



# This Month at the WFO

A newsletter from the FBI Washington Field Office

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## WFO's Role in the 57<sup>th</sup> Presidential Inauguration

As the lead federal agency for crisis management, counterterrorism, hostage rescue and intelligence analysis during National Security Special Events (NSSEs), the FBI's WFO worked with 42 agencies to position Special Agents, Intelligence Analysts and other personnel to provide on-scene command and response capability for three days during the 57th Presidential Inauguration. During NSSEs, such as the Inauguration, WFO works to prevent terrorist attacks by gathering, analyzing and sharing intelligence related to potential threats.



Preparations for the January 21, 2013, Inauguration

began months ago in a cooperative effort with our law enforcement partners including the U.S. Secret Service, the Metropolitan Police Department, the U.S. Capitol Police, the U.S. Park Police and the Joint Force Headquarters – National Capital Region / Military District of Washington to prepare for this event. [Read more](#)

## VRE Manager Sentenced for Accepting Bribes

Kevin Jannell, of Fredericksburg, Va., was sentenced to 24 months in prison this month for taking more than \$350,000 in bribes to ensure a Virginia Railway Express (VRE) subcontractor would be retained by VRE.

A former facilities manager for VRE, Jannell provided oversight of VRE contracts for individuals and companies providing landscaping and maintenance of VRE stations and facilities. Beginning in 2003, Jannell accepted monthly payments of up to \$4,000 in return for giving favorable evaluations that would ensure an individual and this person's company would be retained as a subcontractor for VRE. Jannell concealed the bribes by creating a nominee company and sent monthly invoices to the subcontractor from that company, falsely billing the company for services that were never rendered.

## FBI Launches Website Dedicated to Identifying Unknown Bank Robbers



The FBI has launched a national website dedicated to identifying unknown bank robbers from the FBI's 56 field offices. In addition to featuring traditional wanted posters and surveillance pictures of unknown wanted bank robbers, [bankrobbers.fbi.gov](http://bankrobbers.fbi.gov) allows the public to search by the unknown robber's nickname, robbery location and the date of the robbery. Each bank robbery is plotted on a Google map of the U.S. that can be viewed down to the street level. WFO's Violent Crimes Task Force works with local law enforcement to combat individuals who rob, attempt to rob or break into financial institutions. Many bank robberies are committed using verbal demands or notes; however, the use of weapons and threats of violence are also common. The FBI wants to remove the threat of violence from financial institutions in our region by identifying and holding accountable those who commit these robberies. In fiscal year 2012, a total of 49 bank robberies occurred in

Washington, D.C., and Northern Virginia. This accounted for the fewest number of bank robberies in more than ten years. Of those bank robberies, 15 occurred in Washington, D.C. and 34 occurred in Northern Virginia. In fiscal year 2011, a total of 80 bank robberies occurred, with 23 in Washington, D.C. and 57 in Northern Virginia.

## Military Building Shooter Sentenced to 25 Years

Earlier this month, Yonathan Melaku of Alexandria, Va., was sentenced to 25 years in prison, followed by 10 years of supervised release, for damaging property and firearm violations involving five separate shootings at military installations between October and November 2010 and attempting to injure veterans' memorials at Arlington National Cemetery. Each shooting took place late at night or early in the morning and involved multiple 9mm rounds fired at each building. During the second shooting at the National Museum of the Marine Corps, Melaku set up a video camera within the interior of his vehicle which shows him repeatedly firing a handgun out the passenger-side window. In June 2011, Melaku attempted to flee law enforcement after being spotted on the property of Ft. Myer in Arlington, Va. Melaku said he targeted military-associated buildings to send a message that the U.S. should not be involved in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars and to intimidate those who supported U.S. involvement. He planned to desecrate nearly 2,400 grave markers at Arlington National Cemetery and leave ammonium nitrate at the scene to instill fear in the public. [Read more](#)

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