

Investigation and Prosecution of War Crimes and Violations of Civil Rights

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4 **WHEREAS** there is documented evidence of war crimes, such as torture, and of
5 systematic violations of our citizen's Constitutional Rights and Liberties, such as
6 unauthorized wire-tapping and denial of Habeas Corpus, by the George W. Bush
7 Administration; and

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9 **WHEREAS** in January 2009 the presiding Justice responsible for deciding whether
10 Guantánamo detainees should be prosecuted declared that a detainee highly suspected
11 to be a dangerous terrorist could not be prosecuted because "We tortured him"; and
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13 **WHEREAS** since the Magna Carta, it has been a basic tenant of the Anglo-American
14 system of justice that no one is above the law including the King; and
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16 **WHEREAS** all officials and officers of the United States and its subdivisions take an
17 oath to uphold the Constitution and Laws of the United States and so have an
18 obligation to uphold and enforce them; and
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20 **WHEREAS** under the United States Constitution, ratified treaties have the effect of law;
21 and
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23 **WHEREAS** victims of the war crimes and civil-rights violations by the George W. Bush
24 Administration deserve justice under the United States system of laws; and
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26 **WHEREAS** should these war crimes and civil-rights violations go unpunished, a
27 precedent would be set for future administrations to act without consequences in a
28 similarly reprehensible manner; and
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30 **WHEREAS** the moral authority of the United States has suffered immeasurably from
31 the war crimes and civil-rights violations of the George W. Bush Administration; and
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33 **WHEREAS** the United States has actively prosecuted, in cooperation with other
34 nations, the citizens of other nations for war crimes and civil-rights violations similar to
35 those committed by the George W. Bush Administration; and
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37 **WHEREAS** should the United States not prosecute the war crimes and civil-rights
38 violations committed by individuals and offices of the George W. Bush Administration,
39 it would be the obligation of the signatories of war crime treaties to prosecute them and
40 thereby further reduce our nation's moral authority;
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42 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we, the Washington State Democratic Central
43 Committee call on all US Attorneys, US and States' Attorneys General, State Prosecutors
44 and other prosecutors of competent authority to seek and investigate all occurrences of
45 war crimes and civil rights violations committed by individuals in, and offices of, the
46 George W. Bush Administration and then to prosecute to the fullest extent of the law all
47 those found with sufficient evidence to obtain an indictment; and

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49 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we, the Washington State Democratic
50 Central Committee, call on each of our Congressional Representatives and Senators to
51 actively seek, and persistently pursue, all Congressional hearings and all investigations
52 and prosecutions necessary to reveal and bring to justice all occurrences of war crimes
53 and civil rights violations committed by individuals in, and offices of, the George W.
54 Bush Administration.

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57 Submitted by the 18th LD Democrats to the Washington State Democratic Central
58 Committee for consideration at its April 25, 2009 meeting in Tacoma. (Date Submitted
59 4/8/2009)

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61 The WSDCC Resolutions Committee "RECOMMENDED A PASS" on this resolution at
62 its April 24, 2009 meeting in Tacoma.

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64 The WSDCC "PASSED" this resolution at its April 25, 2009 meeting in Tacoma.