

[In early 2000, the imam was visited by a subject of a Los Angeles investigation closely associated with Blind Sheikh al-Rahman. [_____

_____].

[The FBI closed its inquiry into the activities of the imam in March 2000, approximately two months after al-Hazmi and al-Midhar arrived in San Diego. [_____
_____]. In the case closing memorandum, the agent asserted that the imam had been “fully identified and does not meet the criterion for [further] investigation.” The investigation was closed despite the imam’s contacts with other subjects of counterterrorism investigations and reports concerning the imam’s connection to suspect [page 188] organizations. The Bureau’s written response to the Joint Inquiry asserts that “the imam was a ‘spiritual leader’ to many in the community” and that hundreds of Muslims associated with him].

d. [Business Manager]

[In 2000, al-Hazmi briefly worked at a San Diego business. The manager of the business, told the FBI that he hired al-Hazmi after receiving a call from “mutual friends” at the Saranac Street Mosque. The FBI does not know how much al-Hazmi was paid or whether he received financial support from the business manager or the business owner because the business manager often paid employees in cash].

[In January 2000, before al-Hazmi’s employment at the business, the FBI Los Angeles field office initiated a counterterrorism investigation of the business manager after a person whom the FBI was surveilling entered the business manager’s car in a mosque parking lot. That person was [_____] the brother of a known Bin Ladin operative [_____]. The business manager was under FBI investigation when he hired al-Hazmi].

[The FBI agent handling the business manager’s investigation interviewed him by phone. The business manager told the agent that he did not want to meet in person because it would be a