

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GO BEHIND THE CLOSED DOORS OF THE 9/11 COMMISSION AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER *With 9/11 Commission Co-Chairs Tom Kean and Lee Hamilton*

Philadelphia, PA (August 9, 2006) – Join the two chairmen of the 9/11 Commission, **Tom Kean** and **Lee Hamilton**, in a discussion with the *New Yorker's* **Lawrence Wright** in *Go Behind the Closed Doors of the 9/11 Commission* on Friday, September 8, 2006 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the National Constitution Center. With Wright moderating, Kean and Hamilton will tell the compelling story of the al-Qaeda attacks against America and the politically charged, historically significant bipartisan commission that investigated the events of September 11th. Admission is free, but advance reservations are required and can be made by calling 215.409.6700. This program coincides with the opening of the Center's newest exhibit, *9/11: A Nation Remembers*.

Kean and Hamilton co-wrote the new book *Without Precedent: The Inside Story of the 9/11 Commission*. Lawrence Wright is the author of the new book *The Looming Tower: Al-Qaeda and the Road to 9/11*, a sweeping narrative history of the events leading to September 11th.

Prior to the program with Kean and Hamilton, Wright will be available to talk about *The Looming Tower* at 5:30 p.m. *The Looming Tower* follows the interweaving lives of four men: two al-Qaeda operatives, the FBI's counterterrorism chief, and the former head of Saudi intelligence. *The New York Times* called Wright's book "remarkable." Admission to this event is free, but advance reservations are required for both programs.

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ADD ONE/9.11 COMMISSION

Thomas H. Kean served as chair of the 9/11 Commission and previously as governor of the State of New Jersey from 1982 to 1990. He was president of Drew University from 1990 to 2005.

Lee H. Hamilton was vice-chair of the 9/11 Commission. He is president and director of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. From 1965 to 1999, Hamilton represented Indiana's Ninth District in Congress. He also served as chair of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and chair of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

Lawrence Wright will moderate this very special event. Wright is a staff writer for *The New Yorker* and a fellow at the Center on Law and Security at New York University School of Law. He has written five other works of nonfiction and one novel. He was also a co-writer of the screenplay for *The Siege*.

There will be a book sale and signing for both *Without Precedent* and *The Looming Tower* following the event, courtesy of the Joseph Fox Bookshop.

This National Constitution Center event is being held on the opening of a special exhibit marking the fifth anniversary of September 11, 2001, *9/11: A Nation Remembers*.

From September 8, 2006 through January 1, 2007 the National Constitution Center proudly presents ***9/11: A Nation Remembers***, an original photography exhibition documenting how the American people responded to and remember the events of September 11th. This exhibition of 100 photographs by Jonathan Hyman inspires conversations about community, national identity, and how ordinary Americans have commemorated the day.

Admission to *9/11: A Nation Remembers* is free with regular museum admission of \$9 for adults and \$7 for seniors ages 62 and up, children ages 4-12, and active military personnel. Children ages 3 and under are free. Group rates are also available.

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ADD TWO/9.11 COMMISSION

CBS 3 is the official media partner for the exhibition. CBS 3 (KYW-TV) is part of the CBS Television Stations division, one of the largest network-owned station groups. Philadelphia's first television station, CBS 3 has been providing news, information and entertainment to local viewers since 1932. The station is the home of the prestigious Eyewitness News brand, now synonymous with news coverage nationwide.

9/11: A Nation Remembers is proudly supported by the City of Philadelphia Police and Fire Departments.

The National Constitution Center, located at 525 Arch St. on Philadelphia's Independence Mall, is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing public understanding of the U.S. Constitution and the ideas and values it represents. Opened on July 4, 2003, the Constitution Center is a museum, an education center, and a forum for debate on constitutional issues. The museum dramatically tells the story of the Constitution from Revolutionary times to the present through more than 100 interactive, multimedia exhibits, film, photographs, text, sculpture and artifacts, and features a powerful, award-winning theatrical performance, "Freedom Rising". The Center also houses the Annenberg Center for Education and Outreach, which serves as the hub for national constitutional education and debates, and is a partner of NPR's "Justice Talking," a program of the Annenberg Public Policy Center. Also, serving as a nonpartisan forum for constitutional discourse, the Center presents – without endorsement – programs that contain diverse viewpoints on a broad range of issues. For more information, call 215.409.6700 or visit www.constitutioncenter.org.

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