

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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BUSH ADMINISTRATION INSIDERS DISCUSS DETAILS OF 9/11 ATTACKS DURING THE PETER JENNINGS PROJECT FOR JOURNALISTS AND THE CONSTITUTION

***Panelists include the only reporter allowed on Air Force One during the attacks;
Bush's Chief of Staff, who informed him of the attacks; and Bush's Press
Secretary, who briefed the country on his whereabouts***

Philadelphia, PA (February 5, 2009) – As part of the National Constitution Center's **Peter Jennings Project for Journalists and the Constitution**, high-ranking members of the Bush Administration will discuss what went on behind closed doors in the White House Situation Room, at the Pentagon, and on Air Force One on the day of the 9/11 attacks and its immediate aftermath. *Behind the Scenes: The Executive Response to 9/11* will take place on Saturday, February 28 at 5:30 p.m. Admission is \$9 for members, \$15 for non-members, and \$7 for students and teachers. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 215.409.6700.

Panelists include:

- **Ann Compton**, ABC News White House Correspondent and the only reporter allowed to remain on Air Force One during the 9/11 attacks. Compton was the first woman assigned to cover the White House by a television network and has covered seven presidential campaigns.
- **Andrew Card**, White House Chief of Staff, 2000 – 2006. On September 11, 2001, it was Card who whispered in the President's ear during an education event at Emma E. Booker Elementary School in Sarasota, Florida, that terrorists had attacked the United States.

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ADD ONE/EXECUTIVE RESPONSE TO 9.11

- **Douglas Feith**, Under Secretary of Defense for Policy for United States, 2001 – 2005. Feith helped devise the U.S. government's strategy for the war on terrorism and contributed to policy making for the Afghanistan and Iraq campaigns.
- **Timothy E. Flanigan**, Deputy White House Counsel, 2000 – 2002. Flanigan is an attorney at the heart of the question of authority, including the authority to shoot down a commercial airliner. On September 11, 2001, Flanigan was connected by secure video to the President's legal team inside the White House Situation Room.
- **Ari Fleischer**, Press Secretary, 2001 – 2003. Fleischer was by the President's side at the moment of the attacks and was the first to brief the country on his movements.

The theme of the 2009 Peter Jennings Project is "The Presidency," and it will run from February 27 through March 1, 2009. Named in honor of the late, award-winning news anchor and friend of the National Constitution Center, the Peter Jennings Project for Journalists and the Constitution allows professional journalists from print, broadcast, and online media organizations, as well as a select group of collegiate journalists from across the country, to examine the constitutional dimension in the news today and acquire a deeper understanding of the Constitution and its important role in the lives of all Americans. **Kayce Freed Jennings**, wife of Peter Jennings, serves on the board of the project and veteran journalist **Todd Brewster**, who worked closely with Jennings and co-authored two books with him, is the program director.

The Peter Jennings Project for Journalists and the Constitution is made possible through the generosity of The Annenberg Foundation.

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ADD TWO/EXECUTIVE RESPONSE TO 9.11

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. The Center serves as 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. Also, 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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