



For Immediate Release
December 9, 2014

Contact: Lisa Cohen, 310-395-2544
lisa@lisacohen.org

Torture Report Summary Critical Step Forward for Justice

The Center for Justice and Accountability (CJA) today praised Senator Dianne Feinstein's (D-Calif.) leadership on the Senate Intelligence Committee for publishing a powerful executive summary of its findings based on a 6,000-page report on CIA interrogation and detention practices after 9/11.

CJA's Executive Director, Dixon Osburn, said, "Justice requires truth and transparency. The publication of the Senate Intelligence Committee's report executive summary will give Americans a better understanding of the extent to which the CIA engaged in torture, and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment in violation of U.S. and international law. The Committee should release the entire report so that no doubts remain, and so that there can be a public and thorough consideration of next steps."

CJA represents more than 200 clients worldwide who have faced torture, genocide, and other severe human rights abuses from the atrocities committed by the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia to the crimes against humanity committed under the Pinochet regime in Chile. CJA is committed to advancing the rights of survivors to seek truth, justice and redress.

Osburn said, "Government-sanctioned mass violence can profoundly affect the politics and the people of a nation in unexpected ways. The Senate Intelligence Committee's executive summary confirms that CIA abuses, including torture, were far more widespread than previously known, including water-boarding, a technique of controlled suffocation that was used extensively by the Spanish Inquisition, the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia, and more recently by Somali soldiers under the command of General Mohamed Ali Samantar, who was forced to admit responsibility for this and other international crimes in CJA's case against him in U.S. federal court. The executive summary published today will help Americans confront the reality of the torture committed in their name. It should never be repeated again."

About the Center for Justice and Accountability

CJA is a San Francisco-based human rights organization dedicated to deterring torture and other severe human rights abuses around the world and advancing the rights of survivors to seek truth, justice and redress. CJA uses litigation to hold perpetrators individually accountable for human rights abuses, develop human rights law, and advance the rule of law in countries transitioning from periods of abuse. www.cja.org

##