

MICHAEL A. BRAUN
MANAGING PARTNER, SPECTRE GROUP INTERNATIONAL, LLC.
RETIRED CHIEF OF OPERATIONS (SES-6), U.S. DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION (DEA)

Mr. Braun retired from the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) in October, 2008, and immediately joined Spectre Group International, LLC, (SGI) as a Managing Partner. SGI is focused on supporting United States government efforts to build strong law enforcement and judicial institutions in challenged settings around the globe. The company is headquartered in Alexandria, Virginia, and has an office in Kabul, Afghanistan. The company also assists foreign governments with their institution-building efforts, and supports private sector security interests by developing or tailoring, implementing and managing unique security projects and programs.



As DEA Chief of Operations, Special Agent Michael A. Braun was responsible for leading the worldwide drug enforcement operations of the agency's 227 domestic and 86 foreign offices, as well as the Special Operations Division, the Aviation Division, the Office of Financial Operations, the Office of Operational Support and the Office of Diversion Control. He was appointed to this position in February 2005 and was the longest serving principal advisor to the DEA Administrator on all enforcement-related matters. Mr. Braun became widely recognized during this era as an expert on the growing nexus between drugs and terrorism, and for focusing the Agency's efforts on the Global War on Terrorism. He forged strong relations with the Department of Defense, and provided clear vision to Combatant, Unified and Specified Commanders on the important role that the DEA plays in supporting DOD's counterinsurgency and irregular warfare doctrine.

From December 2003 to 2005, Mr. Braun headed the multi-agency Office of Special Intelligence and later led the entire Intelligence Division. He was also appointed by the Deputy Attorney General to serve as the first Interim Director of a new DOJ Drug Intelligence Fusion Center that supports our nation's war on terrorism and drugs. Mr. Braun was responsible for the formative design of this highly successful, multi-agency endeavor.

In 2001 Mr. Braun was appointed to the Senior Executive Service (SES) and assigned as the Special Agent in Charge of the Detroit Division, where he oversaw all of DEA's operations and programs in Michigan, Ohio, and Kentucky. In June 2003, shortly after the Iraq invasion by U.S. and coalition partners, Mr. Braun was detailed to the Department of Defense to serve on special assignment in Iraq as the Chief of Staff for the Interim Ministry of Interior, Coalition Provisional Authority. He assisted in creating the new Iraqi National Police Service and Customs and Borders agencies, and with developing plans to rebuild the public safety segment of the Iraqi security infrastructure.

Mr. Braun joined the DEA in 1985, where he served as a Special Agent in the St. Louis Division. From 1991 to 2001, Mr. Braun received several promotions and served in a number of progressively challenging assignments. In Latin America, he led specially trained and equipped host nation counterparts and DEA Special Agents on paramilitary drug enforcement operations in the jungles of South and Central America in support of U.S. foreign drug policy. In the Houston and Los Angeles Divisions, his teams targeted some of the world's most notorious drug trafficking cartels and gangs. Mr. Braun also served two Headquarters tours during this period in supervisory and management assignments, including an appointment as Executive Assistant to the Administrator.

Mr. Braun enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps after high school and served from 1971 to 1973 as an infantryman, including limited service in the Republic of Vietnam. He served in the ranks of both local and state law enforcement for 11 years before joining DEA. Mr. Braun received a BS degree in Criminal Justice in 1977 from Southeast Missouri State University, and he has attended a number of government, military, and private leadership courses, including the Senior Managers in Government Program at Harvard University and the National Executive Institute. Mr. Braun has received numerous awards and commendations during his career, including the Distinguished Presidential Rank Award in 2007 and the Presidential Rank Award in 2006. In 2008 he was awarded the Secretary of Defense Exceptional Civilian Service Medal and the U.S. Coast Guard Commandant's Distinguished Public Service Award. He is married to the former Kathleen A. Mayfield, and they have three children.