



Accountability Time: Prosecute Bush Administration Officials

In early March, the Obama administration released nine new “secret” memos that were written by Bush’s Office of Legal Counsel staff. The contents of these memos were chilling because they further exposed what we already know to be true: George W. Bush was waging war on the law itself. He was intent on consolidating the power of the presidency even if it meant breaking the law. These new memos presented a brazen and unjustifiable assault on both constitutional and international law. Among other things, they condoned the mobilization of the military to operate domestically and conduct search and seizure on people living in this country; gave the president a blank check to suspend the First Amendment and the freedom of the press; to conduct



Executive Director, Vince Warren

warrantless wiretapping at his leisure; and unilaterally end treaties, all in the name of national security. This is but further evidence of a broad criminal conspiracy to violate the most fundamental of our laws.

But we’ve all known this for years

through CCR’s litigation. The evidence is exceedingly well documented already in the memos, FOIA documents, congressional hearings, our court documents, the testimony of our clients and other victims, and direct admissions by intelligence, military and administration officials. The evidence shows that officials at the very highest level including Bush himself, Vice President Dick Cheney, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, and CIA Director George Tenet were directly involved in illegal activities, including torture and war crimes. **The question for us now is, what do we do about it?**

Maj. Gen. Antonio M. Taguba, who investigated the Abu Ghraib

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CCR Releases Two Reports on Guantánamo

Within days of his inauguration, President Obama issued several key executive orders concerning Guantánamo and U.S. policies on executive detention. One of these requires the closure of the prison within one year, and mandates a review of the status of all of the men held there. The order requires “humane standards of confinement” during this review and “conformity with all applicable laws governing the conditions of such confinement, including Common Article 3 of the Geneva Conventions.”

In response, CCR immediately released: *Closing Guantánamo and Restoring the Rule of Law*, which includes a comprehensive analysis of the numbers and nationalities of detainees remaining at Guantánamo and outlines the steps that need to be taken to close the camp.

A second report, *Current Conditions of Confinement at Guantánamo*, provides an in depth description of conditions in Guantánamo Camps 5, 6, and Echo and makes recommendations for bringing them into compliance with the law, as required by the president’s executive order.

The full text of both reports is available online at: CCRjustice.org/reports.

How Should Guantánamo Be Closed?

The Bush administration consistently overstated both the threat posed, and the intelligence value presented by the Guantánamo detainees. The new administration must repatriate those who can be

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Accountability Time (continued from cover)

scandal, said, “there is no longer any doubt as to whether the current [Bush] administration has committed war crimes. The only question that remains to be answered is whether those who ordered the use of torture will be held to account.” The answer is that they must be held to account. To do so, there can be nothing short of a full criminal investigation and prosecution. Now is the time for accountability.

In light of the compelling evidence of torture and abuse, Article 4 of the Convention Against Torture *requires* the Obama administration convene a criminal investigation into the illegal acts and those responsible for them. Thus, a full investigation and prosecution of these actions by the Bush administration is necessary for the Obama administration to meaningfully reassert the rule of law in the United States. Government officials are not above the law. Prosecuting them for their illegal activities is a meaningful mechanism for securing justice for the victims and the survivors of torture and war crimes, as well as for deterring future government officials from the temptation to lawlessness in the event of a future terrorist attack.

However, even knowing what we know now (setting aside the revelations that are sure to come with the release of more memos) some, including President Obama, have said that the end of the Bush administration presents an opportunity to “look forward, and not back.” And Senator Pat Leahy has proposed a “Truth Commission” which would tell us what we already know and provide amnesty to the officials who perpetrated these crimes. Both of these concepts are bald excuses designed to sidestep that which the law and our values compel us to do. The United States as a nation should not – and the victims of its policies cannot – move forward without holding those responsible for torture, war crimes and other abuses accountable. And the only way to both punish illegal activity and ensure deterrence in future administrations is to prosecute. Now.

I hope that you will join CCR in our campaign for criminal prosecutions. You can find out how to help with this by visiting our website at www.CCRjustice.org/prosecutebushofficials.

Thank you for standing with CCR!

Vince Warren, Executive Director

Renowned Activist Lawyer Bill Quigley to Join CCR as Legal Director



The Center is delighted to announce that the highly respected, longtime human rights attorney, Bill Quigley, will join CCR as our new Legal Director in May.

Bill has been an extraordinary public interest lawyer for more than 30 years. Before coming to CCR, Bill was a law professor and director of the poverty law clinic at Loyola University in New Orleans. He has served as counsel on critical issues ranging from post-Katrina social justice to the right to dissent, and from public housing in the U.S. to human rights in Haiti. About his book, *Ending Poverty as We Know It*, Lani Guiner wrote: “Bill Quigley draws on the common sense of Thomas Paine, the moral inspiration of Martin Luther King, Jr., and the political wisdom of Franklin Delano Roosevelt to issue a bold challenge for our society...in a book that is both visionary and practical.”

We look forward to Bill’s leadership in helping the Center reinvigorate our racial, social, and economic justice work. CCR was founded by attorneys who represented civil rights movements in the South, and we are happy to have a new Legal Director with deep ties to current civil rights struggles in southern communities, including post-Katrina New Orleans, where there is still so much work to do.

CCR welcomes its newest members of the Thelma Newman Planned Giving Society

Thomas and Donna Ambrogio
Marie Henderson Rothman
George and Mary Ferger

The Thelma Newman Planned Giving Society is comprised of individuals who have included CCR in their estate plans or established annuities with CCR. These gifts form the bedrock of CCR’s efforts to build its endowment and ensure that the Center’s work will continue into the future.

The Society is named after CCR co-founder Mort Stavis’ legal secretary at the United Electrical Workers. Thelma was not a wealthy woman, but she left a lifetime’s savings of \$150,000 to further the work of CCR. She hoped that her generosity would inspire others to join her to ensure the promise of progressive legal work for the next generation.

If you would like to find out more about making a planned gift to CCR, contact Sara Beinert at 212-614-6448.

The Case Against Shell: CCR Begins a Landmark Trial for Corporate Accountability

After 12 years of dogged litigation, CCR is poised to make history again as *Wiwav v. Royal Dutch Shell* and *Wiwav v. Anderson* proceed to trial. The trial date is set for April 27, 2009.

Wiwav v. Royal Dutch Shell and *Wiwav v. Anderson* are lawsuits for the torture, detention, and execution of Nigerian activists because of their political organizing efforts. Ever since Shell began using land in the Ogoni area of Nigeria for oil production in 1958, industry pollution has contaminated the local water supply and agricultural land. The cases were filed by CCR, including CCR cooperating attorney Judith Chomsky, and joined by co-counsel EarthRights International, and human rights attorneys Anthony DiCaprio and Paul Hoffman.

In the early 1990's, when the people of Nigeria began to protest, Shell financed, armed, and otherwise colluded with the government forces that used deadly force and conducted massive, brutal raids against the Ogoni people. In 1995, Shell and its Nigerian subsidiary conspired with Nigeria's military government to bring about the arrest and execution of the "Ogoni 9," leaders of the nonviolent Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People (MOSOP) who were tragically hanged after a sham trial by a military tribunal. The internationally renowned writer and activist, Ken Saro-Wiwa, was among the nine activists executed.

The defendants in these cases are charged with complicity in human rights abuses against the Ogoni people, including summary execution, crimes against humanity, and torture. The cases were brought under the Alien Tort Statute (ATS), which establishes jurisdiction for non-citizens to sue for violations of customary international law in U.S. courts. The outcome of these cases will impact several important legal precedents. The lawsuit against Shell established the right to bring a case in the United States against a foreign-based corporation, and it was one of the first human rights cases filed against a multinational corporation for human rights violations under the ATS. The case against Royal Dutch Shell is also the first case to go trial charging a corporation with racketeering charges for human rights violations under the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) Act.

CCR and ERI have launched www.WiwavShell.org to provide a clearinghouse for information related to these important cases.



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Top: A Shell worker holds a machete during a cleanup operation of an oil spill at an abandoned Shell Petroleum Development Company well in Oloibiri, while disgruntled locals watch. Wellhead 14 was closed in 1977 but has been leaking for years.

Bottom: Heat and smoke force back villagers checking on an oil fire erupting from a leaking wellhead in Ogoniland. The wellhead had been spilling oil for a week, coating the ground around it before catching fire. The fire burned for more than two months.

Please visit the website to learn more about these cases, stay up to date on developments in the trial as they happen, and find out how you can get involved:

www.WiwavShell.org

Guantánamo Reports (continued from cover)

released safely, secure safe haven in the United States and other countries for those who cannot be repatriated safely, and prosecute in federal criminal courts those who should be prosecuted. Fewer than 250 men (of 779 in total) remain in the prison camp today. Most can be returned to their home countries through vigorous diplomacy. A smaller number need to be offered protection in the United States or third countries. There is no justification for continued detention without trial or the creation of special courts; such proposals would continue the human rights disaster rather than end it.

Those at Guantánamo now – seven years on – are, in large part, the unlucky ones: diplomatic pressure has not resulted in release, or they cannot be safely repatriated. The single most important factor that determines whether an individual remains at Guantánamo in 2009 is his country of nationality. The men from European countries were released early on, while virtually all the Yemenis remain behind. Ironically, it took a conviction in the military commissions to allow Salim Hamdan to return to his native Yemen, while scores of other Yemenis, including more than a dozen cleared for release, remain in Guantánamo waiting for an end to the diplomatic impasse. In addition, approximately 60 men remain at Guantánamo because they cannot be returned to their home countries safely due to a fear of torture or persecution, and they await safe haven in the United States or elsewhere.

Current Conditions of Confinement

After over seven years of unlawful executive detention, the men who remain imprisoned at Guantánamo continue to be held in inhumane conditions that violate U.S. obligations under the Geneva Conventions, the U.S. Constitution, and international human rights law. Most of these men have never been charged nor had an opportunity to challenge the legality of their detention in a *habeas* hearing.

Contrary to statements by the military, conditions at Guantánamo have not improved for the majority of detainees and are still in violation of the law. The factual information in CCR's report is based on direct accounts from detainees and their attorneys, including recent accounts received in January and February 2009.

The majority of detainees are being held in conditions of solitary confinement in one of two super-maximum facilities – Camps 5 and 6 – or in Camp Echo. The conditions in these camps are harshly punitive and violate international and U.S. legal standards for the humane treatment of persons deprived of their liberty.

Solitary confinement, sensory deprivation, environmental manipulation, and sleep deprivation are daily realities for these men and have led to the steady deterioration of their physical and psychological health. In addition, detainees are subjected to brutal physical assaults by the Immediate Reaction Force (IRF), a team of military guards

Guantánamo Litigation Update

Despite President Obama's executive orders of January 22, 2009, the men at Guantánamo remain imprisoned and the massive effort to challenge their detention through the *habeas* process is ongoing.

Several federal judges have begun hearing *habeas* cases, and nearly 200 additional cases continue to progress through the courts. 23 of the 27 *habeas* cases that have been heard so far have produced a determination that another man at Guantánamo is wrongfully detained.

This litigation is moving forward even as the new administration is conducting its inter-agency review of Guantánamo. Unfortunately, the legal positions taken by the new government have largely mirrored those of the Bush administration. In a

recent filing, the government dropped the term 'enemy combatant,' but made only a slight change to its detention policy: the addition of the word 'substantially' before 'supported.' This position continues to thwart the nation's ability to move beyond Guantánamo and provide justice for those who have been so cruelly mistreated by our government.

Even those men who have had a judge determine that they are being wrongfully detained have not yet been released. Aside from three Bosnians, all of the men who won their *habeas* cases in U.S. federal courts remain imprisoned at Guantánamo today.

Included in this group are 17 Uighurs, members of a Muslim ethnic group in

China, who face persecution and torture if returned to China. A federal judge ordered their release into the United States last October, but they remain at Guantánamo after a successful government appeal. The Uighurs' attorneys are appealing this new decision and hope for a policy change from the new administration on the Uighurs' resettlement.

CCR plays a coordinating role in these over 200 cases, as well as directly representing a number of individual *habeas* clients. CCR will continue to work on behalf of the detainees and to uphold constitutional principles until Guantánamo is closed and all the detainees have been charged or released to a safe country.

comparable to a riot squad. Detainees have also been deprived of virtually all meaningful contact with their families, and have suffered interference with and abuse related to their right to practice their religion.

The inhumane practices of the Bush administration persist today at Guantánamo and should be remedied immediately. Join us in encouraging President Obama to implement the recommendations offered in these report and to work swiftly to close Guantánamo, prosecute individuals in federal criminal courts if necessary, or release them.

CCR's Recommendations

The time to close Guantánamo is long overdue – and it can be done in three months. Here's how:

- Announce the immediate restoration of fundamental principles of the rule of law.
- Rapidly implement a charge or release policy.
- Ensure the safe and speedy repatriation of those detainees releasable to their home countries.
- Secure safe haven for those detainees who cannot be released to their home countries for fear of torture or persecution, or because of statelessness.
- Prosecute individuals for crimes through tested methods and end the military commissions.

During the interim period while the closure of Guantánamo is being implemented, it is critical that the conditions of detention be improved.

- End solitary confinement and close Camps 5, 6 and Echo.
- End religious abuse of detainees.
- End physical and psychological abuse of detainees including the use of the Immediate Reaction Force.
- End forced feeding of individuals against their will or under coercive circumstances.
- Allow detainees immediate access to independent medical and psychological professionals and cease the practice of forcible medication of detainees.
- Cease illegal interrogations.
- Allow access to detainees by independent domestic and international human rights observers.

100 DAYS

to restore the constitution

Our series of white papers outlining policy recommendations to restore the Constitution in the first 100 days of the Obama administration is available on our 100 Days Campaign page: www.CCRjustice.org/100days.



The Right to Dissent explores the attacks upon and criminalization of dissent, from the surveillance of activists to the federalization of local law enforcement, to the labeling of activists as “terrorists.”

Ending Arbitrary Detention, Torture and Extraordinary Rendition includes an overview of the Bush administration's policies of torture, arbitrary detention and extraordinary rendition, and calls for swift action to end these practices, restore the rule of law, and hold those responsible accountable for their illegal actions.

Amend the War Powers Resolution provides an overview of executive abuse of war-making power, and calls for restoring checks and balances. It calls for reform and revision of the War Powers Resolution to prohibit all executive acts of war without Congressional authorization, and for an end to the illegal wars launched by the Bush administration.

Stop Warrantless Wiretapping exposes the last eight years of secret surveillance, including the expansion of warrantless wiretapping and the severe erosion of privacy rights. It calls for restoring protections against government spying, uncovering the full extent of illegal surveillance and prosecution of those responsible for violations of the law.

Oral Argument in *Arar v. Ashcroft* Rendition Case

In December, the Second Circuit Court of Appeals heard oral argument in CCR's extraordinary rendition case, *Arar v. Ashcroft*. A three judge panel of the same court had affirmed the dismissal of this case earlier last year, but in an extremely rare move, the Court decided of its own accord to re-hear it before the full 12 judge panel.

In 2002, Maher Arar, a Syrian-born Canadian, was detained at JFK airport while changing planes on his way back to Canada. He was interrogated, detained for two weeks, denied his right to go to court, and sent to Syria where he was tortured and held in a grave-like cell for ten months. Mr. Arar was returned to Canada in 2003 and was eventually cleared of all allegations by a Canadian government inquiry. He was never charged with any crime.

The lawsuit charges former Attorney General Ashcroft and other officials with violating Mr. Arar's right to be free from torture and arbitrary detention as well as his right to have access to a court.

CCR and Witness Against Torture coordinated a rally and procession to the courthouse before the argument. Supporters filled the courtroom and two overflow rooms and many others were turned away due to space. The Court permitted C-SPAN to air the argument live, and it can be viewed online at: CCRjustice.org/ourcases/current-cases/arar-v.-ashcroft. Mr. Arar continues to speak out on behalf of human rights as he awaits the Court's decision on whether this case can proceed, and is pursuing a doctorate of Electrical Engineering at the University of Ottawa.



CCR board member David Cole arguing for Maher Arar at the Second Circuit Court of Appeals

From the judges during the *Arar v. Ashcroft* oral argument

The minute the executive raises the specter of foreign policy/national security, it is the government's position that that is a license to torture anyone?

Judge Sonia Sotomayor

In a world where the government can allege foreign policy concerns and terrorism concerns, what role are there for judges at all? Or is this the third rail of the new environment in which judges are cut out of the separation of powers?

Judge Rosemary Pooler

CCR is Grateful to our Foundation Funders for Their Support*

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*The foundations listed above provided leadership-level grants of \$5,000 or more between 11/15/08 - 3/1/09.

Private Contractors (continued)



Mr. Al-Janabi, a plaintiff in *Al-Quraishi v. Nakhla and L-3* is an Iraqi blacksmith who was held and tortured at Abu Ghraib prison for nearly a year.

mock executions; stress positions; broken bones; deprivation of oxygen, food and water; as well as other brutal and dehumanizing acts of torture. According to statements by military personnel who were charged and convicted for their roles in the abuse, CACI employees Steven Stefanowicz and Daniel Johnson directed and caused some of the most egregious torture and abuse at Abu Ghraib. No private contractor employees have yet faced criminal charges.

Al-Quraishi v. Nakhla and L-3 Services, Inc.

Al-Quraishi v. Nakhla and L-3 Services, Inc. includes claims of torture and war crimes as well as state law tort claims brought on behalf of 72 plaintiffs detained and abused at more than 25 prisons in Iraq.

Plaintiffs were subjected to rape and other forms of sexual assault; sleep deprivation; beatings; painful stress positions; sensory deprivation; electric shocks; threats (including with unleashed dogs); denial of medical treatment and other brutal acts. Oral arguments in this case were heard in March.

Victims of torture at Abu Ghraib and other prisons in Iraq have long waited to have their day in court. Stand with CCR as we continue their struggle to hold torturers accountable, no matter who they are or where they torture.

CCR in New Orleans

This March, CCR Staff joined May Day New Orleans, a housing rights organization, and the National Economic and Social Rights Initiative (NESRI), a national human rights advocacy organization, in conducting a surveying project in New Orleans. The group surveyed tenants receiving local and federal housing assistance to determine the impact that US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations are having on their daily lives.

The surveying project was initiated by May Day New Orleans, a local housing advocacy group. Organizers are concerned that overbroad regulations are being aggressively used by the local housing authority (currently under the control of HUD), private landlords who participate in the Section 8 program, and HUD, to push low-income families, especially those who are vocal opponents of the destruction of public housing, out of the city to make way for wealthier, whiter residents.

Black Firefighters Lawsuit Scheduled for Trial

Trial is scheduled in a class action lawsuit charging the Fire Department of New York (FDNY) with racially discriminatory hiring practices. This case is the culmination of CCR's long-time partnership with the Vulcan Society, the fraternal organization of Black New York City firefighters, to increase racial diversity and opportunity within the FDNY.

Oral arguments were heard in March on a request for summary judgment in favor of the Vulcan Society in light of overwhelming evidence. *United States of America and Vulcan Society v. City of New York* will go to trial in June if the request is denied. Co-counsel on this case is Levy Ratner, P.C., and Scott & Scott, LLP.

Maximize Your Support of CCR and Magnify the Impact of Your Gift

The Normandie Foundation has been an ardent and stalwart supporter of CCR's work on issues of civil and other human rights for many years. After 9/11 the Foundation joined the Center in its efforts to challenge the Bush administration's use of torture, extraordinary rendition and indefinite and illegal detention. They believed these programs and policies represent some of the most destabilizing forces at play in the world today. The Normandie Foundation wishes to preserve CCR's ability to always continue its important work; and in light of both the economic challenges and political opportunities of the day, has offered to **match** gifts to the Center during this time – up to \$50,000! – **doubling** (if you are a current CCR donor), or **tripling** (if you are a first time donor), the impact of your gift.

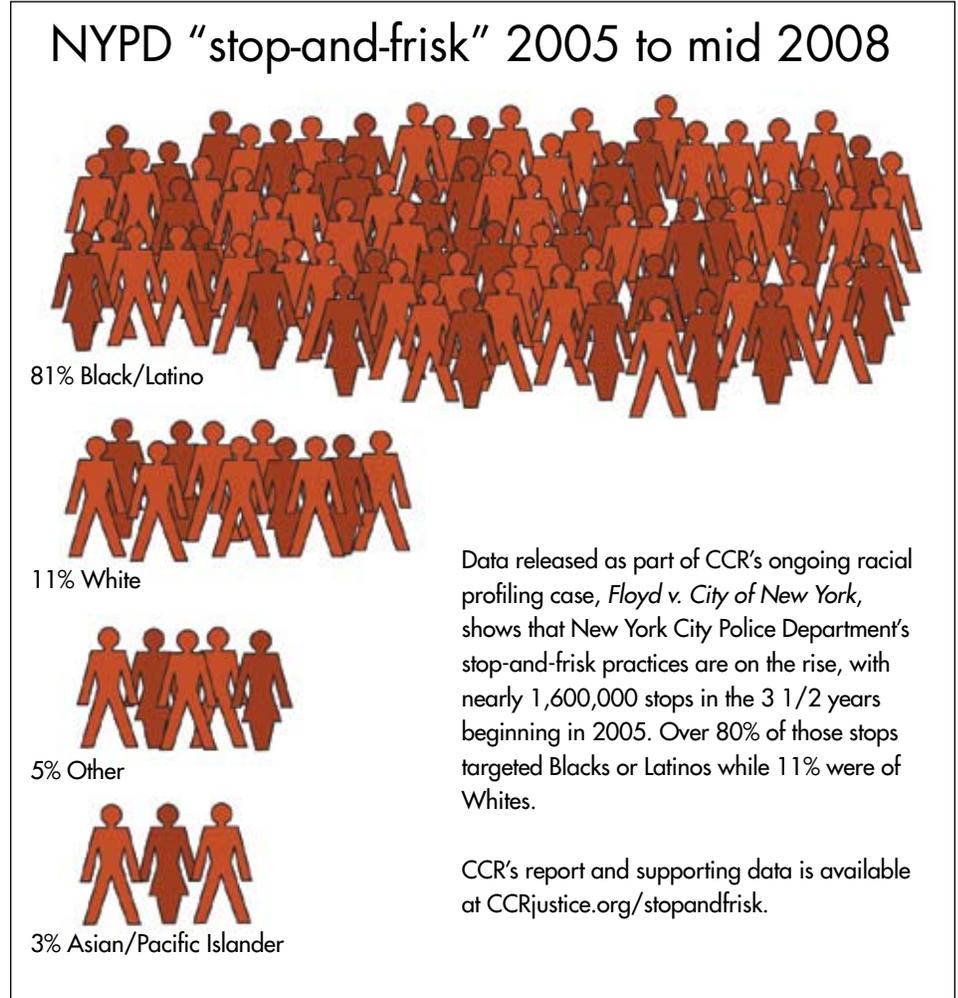
Racial Disparity in NYPD Stop and Frisks

In September 2008, the U.S. District Court in Manhattan ordered the New York Police Department (NYPD) to provide all of its “stop-and-frisk” data from 1998 forward, to the Center for Constitutional Rights. This is the first time this data has been made publicly available. CCR released a preliminary analysis of the data for 2005 through the first half of 2008, the years covered in our ongoing case, *Floyd v. City of New York*. The NYPD is required to keep a database of its stop-and-frisks as a result of CCR’s 1999 racial profiling lawsuit filed in the wake of the Amadou Diallo shooting, *Daniels v. City of New York*.

CCR filed *Floyd* on behalf of plaintiffs who were illegally stopped and frisked by NYPD officers on one or more occasions without reasonable suspicion and because of their race. The lawsuit alleges that the NYPD engages in racial profiling and suspicionless stop-and-frisks of law-abiding New York City residents. The plaintiffs represent hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers who over the past several years have been stopped on the way to work, in front of their homes or just walking down the street without any cause, primarily because of their race or ethnicity.

CCR analyzed the nearly 1,600,000 NYPD stops of New Yorkers from 2005 to mid 2008. During this period approximately 80 percent of total stops made were of Blacks and Latinos, who comprise 25 percent and 28 percent of New York City’s total population, respectively. During this same time period, only 11 percent of stops were of Whites, yet they comprise 44 percent of the city’s population.

Blacks and Latinos are also more likely to be frisked after a NYPD-initiated stop than Whites and more likely to



New York City Police Department’s stop-and-frisk practices are on the rise. Over 80% of those stops targeted Blacks or Latinos while 11% were of Whites.*

*from January 2005 through half of 2008

have physical force used against them during a NYPD-initiated stop than Whites. Yet the rates of summons and arrests from all stops is not only extremely low, but nearly the same across racial categories.

Police stops-and-frisks without reasonable suspicion violate the Fourth Amendment, and racial profiling is a violation of fundamental rights and protections of the Fourteenth

Amendment and the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The record number of New Yorkers being stopped-and-frisked is a quality of life issue for all New Yorkers and the targeting of African American and Latino City residents creates a climate of fear, aggression and distrust, particularly in communities of color. The data confirms that there is a serious need for reform and oversight of the NYPD and an end to its racially biased policing.

Victory for Mentally Ill Immigration Detainee

In January, CCR joined the Legal Aid Society of New York as co-counsel in *DHS v. Anderson*, a case defending a mentally disabled and mentally ill lawful permanent resident facing deportation from the United States.

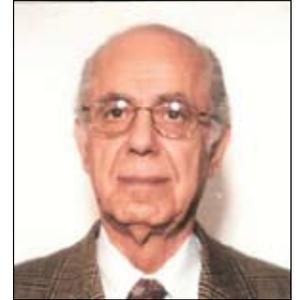
Gary Anderson is a 42-year-old Jamaican-born lawful permanent resident that has lived in the United States for over 22 years. Mr. Anderson was placed in removal proceedings in January 2007, following a conviction for simple possession of drugs. He has a history of struggling with mental illness and mental disability (low cognitive ability) including hospitalizations due to his diagnosis of schizophrenia and placement in special education schools. Despite his condition, he was transferred to a detention facility in El Paso, Texas, far from his family and support structure.

Harsh mandatory detention provisions, that defined two or more convictions for simple possession of drugs as “drug trafficking” for immigration purposes, prevented the immigration court from granting bail or discretionary relief from deportation. In January 2009, with the help of the ACLU-Immigrant Rights Project, CCR filed a *habeas* petition in federal court, challenging his prolonged detention as unlawful. After the Second Circuit addressed the legal issue of misdemeanor drug offenses as “aggravated felonies” in an unrelated case, an immigration judge finally granted a “cancellation of removal” in February – ending the deportation process and allowing Anderson to remain in the United States. He was released that evening, after two years of detention in the Bergen County Jail defending his right to be heard.

This case illustrates the numerous challenges that mentally ill and mentally disabled detainees face in immigration deportation proceedings, including: harsh mandatory detention provisions, a lack of adequate due process, and exceptional hardship to family members. Throughout these proceedings, Mr. Anderson remained in jail. The length of his detention – 2 years – is over 100 times the length of the time he served for his criminal convictions.

Donor Spotlight: Salah and Catherine Al-Askari

Salah Al-Askari trained as a doctor in his native Iraq and came to New York in the mid-1950s for advanced studies in urology. When he returned home in 1958, the military had staged a coup, assassinating the King and his family and the Prime Minister. Dr. Al-Askari and his wife Catherine left the country, fearing that there would be massacres and oppression. They have been part of the movement for peace and justice ever since. Both are involved with a local peace group in their town of Leonia, New Jersey, and among other activities, hold a vigil for peace and equality every Sunday afternoon.



The Al-Askaris have been donors to the Center for Constitutional Rights since 2000 because they were “impressed by the Center’s fight for individuals who have had their rights curtailed and infringed upon.” When they prepared their estate plan a few years ago, they decided to include CCR as a beneficiary of their family Trust. Dr. Al-Askari says, “We wanted to provide CCR with a continuous source of support and permanency. We have been giving regularly but those donations sometimes fluctuate. We included CCR in our Trust so that the organization can function with a base of support that is known from year to year, to keep it stable and strong.”

For more information about IRA gifts, CCR’s Founders Circle, or the Thelma Newman Society (CCR’s planned giving program), contact Sara Beinert at 212-614-6448 or write: Sara Beinert, CCR, 666 Broadway, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10012. Email: SBeinert@ccrjustice.org

New fact sheets at www.CCRjustice.org/faqs

- The Alien Tort Statute
- Accountability and Prosecutions for Torture
- The Case Against Avi Dichter
- Guns for Hire in Iraq: The Cases Against Blackwater
- Corporations & Torture in Prisons in Iraq: The Cases Against Titan/L-3 and CACI

Affirming our Right to Dissent

The Center for Constitutional Rights scored an important victory for the right to dissent when our case, *Bell v. Miami-Dade County* settled in January. The case was filed with co-counsel Rob Ross and others, on behalf of 29 activists, including CCR staff attorney Matthew Strugar, against police officers and their supervisors from Miami-Dade County. The majority of plaintiffs were arrested at a jail solidarity vigil for arrests that occurred earlier that week during the November 2003 FTAA protests. (Those arrestees were part of CCR's landmark *Killmon* case, which challenged the government's deliberate and coordinated disruption of protest, and settled for a substantial sum in April 08.)

Several plaintiffs were pepper sprayed, held facedown on the ground at gunpoint and then held in a garage in "dog kennel-like fences." Some of the women plaintiffs were strip-searched by male officers. CCR



Free Trade of the Americas (FTAA) protest in Miami, November 2003

brought this case as part of our long history of fighting the mistreatment of protestors and to dissuade Miami and other cities from overreacting during mass demonstrations as well as to compensate the victims of these abuses.

Thank you to our Supporters and CREDO Mobile/Working Assets



CCR would like to thank our supporters who voted for us in the 2008 CREDO Mobile/Working Assets Donation Pool. Thanks to your efforts, CCR received almost \$53,000 in a donation from the company!

We also thank **CREDO Mobile/Working Assets** for continuing to support CCR's work by offering us a place in their annual donation pool *four* times in the last five years. We are so grateful to them for conducting this socially conscious program and for partnering with CCR in this effort.

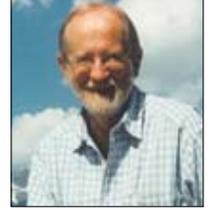
Please support CCR in CREDO Mobile/Working Assets' Donation Pool, by visiting www.WorkingAssets.com/Voting and registering your support for CCR. The more votes we get, the more funding. It's a small way to make a big difference. Tell others about this option, too!

Finally, if you believe in CCR's work and would like to see us in CREDO Mobile/Working Assets' Donation Pool in 2010, please consider nominating us for a position in their pool for 2010 by visiting their website at www.WorkingAssets.com/nominate/ to fill out their easy form!

In Memoriam

John Leonard

The memorial for John Leonard, culture critic, CCR contributor and stepfather of CCR staff member Jen



Nessel, was held during the blizzard on March 2 with 400 people in attendance. He died in November after a seven-year battle with lung cancer at the age of 69. Leonard began his career at Pacifica radio in Berkeley and went on to edit *The New York Times Book Review*, including putting out the historic Vietnam War issue, and to co-edit the culture pages of *The Nation* with his wife, Sue. He was daily book reviewer at the Times for many years and wrote monthly reviews for *Harper's*, among countless publications. His wit, wisdom and passion will be missed. The Center is honored that his family asked for gifts in his memory to be made to CCR.

Edwin Salpeter

The Center for Constitutional Rights is saddened by the recent passing of our longtime friend and supporter Edwin Salpeter at the age of 83. He was an eminent theoretical astrophysicist at Cornell University, known for his wide-ranging research encompassing black holes and debunking the Reagan administration's "Star Wars" missile defense system. Ed and his wife, Antonia Lhamo Shouse, gave generously to CCR, both financially – and in the occasional gift of opera tickets! We are very grateful that the family designated CCR as a recipient of gifts in his memory.



centerforconstitutionalrights

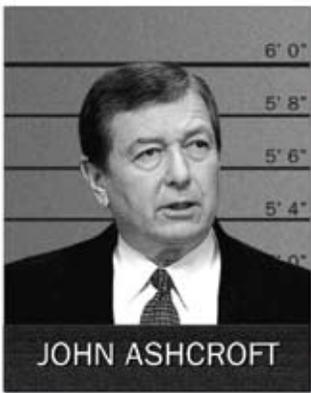
666 Broadway, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10012

Inside

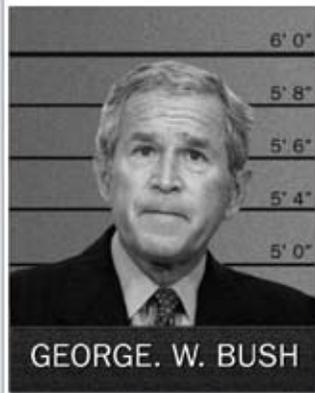
CCR takes Shell and military contractors to court!

CCRjustice.org

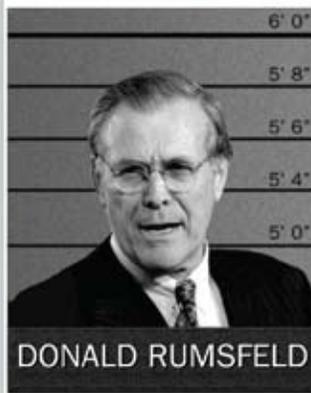
Thank you for your continued support!



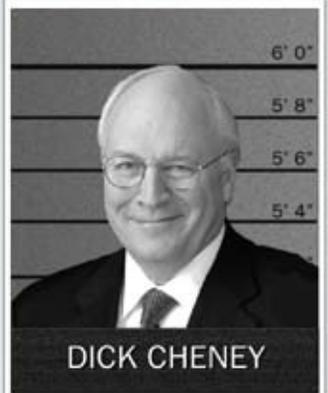
JOHN ASHCROFT



GEORGE. W. BUSH



DONALD RUMSFELD



DICK CHENEY

Take Action!

SIGN THE PETITION

CCR has launched a new online campaign calling for accountability – and criminal prosecutions – of those Bush administration officials responsible for torture and war crimes. Help us make the point by signing on to our petition.

we already know the truth...
what we need is a **PROSECUTOR!**

SEND A LETTER

CCR is calling upon Senator Patrick Leahy and the Senate Judiciary Committee to support prosecutions of government officials who violated the law and to oppose any immunity for the architects of these torture programs. Send a letter at:

www.CCRjustice.org/prosecutebushofficials

The Center for Constitutional Rights is dedicated to advancing and protecting the rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Founded in 1966 by attorneys who represented civil rights movements in the South, CCR is a non-profit legal and educational organization committed to the creative use of law as a positive force for social change.