of the networks we must penetrate, disrupt and destroy, while forging the important relations within Justice, the FBI, the CIA, the State Department and Treasury that will be essential for his role in the position to which he has been nominated.

Mr. Chairman, Senator Sarbanes, I certainly do not need to explain to this Committee the imperative of disrupting international financial networks that keep terrorists funded. I thank you once again for scheduling this hearing, and I urge your favorable consideration of this nominee, as well as Mr. Zarate, and I hope for a speedy Senate confirmation so that our government can carry on in the essential role of defeating those that would do us harm.