



Dear Friend,

I want to take this opportunity to share with you some of the work that I've been doing recently in the U.S. Congress.

Demanding Accountability on Torture

Recently, President Obama released the torture memos written by Justice Department officials under the Bush administration -- memos I had long requested be made public. These appalling memos, which detail the harsh interrogation techniques approved by the Bush administration, document, beyond a shadow of a doubt, explicit instructions to carry out torture on detainees in U.S. custody. The release of these memos, along with the admission by Vice President Cheney that he authorized waterboarding and the defining of waterboarding as torture by current Attorney General Holder, are crucial first steps toward addressing the egregious harm caused by years of abuse of power by the Bush White House. Now, bound by American law and an international treaty barring torture, we must investigate and, if necessary, prosecute those responsible.

This is why I, along with my colleagues on the House Judiciary Committee, have officially requested that the Attorney General appoint a Special Counsel to investigate and, where appropriate, to prosecute torture committed against detainees during the previous administration. This investigation should not be a witch-hunt to punish those rank-and-file CIA operatives who acted in good faith on Justice Department instructions. It should be a truly independent investigation that holds accountable those who broke the laws of the United States by engaging in heinous acts of torture.

I believe that having such an investigation is essential to

Do you agree that allegations of torture should be investigated?

Yes

No

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prevent such crimes from being committed in the future and to reaffirm that nobody is above the law.

Defending the Victims of the 9/11 Attacks



Witnesses representing the City of New York, sick first responders and community members, and contractors are sworn in by Congressman Nadler during a hearing on the *9/11 Health and Compensation Act*.

New Yorkers know that the fallout from the terrible attacks of September 11, 2001, did not end after weeks or months, but continues to this very day. Years after the attacks on the World Trade Center, tens of thousands of first responders, residents, area workers, students, and others continue to suffer terrible health problems caused by exposure to toxins after the collapse of the Twin Towers.

In order to address this issue I, along with New York Reps. Maloney, King, and McMahan, have introduced the *9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2009*. The bill would provide much needed medical treatment and compensation to those who became ill as a result of exposure to 9/11-related contaminants. As this public health crisis has only become more acute in the nearly eight years since 9/11, I am glad to report that the bill has recently gained important momentum.

In April, Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren and I held a joint hearing on the bill in the House Judiciary Committee, and I later testified before a House Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee hearing on the issue. In all of these instances I have made clear to Congressional leaders that

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this bill requires our immediate action.

When we as a nation confront a national crisis, we must provide a strong and sustained national response. The *9/11 Health and Compensation Act* ensures that no victim of 9/11 is forgotten and its passage into law must be a national priority.

Critical Funding for New York



Congressman Nadler with jazz great Wynton Marsalis, artistic director for Jazz at Lincoln Center. The Center will receive critical federal funds for its educational and community programs.

In addition to recently securing funds for various projects at Jazz at Lincoln Center, the New School, and the American Museum of Natural History, these are some of the projects throughout the city for which I have recently helped obtain federal funding:

- \$91 million for immediate use in upgrading federal buildings throughout the city into greener, more energy efficient buildings. This money also provides for a complete overhaul, renovation, and greening of the Thurgood Marshall Courthouse near City Hall.

- \$70 million for federal 9/11 health programs (\$182 million total), fully funding the World Trade Center Centers of Excellence.

- \$34.2 million to protect and improve New York City landmarks, including \$5.6 million for improving Governor's Island and modernizing Castle Williams.

- \$4.49 million for improvements to Riverside Park South.

All of these funds will both invest in projects worthy of our great city and provide stimulative spending for our local economy. Together with President Obama's *American Reinvestment and Recovery Act*, New York will receive over \$24 billion in direct stimulus spending, including \$3.9 billion for infrastructure and energy, \$10 billion in Medicaid relief, and over \$2 billion for improvements in education. I believe these measures will be critical to our economic recovery while also making a down payment on a stronger, more vibrant New York.

Sincerely,



Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress

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