



September 11<sup>th</sup> Families for Peaceful Tomorrows  
www.peacefultomorrows.org

*"Wars are poor chisels for carving out peaceful tomorrows"* - Dr. Martin Luther King

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**Family Members of 9/11 Victims Express Profound Disappointment in Response to Resumption of Military Commission on Guantanamo**

**\*\*\*Family Members Available for Comment\*\*\***

New York, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011 -In response to the Obama administration's lifting of the stay on filing new charges in military tribunals for Guantanamo detainees and establishing a process for continuing to hold detainees who have not been charged, convicted or designated for transfer but are still deemed a threat to national security, September 11<sup>th</sup> Families for Peaceful Tomorrows released the following statement:

*We are profoundly disappointed that the Obama administration has chosen to resume military commissions on Guantanamo to try individuals accused of terrorism. As families of those who were murdered on that day, we consider this a step backwards. For nearly nine years we have waited for those who committed these savage criminal acts to be brought to justice. Justice, to us, means fair and impartial proceedings according to the well tested rules of our federal court system. Military commissions are untested and have been embroiled in a series of legal challenges that make it likely that justice will not come quickly to us and our families.*

*We appreciate the obstacles the President faces as a result of the Congressional vote to prevent Guantanamo prisoners from being transferred to US soil but we believe President Obama has missed an opportunity for bold action by continuing to uphold the shameful legacy of his predecessor. The legacy of Guantanamo and military commissions are no longer an inheritance.*

Members of September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows, a national organization of more than 200 relatives of victims of the 9/11 attacks, have been outspoken supporters of holding civilian trials for Guantanamo detainees, including alleged 9/11 master mind Khalid Sheik Mohammed. Last year the group made a public appeal to President Obama in a video letter calling for civilian trials. Please see the video here: <http://vimeo.com/10559231> The group has also met with several members of Congress and reinforced their support for Eric Holder's pursuit of civilian trials in a letter to him.

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