



# Safe at Home!

**A Safe America.  
Homeland Security. It's  
Everyone's Goal.**

## **End the War Against Homeland Security Employees**

"The president's unreasonable demand has already forced Congress to delay creation of the new department and may kill the idea altogether. Presidential overreaching should not be allowed to harm national security."

**Atlanta-Journal Constitution**  
September 9, 2002

The debate on Capitol Hill over homeland security should be about marshaling our forces to deal with the very real threat of terrorism. The employees who will soon be moved into the Department of Homeland Security are every bit as committed to America's security as the President—which is why those employees do not understand why the President and his advisors have engaged in an all-out assault against them using absurd hypothetical examples.

America's security depends on these employees just as it depends on the civilian employees in the Department of Defense who have supported our military through every crisis and war.

Not once has anyone raised a complaint that union rights or civil service protections have impeded our war efforts; they would never impede our homeland security efforts, either.

However, a lack of rules will hurt our security by bringing back:

Cronyism	Political Cover-ups
Favoritism	Demoralized Employees
Fear	High Turnover
Intimidation	

We are learning about the mission failures brought about by fear and intimidation within the FBI. We are learning that employees' concerns matter, and that bad management is not the solution.

*USA Today* has reported that the air marshals program is in disarray because employee concerns are being ignored. And they have no union rights through which to bring forth their concerns.

To create a Department of Homeland Security that protects America, Congress must preserve rights and protections for employees responsible for the security of our nation.

*A message from the 600,000 government employees represented by the American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO*  
[www.afge.org](http://www.afge.org)