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Boston Field Office

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Muhammad Ali-Salaam Receives 2007 Director's Community Leadership Award

Warren T. Bamford, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Boston Office, today recognized Muhammad Ali-Salaam with the FBI Boston Division's 2007 Director's Community Leadership Award. Since 1990, the FBI has publicly recognized the achievements of individuals and organizations for their efforts in combating crime and violence in America.

As a founding member of BRIDGES (Building Respect in Diverse Groups to Enhance Sensitivity)- Massachusetts, Mr. Ali-Salaam has helped law enforcement enhance relationships and dialogue within the American Muslim community. Mr. Ali-Salaam serves on the FBI Boston's American Arab, Muslim, Sikh, and South Asian Regional Advisory Council for the Northeast Region for the Office of Public Affairs - Community Relations Unit. It is at this forum that issues and concerns are discussed and best practices are developed to better enhance the interface of these communities and law enforcement. Mr. Ali-Salaam's participation in various projects and boards has made the Muslim community a better place. He has served as a guest lecturer for law enforcement with the goal to strengthen the understanding of the American Muslim community.

Over the past several years, Mr. Ali-Salaam has worked closely with the Civil Rights Coordinator for the Boston Division offering advice on Muslim cultural differences. His dedication has assisted the Boston Division in operating without offending members of said communities. Additionally, he has notified the FBI concerning potential hate crimes against Arabs and Arab-Americans as he has become aware of them. On several occasions this has resulted in the initiation of a federal civil rights investigation.

Mr. Ali-Salaam has become a major impetus for the FBI in promoting a good relationship between law enforcement and the Arab community. When information about Muslim customs and religious practices is needed, he is the one we reach out to. He is genuine, honest, and helpful. He has given freely of his time and has contributed enormously to the FBI's mission in Boston.

Mr. Ali-Salaam has been in public service for the past 28 years. He is currently the Deputy Director for Special Projects, Director's Office of the Boston Redevelopment Authority.

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