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Center for Terrorism Law: Monthly Activity Report, 2009-03

St. Mary's University School of Law Center for Terrorism Law

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Center for Terrorism Law

Monthly Activity Report

March 2009

1. The Center for Terrorism Law is conducting a national symposium to be held 30 April – 1 May 2009 in Houston, Texas, to provide information on how to develop appropriate security methods and procedures to mitigate a business' potential legal liability in the event of acts of terrorism or crime. The symposium is entitled: ***Terrorism, Crime & Business: Understanding the Fundamental Legal and Security Liability Issues for American Business.*** See www.stmarytx.edu/ctl for additional details. Seating is limited to 195, but room is still available. The three keynote speakers are United States Congressman Mike McCaul, 10th District, Texas; Wade M. Battles, Interim Executive Director, Port of Houston; and distinguished attorney Martin D. Beirne. The topics covered include:

- An overview of the aims and objectives of the global terror threat posed by al-Qaeda-styled terror groups, sub-state terror groups, and “lone wolf” terrorists.
- An analysis of the specific threats to American business sectors that are deemed part of the nation’s “critical infrastructure,” i.e. energy, petro-chemical, electric utilities, communication, transportation, health, etc.
- An understanding of the varied legal issues associated with terrorism and criminal negligence claims against businesses that have suffered a terror attack or serious criminal act in cyberspace or the physical world.
- A comprehensive review of how to develop appropriate security methods and procedures to mitigate business' potential legal liability.

2. The fifth annual ***Terrorism Seminar 2009: Preparing Law Enforcement for Threats to National Security*** was held at St. Mary's University School of Law from 9-12 March 2009. Over 200 law enforcement and military personnel from across the United States attended this year's conference.

3. The Center for Terrorism Law continues to coordinate with the American Embassy Kuwait regarding the development of a university level (for academic credit) course at the American University Kuwait on legal and policy matters related to terrorism. The tentative date for the Kuwait based event is early 2009. Dr. Rawda Awwad, a professor at the American University of Kuwait, visited the

Center for Terrorism Law on 12-13 December 2008 and met with Center for Terrorism Law research fellows and the Director to develop materials on the legal issues for the course.

4. The Center for Terrorism Law submitted an Amicus Curiae brief to the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of *Iraq v. Simon, et al.* The case regards issues associated with the torture of American military personnel in the 1991 Gulf War. Center for Terrorism Law research fellows who worked on the brief were Miguel Dilley (team leader), Keith McMahon, Kris Rivenburgh, and Byron Miller.

5. The law review article entitled: *The Political Question Doctrine and Civil Liability for Contracting Companies on the "Battlefield,"* by Professor Addicott was published in March 2009 at 28 of *The Review of Litigation* 343 (2008).

6. The Center for Terrorism Law continues to coordinate cyber training initiatives with the Center for Infrastructure Assurance and Security (CIAS) at the University of Texas San Antonio.

7. Visiting Professor of Law, University of Texas School of Law, Robert M. Chesney will deliver the Center for Terrorism Law's 2009 Distinguished Speaker address on 23 April 2009 at St. Mary's University School of Law. Professor Chesney will speak on the use of federal courts to prosecute Islamic terrorists from GITMO.

8. The Center for Terrorism Law is working on an affidavit in a civil action regarding the 2000 torture of two Israeli soldiers by Palestinian police.

9. The Center for Terrorism Law is working on an affidavit in an administrative case involving the application of the Geneva Conventions to interrogation of suspected Taliban enemy combatants.

10. The Center for Terrorism Law has launched a new and improved website: www.stmarytx.edu/ctl.

11. Professor Addicott conducted the following media events and public speeches for the month of March:

Media:

1. 31 March 2009, **KTSA AM 550**, San Antonio, TX radio interview (topic: *Terrorism as a Component of Criminal Behavior – the Case of Three Murders at Wilford Hall Medical Hospital*).
2. 30 March 2009, **KTRH AM 740**, Houston, TX radio interview (topic: *Secretary of State, Clinton’s Visit to Mexico*).
3. 29 March 2009, **United Press International**, online article (topic: *Ex-nurse Charged in Slayings Still at Work*). The article can be read in its entirety at: http://www.upi.com/Top_News/2009/03/29/Ex-nurse_charged_in_slayings_still_at_work/UPI-13031238360985/.
4. 29 March 2009, **San Antonio, Express-News**, San Antonio, TX newspaper article (topic: *Nurse’s Job at Wilford Hall Decried*). The article can be read in its entirety at: http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local_news/Nurses_job_at_Wilford_Hall_decried.html.
5. 24 March 2009, **WOAI AM 1200**, San Antonio, TX radio interview (topic: *The Emerging Threat of Cyber Terrorism*).
6. 23 March 2009, **WGST AM 640**, Atlanta, GA radio interview (topic: *The Extreme Hazard of Employing a Pre-9/11 Mindset to GITMO Detainee Issues*).
7. 20 March 2009, **KLIF AM 570**, Dallas, TX radio interview (topic: *Assessing the Progress in Iraq on the Sixth Anniversary of the War*).
8. 20 March 2009, **KPAY AM 1290**, Chico, CA radio interview (topic: *Countering Propaganda War Waged Against America’s GITMO Detention Operations*).
9. 20 March 2009, **KVI AM 570**, Seattle, WA radio interview (topic: *Understanding the Reality of the Threat Posed by GITMO Detainees*).
10. 20 March 2009, **WHAS AM 84**, Louisville, KY radio interview (topic: *Radical Islamic Militants at GITMO – What to Do with Them*).
11. 20 March 2009, **KOGO AM 600**, San Diego, CA radio interview (topic: *Refuting the Contention that the Majority of Detainee’s at GITMO are “Innocent”*).
12. 20 March 2009, **WTKS AM 1290**, Savannah, GA radio interview (topic: *Refusing to Call Radical Islamic Terrorists “Enemy Combatants”*).
13. 20 March 2009, **KFAB AM 1110**, Omaha, NE radio interview (topic: *Detention Policy and Conditions at GITMO for Radical Islamic Terrorists*).
14. 19 March 2009, **KTRH AM 740**, Houston, TX radio interview (topic: *War on Terror and Iraq*).

15. 18 March 2009, **KTRH AM 740**, Houston, TX radio interview (topic: *Anniversary of Iraq War*).
16. 13 March 2009, **WOAI AM 1200**, San Antonio, TX radio interview (topic: *Texas Governor's Call for Federal Assistance for Patrolling the Texas Border*).
17. 13 March 2009, **KTRH AM 740**, Houston, TX radio interview (topic: *Use of US Troops on the Border to Combat Drug Violence*).
18. 13 March 2009, **San Antonio, Express-News**, San Antonio, TX newspaper article (topic: *SISD Axes Trustee's Bid for Re-election*). The article can be read in its entirety at:
http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/education/SISD_axes_trustees_bid_for_re-election.html.
19. 9 March 2009, **KLIF AM 570**, Dallas, TX radio interview (topic: *Obama Administration Policy Towards Iran and the Taliban*).
20. 8 March 2009, **KENS 5 Newsmaker -CBS**, San Antonio, TX TV interview (topic: *Latest Developments in the War on Terror and the Center for Terrorism Law's Upcoming Houston-based Symposium*).
21. 4 March 2009, **KTRH AM 740**, Houston, TX radio interview (topic: *Learning to Live with Militant Islam?*).

Speeches:

1. 31 March 2009, Addicott spoke on ***Evolving Legal Issues in the War on Terror*** at the Alamo Heights Rotary Club, **San Antonio, TX**.
2. 27 March 2009, Addicott spoke on ***Business, Crime & Terrorism*** at the St. Mary's University School of Law Homecoming Continuing Legal Education Program, **San Antonio, TX**.
3. 17 March 2009, Addicott spoke on ***Lincoln and Union War Crimes*** at the Hood Texas Brigade Camp, Sons of Confederate Veterans, **San Antonio, TX**.
4. 16 March 2009, Addicott spoke on ***Obama Administration's Approach to the War on Terror*** at the North Central Rotary Club, **San Antonio, TX**.
5. 11 March 2009, Addicott spoke on ***Premises Liability and Terrorism*** at the National Petrochemical & Refiners Association conference, **Houston, TX**.
6. 10 March 2009, Addicott spoke on ***Terrorism Law and Interrogation Issues*** at the 5th Annual Center for Terrorism Law conference entitled:

- “Preparing Law Enforcement for Threats to National Security,” **San Antonio, TX.**
7. 9 March 2009, Addicott provided opening remarks and instruction on *Militant Islam* at the 5th Annual Center for Terrorism Law conference entitled: “Preparing Law Enforcement for Threats to National Security,” **San Antonio, TX.**

Jeffrey F. Addicott
Distinguished Professor of Law &
Director, Center for Terrorism Law