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Message from Attorney General Eliot Spitzer

Office of New York State Attorney General Eliot Spitzer

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We live in an age of increasing skepticism about government. The reasons for this are clear: People have been turned off by scandals, excessive partisanship and negativity. In addition, people often view government as a hindrance rather than a help in their daily lives.



[Click here for Spitzer bio](#)

I am determined to change this sentiment. I am convinced that the Attorney General's office can make an important difference in people's lives, and actually help restore public confidence in government.

To achieve this goal, I have identified two key priorities during the first year of my administration. First, I must bring together a staff of legal professionals unquestioned for their credentials, integrity and commitment to public service.

The Attorney General's office in New York once enjoyed such a reputation, but in recent years the stature of the office has been diminished somewhat by the perception that political affiliation was a factor in the appointment process. This was wrong. I believe the Attorney General's staff should be known not as a Republican team or a Democratic team but as an independent, creative and aggressive "people's team." In this regard, I invite you to review the credentials of the appointments I have made so far to the Attorney General's staff. You can review this information by clicking on the Attorney General's Bulletins and Reports section below.

My second priority is to ensure that the Attorney General's office has a clearly defined mission and that it functions as effectively as possible. The office actually has dozens of operational units covering issues ranging from criminal law enforcement to consumer protection to civil rights. My challenge is to ensure that each of these units is focused on the issues that matter most to working men and women throughout New York. Therefore, I will restructure and refocus the Attorney General's office to achieve three broad goals:

1. Protecting and Strengthening the Family
2. Improving the Quality of Life in Our Communities
3. Ensuring the Integrity of Public Institutions

By emphasizing these basic goals, I am convinced that we will make rapid progress in becoming the finest public interest law organization in the nation, and that the Attorney General will rightfully be known as "*the People's Lawyer*."

The pages that follow will describe the specific programs and services designed to benefit all New Yorkers. I urge you to review the information and to take

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advantage of any and all assistance available to you.

Finally, but most importantly, if there is a matter that is not represented in the menu above, or if you would like to express a concern or comment, please do not hesitate to Contact the Attorney General

Very truly yours,

Eliot Spitzer