Statement Calling for Congressional Action on a Pay Increase for the Federal Judiciary

December 31, 2002

Today I have issued an Executive order entitled "Adjustments of Certain Rates of Pay." This order implements the January 2003 pay raise for members of the uniformed services and for Federal civilian employees under the General Schedule and certain related pay systems.

This Executive order sets forth the unadjusted pay schedule for members of the Federal judiciary. Due to section 140 of Public Law 97–92, I do not have the authority to order a pay increase for Federal judges. I hereby urge the Congress to specifically authorize a pay increase for Federal judges.

Executive Order 13282— Adjustments of Certain Rates of Pay

December 31, 2002

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including the laws cited herein, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Statutory Pay Systems. The rates of basic pay or salaries of the statutory pay systems (as defined in 5 U.S.C. 5302(1)), as adjusted under 5 U.S.C. 5303(a), are set forth on the schedules attached hereto and made a part hereof:

- (a) The General Schedule (5 U.S.C. 5332(a)) at Schedule 1;
- (b) The Foreign Service Schedule (22 U.S.C. 3963) at Schedule 2; and
- (c) The schedules for the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs (38 U.S.C. 7306, 7404; section 301(a) of Public Law 102–40) at Schedule 3
- **Sec. 2.** Senior Executive Service. The rates of basic pay for senior executives in the Senior Executive Service, as adjusted under 5 U.S.C. 5382, are set forth on Schedule 4 attached hereto and made a part hereof.
- **Sec. 3.** Executive Salaries. The rates of basic pay or salaries for the following offices and positions are set forth on the schedules attached hereto and made a part hereof:

- (a) The Executive Schedule (5 U.S.C. 5311–5318) at Schedule 5;
- (b) The Vice President (3 U.S.C. 104) and the Congress (2 U.S.C. 31) at Schedule 6; and
- (c) Justices and judges (28 U.S.C. 5, 44(d), 135, 252, and 461(a), and section 140 of Public Law 97–92) at Schedule 7.
- **Sec. 4.** Uniformed Services. Pursuant to section 601(a)–(b) of Public Law 107–314, the rates of monthly basic pay (37 U.S.C. 203(a)) for members of the uniformed services and the rate of monthly cadet or midshipman pay (37 U.S.C. 203(c)) are set forth on Schedule 8 attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Sec. 5. Locality-Based Comparability Payments.

- (a) Pursuant to sections 5304 and 5304a of title 5, United States Code, locality-based comparability payments shall be paid in accordance with Schedule 9 attached hereto and made a part hereof.
- (b) The Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall take such actions as may be necessary to implement these payments and to publish appropriate notice of such payments in the *Federal Register*.
- **Sec. 6.** Administrative Law Judges. The rates of basic pay for administrative law judges, as adjusted under 5 U.S.C. 5372(b)(4), are set forth on Schedule 10 attached hereto and made a part hereof.
- **Sec. 7.** Effective Dates. Schedule 8 is effective on January 1, 2003. The other schedules contained herein are effective on the first day of the first applicable pay period beginning on or after January 1, 2003.

Sec. 8. Prior Order Superseded. Executive Order 13249 of December 28, 2001, is superseded.

George W. Bush

The White House, December 31, 2002.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., January 7, 2003]

NOTE: This Executive order and the attached annexes will be published in the *Federal Register* on January 8.

Message on the Observance of New Year's Day, 2003

December 31, 2002

The past year has been a time of achievement, progress, and renewed hope for the American people. As our citizens continue to demonstrate a spirit of resolve and unity, we are building a culture of service, citizenship, and responsibility that strengthens our country and offers hope to those in need. To counter new threats, we are enhancing security at home, and we are part of the global coalition against terrorism that has made significant progress in opposing the forces of tyranny and oppression.

We will continue our efforts to secure America, win the war on terrorism, focus on education, promote compassion, create new jobs, and ensure the economic security of all our citizens. As we move forward into the New Year, I encourage all Americans to give thanks to the Almighty for His many blessings, and to join with me in reaffirming our commitment to helping people around the world achieve peace and freedom.

At the dawn of this New Year, America is a land of justice, liberty, and tolerance. We will work together to build on our successes and embrace the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes for a Happy New Year. May God bless you, and may God continue to bless the United States.

George W. Bush

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.

Remarks During a Walking Tour of the Bush Ranch and an Exchange With Reporters in Crawford

January 2, 2003

The President. Good morning, everybody.

Q. Good morning, sir.

The President. Let's go. I'll tell you what we'll do. We'll walk about 3 or 4 miles, and then we'll end up having coffee. Mrs. Bush wants to say hello to everybody.

Q. All right.

The President. Come on. Come on, Barney. We'll walk out—it's a little muddy. I need somebody walking up here with me. I can't be—Reed, get out of the pictures. [Laughter] Come on, Stretch [David Gregory, NBC News], get in here.

Q. How are you? Happy New Year.

The President. Same to you all. We're trimming a lot of underbrush, still. Come on, Barn. Are you going to make it, Heidi [Holly Rosenkrantz, Bloomberg News]?

Q. I'll be fine.

The President. We've got a truck for you back there.

Q. Don't worry about me.

Q. Who's going to carry Barney?

The President. He's coming.

Q. He can walk 4 miles?

The President. Oh, yes, he'll walk 4. Where is he? Come on over, Barney.

Q. I don't remember—you've had the guesthouse all along, right?

The President. That's the Secret Service.

Q. That I know, but I mean, last time I actually saw this was 2000——

The President. Oh, really?

Q. —when it was still a shell. Remember, you walked us through that in July?

The President. Turn right here, guys. That's a little—right over there is another little house we refurbished, got a gym in there, and one bedroom. And then that's a little guesthouse over there, a garage.

Q. That was part of the original—— **The President.** Yes.

Q. Look at Barney trying to make it through the woods there.

The President. Come on, boy.

Q. Lot of legs.

Q. He's trying to get to you. [Laughter] The President. This is pretty good—[inaudible]—in there.

Q. Is this manmade, sir?

The President. Manmade.

Q. How many acres?

The President. About 11 acres lake, 17 foot deep, the deepest spot. I put 600 black bass in there a few years ago, and about 30,000 bait fish. And they're about 2½ to 3 pounds now. A bad time to fish, because the fish are lethargic during the cold. We've got bluegill and shad and perch.