

## **Letter of Commendation**

October 15, 2009

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We, the undersigned, commend you for your uncommon courage in defending the rule of law and standing up against torture.

We've been horrified by photos and torture accounts from Abu-Ghraib, Guantanamo, and other prisons. We've read about the torture that some Administration and defense officials condoned and ordered carried out. But we've also learned that you are among the few brave military and civilian officials who stood up for the rule of law and worked to stop the misguided policies and practices.

We echo the sentiments of U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, who recently said, "In our current struggle against international terrorism, when others surrendered faithful obedience to the law to the circumstances of the time, it was the brave men and women in the JAG Corps who stood up against the tides, many times risking their careers to do so. We all can learn from their example."

We are heartened to know that in one of America's darkest chapters, there were people like you defending the ideals and principles upon which our great nation was built.

We thank you for your integrity and bravery, your convictions and your principles.

Signed,

President James Carter

The Honorable Bob Barr

Brigadier General Stephen A. Cheney, USMC (Ret.)

Lt. Gen. Robert G. Gard, Jr., US Army (Ret.)

Brigadier General John H Johns, US Army (Ret.)

The Honorable Lee H. Hamilton

Lawrence J. Korb

The Honorable William J. Perry

Paul R. Pillar

Colonel Lawrence B. Wilkerson, US Army (Ret.)

Brigadier General Stephen N. Xenakis MD, US Army (Ret.)

And the more than 15,000 people who have signed on in support of this letter: a complete list of signatures can be viewed at: [commoncause.org/signers](http://commoncause.org/signers)