

MEMORANDUM

To: U.S. Programs
From: National Security and Human Rights Campaign Staff – Nancy Chang, Sophia Conroy, and Hyon Seo Kwon
Date: September 17, 2009
Re: Grant Recommendations for Catch-All Docket, October 2009

The Campaign is currently considering five grants for inclusion on the October 2009 Catch-All Docket. The Campaign's total contribution on these five grants is approximately \$925,000.

I. NSHR CAMPAIGN GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CATCH-ALL DOCKET

1) ADC Research Institute

Up to \$45,000 over six months

To support the ADC Research Institute's retention of, and work with, an outside consultant to undertake an organizational audit and develop a strategic plan. The ADC Research Institute is the not-for-profit affiliate of the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee, a civil rights organization founded in 1980 that is committed to defending the rights of people of Arab descent and promoting their cultural heritage. The Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee is headquartered in Washington, D.C. and has four offices and 38 chapters across the U.S.

2) Bill of Rights Defense Committee

\$250,000 over two years

To provide core project support. Founded shortly after 9/11 and based in Northampton, Massachusetts, the Bill of Rights Defense Committee (BORDC) is a national grassroots mobilization network that defends civil liberties and human rights eroded by the "war on terror." BORDC engages in public education, grassroots organizing, policy advocacy, research, communications, and litigation to address: government secrecy; executive accountability for human rights violations, including torture of detainees; indefinite detention and the deprivation of due process rights; surveillance; and profiling by race, religion or political speech. Led by the new Executive Director Shahid Buttar, BORDC works nationally to build, empower, support, unite, and sustain a grassroots network of hundreds of community groups that are working to restore civil liberties post-9/11. \$50,000 of the recommended support will be in the form of a matching grant.

3) Cato Institute

\$80,000 over two years

To support the Cato Institute's project to educate policymakers and the public on the dangers of, and monitor developments on efforts to create, a national system of identification under the REAL ID Act and in the enforcement of immigration laws. The grant would support the work of Jim Harper who has served as a member of the Department of Homeland Security's Data Privacy and Integrity Advisory Committee and has become an important voice in immigration policy debates in D.C. The Cato Institute is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, public policy libertarian think tank founded in 1977 and headquartered in Washington, D.C. Cato's mission is to increase support for public policies based on the principles of limited government, free markets, individual liberty, and peace.

4) National Security Archive Fund

\$450,000 over two years (\$300,000 from NSHR Campaign; \$150,000 from TIF)

To support the Open Government and Accountability Program, which engages in policy advocacy, litigation, scholarship and research, and communications, and public education to combat government secrecy and ensure independent oversight of the U.S. government's national security practices. The grant will permit the Program to accelerate the addition of documents on its Torture Archive, an indexed online compilation of around 100,000 pages of primary source documents related to the detention and interrogation of terrorism suspects by the U.S. The Program will also pursue a number of initiatives to hold government officials accountable for abuses in the "war on terror" and force federal agencies to implement the commitments to government transparency made by President Obama and Attorney General Holder. The Archive is an international affairs research institute, a library and archive of declassified U.S. documents, a public interest law firm that works to defend and expand public access to government information through the Freedom of Information Act, and an indexer and publisher of documents. Founded in 1985 by journalists and historians, the Archive is housed at George Washington University.

5) Rabbis for Human Rights-North America

\$100,000 over 18 months

To support a campaign to seek accountability for the use of torture and to end arbitrary and indefinite detention by the U.S. Government in its "war on terror." Rabbis for Human Rights-North America (RHR-NA) will work to increase the membership and activity of its network and host the Third North American Conference on Judaism and Human Rights to educate, train, and mobilize rabbis and lay people on the issues of torture, detention, and accountability. The organization seeks to build capacity and engagement on these issues within the Jewish community and works in cooperation with the National Religious Campaign Against Torture, other Jewish organizations, and other human rights organizations. RHR-NA is an organization of rabbis from all the movements of Judaism dedicated to: (1) expanding support in North America for the work of Rabbis for Human Rights in Israel, and (2) education and advocacy on human rights issues in North America. The organization's U.S. education and advocacy is devoted to two sets of issues: torture, detention, and accountability for the treatment of terrorism suspects; and a new campaign, launched in August 2009, against slavery and human trafficking.