

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 year, 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 two individuals at the U.S. Department of Justice who have coordinated the planning of this ceremony: Francesco Isgro, Senior Litigation Counsel, and Linda Sackie, EEO Program Manager.

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THE FORTY-SECOND 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, and
the Justice Management Division EEO Staff*

July 18, 2002

Robert F. Kennedy Building
Pennsylvania Avenue and Tenth Street
Washington, D.C.

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 that 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*.

In addition to his service in the Department of Justice, Bonaparte is remembered for his important work as founder of the National Civil Service Reform League, and as an organizer and president of the National Municipal League.

PROGRAM

Introduction

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

Opening

Nina Di Gregorio
President, Italian Opera Company

Welcoming Remarks

Adam Ciongoli
Counselor to the Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice

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

Special Guest Speaker

Eugene Scalia
Solicitor of Labor
U.S. Department of Labor

Remarks

Michael De Feo
Assistant Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U.S. Department of Justice

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