

**US PROGRAMS**  
**National Security and Human Rights Campaign**  
**2010 Docket 1b - Summary of Recommended Grants**  
**May 3, 2010**

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**National Security and Human Rights Campaign (T1: 21095)**

Organization	Grant Code	Recommended	Term	2010	2011
American Progressive Caucus Policy Foundation	T1: 21095	200,000	2 years	100,000	100,000
Center for Democracy and Technology	T1: 21095	400,000	2 years	200,000	200,000
Center for Media and Democracy	T1: 21095	200,000	2 years	100,000	100,000
Constitution Project [Matching Grant]	T1: 21095	250,000	14 months	250,000	
National Religious Campaign Against Torture	T1: 21095	210,000	15 months	210,000	

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Total Recommended:	\$ 1,260,000	\$ 860,000	\$ 400,000
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GRANTMAKING TOTAL THIS DOCKET:	\$ 1,260,000
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*Amel Neis*  
Approval Signature

5/3/10  
Date

## MEMORANDUM

To: Aryeh Neier  
From: Ann Beeson, Nancy Chang, Sophia Conroy, and Hyon Seo Kwon  
Date: April 27, 2010  
Subject: National Security and Human Rights Campaign's May 2010 Grant  
Recommendations for Docket I of 2010

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The National Security and Human Rights Campaign recommends five grants on the May 2010 docket.

In furtherance of the Campaign goals of restoring an absolute prohibition against torture, holding government officials and private actors accountable for past abuses and violations of the law, and supporting credible voices in the movement for a progressive national security policy, the Campaign recommends support to the **National Religious Campaign Against Torture (NRCAT)** and the **Constitution Project**. A portion of the grant to NRCAT will be regrant to support the Torture Education Program of the **New Evangelical Partnership for the Common Good (NEPCG)**. Both NRCAT and NEPCG will play leadership roles in faith-based efforts to secure accountability for U.S.-sponsored torture in the "war on terror." The Constitution Project is raising funds to launch a Blue Ribbon Panel on Detainee Treatment, an independent and impartial body of eminent Americans that will be housed in the Constitution Project and will comprehensively review what is now known about the policy missteps and institutional failings that led to the torture and abuse of terrorist suspects by the U.S. government and provide a report and recommendations on steps needed to ensure that the nation's laws and values are fully restored.

To advance the Campaign priorities of developing strategies to shift the paradigm away from the "war on terror" and supporting credible voices in the movement for a progressive national security policy, the Campaign recommends renewed support to the **American Progressive Caucus Policy Foundation's** National Security Program, which creates and nurtures strategic relationships between progressive members of Congress and organizations and experts that are working to advance progressive national security policies. This grant will also support the training of selected members of Congress to become more effective spokespersons for civil liberties and human rights in matters of national security.

In support of the Campaign's priorities of restoring broad privacy protections and limitations on domestic spying, supporting paradigm-shifting research, and supporting credible voices in the movement for progressive national security policies, the Campaign recommends renewed support for the **Center for Democracy and Technology's** Project on Freedom, Security, and Technology. The Project will engage in advocacy, coalition building, and litigation to defend against attacks on privacy posed by national security policies, restore checks and balances on government surveillance, and promote policy reforms and technical design solutions that will protect privacy in the digital future.

Lastly, to further the Campaign's priorities of restoring broad privacy protections and limitations on domestic spying; increasing transparency and accountability for counterterrorism policies; supporting paradigm-shifting research; and combating racial and religious profiling of Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian individuals and communities, the Campaign recommends a grant to the **Center for Media and Democracy** to launch the Homeland Security *and* Liberty Project, which will advocate for Department of Homeland Security policies and spending that genuinely advance safety while they respect civil liberties and civil rights.

The total amount for these five grants is \$1,260,000. Grant write ups and a financial summary are attached.

**Name of Organization:** American Progressive Caucus Policy Foundation

**Tax Status:** 501(c)(3) public charity

**Purpose of Grant:** To support the National Security Program

**FPOS Grant Description:** This grant will renew support to the American Progressive Caucus Policy Foundation’s National Security Program, which fosters strategic working relationships between progressive members of Congress and organizations and experts working to move the national security policy framework from a “global war on terror” to one based on legitimacy, the rule of law, human rights, transparency, and accountability. The Program coordinates exchanges and provides trainings to increase Congressional knowledge of, leadership on, and oversight over, national security policy. Commonly known as ProgressiveCongress.org and based in Washington, D.C., the organization works to bring together the collective wisdom of progressives inside and outside of Congress to promote peace and global security, energy independence, environmental sustainability, human rights, civil liberties, civil rights, public health, education, and economic opportunity.

**Previous OSI Support:** \$100,000 from NSHR Campaign (2009)

**Organization Budget:** \$856,986

**Project Budget:** \$320,757 (2010)

**Major Sources of Support:** *Organization:* Individual Contributions \$71,000; Stewart R. Mott Charitable Trust \$50,000; Stewart R. Mott 7007 Fund \$50,000; Wallace Global Fund \$50,000; Anonymous Foundation \$25,000; Stephen Silberstein Foundation \$15,000; Hull Family Foundation \$10,000; Arsenault Family Foundation \$10,000

**Amount Requested:** \$200,000 over two years

**Amount Recommended:** \$200,000 [NSHR Campaign, T1: 21095]

**Term:** Two years (April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2012)

**Matching Requirements:** None

### **Description of Organization:**

The American Progressive Caucus Policy Foundation (APCPF), also known as ProgressiveCongress.org, is a Washington, D.C.-based, nonpartisan organization. APCPF was founded in 2005 by the leadership and staff of the Congressional Progressive Caucus<sup>1</sup> to bring together the collective wisdom of progressives inside and outside of Congress to promote peace and global security, energy independence, environmental sustainability, human rights, civil liberties, civil rights, public health, education, and economic opportunity. APCPF hired its first employee in 2009 with support from the NSHR Campaign and is in the process of developing into a center of education and learning for progressive leaders, policy makers, issue advocates, the media, and the general public on its core issue areas. The organization has two full-time staff members.

### **Description of Program for Which Funding Is Sought:**

APCPF seeks renewed support for its National Security Program, which has as its goal creating strategic “inside-outside” working relationships between progressive members of Congress and organizations and experts working to move the national security policy framework from a “global war on terror” to one based on legitimacy, the rule of law, human rights, transparency, and accountability.<sup>2</sup> The Program coordinates educational exchanges and other communications between these communities and works to increase Congressional knowledge of, leadership on, and oversight over, national security policy.

In 2008, its first year with paid staff on board, APCPF started to lay the foundation for several structures that will support the organization’s vision of ongoing and productive exchanges and collaborations between progressives inside and outside of the Congress. APCPF is compiling and maintaining a comprehensive database of legislative staff members assigned to homeland security, foreign policy, defense, and other topic areas of interest, in every Democratic office in the House and Senate. It is also developing a public wiki index of outside progressive experts and organizations for use by members of Congress and staff. And to create a space for progressive leaders to meet regularly with Congressional staff on national security and human rights issues, APCPF’s National Security Program led the transformation of the four-year-old Iraq/Iran Coordinating Committee into a National Security Working Group that meets monthly on the Hill for off-the-record strategy sessions and meetings and intelligence sharing on national security issues.

Over the proposed two-year grant period, the National Security Program will continue to develop “inside-outside” structures so that Congressional staffers and members of Congress can better leverage outside resources to advance progressive national security policy reform.

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<sup>1</sup> The Congressional Progressive Caucus, which was founded in 1990 with five members of the House of Representatives, has grown to become one of the largest and most diverse caucuses in Congress with members who also sit on the Black, Hispanic, Asian-American, and Native American caucuses. The Caucus’ members hold House Committee Chairmanships on committees that play an important role in national security agenda setting.

<sup>2</sup> APCPF has submitted a bifurcated budget for this project.

The Program also hopes to extend its reach and influence beyond the Progressive Caucus to five other House caucuses<sup>3</sup> and the Senate.

Also during the grant period the National Security Program will work to craft more coherent messaging and policy prescriptions for Congressional progressives around national security, the defense budget, and the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, and to guide members of Congress on how they can use current events as a springboard for reframing the public's understanding of how national security is impacted by America's international relationships. Toward these ends, the Program will develop and disseminate national security messages that articulate the importance of respect for human rights, civil liberties, and the rule of law at home and abroad.

The National Security Program will produce three categories of written materials on national security issues, which it will distribute via email, in caucus packets, and at briefings. The Program will develop one-page messaging documents for members of Congress on controversial national security and human rights matters that will digest and translate more extensive materials produced by partner organizations such as the National Security Network and the New America Foundation. And as needed, the Program will produce extensive briefing materials for Congressional staffers. The Program will also produce a periodic email newsletter for Congressional staffers to highlight resources relevant to their area of assignment and expertise, including materials and briefings by the Program and partner organizations.

Additionally, the National Security Program will provide intensive, one-on-one media coaching on national security issues to between 25 and 30 members of Congress,<sup>4</sup> and their communications directors and national security-focused legislative staff. The Program will then work to place these members of Congress on TV and radio, and in print media and new media, to deliver carefully crafted progressive national security messages. A regrant of funds from this grant to the National Security Network will support this work and allow the Program to retain retired Major General Paul Eaton to provide these trainings.

### **Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of supporting the development of strategies to shift the paradigm away from the “war on terror” and supporting credible voices in the movement for a progressive national security policy.

In recent years, the progressive movement has lacked adequate mechanisms and resources to help progressives who have succeeded in being elected to govern effectively

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<sup>3</sup> These include the Congressional Human Rights Commission, Congressional Black Caucus, Congressional Hispanic Caucus, Congressional Asian and Pacific American Caucus, and the Congressional Populist Caucus.

<sup>4</sup> Members of Congress who have agreed to participate in the Program's first round of trainings include Keith Ellison (D-MN), Raul Grijalva (D-AZ), Chellie Pingree (D-ME), James McGovern (D-MA), Jared Polis (D-CO), Betsy Markey (D-CO), Tom Perriello (D-VA), and Donna Edwards (D-MD).

and shape the public debate<sup>5</sup> - and the challenge of mobilizing a critical mass of progressive elected leaders to champion a comprehensive and compelling alternative vision of American security remains daunting.

The APCPF was founded to address precisely this challenge. In late 2008, with the resurgence of progressive power in the Congress and White House, the group decided to step up its level of activity. Since then the organization has brought outside experts to Congress to educate members and staff on a range of issues, and has started to create an echo chamber for progressive ideas by working with MoveOn.org and placing speakers and getting quotes into outlets such as MSNBC, C-SPAN, the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, the *Huffington Post* and the *DailyKos*.

In addition, APCPF has laid the groundwork for building Congressional leadership on national security and human rights issues and has developed a national security education program in direct response to feedback it received on a “listening tour” it conducted of Democratic House and Senate members earlier this year. Retired Major General Paul Eaton, a former commanding general in Iraq who was responsible for the creation and training of the Iraqi Army and security forces, will bring invaluable expertise and credibility to this effort. Eaton currently serves as senior advisor for the National Security Network and has worked with Human Rights First in the effort to close Guantanamo. He and APCPF’s Executive Director Darcy Burner collaborated in 2007 and 2008 on *A Responsible Plan to End the War in Iraq*, a white paper that provided a policy framework and messaging guidance to more than 60 U.S. House and Senate candidates on how to bring the Iraq War to a responsible close.

Because APCPF remained largely dormant until last year, it is in many respects a start up organization that is still trying to find its niche, raise a budget, and make staffing decisions. APCPF’s first staff member, former National Security Program Director Lorelei Kelly, was hired in January 2009 but left by the summer of that year, due in part to organizational growing pains. A two-year grant from OSI will offer APCPF much needed financial stability and a vote of confidence. And with this funding, APCPF should be in a position to hire a National Security Program Manager soon. To protect OSI’s investment, however, NSHR Campaign staff intend to monitor this grant actively during the grant period.

For the above reasons, OSI staff recommends a grant of \$200,000 over two years to support the National Security Program of the American Progressive Caucus Policy Foundation.

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<sup>5</sup> With Newt Gingrich’s ascension to Speaker of the House in 1995, the new conservative majority consolidated its power and marginalized those holding divergent views by implementing a set of institutional changes that significantly diminished the legislative branch’s power and oversight function. These rule changes made it difficult for caucuses to hire staff and prohibited the funding of legislative service organizations that had earlier provided key strategic, organizational, and informational support to members of Congress. The downgrading of support in the Congress for centers of issue expertise and rigorous policy analysis contributed to the body’s failure to stand up to the Bush administration’s unprecedented assertions of executive power.

**Name of Organization:** Center for Democracy and Technology

**Tax Status:** 501(c)(3) public charity

**Purpose of Grant:** To support the Project on Freedom, Security, and Technology

**FPOS Grant Description:** This grant will renew support to the Center for Democracy and Technology's Project on Freedom, Security, and Technology. Founded in 1994, CDT works to preserve and enhance free expression, privacy, open access, and other democratic values in digital communications in the U.S. and internationally. The Project will engage in advocacy and litigation to defend civil rights against further erosion in the name of national security; restore checks and balances on government surveillance; and expand privacy protections to keep pace with technology.

**Previous OSI Support:** \$1,365,570  
\$500,000 from NSHR Campaign (2008)  
\$750,000 from US Programs (2002-2008)  
\$70,000 from Information Program (2001, 2006)  
\$25,570 from President's Office (1996, 2006)  
\$20,000 from Central Eurasia Project (2000)

**Organization Budget:** \$4,296,289 (2010)

**Project Budget:** \$445,706 (2010), \$425,945 (2011)

**Major Sources of Support:** *Organization:* Markle Foundation \$1,710,500; Atlantic Philanthropies \$315,789; MacArthur Foundation \$225,000; Microsoft \$210,000; Google \$100,000; AT&T \$100,000; California Healthcare Foundation \$85,169; Yahoo \$50,000

**Amount Requested:** \$400,000 over two years

**Amount Recommended:** \$400,000 [NSHR Campaign, T1: 21095]

**Term:** Two years (May 1, 2010 – April 30, 2012)

**Matching Requirements:** None

**Description of Organization:**

Founded in 1994, the Center for Democracy and Technology's (CDT) mission is to preserve and enhance free expression, privacy, open access, and other democratic values



and in the digital age. The organization combines the roles of think tank, convener, and advocate at the intersection of policy reform and technology. CDT's current projects focus on privacy and government surveillance, open government, consumer privacy, health privacy, free expression, and internet openness. CDT is based in Washington, D.C. and San Francisco, and has 26 staff members.

**Description of Program for Which Funding Is Sought:**

CDT is requesting renewed support for its Project on Freedom, Security, and Technology, which seeks to defend the right of privacy against erosion in the name of national security and to develop and advance public policies and technical design solutions that will protect privacy in the digital future.<sup>6</sup>

Over the proposed two year grant period, the Project on Freedom, Security, and Technology will continue its work to protect privacy rights in the following areas:

(1) Defending privacy rights against national security measures:

CDT will continue its efforts to prevent the establishment of a national identification system and biometric national identification card by blocking the implementation of the REAL ID Act; promoting privacy standards for state driver's license data; preventing the creation of a national biometric employment identification card as part of comprehensive immigration reform; and supporting the development of online identification systems that are user-controlled and privacy-protective. CDT will continue to promote limitations on driver's license data so that they do not incorporate biometrics and so that licenses do not serve as location tracking devices.<sup>7</sup>

CDT will advocate for greater transparency of government cyber-security efforts which are currently shrouded in secrecy and will oppose government monitoring of private sector networks in the name of protecting against cyber-attacks. CDT will continue its work with the Digital Privacy and Security Working Group, a CDT-coordinated forum of over 50 computer and communications companies, trade associations, and public interest organizations that seeks policy and design solutions that will improve cybersecurity without eroding privacy.

(2) Restoring checks and balances on the government's surveillance powers:

CDT will advocate for the adoption of privacy standards for domestic intelligence collection and limits on the sharing of terrorism-related information between federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies through fusion centers and other structures. CDT will also continue to work with civil liberties groups to resist proposals that allow

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<sup>6</sup> The Project on Freedom, Security, and Technology has assumed the work of CDT's Digital Fourth Amendment Initiative, which was initiated with OSI funding in 2006. CDT has submitted a bifurcated project budget.

<sup>7</sup> Depending on how the debate over a national biometric identification system plays out, the NSHR Campaign may recommend an additional grant to CDT in the area of \$50,000 so that CDT can retain a researcher to quantify the costs of a worker identification card. Off the cuff estimates run into hundreds of billions of dollars.

“homegrown terrorism” as the basis for improper domestic surveillance and profiling of Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian individuals and communities.

CDT will work with other advocates to keep attention on the FBI’s reliance on National Security Letters (NSLs) to obtain third-party records without warrants and advocate that Congress and other oversight bodies audit the FBI’s use of NSLs. CDT aims to narrow the categories of data and types of institutions that are subject to NSLs, and to limit the use of NSLs to less sensitive data such as subscriber-identifying data, while mandating judicial approval for governmental access to more sensitive information such as bank records, telephone calling patterns, and internet usage data.

(3) Expanding privacy protections to keep pace with technology:

CDT has worked since 2006, with support from OSI, to form and launch what is now known as the Digital Due Process Coalition, a non-partisan alliance of dozens of the privacy field’s top advocacy organizations, including the conservative Americans for Taxpayer Reform, the libertarian Competitive Enterprise Institute, and the progressive ACLU; legal scholars; as well as internet and telecommunications companies including Microsoft, Google, AOL, eBay, Intel, and AT&T. In March of this year, the Coalition unveiled – at first privately to select administration officials and members of Congress, and then publicly – a comprehensive blueprint for reforming the now obsolete Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986 (ECPA) by imposing limitations on law enforcement access to personally sensitive electronic data so that they are current with technological advances. The Coalition’s recommendations, posted at [www.digitaldueprocess.org](http://www.digitaldueprocess.org), highlight the importance of requiring the government to obtain warrants for such personal data as stored e-mails, private financial data, and location information collected by mobile electronic devices. Over the next two years, promoting these recommendations will be a central CDT priority.

**Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of restoring broad privacy protections and limitations on domestic spying; supporting paradigm-shifting research; and supporting credible voices in the movement for a progressive national security policy.

To an increasing degree, privacy is coming under assault from expansive governmental demands for personal electronic data under the guise of protecting against the threats of terrorism and cyber-attack, as well as from dramatic leaps in information technology that have facilitated the collection and data-mining of such data. U.S. privacy protections lag far behind these developments and are in urgent need of reform. ECPA, adopted in 1986, has failed to keep pace with innovations in internet and wireless technology and no longer meets its statutory mandate of protecting the privacy of electronic communications; a series of post-9/11 amendments to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act have ratified warrantless surveillance of a wide swath of sensitive communications; the FBI abuses its authority under the Patriot Act by routinely issuing national security letters for third party records in lieu of seeking judicial warrants; the

government has developed powerful data-mining programs and built huge data warehouses, an example of which is the terrorist watch list that has ballooned to 1,000,000 names; state and local fusion centers are compiling and sharing domestic intelligence data with the federal government at a rapid pace under the broad rubric of “suspicious activity”; and while the implementation of the REAL ID Act has been stalled, the Schumer-Graham immigration reform proposal would require biometric national identification cards for the entire American work force, and states continue to push for drivers licenses that facilitate location tracking.

For the past 16 years, CDT has been one of the nation’s most widely respected and trusted voices in the effort to defend, restore, and expand digital privacy rights in the face of government surveillance and technological change. CDT is frequently called upon by Congress and other policy makers to provide balanced recommendations that preserve the civil liberties of law-abiding Americans while accommodating the needs of law enforcement and intelligence agencies.

CDT was quick to grasp that design decisions made by the information industry can have profound implications for digital privacy because they determine when personally identifiable data is disclosed and whether and for how long such data is stored and accessible. CDT has successfully forged collaborations with the information industry and other key stakeholders in the digital privacy debate – privacy groups of all political persuasions, academics, and think tanks – to develop innovative approaches that simultaneously preserve digital privacy and protect security. In March of this year, CDT, with support from OSI, achieved a significant milestone with the bipartisan Digital Due Process Coalition’s launch and release of a blueprint for ECPA reform. The power of having industry giants, privacy advocates from across the political spectrum, and think tanks calling in unison for strong privacy protections against the government has already generated significant media interest and has caught the attention of administration officials and policy makers. The Due Process Coalition presents a model that allows privacy advocates to break out of the standard post-9/11 dynamic in which they are left on the defensive as industry quietly cooperates with government requests for data.

CDT tends to be highly pragmatic in its advocacy and to value building a broad consensus even when this results in incremental reforms. Yet for the most part it has managed to find a way to coordinate with more progressive organizations that demand more sweeping reforms, such as the ACLU and the Electronic Frontier Foundation. For example, in the case of the Digital Due Process Coalition, CDT understands that the ACLU and EFF will continue to push for consumer protections against the private sector’s access to, and ability to share, personal data, even though CDT plans to side with industry leaders in the Coalition, which are not endorsing this position.

For the above reasons, OSI staff recommends a renewal grant of \$400,000 over two years to support Project on Freedom, Security, and Technology of the Center for Democracy and Technology.

**Name of Organization:** Center for Media and Democracy

**Tax Status:** 501(c)(3) public charity

**Purpose of Grant:** To support the launch of the Project on Homeland Security *and* Liberty

**FPOS Grant Description:** This grant will support the launch of the Center for Media and Democracy’s Project on Homeland Security *and* Liberty. The Project will analyze waste, fraud, and abuse in spending by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) on national security and counterterrorism; examine DHS national security policies that fail to make us safer or are counter-productive; and build the case for smarter homeland security spending that protects both civil liberties and safety. Founded in 1993, the Center for Media and Democracy is a watchdog organization that monitors and exposes gaps between public relations efforts and the truth in areas including security, public health, economic justice, and ecological sustainability.

**Previous OSI Support:** N/A

**Organization Budget:** \$500,000

**Project Budget:** \$120,000 (2010), \$120,000 (2011)

**Major Sources of Support:** *Organization:* Individual donations \$169,711; Public Welfare Foundation \$150,000; Tides Center \$120,000; Marisla Foundation \$100,000; Park Foundation \$50,000; Cloud Mountain Foundation \$40,000; Helena Rubenstein Foundation \$20,000; Rockefeller Family Fund \$10,000

**Amount Requested:** \$200,000 over two years

**Amount Recommended:** \$200,000 [NSHR Campaign, T1: 21095]

**Term:** Two years (May 1, 2010 – April 30, 2012)

**Matching Requirements:** None

**Description of Organization:**

Founded in 1993, the Center for Media and Democracy (CMD) is a watchdog organization that monitors and exposes gaps between public relations efforts and the truth in areas such as security, public health, economic justice, and ecological sustainability.

CMD conducts in-depth investigations and analysis on issues such as the widespread airing of “fake TV news” consisting of “video news releases” created by the public relations industry, which it publicizes through articles, books, and its flagship website, SourceWatch.org, which receives nearly six million visitors a year. CMD also publishes original reporting and analysis of industry, corporate, and government spin in significant news stories; supports public education campaigns; and serves as a resource to journalists. CMD is based in Madison, Wisconsin and has seven staff members, seven contract employees, and three legal interns.

### **Description of Program for Which Funding Is Sought:**

CMD is requesting support to launch the Project on Homeland Security *and* Liberty, a new initiative that will leverage ongoing investigations and advocate for smarter spending by DHS on homeland security and national security. The Project will expose and challenge flawed DHS paradigms, structures, and policies relating to surveillance, profiling, secrecy, and accountability through research, public and media education, and policy advocacy.<sup>8</sup>

At the outset, the Project on Homeland Security *and* Liberty will undertake a comprehensive review and analysis of the data and reporting on DHS’s national security efforts that have been compiled and published to date, to identify areas in need of deeper review by investigative reporters and researchers. The Project will also undertake a thorough investigation of the activities of DHS’s Science and Technology Directorate, which directs the development and deployment of surveillance and data-mining technologies. The Project will examine the Directorate’s technology funding, information sharing and intelligence gathering initiatives, and guidance to state and local law enforcement regarding civil liberties and civil rights protections and Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act requirements, and will identify shortcomings that can be addressed within the administration, through legislation or by other means. For example, in the area of technology funding, the Project will examine DHS processes for issuing requests for proposals for contracts with the private sector and grants to state and local government, and will identify places where these processes would benefit from stronger controls and oversight and smarter homeland security strategies that do not sacrifice civil liberties and civil rights.

The Project on Homeland Security *and* Liberty will present detailed recommendations before the end of the Obama Administration’s first term on how DHS can better protect security, civil liberties, and human rights, and will seek throughout to increase the number of policy makers and citizens who understand the importance of protecting civil liberties in advancing national security interests. The Project will also produce white papers and congressional testimony on how misaligned DHS spending adversely impacts American security and liberty. CMD will disseminate these materials to opinion leaders, policy makers, and the public, and will work closely with reporters, advocates, and think tanks to develop and highlight stories and press for reforms. In addition, the Project will

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<sup>8</sup> CMD has submitted a bifurcated budget for this project.

brief executive and legislative branch policy makers on these issues and press for a slate of Congressional oversight hearings in early 2011.

**Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of restoring broad privacy protections and limitations on domestic spying; increasing transparency and accountability for counterterrorism policies; supporting paradigm-shifting research; and combating racial and religious profiling of Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian individuals and communities in the name of national security. The grant will also advance the Transparency and Integrity Fund's priority of supporting watchdog organizations.

The Department of Homeland Security was hastily created as a response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks and involved a massive reorganization that consolidated more than 40 federal agencies into a single behemoth agency that is overseen by over 80 Congressional subcommittees. Not surprisingly, DHS has been plagued since its formation by an overbroad mission, poor coordination, and inadequate oversight. DHS has a huge workforce of around 200,000 employees and a roughly equal number of private contractors. Its 2011 non-classified budget request allocates \$37 billion for domestic homeland security activities out of a budget that approaches \$55 billion. DHS also has substantial roles in the funding of state and local law enforcement agencies to respond to emergencies and in the collection and sharing of information obtained through domestic intelligence operations between federal, state, and local agencies. According to Secretary Janet Napolitano in remarks presented to the National Fusion Center Conference in March 2009, to date DHS has spent at least \$30 billion on special anti-terrorism and emergency preparedness grants to state and local governments, including over \$327 million in direct funding to fusion centers, as well as \$812 million for information-sharing and related technology within the U.S. Additionally, the Obama Administration's economic stimulus funding allocated additional funds for an array of DHS projects, including \$1 billion for the Transportation Security Administration's expanded use of body scanning machines and other explosive detection technology, \$200 million for border protection technology, and \$250 million for state and local law enforcement to upgrade or construct local fusion centers.

DHS's immense budget has presented a tempting feeding trough that invites members of Congress to play pork-barrel politics and bring federal dollars home to their districts. Congressional scrutiny has been relaxed, resulting in too few controls on DHS spending, too little accountability for spent funds, and too little attention paid to ensuring that funds are purchasing genuine security and not simply the illusion of security. Compounding these problems are the agency's readiness in asserting claims of secrecy over its operations and its lack of responsiveness to complaints that its activities are undermining the privacy and fundamental rights of Americans.

These factors point to the need for an experienced and nationally recognized watchdog group such as the Center on Media and Democracy to conduct a comprehensive

examination of this newly created agency, identify areas where changes can be made, and advocate for those changes. CMD's Project on Homeland Security *and* Liberty will provide research, public education, and policy reform work that complement other NSHR Campaign strategies for ensuring that DHS funds are distributed fairly and without favoritism or waste; that the agency succeeds in its mission of promoting security; and that the agency protects civil liberties and human rights and does not intrude on the privacy of, or profile, Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian groups and other politically vulnerable groups. The Project will serve as a bridge between several NSHR Campaign-supported projects, including the Center for Investigative Reporting's in-depth investigative journalism project on state and local homeland security spending<sup>9</sup> and the work of the ACLU and five of its state affiliates to roll back state and local government surveillance of political activists and religious minorities through fusion centers and other means.<sup>10</sup> And the Project's focus on DHS's Science and Technology Directorate will complement ongoing advocacy at the federal level by NSHR Campaign grantees that are working to protect digital privacy, such as the Center for Democracy and Technology and the Electronic Frontier Foundation. Additionally, the Project will complement research being conducted by the New America Foundation under a consultancy to the NSHR Campaign to push this young agency into living up to the goal set forth in its February 2020 Quadrennial Homeland Security Review of promoting national resiliency.

The Project will be led by CMD's new Executive Director, Lisa Graves, a nationally recognized expert on surveillance and civil liberties who is adept at inside the Beltway advocacy. On September 23, 2009, Graves was the sole representative of the civil liberties community invited to testify before the Senate Judiciary Committee on the "Reauthorizing the USA PATRIOT Act: Ensuring Liberty and Security" domestic surveillance bill. Graves served as Senator Patrick Leahy's Chief Nominations Counsel on the Senate Judiciary Committee during President George W. Bush's first term, and before that as Deputy Assistant Attorney General in the Office of Legal Policy/Office of Policy Development at the Department of Justice. In 2005, Graves moved to the NGO sector, where she served as Senior Counsel for Legislative Strategy at the ACLU and Deputy Director of the Center for National Security Studies. Graves is known to many of the NSHR Campaign's grantees and enjoys excellent relationships with them.

For the above reasons, OSI staff recommends a grant of \$200,000 over two years to support the launch of Project on Security *and* Liberty of the Center for Media and Democracy.

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<sup>9</sup> The Center for Investigative Reporting's investigative journalism project, *America's War Within: Investigating the Legacy of Homeland Security*, is scrutinizing the expenditure of DHS funds by state and local law enforcement agencies and other streams of federal counterterrorism funds, including funds directed towards state and local counterterrorism efforts under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

<sup>10</sup> The Exposing and Opposing Government Surveillance through Local Advocacy Project is a special initiative of the national ACLU and five state affiliate campaigns to roll back government monitoring of political activists and religious minorities in Illinois, Massachusetts, Maryland, New York, and Washington.

**Name of Organization:** Constitution Project

**Tax Status:** 501(c)(3) public charity

**Purpose of Grant:** To support the launch of the Blue Ribbon Panel on Detainee Treatment Project<sup>11</sup>

**FPOS Grant Description:** This grant will support the Constitution Project’s Blue Ribbon Panel on Detainee Treatment Project, an independent, non-partisan panel of experts who will examine U.S. policies governing the treatment of terrorism suspects in U.S. custody and present a report and recommendations to the American people on how the nation can align its counterterrorism policies with the rule of law. The project will be housed at, but will retain its independence from, the Constitution Project, an independent bipartisan think tank that works to advance governmental accountability, human rights, and the rule of law.

**Previous OSI Support:** \$1,574,827  
\$525,000 from NSHR and CJF (2008-2009)  
\$812,477 from US Programs (2000-2008)  
\$220,000 from Law & Society Program (2002-03)  
\$17,350 from Matching Gift Program (2003-2006)

**Organization Budget:** \$1,000,050 (2009)

**Project Budget:** \$2,500,000

**Major Sources of Support:** *Organization:* Atlantic Philanthropies \$250,000; Proteus Action League \$200,000; Ford Foundation \$100,000; Rockefeller Brothers Fund \$50,000  
*Project:* Funds are being requested from a number of sources, including the Atlantic Philanthropies, the Hewlett Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation, Rockefeller Brothers Fund, and Wellspring Advisors

**Amount Requested:** \$250,000

**Amount Recommended:** \$250,000 [NSHR Campaign, T1: 21095]

**Term:** 14 months (April 1, 2010 – May 31, 2011)

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<sup>11</sup> Blue Ribbon Panel on Detainee Treatment is the preliminary title for the proposed body. The name will be decided on by the panel members, in consultation with communications experts.



**Matching Requirements:** The first \$25,000 of this grant shall be used as a planning grant and can be released without a matching requirement. The remaining \$225,000 of this grant shall be released when: (1) a minimum of \$1 million is raised for the Blue Ribbon Panel Project from other sources, and (2) the Constitution Project affirms in writing to OSI that a firm decision to constitute the Panel is imminent and that sufficient funding has been raised to allow the Panel to fulfill its core functions of conducting a thorough investigation of U.S. policies governing the treatment of terrorism suspects in U.S. custody and publishing and promoting a comprehensive report and recommendations.

**Description of Organization:**

The Constitution Project (CP) is an independent, bipartisan think tank based in Washington, D.C. Founded in 1997, CP's mission is to advance institutional and systemic change at all levels of society by fighting for governmental transparency, accountability, human rights, and the rule of law. CP pursues a range of strategies to impact the public debate, including policy analysis, the publication of reports, policy maker, media, and public education, and the submission of *amicus curiae* briefs.

Currently, CP's work centers on restoring the damage to the rule of law following the 9-11 terrorist attacks and reforming the criminal justice system. With a staff of nine full-time employees, CP conducts much of its work with the assistance of bipartisan committees composed of influential policy makers and experts that work in coalition with allied organizations and individuals. While CP shares many policy goals with other progressive organizations around the country, it is distinguished by its ability to recruit unlikely allies to develop consensus-based recommendations.

**Description of Program for Which Funding Is Sought:**

The Constitution Project requests a \$250,000 grant under a matching requirement to support the launch of the Blue Ribbon Panel on Detainee Treatment Project. The aim of this project is to gain a full understanding of U.S. detention policies and practices and equip this and future administrations and the public at large with the tools necessary to keep the nation safe in a manner consistent with its laws and values.

In the event that sufficient funds are raised, the independent, bipartisan Blue Ribbon Panel on Detainee Treatment will be convened later this spring. The Panel will be comprised of two co-chairs and approximately a dozen other panelists selected based on their reputation for integrity and impartiality, as well as their relevant knowledge and expertise as members of the military, intelligence, legal, public service, law enforcement, foreign policy, religious, human rights, and medical communities. No formal invitations

to serve on the panel have yet been issued. However, 11 prominent individuals with diverse backgrounds have agreed to serve on the Panel if asked.<sup>12</sup>

Panelists will offer their services *pro bono* and will be supported by a dedicated team of researchers, writers, and media professionals hired by the Constitution Project and led by a full-time project director. In addition, a bipartisan cadre of widely respected experts who support the Blue Ribbon Panel's mission will be asked, on an informal basis, to lend their voices to this effort as appropriate.<sup>13</sup>

The invited panelists met twice in March of this year and are in the process of drafting the Blue Ribbon Panel's mandate, which will specify that while the Panel will be hosted by the Constitution Project, the Panel will be directed and led by its chairs, and that its conclusions and recommendations will be determined exclusively by the Panel and not by the staff or board of the Constitution Project. While discretion has been reserved to the fully convened Panel to set its precise agenda, the mandate outlines three interrelated but distinct tasks that the Panel will aim to complete within the next 14 to 20 months.

First, between the summer of 2010 and the winter of 2011, the Blue Ribbon Panel will undertake a thorough investigation of U.S. policies governing the treatment of terrorism suspects in U.S. custody under both Democratic and Republican administrations. The Panel's fact-finding process will consist of reviewing all available documents pertaining to detainee treatment relating to allegations of torture, cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment, and rendition, as well as convening public and private meetings and hearings to gather information from experts, former and current government officials, detainees, and other knowledgeable persons.

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<sup>12</sup> The 11 individuals who have agreed to serve on the Blue Ribbon Panel should it be convened are: (1) David Gushee, Professor of Christian Ethics at Mercer University, and the former President of Evangelicals for Human Rights; (2) Azizah al-Hibri, Professor of Law at the University of Richmond, and President of Karamah: Muslim Women Lawyers for Human Rights; (3) Asa Hutchinson, senior partner of the Asa Hutchinson Law Group, former Undersecretary of the Department of Homeland Security (2003-2005), former Member of Congress (R-AR, 1997-2001), and former U.S. Attorney, Western District of Arkansas (1982-1985); (4) James R. Jones, partner at Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, former Member of Congress (D-OK, 1983-1987), and former Ambassador to Mexico (1993-1997); (5) Juan E. Méndez, Visiting Professor at Washington College of Law and Special Advisor to the International Criminal Court; (6) William H. Sessions, partner at Holland & Knight, former Director of the FBI (1987-1993), former Chief Judge for the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas (1980-1987), and former U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Texas (1971-1974); (7) Gerald E. Thomson, Professor of Medicine Emeritus at Columbia University, Board Member of Physicians for Human Rights, and Member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences; (8) Richard Epstein, Professor of Law at the University of Chicago; (9) Former Brigadier General David Irvine; (10) Patricia Wald, a retired judge on the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia and the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia; and (11) Eleanor Hill, partner at King & Spaulding and former staff director of the Joint Congressional Inquiry on the September 11<sup>th</sup> Attacks. Additional potential Panel members are being approached, including a former president of the American Bar Association and a former staff member of the Joint Congressional Inquiry on the September 11<sup>th</sup> Attacks.

<sup>13</sup> Among those who have agreed to support the Blue Ribbon Panel are: (1) Alberto Mora, former General Counsel of the Navy (2001-2006); (2) Thomas R. Pickering, former Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs (1997-2000), and former U.S. Ambassador and Representative to the United Nations (1989-1992); (3) William H. Taft IV, former Legal Adviser to the U.S. Department of State (2001-2005); and (4) Robert H. Henry, former Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit.

Second, in the spring of 2011, the Blue Ribbon Panel will produce a report, findings, and recommendations based on its investigation that will offer the American people a comprehensive understanding of: (1) what is publicly known about the past and current treatment of detainees by the U.S. government; (2) what critical gaps in the documentary record the Panel was unable to fill and how those gaps might be filled through official inquiries; (3) what expert assessment and analysis reveal about the causal factors leading to the torture and mistreatment of detainees; and (4) what the Panel's recommendations are for promoting accountability and transparency in detainee treatment policies, for ensuring compliance with the nation's domestic and international legal obligations and foreign policy objectives, and for preventing abuses from recurring.

Third, in the summer of 2011, the Blue Ribbon Panel will publicize its report and promote the report's recommendations through outreach to the media, policy makers, and the public. The Panel plans to distribute its final report to the President and key administration officials, the Congress, and the public.

### **Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of: restoring an absolute prohibition against torture; holding government officials and private actors accountable for past abuses and violations of the law; supporting credible voices in the movement for a progressive national security policy; and cultivating persuasive messengers and thought leaders to challenge and dismantle the flawed "war on terror" paradigm. The grant will also advance the Transparency and Integrity Fund's priority of supporting accountability for government misconduct.

From the moment revelations of mistreatment of suspected terrorists held in U.S. custody in the "war on terror" first began to surface, OSI and its allies have been leading the charge for accountability. When President Barack Obama, within his first two days in office, made a commitment to an unprecedented level of openness in government and issued Executive Orders to end torture, close Guantanamo, and review detention and interrogation policies, OSI and its allies were encouraged to step up their demands for the public release of government documents on detainee torture and abuse and for a comprehensive official inquiry by a body with the power of subpoena powers and the authorization to review classified documents – whether through a presidentially appointed commission, a Congressional body, or criminal prosecution.

These demands came under swift attack, however, by fearmongering former Bush administration officials who went so far as to claim that waterboarding had kept America safe and was a necessary tool for keeping America safe, as well as by CIA career employees who made it known to President Obama that an official inquiry would have a demoralizing effect on the agency and thereby endanger the national security. This fearmongering grew more forceful in April 2009 with the release by the Justice Department of Office of Legal Counsel "torture memos," which provided graphic descriptions of detainee abuse and how that abuse came to be approved at the highest

levels of government. By May, the President and the Congress had lost whatever political will they once may have had to initiate an official inquiry into detainee treatment. By the time of his national security address on May 21, 2009, President Obama had solidified his position: having banned the use of torture, he would look forward to advancing a broad domestic and foreign policy agenda with bipartisan support, and would not look backward and risk being accused of partisanship.

For the past several years, Mort Halperin of OSI-DC has been convening on a regular basis a wide range of human rights, civil liberties, and justice groups that seek accountability for torture. These groups are united in their assessment that a comprehensive official inquiry into detainee mistreatment is unlikely to be initiated in the near future and strongly support the formation of an independent bipartisan panel of experts to investigate detainee treatment as an important step toward building a factual record that can be used to support the initiation of an official inquiry, as well as toward educating the public and building a national consensus that torture is morally wrong and must never again be used.

Halperin has also consulted leading experts on accountability mechanisms applied in other countries to solicit their suggestions and gain their support. Halperin has also been successful in persuading a highly distinguished group of experts with diverse backgrounds to serve on the Blue Ribbon Panel on Detainee Treatment should sufficient funding be raised to convene it. And he has found a well-suited home for the Blue Ribbon Panel at the Constitution Project, which has been able to make unique contributions to the national security and human rights field because of the wealth of relationships that Executive Director Virginia Sloan has cultivated over the years with political leaders, high level officials, and influential thinkers from a broad swath of the political spectrum and her talent for building bipartisan consensus for progressive policy positions.

The Blue Ribbon Panel for Detainee Mistreatment will offer Americans a critical opportunity to confront an ugly chapter of this nation's history, acknowledge the nation's legal and moral failings and take corrective measures, and begin the long overdue process of regaining its stature in the world community as a human rights leader.

For the above reasons, OSI staff recommends a matching requirement grant of \$250,000 over 14 months to support the Constitution Project's Blue Ribbon Panel on Detainee Treatment Project.

**Name of Organization:** National Religious Campaign Against Torture

**Tax Status:** 501(c)(3) public charity

**Purpose of Grant:** To support the National Religious Campaign Against Torture and the Torture Education Program of the New Evangelical Partnership for the Common Good

**FPOS Grant Description:** This grant will support the National Religious Campaign Against Torture and the Torture Education Program of the New Evangelical Partnership for the Common Good in their work to provide leadership to the religious community to bring about a permanent end to U.S.-sponsored torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment.

**Previous OSI Support:** \$495,000  
\$360,000 from NSHR Campaign (2007-2010)  
\$10,000 from Criminal Justice Fund (2009-2010)  
\$50,000 from Civil Liberties (2007-2008)  
\$25,000 from USJF General Grantmaking (2007)  
\$75,000 from OSI-DC Int'l Advocacy (2006-2007)

**Organization Budget:** \$844,855

**Project Budget:** \$562,000

**Major Sources of Support:** *Organization:* Ford Foundation \$200,000; Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program \$125,000; John Merck Fund \$35,000; Scheide Fund \$25,177; Open Society Policy Center \$13,000

**Amount Requested:** \$210,000 over 15 months

**Amount Recommended:** \$210,000 [NSHR Campaign, T1: 21095]

**Term:** 15 months (March 1, 2010 – May 31, 2011)

**Matching Requirements:** None

**Description of Organization:**

The National Religious Campaign Against Torture (NRCAT) was established in January 2006 to bring a permanent end to the use of torture and cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment in the detention of terrorism suspects by the U.S. government and to build a moral consensus that torture is never acceptable. NRCAT now has over 275 religious member organizations, and more than 53,000 individual people of faith who have

endorsed one or more of NRCAT's three statements of conscience, "Torture is a Moral Issue," "Declaration of Principles for a Presidential Executive Order on Prisoner Treatment, Torture and Cruelty," and "Call for a Commission of Inquiry." Based in Washington, D.C., NRCAT maintains close working relationships with partner organizations in 22 states representing Roman Catholic, Evangelical Christian, Protestant, Unitarian Universalist, Quaker, Orthodox Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Baha'i, and Sikh communities. Last year, NRCAT decided to expand its work into three new areas: (1) supporting accountability for detainee mistreatment; (2) ending torture in U.S. prisons; and (3) advocating for U.S. policies and practices that will end the use of torture by other governments.

Between 2006 and 2009, NRCAT housed Evangelicals for Human Rights (EHR), a group of evangelicals engaged in ending U.S.-sponsored torture. Last year, EHR spun off from NRCAT to become the Torture Education Program of the New Evangelical Partnership for the Common Good (NEPCG). NEPCG is now seeking 501(c)(3) tax status. NEPCG will be dedicating much of its time and resources during the proposed grant period to advancing NRCAT's agenda, and the two organizations plan to maintain a close working relationship.

#### **Description of Program for Which Funding Is Sought:**

The National Religious Campaign Against Torture requests a 15 month renewal grant of \$210,000, \$150,000 of which will support NRCAT's efforts to seek accountability for the torture and mistreatment of terrorism suspects and bring a permanent end to U.S.-sponsored torture, close the Guantanamo detention center, and end the indefinite detention of terrorism suspects.<sup>14</sup> The remaining \$60,000 will be regranted by NRCAT to the New Evangelical Partnership for the Common Good's Torture Education Program to work on the same cluster of issues in close coordination with NRCAT.

During the proposed grant period, NRCAT and NEPCG will coordinate the religious community and partner with allies within the National Security and Human Rights Campaign in calling for the creation of an official commission of inquiry that has subpoena power and the authorization to review classified documents – or, in the alternative, the nonpartisan and independent Blue Ribbon Panel on Detainee Treatment that is being proposed by the Constitution Project – to conduct a comprehensive investigation into the U.S. role in the torture and mistreatment of terrorism suspects and to issue a report and recommendations on measures the U.S. can take to prevent such abuses from occurring in the future. NRCAT is engaged in dialogue with key policy makers in the White House, Justice Department, and Congress, on the importance of: establishing an official investigatory body on detainee treatment; releasing classified DOJ, CIA, and DOD records that document the mistreatment of detainees; and expanding the scope of ongoing criminal investigation into the use of torture by the CIA to include all persons who planned, ordered, or implemented the use of abusive techniques; and

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<sup>14</sup> NRCAT has submitted a bifurcated proposal budget. However, the New Evangelical Partnership for the Common Good has submitted a budget that attests that no OSI funds will be used for lobbying activities.

closing the Guantanamo Bay detention center in a manner that ends the indefinite detention of the center's detainees.

During the proposed grant period, NRCAT and NEPCG will also advocate for:

- The administrative removal of Appendix M of the Army Field Manual, which allows the use of prolonged isolation, sensory deprivation, and sleep deprivation as part of the interrogation of detainees;
- Access by the International Committee of the Red Cross to all detainees on a timely basis;
- Adding the CIA to the requirement, passed by Congress earlier this year in the Defense Authorization Bill for 2010, that DOD videotape all interrogations;
- Assuring that no person is transferred to another country if the person would be at substantial risk of being tortured; and
- Funding for domestic and international torture treatment centers to help torture survivors rebuild productive and meaningful lives.

Additionally, NRCAT and NEPCG will continue to recruit religious leaders to prepare op-eds and write letters to the editor urging a permanent end to torture and accountability for past abuses, and continue to build political momentum in the religious community at both the leadership and congregation levels for these goals. During Torture Awareness Month in June 2010, NRCAT will organize its third annual Banners Across America event, during which congregations from across the nation prominently display anti-torture banners outside of their houses of worship and incorporate prayers and sermons on torture developed by NRCAT.

Last November, NRCAT started the *300 in 30 Project*, which aims to enable 300 congregations in 30 states to commit to showing the recently produced NRCAT video, *Ending U.S.-Sponsored Torture Forever*. NRCAT has now developed study guides for the congregations of six faith groups to use this video—Evangelicals, Catholics, mainline Protestants, Muslims, Unitarian Universalists, and Jews. NRCAT is about to contract with a clergyperson to develop and publish a lectionary-based resource for Christian clergy to use during Advent 2010.

### **Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of restoring an absolute prohibition against torture; holding government officials and private actors accountable for past abuses and violations of the law; and supporting credible voices in the movement for a progressive national security policy.

While President Obama has taken important steps toward ending government-sponsored torture, much remains to be done, including within the religious community. An April 2009 survey by the Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion and Public Life shows that far too many people of faith believe that torture should be used if it helps make America

more secure. Support for torture exceeded the national average of 49% in two religious groups: white evangelical Protestants (62%) and white non-Hispanic Catholics (51%).

NRCAT and NEPCG are determined to expose to the American public the full sweep of U.S.-sponsored torture of terrorism suspects, by whom the torture was authorized, and by whom and against whom the torture was carried out, and institute safeguards to ensure that the nation never again descends to the dark side. In partnership, these two organizations bring to the torture debate a formidable team of highly respected and persuasive religious spokespersons who can take the message that torture is morally wrong to key policy makers, the press, and religious communities, and the public at large. Included on this team are two charismatic and progressive evangelical leaders of NEPCG – OSI Fellow Rich Cizik, and Professor David Gushee of Mercer College. Gushee has agreed to the Constitution Project’s request to serve on a Blue Ribbon Panel for Detainee Treatment. He is about to release a book, *Religious Faith, Torture, and Our National Soul*, and will be touring the country to promote the message that torture is morally wrong.

In its four years of operation, NRCAT has made remarkable progress. It is media savvy, successful at forging effective alliances within the religious community, with human rights organizations, and with government officials, and a compelling moral voice against torture.<sup>15</sup> On February 19, 2009, one month after President Obama signed an Executive Order ending torture, Reverend Rich Killmer, NRCAT’s executive director, and other human rights advocates met with Greg Craig and White House Counsel staff to discuss the creation of an official commission of inquiry on torture. Then on June 11, 2009, with a rapid response grant from OSI, NRCAT led 350 people of faith and eight heads of faith groups in a rally in front of the White House to demand a commission of inquiry, at the end of which 33 religious leaders were invited inside the White House to present their request to White House staff. Since that time, NRCAT has broadened and deepened its relationships with the White House Chief of Staff’s Office, the White House Office of Public Engagement, and the Justice Department, and Congress to press the case for the release of DOJ and CIA memos documenting the use of torture, the criminal prosecution of those responsible for torture, and the creation of an official commission of inquiry on torture.

For the above reasons, OSI staff recommends a grant of \$210,000 over 15 months to support the National Religious Campaign Against Torture, which will regrant \$60,000 of the funds to the New Evangelical Partnership for the Common Good.

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<sup>15</sup> In 2009, 287 media stories covered NRCAT’s activities in sources ranging from large national outlets like *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *The Associated Press*, to local outlets like *The Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal*.