

From the desk of Virginia Sloan

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Dear Friend,

As part of our preparations for the incoming administration and Congress, I am pleased to announce a new report coordinated by the Constitution Project. "[Liberty and Security: Recommendations for the Next Administration and Congress](#)" is the result of a collaborative effort by leaders and experts from all aspects of the liberty and security community to identify key issues and gather policy advice into one comprehensive set of recommendations. We have spent months preparing our new report, and I am pleased to share it with you in this special edition of our newsletter.

More than 25 organizations and 75 individuals worked to identify 62 items for congressional action and 118 items for executive action. The report's 20 chapters cover five broad issue areas: (1) detention, interrogation, and trials, (2) immigration and national security, (3) secrecy, surveillance, and privacy, (4) separation of powers, and (5) charities and foundations.

This report joins our other major transition effort, the production of "Smart on Crime: Recommendations for the Next Administration and Congress," which we released two weeks ago. Both reports can be found at <http://2009transition.org>.

"Liberty and Security" contains the following chapters:

Charities and Foundations

- Chapter 1: Eliminate Unnecessary Barriers To Legitimate Charitable Work

Detention, Interrogation, and Trials

- Chapter 2: Closing Guantanamo
- Chapter 3: End Illegal Detention, Torture, and Rendition
- Chapter 4: Prosecute Terrorist Suspects in Accordance with the Law

Immigration and National Security

- Chapter 5: Failing to Protect Refugees and Asylum Seekers: Overly Broad Definition of Material support for Terrorism.
- Chapter 6: Ending Immigration Enforcement Based on National Origin, Ethnicity, and Religion
- Chapter 7: Misuse of Immigration Detention Laws in Counterterrorism Efforts

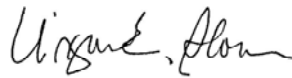
Secrecy, Surveillance, and Privacy

- Chapter 8: Revising Attorney General Guidelines on FBI Investigations |
- Chapter 9: Updating the Law Governing the Privacy of Electronic Communications
- Chapter 10: Fusion Centers and the Expansion of Domestic Intelligence
- Chapter 11: Promoting Government Transparency
- Chapter 12: National Security Letters and Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT Act
- Chapter 13: Reform of the National Security Surveillance Laws and Procedures
- Chapter 14: Preventing Over-Classification and Retroactive Classification and Promoting Declassification of Government Documents
- Chapter 15: Reforming the State Secrets Privilege
- Chapter 16: Reforming Watch Lists

Separation of Powers

- Chapter 17: Assertion of Executive Authority in National Security Matters
- Chapter 18: Executive Privilege and Congressional Oversight
- Chapter 19: Signing Statements
- Chapter 20: War Powers Authority

Sincerely,



Virginia E. Sloan