## **Text Version:**

**Amna Nawaz:** Today marks 28 years since the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, which remains the largest act of homegrown terrorism in U.S. history. Judy Woodruff reports on how that act of political violence is being remembered and how the shockwaves of extremism are still felt today. It's part of her series America at a Crossroads about the country's deep divisions.

**Judy Woodruff:** This morning, a solemn scene, as family and friends of victims and survivors alongside citizens and public officials gathered at First Church in Oklahoma City to once again remember the lives lost, broken and forever changed at 9:02 a.m. on April, 1995, when an enormous truck bomb exploded next door in front of what was then a federal government office building. . . Former Chief Justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court Steven Taylor, who presided over the trial of one of the attack's conspirators, called on Americans to repair the breach.

**Steven Taylor:** We have an obligation to be good citizens, an obligation to respect democracy, to respect our government, our elections, our law enforcement, and respect for the social contract that we share with other citizens. Never forget that these 168 were the victims of hate and violence and domestic terrorism.

**Dennis Purifoy, Oklahoma City Bombing Survivor:** I never did understand how he could think it would be — anybody could think it would be OK to attack people who are trying to serve the public, serve the American citizens, just doing a job to support their families and to help people, how killing innocent people like that, civilians, if you will, that — how that would accomplish anything. But…

**Judy Woodruff:** Were you aware that there was a body of belief in the country that had these strong anti-government beliefs?

**Dennis Purifoy:** No. No. I was naive and innocent, like most people were, I think, and a lot of people still are.

Kari Watkins, President and CEO, Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum: Well, I think none of us can believe it. I mean, it was an hour or so before we realized it wasn't a gas explosion, and it was a terrorist attack.

Frank Figliuzzi, Former Assistant Fbi Director For Counterintelligence: We're talking about people who generally look like us, worship like us. They're our neighbors. They're our uncles. They're our cousins. And so, historically, there has been an inability to acknowledge us as a threat. . . I like to say that, with regard to January 6, that was not an intelligence failure. It was a failure to act upon available intelligence. Part of that were legal constrictions. And part of it was, no one seemed to acknowledge that Americans could do this to themselves and to our democracy.

**Judy Woodruff:** Are you saying it's politics?

**Frank Figliuzzi:** Well, I'm saying it's worse than politics, because we have managed to politicize a national security problem.

**Judy Woodruff:** Figliuzzi points out that the Biden administration has created a national strategy for countering domestic terrorism, but, he argues, Congress needs to act, including finally criminalizing domestic terrorism to give law enforcement more tools to interrupt plots before they're committed.

**Frank Figliuzzi:** We still, all these years after Oklahoma City, do not have a crime against domestic terrorism. We don't have a law on the federal books against domestic terrorism.