

## *A Special Message*

On behalf of the Italian Historical Society of America, and in memory of my father, John N. LaCorte, founder of the Society, I want to express my deep appreciation to the Department of Justice for their continued support in commemorating Charles J. Bonaparte, who was the driving force behind the creation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

On June 22, 1961, the Italian Historical Society of America was privileged to present the Charles J. Bonaparte Monument to the Department of Justice. This monument is permanently installed at the entrance to the Department of Justice Building. On June 9, 1977, the Charles J. Bonaparte Auditorium was dedicated, further acknowledging the great contributions of Bonaparte.

Over the last four decades, the Italian Historical Society of America has proudly maintained the tradition of commemorating Bonaparte in June, the month of his birth. This June, as in the past, we seek to keep alive the memory of the contributions of this great American of Italian heritage.

I also want to extend special thanks to the Honorable Edward D. Re, Judge Emeritus, U.S. Court of International Trade and Distinguished Professor of Law at Saint John's University, for his invaluable assistance in making today's event possible. Judge Re, who is a Past President of the Society, has given this organization his continuing support and encouragement.

*For further information, please contact:*

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**John J. LaCorte, Ph.D.**  
President



## *THE THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL*

*Ceremony in Commemoration of*

# CHARLES J. BONAPARTE

Founder of the Federal Bureau of Investigation  
46th Attorney General of the United States

Sponsored By

*The Italian Historical Society of America*

in Cooperation with

*The United States Department of Justice,  
the Office of the Attorney General, and  
the Justice Management Division EEO Staff*

United States Department of Justice Building  
Pennsylvania Avenue and Tenth Street  
Washington, D.C.

**June 18, 1999**

## CHARLES J. BONAPARTE



Charles J. Bonaparte was born in Baltimore, Maryland on June 9, 1851. After receiving a law degree from Harvard University, Bonaparte began to pursue a distinguished career in jurisprudence.

In 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt appointed him the 46th Attorney General of the United States. Bonaparte soon discovered that he was hampered in carrying out President Roosevelt's "trust busting" policies because of the absence of a permanent investigative staff. Until that time, the Justice Department had been limited to hiring only temporary investigators, usually borrowing them from the Treasury Department's Secret Service.

On July 28, 1908, acting on Presidential instructions, Bonaparte issued the order which made his special investigative force a permanent subdivision of the Department of Justice. In 1935, what had begun as a 23-man unit under Bonaparte's direction, was renamed the *Federal Bureau of Investigation*.

## PROGRAM

### *Opening*

**Nina Di Gregorio**  
President, Italian Opera Company

### *Welcome*

**Francesco Isgro**  
Senior Litigation Counsel  
U.S. Department of Justice

**John J. LaCorte, Jr. Ph.D.**  
President, Italian Historical Society of America

### *Remarks*

**Hon. Edward D. Re**  
Chief Judge Emeritus,  
U.S. Court of International Trade and  
Distinguished Professor of Law  
St. John's University

*We would like to thank all of those individuals, and in particular officials in the Department of Justice, who have given this organization support and encouragement. The trustees and members of the Italian Historical Society are truly grateful.*

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