

MEDIA ADVISORY

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CHRGJ Welcomes Executive Order Closing CIA Prisons

Citing Omissions, Group Calls for Action in Open Letter to President Obama

(New York, 26 January 2009)—The Center for Human Rights and Global Justice (CHRGJ) at NYU School of Law—along with several other leading human rights groups (Cageprisoners, the Center for Constitutional Rights, and Reprieve)—has written an open letter to President Obama responding to his Executive Order of January 22, 2009 on CIA detention and interrogation. The letter congratulates President Obama for taking important first steps toward ending secret CIA prisons. However, the letter underscores key human rights concerns about the Executive Order, which leaves open the possibility for use of proxy detention, and remains silent on remedies for the victims of the CIA’s disappearance and torture program.

To read the letter, please [click here](#) or see the attached. CHRGJ experts are available for comment and interview. To contact them, please see the information listed above.

For more information about our work, please visit the CHRGJ’s website at: www.chrgj.org

About the CHRGJ

The Center for Human Rights and Global Justice was established in 2002 to stimulate cutting edge scholarship and to make original and constructive contributions to on-going policy debates in the field of human rights. Since its inception, the Center has played a critical role in identifying, denouncing, and fighting human rights abuses in the U.S. “War on Terror.”

Philip Alston is the Center’s Faculty Chair; Smita Narula and Margaret Satterthwaite are its Faculty Directors; Jayne Huckerby is Research Director; and Veerle Opgenhaffen is Program Director.

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