NEWS RELEASE
National Security Threat Level Lowered to “Yellow”

For Immediate Release
April 16, 2003

TALLAHASSEE— Attorney General John Ashcroft and Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge today lowered the national threat level from “Orange” or high alert to “Yellow” or elevated alert. The State of Florida is also lowering its threat level condition consistent with the federal government, but is certainly not lowering its guard.

The Governor’s staff, state law enforcement officials and emergency managers continue to be briefed on the current situation.

"Law enforcement will continue with the appropriate protective measures associated with a threat level yellow, including constant assessment of any threats and increased surveillance of Florida's critical locations," FDLE Commissioner Tim Moore said. "Floridians need to continue to be the eyes and ears of law enforcement and report anything suspicious, while being assured that their state is safe, alert and prepared."

The Department of Homeland Security has cautioned that even when under an elevated level, threats still exist. Citizens and visitors should continue to be vigilant and involved.

For more information on preparedness issues, please visit the following Web sites: www.fdle.state.fl.us, www.floridadisaster.org or secureflorida.org

For Further Information Contact:
Al Dennis or Jennie Khoen
FDLE Office of Public Information
(850) 410-7001

###