

# NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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## **OUR COMMON DEFENSE: STORIES OF MODERN WAR MILITARY WRITERS SPEAK AT NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER**

Philadelphia, PA (December 13, 2004) – Prominent military writers W.E.B. Griffin and Mark Bowden, known respectively for their best-selling fiction and non-fiction novels, will lead a discussion at the National Constitution Center's Kirby Auditorium on Monday, January 10 at 6:30 p.m. The program, moderated by Constitution Center President and CEO Richard Stengel, will focus on combat in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

W.E.B. Griffin is the author of 35 bestselling novels including his newest, *By Order of the President*. Mr. Griffin, a native Philadelphian whose birth name is William Butterworth, III, sets his latest book in Somalia, but its plot centers on thwarting a terrorist attack planned for the city of Philadelphia.

Mark Bowden, formerly a reporter for *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, is the author of *Black Hawk Down* and a new collection of articles called *Road Work*. Mr. Bowden's *Black Hawk Down*, which focused on street combat in Somalia, was made into a major motion picture and was on *The New York Times* best seller list for 14 weeks.

Tickets are free for Members, \$8 for non-members and \$5 for students and seniors. Seating is limited and reservations are required. For tickets and information, please call 215.409.6700 or email [adultprograms@constitutioncenter.org](mailto:adultprograms@constitutioncenter.org).

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 its relevance to Americans' daily lives. Opened on July 4, 2003, 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". Also, serving as a nonpartisan forum for constitutional debate, the Center presents – without endorsement – programs that contains diverse viewpoints on a broad range of issues. For more information, call 215.409.6600 or visit [www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org).

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