

National Day of Witness for a Presidential Order to Ban Torture

Public Witness

Wednesday, November 12

Across the country on November 12, delegations of religious people will be meeting with Members of Congress to urge them to work for the abolition of US-sponsored torture, without exceptions. This national effort is being organized by the **National Religious Campaign Against Torture** (www.nrcat.org).

Here in Connecticut **Reclaiming the Prophetic Voice** is organizing a meeting with staff from Senator Christopher Dodd's office. Our interfaith delegation includes two bishops, two rabbis, the President of the Islamic Society of North American and the dean of one seminary and the president of another. The delegation will:

Present Sen. Dodd's staff with a list of CT endorsers of the Declaration of Principles

Ask the Senator to endorse the *Declaration of Principles for an Executive Order* banning torture.

Ask the Senator to urge the President-elect to issue an Executive Order banning torture, as one of his first official actions, and

Ask him to support the creation of a Select Committee of Congress to investigate the use of torture since 9/11

SCHEDULE

- 10:30 a.m.** **Gathering at The Parish House of First Church of Christ (Center Church), Hartford, 60 Gold Street (corner of Gold and Lewis streets, cross from the NE corner of Bushnell Park). Followed by a procession to the Offices of Senator Christopher Dodd, 30 Lewis Street**
- 10:50 a.m.** **Interfaith Prayer Service and Commissioning of the Delegation of Religious Leaders**
- 11 a.m.** **Meeting of Religious Leaders with Senator Dodd's staff while others hold a public vigil outside the Senator's offices**
- 12 noon** **Press Conference in the courtyard outside of Senator Dodd's office, concluding by 12:30 p.m.**

This is a public witness and we invite people to attend to provide present and witness and to lend support to the delegation of religious leaders. You may want to arrive by 10:30 for the procession to Senator Dodd's office and the prayer service and then hold vigil outside while the meeting is happening inside. You may prefer to come in time for the noon time press conference. For that, plan to arrive between 11:30 and 11:45 a.m.

In addition please collect endorsers of the Declaration of Principles in your congregation. People can endorse it on line (www.nrcat.org) or you can provide them bulletin inserts or have them sign the petition form.

For more information, contact: John Humphries at jhumphries@nrcat.org or 860-216-7972