

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

Arkan Mohammed ALI, Thahe Mohammed  
SABBAR, Sherzad Kamal KHALID, Ali H.,  
Mehboob AHMAD, Said Nabi SIDDIQI,  
Mohammed Karim SHIRULLAH, and Haji  
ABDUL RAHMAN,

Plaintiffs,

v.

Donald H. RUMSFELD, Secretary of Defense  
of the United States of America,

Defendant.

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

**JURY DEMAND**

**COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF AND DAMAGES**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. Plaintiffs are individuals who were incarcerated in U.S. detention facilities in Iraq or Afghanistan where they were subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including severe and repeated beatings, cutting with knives, sexual humiliation and assault, confinement in a wooden box, forcible sleep and sensory deprivation, mock executions, death threats, and restraint in contorted and excruciating positions.

2. The Plaintiffs, Arkan Mohammed Ali, Thahe Mohammed Sabbar, Sherzad Kamal Khalid, Ali H., Mehboob Ahmad, Said Nabi Siddiqi, Mohammed Karim Shirullah, and Haji Abdul Rahman, are among the unknown number of U.S. detainees in Iraq and Afghanistan who have suffered torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.

3. Plaintiffs bring this action against Defendant Donald H. Rumsfeld, the U.S. Secretary of Defense, whose policies, patterns, practices, derelictions of duty and command

failures caused Plaintiffs' abuse. Defendant Rumsfeld bears the ultimate responsibility for the physical and psychological injuries that Plaintiffs have suffered.

4. Official government reports have documented, and military officials have acknowledged, many of the horrific abuses inflicted on detainees in U.S. custody. Such torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of detainees in U.S. custody violates the United States Constitution, U.S.-ratified treaties including the Geneva Conventions, military rules and guidelines, the law of nations, and our fundamental moral values as a nation.

5. For generations, U.S. civilian and military leaders have sought to ensure that U.S. soldiers complied with legal mandates prohibiting torture and abuse under all circumstances and at all times regardless of whether our enemies respect the same principles. U.S. Army Field Manual 34-52, which describes the legal standards governing interrogations by U.S. military personnel, unequivocally states that binding international treaties and U.S. policy "expressly prohibit acts of violence or intimidation, including physical or mental torture, threats, insults, or exposure to inhumane treatment as a means of or aid to interrogation. Such illegal acts are not authorized and will not be condoned by the U.S. Army." The Manual specifically defines "physical torture" to include "infliction of pain through chemicals or bondage," "forcing an individual to stand, sit or kneel in abnormal positions for prolonged periods of time," "food deprivation," and "any form of beating." The Manual, moreover, admonishes that "[r]evelation of use of torture by U.S. personnel will bring discredit upon the U.S. and its armed forces while undermining domestic and international support for the war effort. It also may place U.S. and allied personnel in enemy hands at a greater risk of abuse by their captors. Conversely, knowing the enemy has abused U.S. and allied [prisoners of war] does not justify using methods of interrogation specifically prohibited by [international law] and U.S. policy."

6. In stark contrast to these mandates and our traditions, the public record shows that detainees in U.S. custody in Iraq and Afghanistan were subjected to unlawful torture and abuse. Those abuses, which pervaded multiple U.S. detention centers in two separate countries, did not spring from the spontaneous acts of individual soldiers. As the report of former Defense Secretary James Schlesinger concluded, the abuses of detainees were “widespread,” and “were not just the failure of some individuals to follow known standards, and they are more than the failure of a few leaders to enforce proper discipline. There is both institutional and personal responsibility at higher levels.”

7. The abuses occurred on a “widespread” basis because of orders and derelictions by Defendant Rumsfeld. Most critically, Defendant Rumsfeld authorized an abandonment of our nation’s inviolable and deep-rooted prohibition against torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of detainees in U.S. military custody. These acts precipitated further violations of law and directly led to the abuse of Plaintiffs and other detainees in Afghanistan and Iraq. Among other consequences of Defendant Rumsfeld’s actions, high-ranking commanders permitted and implemented an unlawful policy, pattern or practice of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of detainees.

8. In addition, and independent of his orders, authorizations and actions causing subordinates to commit torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, Defendant Rumsfeld also violated his legal duty by failing to stop torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment when he learned of it. Despite many credible and reliable reports of torture from governmental and non-governmental sources beginning in January 2002 and continuing throughout 2003 and 2004, Defendant Rumsfeld failed to take reasonable, necessary, timely and meaningful measures to prohibit and prevent abuses and to punish perpetrators. In doing so,

Defendant Rumsfeld violated his obligations as a commander and acted with deliberate indifference and conscious disregard of the high risk of injuries inflicted on detainees and the violations of law committed by his subordinates. These actions and omissions caused the torture and abuses to continue and to spread. Plaintiffs, among many others, were injured as a proximate result of Defendant Rumsfeld's conduct.

9. Defendant Rumsfeld cannot defend or rationalize the torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of Plaintiffs and other detainees on the grounds that such techniques were deployed against carefully selected individuals who possessed critical intelligence information, or occurred only during the heat of battle, or were ordered under exigent circumstances. Most fundamentally, the prohibitions against torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment are absolute, non-discretionary and subject to no exception. They are designed not only to safeguard the security and dignity of every human being in times of armed conflict but also to ensure the humane treatment of U.S. soldiers when they are captured on the battlefield by enemy forces. Moreover and significantly, the International Committee of the Red Cross cited estimates by military intelligence that 70-90% of persons detained in Iraq had "been arrested by mistake." Similarly, the Army Inspector General estimated that 80% of detainees "might be eligible for release" if their cases had been properly reviewed, and an internal military report cited estimates from the field that 85-90% of detainees at Abu Ghraib "were of no intelligence value." Finally and critically, the unlawful orders, policies and practices did not issue under exigent circumstances or on the battlefield. Rather, the abuses had their genesis in and were continually reinforced by policies, patterns or practices deliberately formulated and adopted in the United States over long periods of time, were inflicted

in numerous places over lengthy periods, and injured an unknown number of innocent civilian detainees, including Plaintiffs, who posed no threat to U.S. forces.

10. Defendant Rumsfeld has not been held accountable for his acts, omissions and failures of command. To this day, Plaintiff victims of Defendant Rumsfeld's policies, practices, patterns and actions have received no redress for their injuries. Accordingly, Plaintiffs seek a declaration that determines the responsibility of Defendant Rumsfeld for the violations of law that caused Plaintiffs' injuries and seek monetary compensation for the injuries the Plaintiffs suffered.

### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

11. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 (federal question jurisdiction), 28 U.S.C. § 1350 (the Alien Tort Statute), and directly under the Constitution.

12. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1)-(2) and (e).

### **PARTIES**

#### **A. Plaintiffs**

13. The Plaintiffs in this action are all former detainees of U.S. military forces in either Afghanistan or Iraq. Each of the Plaintiffs was tortured and/or subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment while in U.S. military custody. Each of the Plaintiffs was eventually released from U.S. custody without ever being prosecuted for any wrongdoing, and without ever receiving any redress for the injuries he suffered as a result of torture and other mistreatment.

14. Plaintiff Arkan Mohammed Ali (hereinafter "Arkan M. Ali"), age 26, is a citizen of Iraq who was detained by the U.S. military at various locations in Iraq for almost one year, from July 2003 to June 2004. The U.S. military assigned to Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali detainee number 115319. During his detention by the U.S. military, Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali was subjected

to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, including but not limited to severe beatings to the point of unconsciousness, stabbing and mutilation, isolation while naked and hooded in a wooden coffin-like box, prolonged sleep deprivation enforced by beatings, deprivation of adequate food and water, mock execution and death threats. During relevant time periods, Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali was under the control and authority of Defendant Rumsfeld and his subordinates.

15. Plaintiff Thahe Mohammed Sabbar, age 36, is a citizen of Iraq who was detained by the U.S. military for approximately six months from July 2003 to January 2004 at various locations in Iraq. The U.S. military assigned to Plaintiff Sabbar detainee numbers 12538 and 116676. During his detention by the U.S. military, Plaintiff Sabbar was subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, including but not limited to severe beatings, sexual assault and humiliation, deprivation of adequate food and water, intentional prolonged exposure to dangerously high temperatures, mock execution and death threats. During relevant time periods, Plaintiff Sabbar was under the control and authority of Defendant Rumsfeld and his subordinates.

16. Plaintiff Sherzad Kamal Khalid, age 34, is a citizen of Iraq who was detained by the U.S. military at various locations in Iraq for approximately two months from July 2003 through September 2003. The U.S. military assigned to Plaintiff Khalid detainee number 12537. During his detention by the U.S. military, Plaintiff Khalid was subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, including but not limited to frequent and severe beatings, sexual abuse involving assault and threats of anal rape, deprivation of adequate food and water, mock executions, death threats, intentional exposure to dangerously high temperatures, and

prolonged sleep deprivation enforced by beatings. During relevant time periods, Plaintiff Khalid was under the control and authority of Defendant Rumsfeld and his subordinates.

17. Plaintiff Ali H. (hereinafter “Ali H.”), age 19, is a citizen of Iraq who was detained by the U.S. military at various locations in Iraq for approximately four weeks from August to September 2003. At the time of his detention, Plaintiff Ali H. was a minor and high school student. The U.S. military assigned to Plaintiff Ali H. detainee number 14358. During his detention by the U.S. military, Plaintiff Ali H. was subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, including but not limited to intentional withholding and delay of necessary medical treatment to cause pain, fear and humiliation; intentional infliction of pain after surgery by dragging him from one location to another and forcefully ripping away the surgical dressing, and by exposing him to infection by leaving his surgical wound half-bandaged; and intentional deprivation of adequate food and water. During relevant time periods, Plaintiff Ali H. was under the control and authority of Defendant Rumsfeld and his subordinates.

18. Plaintiff Mehboob Ahmad, approximate age 35, is a citizen of Afghanistan who was detained by the U.S. military at various locations in Afghanistan for approximately five months from June to November 2003. The U.S. military assigned Plaintiff Ahmad detainee number 655 at a detention facility at the U.S. Air Base in Bagram (“Bagram detention facility”). During his detention by the U.S. military, Plaintiff Ahmad was subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, including but not limited to directly and deliberately inflicted pain, placement in restraints and positions calculated to cause pain (including suspension from the ceiling by his limbs), intimidation with a vicious dog, questioning while naked, threats directed at his family, and sensory deprivation. During relevant time periods,

Plaintiff Ahmad was under the control and authority of Defendant Rumsfeld and his subordinates.

19. Plaintiff Said Nabi Siddiqi, approximate age 48, is a citizen of Afghanistan who was detained by the U.S. military at various locations in Afghanistan for nearly two months, from July to August 2003. The U.S. military assigned Plaintiff Siddiqi detainee number 261 at the U.S. detention facility in Kandahar and number 676 at the Bagram detention facility. During his detention by the U.S. military, Plaintiff Siddiqi was subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, including but not limited to beatings, placement in restraints and positions calculated to cause pain, verbal abuse of a sexual nature, humiliation by being photographed while naked, denial of water, intentional deprivation of necessary medication exacerbated by physical abuse, intentional and prolonged exposure to dangerous temperature extremes, and sleep deprivation. During relevant time periods, Plaintiff Siddiqi was under the control and authority of Defendant Rumsfeld and his subordinates.

20. Plaintiff Mohammed Karim Shirullah, approximate age 45, is a citizen of Afghanistan who was detained by the U.S. military at various locations in Afghanistan for approximately six months, from December 2003 to June 2004. The U.S. military assigned Plaintiff Shirullah detainee number 821 at the Bagram detention facility. During his detention by the U.S. military, Plaintiff Shirullah was subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, including but not limited to beatings, placement in restraints and positions calculated to cause pain, humiliation by being interrogated and photographed while naked, sensory deprivation and solitary confinement for an extended period, intentional denial of medical care for injuries caused by abuse, intentional and prolonged exposure to dangerous temperature extremes, dousing with cold water, and sleep deprivation. During relevant time



periods, Plaintiff Shirullah was under the control and authority of Defendant Rumsfeld and his subordinates.

21. Plaintiff Haji Abdul Rahman, approximate age 48, is a citizen of Afghanistan who was detained by the U.S. military at various locations in Afghanistan for approximately five months, from December 2003 to May 2004. Plaintiff Abdul Rahman was assigned detainee number 819 at the Bagram detention facility. During his detention by the U.S. military, Plaintiff Abdul Rahman was subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, including but not limited to directly and deliberately inflicted pain, humiliation by being questioned and photographed while naked, complete sensory deprivation for 24 hours, solitary confinement, and sleep deprivation. During relevant time periods, Plaintiff Abdul Rahman was under the control and authority of Defendant Rumsfeld and his subordinates.

**B. Defendant**

22. Defendant Donald H. Rumsfeld is, and was at all relevant times, the Secretary of Defense, the highest-ranking civilian official in the U.S. Department of Defense. He exercises command and control over all members of the U.S. military, including all individual military personnel with direct contact with or responsibility for detainees in Iraq and Afghanistan. Defendant Rumsfeld is a citizen of the United States and a resident of Illinois, where he maintains his primary residence. He is sued in his individual and official capacities.

**LEGAL FRAMEWORK**

23. The prohibition against torture is a peremptory *jus cogens* norm from which no derogation is allowed. It is universally recognized and is binding on all persons under all circumstances. As U.S. courts have recognized, the torturer, “like the pirate and slave trader before him,” is “*hostis humanis generis*, an enemy of all mankind.” *Filartiga v. Pena-Irala*, 630 F. 2d 876, 890 (2d Cir. 1980). Torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of

detainees is universally prohibited by the laws of all civilized societies in clear and unambiguous terms. Article 17 of the Third Geneva Convention, included as part of U.S. Army Field Manual 27-10, *The Law of Land Warfare*, provides that “no physical or mental torture, nor any other form of coercion, may be inflicted on prisoners of war to secure from them information of any kind whatever.” Article 32 of the Fourth Geneva Convention, also incorporated in Field Manual 27-10, prohibits the torture of civilians. Article 3 Common to all Four Geneva Conventions expressly prohibits “violence to life and person, ... murder of all kinds, mutilation, cruel treatment and torture....” The U.N. Convention Against Torture or Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, Dec. 10, 1984, 23 I.L.M. 1027, 1465 U.N.T.S. 85, which was ratified by the United States in 1994, confirms the nonderogable nature of this prohibition. The U.S. Supreme Court recently reaffirmed that torture is among the gravest violations of the law of nations. *Sosa v. Alvarez-Machain*, 124 S. Ct. 2739, 2763 (2004); *id.* at 2783 (Breyer, J., concurring).

24. U.S. military law and regulations incorporate these international and domestic prohibitions against the use of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, and obligate U.S. military personnel to abide by those binding norms. Article 93 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice imposes criminal liability on members of the U.S. military who mistreat detainees in their custody. Army Field Manual 34-52, which governs the conduct of interrogations by military interrogators, unambiguously prohibits “acts of violence or intimidation, including physical or mental torture, threats, insults or exposure to inhumane treatment as a means of or aid to interrogation.” Army Regulation 190-8, *Enemy Prisoners of War, Retained Personnel, Civilian Internees and Other Detainees*, prohibits “the use of physical or mental torture or any coercion to compel prisoners to provide information[.]” and provides

that “[n]o form of physical torture or moral coercion will be exercised against the [civilian internee].”

25. No circumstance excuses torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.

In 1999, the United States declared in its initial report to the U.N. Committee Against Torture:

Torture ... is categorically denounced as a matter of policy and as a tool of state authority. ... No official of the Government, federal or state, civilian or military, is authorized to commit or to instruct anyone else to commit torture. Nor may any official condone or tolerate torture in any form. No exceptional circumstances may be invoked as a justification of torture. United States law contains no provision permitting otherwise prohibited acts of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment to be employed on ground of exigent circumstances ... or on orders from a superior officer or public authority, and the protective mechanism of an independent judiciary are not subject to suspension.

26. In the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, which the United States ratified in 1994, torture is defined as “any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person for such purposes as obtaining from him or a third person information or a confession, punishing him for an act he or a third person has committed or is suspected of having committed, or intimidating or coercing him or a third person ... when such pain or suffering is inflicted by or at the instigation of or with the consent or acquiescence of a public official or other person acting in an official capacity.”

27. In the 2003 country reports on human rights, the U.S. Department of State condemned other countries for abuse of prisoners and identified beatings, blindfolding, denials of food and water, dog attacks, use of forced painful positions, mock executions, slapping, sleep deprivation, solitary confinement, stripping, and threats of sexual abuse as serious violations of human rights. A report posted on the White House website condemns as torture the following

acts, among others, of the Saddam Hussein regime: denial of food and water, threats to rape or otherwise harm family members and relatives, pulling out of fingernails, extended solitary confinement in dark and extremely small compartments, and beatings. These condemnations reflect an absolute U.S. policy against torture, emphasized by President Bush on June 22, 2004, when he declared that “the values of this country are such that torture is not a part of our soul and our being.” The Justice Department recognized in its recent Office of Legal Counsel memorandum dated December 30, 2004 that “[t]orture is abhorrent both to American law and values and to international norms,” and endorsed court decisions that define torture to include such conduct as death threats, frequent beatings, sleep deprivation and extended shackling.

28. In order to ensure that these fundamental protections are enforced, U.S. law, the law of nations, and binding treaty provisions provide for the liability of military or civilian commanders who authorize their subordinates to commit torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of prisoners.

29. The Fifth and Eighth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution prohibit torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. The Fifth Amendment to the Constitution prohibits conduct against persons in U.S. custody that “shocks the conscience,” including torture. *Rochin v. California*, 342 U.S. 165, 172-73 (1952). The Eighth Amendment also prohibits such conduct, as its core function is “to proscribe torture and other barbarous methods of punishment.” *Estelle v. Gamble*, 429 U.S. 97, 102 (1976).

30. U.S. civilian and military commanders and officials are prohibited from violating the prohibitions of the U.S. Constitution, and are liable for injuries caused by their direct orders. Supervisors are also liable for the constitutional violations of their subordinates when (1) they knew or had reason to know that their subordinates were subjecting detainees in U.S. custody to

torture and other abuse that shocks the conscience; (2) despite such knowledge, they created and left in place conditions in which torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment would occur; (3) they understood the substantial likelihood that torture and other abuse would ensue, but acted with deliberate indifference or conscious disregard of that likelihood and failed to take steps to prevent it; and (4) their actions were the proximate cause of injuries suffered by plaintiffs. *See, e.g., Farmer v. Brennan*, 511 U.S. 825, 839 (1994); *Estelle*, 429 U.S. at 106; *Jones v. City of Chicago*, 856 F.2d 985, 992-93 (7th Cir. 1988).

31. The law of nations also imposes liability on superior officers for the acts of their subordinates. If the superior officer issues an order that is lawful on its face, liability attaches if the commanding officer knows of the substantial likelihood that torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment will result from the execution of the order. The doctrine of command responsibility, recognized by the U.S. Supreme Court since *In re Yamashita*, 327 U.S. 1 (1946), imposes liability on superior officers if they (1) exercised effective control over those subordinates who engaged in torture and other mistreatment of plaintiff detainees in violation of the law of nations; (2) knew or had reason to know of their subordinates' unlawful conduct; and (3) despite such knowledge, failed to take reasonable and necessary measures to prevent their subordinates' conduct.

## **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

### **A. General Allegations**

32. The U.S. military maintains detention facilities in Afghanistan and Iraq at which Plaintiffs and others in U.S. military custody were tortured or otherwise abused by U.S. military personnel and others acting under the direction of or with the authorization of the U.S. military, pursuant to a policy, pattern or practice of misconduct.

33. The torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of Plaintiffs alleged in this complaint occurred in enclaves under the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States and the exclusive control of the U.S. military. Access to detainees by any person including agents or employees of other governments and other U.S. government agencies is and was only with the express or tacit permission of the U.S. military.

34. Until the actions, omissions and derelictions of Defendant Rumsfeld alleged herein, the Armed Forces of the United States were absolutely forbidden to engage in torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. No exceptions were permitted and no such conduct was authorized.

35. Defendant Rumsfeld and other high-ranking military leaders began to abandon the absolute prohibition against torture soon after the military conflict in Afghanistan began. Defendant Rumsfeld's policies and practices authorized the use of interrogation techniques -- which were forbidden under military regulations -- against detainees arrested in Afghanistan, both in that country and at the U.S. detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Through further policies, practices and derelictions of duty, which extended those illegal techniques to Iraq, Defendant Rumsfeld and other commanders further compromised the prohibitions against torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. Because of their policies, patterns, practices, acts, and omissions, the inviolable and deep-rooted prohibition of torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of detainees in U.S. custody was altered and abandoned.

36. Defendant Rumsfeld issued orders, adopted policies and granted authorizations that fundamentally altered the interrogation practices of the U.S. military. Through his actions and derelictions, he expressly permitted cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and tolerated or authorized torture. He issued critical orders and directives that led to widespread

torture and abuse, knew of torture and abuse of detainees by his subordinates in Afghanistan and Iraq, and failed to prevent and punish such conduct. As a direct and predictable result of Defendant Rumsfeld's policies, practices and authorizations, the U.S. military engaged in practices that violated the absolute prohibition against torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.

37. Defendant Rumsfeld's acts, authorizations and omissions adopting and implementing those policies, patterns or practices occurred in the United States. These include: Defendant Rumsfeld's authorization of harsh interrogation techniques; his application of intense pressure on subordinates to obtain intelligence; his and Under Secretary of Defense Stephen Cambone's decision to send U.S. Army Major General Geoffrey Miller to Iraq to implement policies that predictably led to torture; his tolerance and acceptance of torture; his command failure to investigate or punish subordinates for their acts; and his command failure to issue unequivocal orders to stop or prohibit torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment when he knew and should have known of the torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of detainees in U.S. military custody in Afghanistan, Guantanamo and Iraq.

38. In addition to this action against Defendant Rumsfeld, the Plaintiffs who were detained and abused in Iraq are bringing separate actions for damages against three high-ranking military commanders in the various federal district courts that have personal jurisdiction over those defendants. In addition to Defendant Rumsfeld, Plaintiffs are suing the following high-ranking U.S. Army officials: Lieutenant General Ricardo Sanchez, who was Commander of the Coalition Joint Task Force-7 ("CJTF-7"), the U.S.-led military coalition in Iraq, from June 2003 to July 2004; Brigadier General Janis Karpinski, who commanded the 800th Military Police Brigade, the unit of the U.S. Army responsible for detention facilities in Iraq, from

approximately June 2003 to May 2004; and Colonel Thomas Pappas, who at relevant times commanded the 205th Military Intelligence Brigade, oversaw military intelligence personnel in Iraq, and commanded the Joint Interrogation and Debriefing Center at Abu Ghraib.

39. As a consequence of Defendant Rumsfeld's actions, Lieutenant General Sanchez issued policies and authorizations that expressly permitted cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment and that tolerated or authorized torture. Lieutenant General Sanchez, who was in command of all military forces in Iraq, promulgated and implemented policies causing, allowing and failing to prevent or stop torture and abuse in Iraq; knew of torture and abuse of detainees by his subordinates; and failed to prevent and punish such conduct.

40. As a further consequence of Defendant Rumsfeld's actions, Brigadier General Karpinski, who was in command of military police in Iraq, executed the unlawful policies, patterns or practices causing torture and abuse; knew of torture and abuse of detainees by her subordinates; and failed to prevent and punish such conduct.

41. As a further consequence of Defendant Rumsfeld's actions, Colonel Pappas, who was in command of military intelligence in Iraq and the Joint Interrogation and Debriefing Center at Abu Ghraib, executed the unlawful policies, patterns or practices causing torture and abuse; knew of torture and abuse of detainees by his subordinates; and failed to prevent and punish such conduct.

42. Defendant Rumsfeld's actions and derelictions caused the torture and abuse to continue and to spread. Defendant Rumsfeld and other high-ranking U.S. commanders under his command knew that torture and abuse was widespread and systemic. They did not stop or prevent it because they accepted it and acted with deliberate indifference and conscious disregard



of the high likelihood that their actions and derelictions would cause their subordinates to torture and otherwise mistreat detainees in U.S. custody.

43. These actions, orders, authorizations, and derelictions caused the Plaintiffs in this action and at least hundreds of other civilian, non-combatant detainees in Afghanistan and Iraq to be tortured and otherwise abused in violation of the U.S. Constitution, U.S.-ratified treaties including the Geneva Conventions, and the law of nations.

44. Defendant Rumsfeld is among the civilian officials and military commanders in positions of responsibility whose violations of law have come to light as a result of publicly disclosed reports, documents and other information. Upon information and belief, other civilian officials and military commanders are also liable for the torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment suffered by Plaintiffs and other detainees. Such additional individuals may also be named as defendants as additional information about their conduct comes to light.

**B. Defendant's Actions and Failures of Command**

**1. Defendant's Interrogation Policies, Patterns or Practices**

45. Defendant Rumsfeld is or was at all relevant times personally responsible for developing, authorizing, supervising, and/or implementing the policies, patterns or practices governing the detention and interrogation of detainees in Afghanistan or Iraq during the time that the Plaintiffs were in the custody of the U.S. military. These policies, patterns or practices directly caused the widespread and systemic torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of Plaintiffs and other detainees in violation of the U.S. Constitution, treaty provisions including the Geneva Conventions, military rules and guidelines, and the law of nations.

46. On December 2, 2002, Defendant Rumsfeld personally approved a list of illegal interrogation techniques (the "December Rumsfeld Techniques") for use on detainees at Guantanamo. As set forth below, the December Rumsfeld Techniques included techniques later

used by subordinates in Afghanistan and Iraq with Defendant Rumsfeld's knowledge and approval. These techniques were contrary to the established rules and military standards governing detention and interrogation as set forth in Army Field Manual 34-52. The December Rumsfeld Techniques included the following: the use of "stress positions," 20-hour interrogations, the removal of clothing, playing upon a detainee's phobias to induce stress (such as through the use of dogs), deception to make the detainee believe the interrogator was from a country with a reputation for torture, the use of falsified documents and reports, isolation for up to 30 days, and sensory deprivation.

47. According to documents released by the U.S. government pursuant to litigation under the Freedom of Information Act, *American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, et al. v. Dep't of Defense, et al.*, No. 04-cv-4151 (AKH) (S.D.N.Y. 2004), the Federal Bureau of Investigation began to document and complain about the interrogation techniques used by the military on detainees in Guantanamo as early as late 2002.

48. On January 15, 2003, Defendant Rumsfeld rescinded his blanket authorization of only some of the techniques in the December Rumsfeld Techniques. However, he failed to take any meaningful action to prevent, investigate, or punish the use of these unlawful techniques. Instead, in an order to the commander of the U.S. Southern Command, Defendant Rumsfeld stated that he personally could authorize the continued use of the otherwise-rescinded techniques, and that he wanted to be involved in the formulation of a plan to use them: "Should you determine that particular techniques in either of these categories are warranted in an individual case, you should forward that request to me. Such a request should include a thorough justification for the employment of those techniques and a detailed plan for the use of such techniques."

49. Also on January 15, 2003, Defendant Rumsfeld directed the General Counsel of the Department of Defense to convene a “Working Group” on interrogation techniques for his personal review and consideration. For its analysis, the Working Group solicited information from U.S. military officers in Afghanistan concerning techniques being used by U.S. forces there.

50. By December 2002, interrogators in Afghanistan had begun using harsh interrogation techniques on detainees, including the use of stress positions, dogs to induce fear, and sensory deprivation. These techniques are inconsistent with those listed in Army Field Manual 34-52. At the Working Group’s request, military commanders in Afghanistan forwarded descriptions of these techniques to the Department of Defense. The Working Group did not express any objection to any of the techniques in use in Afghanistan. U.S. personnel continued to use those techniques despite their inconsistency with standing military doctrine embodying international and domestic legal norms.

51. The Working Group reported to Defendant Rumsfeld on April 4, 2003, and recommended 35 interrogation techniques for use at Guantanamo. Defendant Rumsfeld, on April 16, 2003, personally approved the use of 24 of the techniques (the “April Rumsfeld Techniques”). These April Rumsfeld Techniques were based in part on information about techniques previously used by U.S. personnel in Afghanistan.

52. At the time Defendant Rumsfeld issued the April Rumsfeld Techniques, reports of widespread and systemic detainee abuse in Afghanistan had already surfaced, and Defendant Rumsfeld knew and should have known of them.

53. The April Rumsfeld Techniques included isolation for up to thirty days, dietary manipulation, environmental manipulation, “sleep adjustment,” and “false flag” (leading

detainees to believe that they have been transferred to a country that permits torture), none of which is consistent with the authorized interrogation techniques in Army Field Manual 34-52. Defendant Rumsfeld again provided that even harsher techniques could be used with his personal authorization. As set forth below, the April Rumsfeld Techniques, many of which had been used already in Afghanistan, were later used in Iraq.

54. On information and belief, in the summer of 2003, Defendant Rumsfeld and Under Secretary of Defense Cambone knew of widespread torture and other abuse of detainees in Iraq and Guantanamo. However, they took no steps to prevent or punish these abuses. Instead, Defendant Rumsfeld took measures to increase the pressure on interrogators in a manner that he knew was highly likely to result in further torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.

55. On information and belief, Under Secretary Cambone supervised and implemented, and Defendant Rumsfeld approved, the activities of a clandestine program composed jointly of U.S. military and CIA personnel. This program began operations in Iraq in or around the summer of 2003. On information and belief, members of this program were authorized to use unlawful interrogation tactics, including physical and sexual humiliation, against Iraqi detainees.

56. In addition, Defendant Rumsfeld and Under Secretary Cambone sent Major General Geoffrey Miller, who was then the commander of the U.S. military joint task force at Guantanamo, to Iraq to deploy more aggressive interrogation methods on a widespread basis. In public testimony to Congress, Under Secretary Cambone admitted that Miller was sent to Iraq with his “encouragement” “to make certain that [the United States] had the proper conditions within [detention facilities in Iraq] in order for . . . information to be gathered.” According to

Brigadier General Karpinski, Miller told her that he was sent by Defendant Rumsfeld and Under Secretary Cambone to “gitmo-ize” detention facilities there by causing Guantanamo interrogation practices to be used on detainees in Iraq.

57. On information and belief, Defendant Rumsfeld knew that Miller intended to apply in Iraq the techniques that Defendant Rumsfeld had approved for use at Guantanamo, among others. On information and belief, Defendant Rumsfeld also knew and should have known about the widespread detainee torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of detainees at Guantanamo and in Afghanistan while those techniques were in use. Thus, Defendant Rumsfeld knew that it was highly likely that his actions in approving Miller’s visit to Iraq would exacerbate the abuse of detainees there.

58. As a result of the order by Defendant Rumsfeld and Under Secretary Cambone, Miller and his team caused illegal interrogation techniques from Guantanamo to be used against detainees in Iraq. Miller’s team consisted of 17 military personnel, all of whom had served at Guantanamo. Miller and his team used the April Rumsfeld Techniques as a “baseline” for recommending new, harsher interrogation techniques for use at the U.S. detention facility at Abu Ghraib in Iraq. According to Colonel Pappas, detainee policies and procedures at Abu Ghraib were enacted as a specific result of Miller’s visit.

59. Brigadier General Karpinski has stated that Miller told her that detainees at Guantanamo were “treated like dogs,” and that he recommended the same for detainees in Iraq. Brigadier General Karpinski admitted that she did not have authority to allow military intelligence operatives to control conditions at Abu Ghraib. However, she acquiesced in Major General Miller’s plan to do so. Brigadier General Karpinski has further stated that Miller informed her that Lieutenant General Sanchez had given Miller complete authority to take over

any detention facility he wanted. Brigadier General Karpinski carried out the plans of Lieutenant General Sanchez and Miller, thus abdicating her duty as a commander to prevent torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.

60. Among other techniques, General Miller recommended the use of dogs with detainees in Iraq. On information and belief, dogs were intentionally used to instill fear in detainees and the practice was based on the belief that Arabs have a culturally-based fear of dogs. Based on Miller's recommendation, Colonel Pappas instituted the use of dogs to "set[ ] the atmosphere for which, you know, you could get information."

61. In the summer of 2003, in anticipation of obtaining approval for harsher interrogation practices, a member of Lieutenant General Sanchez's staff transmitted an email message asking military intelligence personnel in Iraq to provide by August 17, 2003 a "wish list" of interrogation techniques they wished to use. The email stated the "gloves are coming off," and "we want these individuals broken."

62. In early 2003, Captain Carolyn Wood and members of the 519th Military Intelligence Battalion under her command were transferred from Afghanistan to Iraq. Previously, while deployed in Afghanistan, members of the 519th Military Intelligence Battalion under Wood's command had killed two detainees. In July 2003, Captain Wood and her battalion were assigned to Abu Ghraib. After arriving in Iraq, Captain Wood proposed a list of 30 interrogation techniques for use at Abu Ghraib to Lieutenant General Sanchez for approval. Lieutenant General Sanchez's staff approved these techniques. On information and belief, the approved techniques included stress positions, sensory and sleep deprivation, and use of dogs.

63. On September 14, 2003, in response to General Miller's call for Guantanamo-like interrogation policies for use in Iraq, as directed by Defendant Rumsfeld, and a request for

guidance from the 519th Military Intelligence Battalion, Lieutenant General Sanchez signed a memorandum authorizing the use of 29 interrogation techniques (the “September Sanchez Techniques”), 12 of which were inconsistent with Army Field Manual standards, including five that went beyond those authorized by Defendant Rumsfeld for use at Guantanamo. The September Sanchez Techniques included the use of dogs, stress positions, and sensory deprivation. The use of dogs, stress positions, yelling, loud music, and light control required Lieutenant General Sanchez’s personal approval. The September Sanchez Techniques were based on two sources: (1) the April Rumsfeld Techniques, which General Miller gave to Lieutenant General Sanchez earlier in the month, and (2) suggestions from Captain Wood, who brought with her a list of techniques that had been used by the 519th Military Intelligence Battalion in Afghanistan. Lieutenant General Sanchez issued the September Sanchez Techniques a few days after Defendant Rumsfeld visited the U.S. detention facility at Abu Ghraib.

64. On October 12, 2003, Lieutenant General Sanchez modified his previous September 14, 2003, authorization of particular techniques, but continued to authorize interrogators to “control” the lighting, heating, food, shelter, and clothing given to detainees. Although Lieutenant General Sanchez’s October 12 order placed certain restrictions on the use of dogs, such as requiring a muzzle, he continued to permit the use of dogs in interrogations, provided that interrogators applied for and received prior authorization. Lieutenant General Sanchez indicated that he could approve the use of such techniques on a case-by-case basis.

65. On information and belief, while in command at the Abu Ghraib prison, Colonel Pappas authorized the following interrogation techniques: sleep deprivation, use of dogs to intimidate detainees, shackling, and forced stripping of detainees.

66. Defendant Rumsfeld personally issued unlawful interrogation policies and caused other such policies to be issued by others, while simultaneously pursuing policies that fostered and condoned torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. Specifically, Defendant Rumsfeld and others caused the implementation of unorthodox command structures, permitted personnel responsible for detention and interrogation to operate with inadequate training, and pressured subordinates to produce intelligence through interrogations at all costs.

67. Defendant Rumsfeld and others under his command established command structures that were contrary to military doctrine, in a manner highly likely or calculated to cause torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. For example, high-level commanders in Iraq implemented a recommendation by General Miller – whom Defendant Rumsfeld had sent to Iraq – that military intelligence and military police work together to “set the conditions for interrogations.” The use of military police soldiers as assistance for interrogation was improper and done for the purpose of inflicting abuse on detainees to make them compliant during interrogation. Military intelligence officers told military police soldiers, who were untrained in detainee interrogation tactics, to “make sure” that a detainee “has a bad night,” or “make sure he gets the treatment.”

68. This improper and dangerous misuse of military police personnel was specifically implemented at Abu Ghraib. On November 19, 2003, Lieutenant General Sanchez appointed Colonel Pappas of the 205th Military Intelligence Brigade as the base commander for Abu Ghraib prison, and made him responsible for the support of all military police assigned to the prison. This command structure was contrary to existing military doctrine because Colonel Pappas was a military intelligence officer and should not also have commanded military police, and exacerbated the confusion as to who was in charge at the prison. Military police soldiers



under the command of Colonel Pappas have stated that he encouraged them to “soften up” detainees for interrogation, which they understood to mean physical and mental abuse.

69. Defendant Rumsfeld and others under his command also increased the likelihood that subordinates would torture and otherwise abuse detainees by tolerating a lack of adequate training in detainee and interrogation operations for subordinate military personnel, with knowledge that the lack of training was contributing to an atmosphere permissive of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.

70. Official government reports have pointed to “intense pressure felt by the personnel on the ground to produce actionable intelligence from detainees” as the cause of the torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. According to Lieutenant General Sanchez, high-ranking officers, including, on information and belief, Defendant Rumsfeld, placed “great pressure . . . upon the intelligence system to produce actionable intelligence.” Colonel Pappas claims that he felt “intense pressure” placed on him by superior officers “for intelligence from interrogations.” Colonel Pappas in turn put great pressure on his subordinates for intelligence.

71. On information and belief, Defendant Rumsfeld has not renounced, revoked or rescinded policies, orders and authorizations that caused Plaintiffs to be tortured and subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment by Defendants’ subordinates. Despite widespread and systemic abuse of detainees, Defendant Rumsfeld has not unequivocally revoked authorization for and prohibited use of all interrogation techniques contrary to the U.S. Army Field Manual.

## **2. Defendant’s Knowledge of Torture and Abuse of Detainees**

72. Independent of Defendant Rumsfeld’s orders or authorizations, beginning as early as 2002, and both before and throughout the time Plaintiffs were detained in U.S. custody, Defendant Rumsfeld knew and should have known that individuals under his actual and effective

command were engaging in or permitting the torture and other abuse of detainees in U.S. custody in violation of U.S. and international law. Despite this knowledge, Defendant Rumsfeld failed to take reasonable and necessary steps to prohibit, prevent and end the torture and abuse.

73. Defendant Rumsfeld and others under his command had actual and constructive knowledge of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment based on numerous sources including but not limited to those set forth in the following paragraphs.

74. In or about early 2002, soon after the start of military actions in Afghanistan, Defendant Rumsfeld had actual notice of torture and other abuse of detainees arrested by U.S. forces in Afghanistan. In December 2001, John Walker Lindh, a U.S. citizen arrested and detained by the U.S military in Afghanistan, was photographed while stripped naked and bound to a stretcher.

75. On January 7, 2002, the non-governmental organization Amnesty International wrote a letter to Defendant Rumsfeld expressing concern about the treatment of detainees captured in Afghanistan. It noted in the letter that “as well as hooding, the following methods of interrogation may not be used as they violate the prohibition of torture and ill-treatment: restraining in very painful conditions; playing of loud music; prolonged sleep deprivation; threats, including death threats; violent shaking; and using cold air to chill the detainee.”

76. On January 22, 2002, Amnesty International sent another letter to Defendant Rumsfeld, complaining about the treatment of detainees.

77. On April 10, 2002, Amnesty International again sent a lengthy memorandum to Defendant Rumsfeld, among others, in order to bring attention to allegations of mistreatment of detainees in Afghanistan and at Guantanamo. Defendant Rumsfeld was questioned about the April 10, 2002, Amnesty International memorandum during a news briefing on April 15, 2002.

78. On information and belief, in late 2002, a high-ranking Defense Department official who reported directly to Defendant Rumsfeld received complaints from agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”) about abusive interrogation tactics used against detainees at Guantanamo. On information and belief, Defendant Rumsfeld was aware of these complaints.

79. Documents produced by the Department of Defense pursuant to litigation under the Freedom of Information Act, *see American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, et al. v. Dep’t of Defense, et al.*, No. 04-cv-4151 (AKH) (S.D.N.Y. 2004), reveal that in August 2002, the Criminal Investigations Command found probable cause to charge a team of four U.S. military personnel with the murder of an Afghan detainee in U.S. custody and a conspiracy relating to the murder. The Criminal Investigations Command also found probable cause to charge a fifth U.S. soldier with being an accessory after the fact, and found that the team’s commander had instructed a soldier to destroy incriminating photographs of the victim’s body. Despite the Criminal Investigations Command’s findings, the Commander’s Report recorded no court-martial proceedings in the case and no disciplinary action other than a single written reprimand of one soldier.

80. Defendant Rumsfeld and other U.S. civilian officials and military commanders knew of widespread detainee mistreatment in Afghanistan on or before December 26, 2002, when the Washington Post reported on regular, systemic abuses at the U.S. Air Base at Bagram, including the use of “stress and duress” techniques that constitute torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. Regarding the interrogation of detainees at the U.S. military base by agents of the Central Intelligence Agency, the article quoted a U.S. government official as saying, “if you don’t violate someone’s human rights some of the time, you probably aren’t

doing your job.” The same article reported that U.S. military personnel were used to “soften up” detainees for interrogation.

81. In December 2002, two Afghan detainees, Mullah Habibullah and Dilawar, were killed in U.S. custody at the Bagram detention facility while being interrogated by members of the 519th Military Intelligence Battalion. Although U.S. military physicians had concluded that the cause of the detainees’ deaths was homicide, the commander of U.S. military forces in Afghanistan continued to insist publicly that the two detainees had died of natural causes.

82. On December 26, 2002, the nongovernmental organization Human Rights Watch wrote to President Bush and transmitted a copy of the letter to Defendant Rumsfeld, asking that allegations of torture at the Bagram detention facility in Afghanistan be investigated immediately.

83. On January 14, 2003, executive directors of various human rights organizations wrote to Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz and asked that the United States promulgate clear guidelines to prevent torture. On information and belief, Defendant Rumsfeld received notice of that letter.

84. On February 5, 2003, Amnesty International met with William J. Haynes, the General Counsel of the Department of Defense, to discuss allegations of torture and ill-treatment of detainees in Guantanamo and Afghanistan. On information and belief, the General Counsel of the Department of Defense reports directly to Defendant Rumsfeld.

85. In March 2003, prominent newspapers such as the *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* published articles on persistent reports of serious human rights violations at detention centers at Guantanamo and in Afghanistan, including deaths of detainees under suspicious circumstances in Afghanistan.

86. On March 10, 2003, Amnesty International sent a letter to President Bush, with a copy to Defendant Rumsfeld, calling upon the U.S. government to investigate allegations of torture and other abuse at the Bagram detention facility. The letter described specific cases of abuse.

87. Starting in May 2003, the International Committee of the Red Cross began sending reports detailing abuses of detainees in U.S. custody in Iraq to the U.S. Central Command in Qatar. The May 2003 report described 200 allegations of torture and other abuse of detainees by U.S. soldiers. The medical delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross observed marks on the detainees' bodies that corroborated the allegations of abuse.

88. General John Abizaid, the commander of the U.S. Central Command, confirmed that his office received the report in May 2003.

89. U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell confirmed that Defendant Rumsfeld knew of the various reports by the International Committee of the Red Cross, stating that he and Defendant Rumsfeld kept President Bush regularly apprised of their contents throughout 2003.

90. On May 15, 2003, Amnesty International publicized allegations of torture and other abuse of Iraqi detainees by U.S. and British forces, including beatings and electric shocks.

91. On June 23, 2003, Amnesty International sent a letter to Defendant Rumsfeld expressing concern about the death of an Afghan detainee held in U.S. custody.

92. In June 2003, Amnesty International wrote to Ambassador Paul Bremer, who was then the Administrator of the Coalition Provisional Authority governing Iraq, to express its concerns about the treatment of detainees in U.S. custody in Iraq.

93. In early July 2003, the International Committee of the Red Cross sent U.S. military forces in Iraq a working paper detailing approximately 50 allegations of abuse and

violence against detainees in Iraq. Among the abuses detailed in the report are the following: striking detainees with rifle butts, taking aim at detainees with rifles, slaps, punches, prolonged exposure to the sun, isolation in dark cells, and threats of indefinite detention or detention of family members.

94. On July 15, 2003, the late Sergio Vieira de Mello, then the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights, raised concerns regarding the treatment of detainees in U.S. custody with Ambassador Bremer.

95. On information and belief, Ambassador Bremer met with Defendant Rumsfeld in August 2003 and repeatedly urged him to improve conditions in U.S.-controlled detention facilities in Iraq.

96. On July 23, 2003, Amnesty International released a second report criticizing the United States for mistreatment of detainees in Iraq. Allegations included the use of electric shocks, sleep deprivation, and stress positions. Major newspapers, including the *New York Times*, reported on Amnesty International's allegations.

97. Defendant Rumsfeld personally visited Abu Ghraib prison on September 6, 2003. His visit to Abu Ghraib coincided with General Miller's visit, and took place during the period in which abuses were taking place. Photographs depicting Defendant Rumsfeld at the prison and meeting with Brigadier General Karpinski were published in the *New York Times*. According to an official U.S. military investigation, during the time of Defendant Rumsfeld's visit, military intelligence personnel at Abu Ghraib were requesting and encouraging military police personnel to abuse detainees in violation of established policies and laws.

98. Approximately one month after the visits of Defendant Rumsfeld and General Miller to Abu Ghraib, from October 9 through 12 and October 21 through 23, 2003, the

International Committee of the Red Cross visited Abu Ghraib and determined that detainees in U.S. custody were being subjected to “physical and psychological coercion” which was in some cases “tantamount to torture.” The abuses witnessed by the International Committee of the Red Cross included: threats, sleep deprivation, tight handcuffs that caused lesions and wounds, and holding of detainees in total darkness in bare concrete cells, while completely naked. U.S. military personnel told representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross that such treatment was “part of the process.” During this visit, the International Committee of the Red Cross found that detainees at Abu Ghraib had physical signs of injury and psychological symptoms such as suicidal tendencies, memory loss, and acute anxiety reactions.

99. The International Committee of the Red Cross conveyed its concerns to U.S. military commanders in Iraq through reports and briefings in October and November 2003. Brigadier General Karpinski, Colonel Pappas and Lieutenant General Sanchez were notified of the details of abuse by the Red Cross by November 2003. Brigadier General Karpinski and Colonel Pappas received at least one written report of torture and other abuses from the International Committee of the Red Cross during that time period.

100. In response to the International Committee of the Red Cross’s oral and written reports of torture and other unlawful abuses in October and November 2003, Colonel Pappas revoked the International Committee of the Red Cross’s access to interrogation areas and denied the International Committee of the Red Cross’s requests to interview specified detainees. Lieutenant General Sanchez’s staff approved those denials of access. Lieutenant General Sanchez, Brigadier General Karpinski and Colonel Pappas did not do anything to stop the torture and other unlawful abuses.

101. Brigadier General Karpinski responded to the International Committee of the Red Cross November 2003 report in a letter dated December 24, 2003. According to an official investigative report by Major General George Fay (the “Fay Report”), Brigadier General Karpinski’s response “gloss[ed] over, close to the point of denying[,] the inhumane treatment, humiliation, and abuse identified by the [International Committee of the Red Cross].”

102. On November 12, 2003, the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights (now known as Human Rights First) wrote to the commander of U.S. forces in Afghanistan and transmitted a copy to Defendant Rumsfeld requesting information about the current status of military investigations into the deaths of three detainees who died in U.S. custody in Afghanistan.

103. On information and belief, on November 14, 2003, Amnesty International wrote a letter to Defendant Rumsfeld concerning reports of abuse of Iraqi detainees by the U.S. military.

104. In December 2003, Colonel Stuart Herrington of the U.S. Army submitted an investigative report (the “Herrington Report”) to Major General Barbara Fast, a high-level military intelligence commander in Iraq who reported directly to Lieutenant General Sanchez. Herrington reported details of abuses committed against detainees in Iraq by a joint task force of military Special Operations and Central Intelligence Agency officers, known as Task Force 121. Herrington reported that military medical personnel found the detainees showed signs of having been beaten. Herrington concluded in his December 2003 report: “It seems clear that TF 121 needs to be reined in with respect to its treatment of detainees.” Herrington further reported that TF 121 had detained the family members of suspects and refused to release the family members until the suspects turned themselves in – a practice Herrington described as “having a ‘hostage’ feel.” On information and belief, Lieutenant General Sanchez received the December 2003 Herrington report and forwarded it to his superior officers.



105. On January 13, 2004, a U.S. soldier stationed at Abu Ghraib gave Army criminal investigators a copy of a CD containing photographs depicting individuals under Defendant Rumsfeld's actual and effective command engaging in gross acts of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.

106. Defendant Rumsfeld and Lieutenant General Sanchez were notified of the photographs.

107. On January 16, 2004, the U.S. Army released a five-sentence press release acknowledging allegations of detainee abuse in Iraq.

108. In February 2004, the International Committee of the Red Cross issued an exhaustive report of torture and abuse at U.S. detention facilities in Iraq. On information and belief, Defendant Rumsfeld knew of this report by mid-February 2004. During that time period, Defendant Rumsfeld informed President Bush that the Department of Defense was investigating allegations of detainee mistreatment in Iraq.

109. In late February or early March 2004, Army Major General Antonio Taguba provided an investigative report (the "Taguba Report"), detailing torture in Abu Ghraib, to Lieutenant General Sanchez. On information and belief, Defendant Rumsfeld received the Taguba Report shortly after it was completed.

110. General John Abizaid, commander of the U.S. Central Command encompassing Iraq and Afghanistan, admitted in testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee on May 19, 2004, that "we should have known. And we should have uncovered it and taken action before it [abuse of detainees] got to the point that it got to. I think there's no doubt about that."

111. According to an official investigative report by Army Lieutenant General Anthony Jones (the "Jones Report"), the following "indications and warnings" informed

Lieutenant General Sanchez's command of detainee abuse at Abu Ghraib and other detention facilities in Iraq: "the investigation of an incident at Camp Cropper, [International Committee of the Red Cross] reports on handling of detainees in subordinate units, [International Committee of the Red Cross] reports on Abu Ghraib detainee conditions and treatment, [Army Criminal Investigations Command] investigations and disciplinary actions being taken by commanders, the death of an OGA detainee at Abu Ghraib, the lack of an adequate system for identification and accountability of detainees, and division commanders' continual concerns that intelligence information was not returning to the tactical level once detainees were evacuated to the central holding facility."

112. The report of an official investigation headed by former Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger (the "Schlesinger Report") also states that Brigadier General Karpinski and Colonel Pappas "knew, or should have known, abuses were taking place and taken measures to prevent them."

113. A military lawyer for an enlisted soldier charged with the abuse of detainees stated in court that his client told him that Lieutenant General Sanchez was personally present at Abu Ghraib during interrogations and may have witnessed abuse.

114. On information and belief, Colonel Pappas was frequently present at Abu Ghraib during relevant time periods, resided at the Abu Ghraib facility for some period of time, and was present in a cellblock at Abu Ghraib on the night that a detainee was killed during interrogation.

115. On information and belief, numerous additional reports and documents of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the U.S. military as well as other sources of information document the abuse and torture of detainees in U.S. military custody in Guantanamo, Afghanistan and Iraq. On information and belief, Defendant Rumsfeld has

personal knowledge of the content of additional documents and reports documenting abuse and torture of detainees in Guantanamo, Afghanistan and Iraq.

116. As set forth above, Defendant Rumsfeld and others under his command were well aware of the widespread torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of detainees in U.S. custody as early as 2002 and throughout the period before the public disclosure in the spring of 2004 of specific abuses at Abu Ghraib. However, Defendant Rumsfeld did not take steps to stop or prevent torture and other abuses until after the public outcry regarding abuses at Abu Ghraib. It was only then that Defendant Rumsfeld made some public statements critical of the abuses and some measures were taken against a few individuals. These measures were not only too late in coming, but also inadequate, as set forth below.

**3. Defendant's Failure to Act upon Knowledge to End Torture and Abuse of Detainees**

117. Defendant Rumsfeld and others under his command did not take reasonable and necessary steps at any stage to ensure that no further abuses would occur. As a proximate result, Plaintiffs were tortured and subjected to other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment while detained in U.S. military facilities.

118. The official report by U.S. Army Major General George Fay found that “inadequate interrogation doctrine and training, and acute shortage of MP [military police] and MI [military intelligence] [s]oldiers, the lack of clear lines of responsibility between the MP and MI chains of command, the lack of a clear interrogation policy for the Iraq Campaign, and intense pressure felt by the personnel on the ground to produce actionable intelligence from detainees” resulted in the abuse of detainees in Iraq.

119. As documented in numerous official U.S. government reports, from the outset of and throughout the military actions in Afghanistan and Iraq, Defendant Rumsfeld knowingly

failed to provide for adequate training of U.S. military personnel charged with the detention and interrogation of detainees. Despite receiving notice of the torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment that ensued, Defendant Rumsfeld failed to take any steps to correct his initial failure to train subordinates in the proper treatment of detainees. Defendant Rumsfeld knew and should have known that this lack of adequate training, combined with his other policies and practices, would lead to the further torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of detainees in U.S. custody.

120. Defendant Rumsfeld and others under his command continued to put untrained personnel in charge of detainees, after receiving notice that these untrained personnel were torturing and otherwise abusing detainees. The Taguba Report found that “there is no evidence that the command, although aware of these deficiencies [in training], attempted to correct them in any systemic manner other than ad hoc training by individuals with civilian corrections experience.”

121. Defendant Rumsfeld and others under his command also failed to take sufficient and meaningful measures to discipline subordinates who committed torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment against detainees. Rather than taking timely and effective actions, Defendant Rumsfeld expanded or maintained the authority of these subordinates to use harsh measures against detainees, even though he knew and should have known that these subordinates previously had allowed, authorized or committed torture or abuse.

122. Superior officers and commanders, including Defendant Rumsfeld, failed to discipline Captain Wood in connection with the two murders committed in Afghanistan by personnel under her command in the 519th Military Intelligence Battalion. Instead, within

weeks of the murders, Wood was awarded the first of two Bronze Star medals for “exceptionally meritorious service.”

123. Also, in lieu of discipline, Wood and her subordinates were assigned to interrogation duty in Iraq, including Abu Ghraib, where predictably they continued to torture and otherwise abuse detainees. On information and belief, none of the members of the 519th Military Intelligence Battalion were disciplined prior to the battalion’s redeployment to Iraq. Wood’s reassignment, along with “word of mouth,” meant that the same techniques used on detainees in Afghanistan were put into effect in Iraq. The list of interrogation techniques Wood proposed to Lieutenant General Sanchez, which his staff approved, were “a near copy of” techniques used by her unit in Afghanistan.

124. Upon information and belief, no charges were brought against any members of the 519th Military Intelligence Battalion who were involved in the homicides at the Bagram detention facility until August 2004, when one Army sergeant was charged in connection with the torture and murder of the two Afghan detainees.

125. The refusal of Defendant Rumsfeld and others to take timely action against U.S. military personnel responsible for the deaths of the two Afghan detainees resulted in further torture and other abuse. A third Afghan detainee was tortured to death in March 2003, several months after the first two died in U.S. custody.

126. In May 2003, soldiers commanded by Colonel Jerry Phillabaum, an officer under the command of Brigadier General Karpinski and Lieutenant General Sanchez, tortured detainees at the Camp Bucca facility. Brigadier General Karpinski was aware of the conduct of Phillabaum’s soldiers. Neither she nor Lieutenant General Sanchez punished Phillabaum. Instead, Brigadier General Karpinski and Lieutenant General Sanchez placed Colonel

Phillabaum in command of the Abu Ghraib prison, where soldiers under his command again tortured and otherwise abused detainees.

127. The soldiers in Colonel Phillabaum's command who tortured and abused detainees at Camp Bucca in May 2003 were given extremely light sanctions. The most severe was a "less-than-honorable discharge." As Brigadier General Karpinski admitted, the inconsequential sanctions "communicated to the soldiers, the worst that's gonna happen is, you're gonna go home."

128. By at least November 2003, Lieutenant General Sanchez knew and should have known that soldiers under the command of Brigadier General Karpinski and Colonel Phillabaum again had tortured detainees, this time at Abu Ghraib. The Taguba Report described Colonel Phillabaum's battalion as "the most troubled battalion guarding, by far, the largest number of detainees in the 800th MP [military police] Brigade." However, Lieutenant General Sanchez took no action against Brigadier General Karpinski and Colonel Phillabaum until he suspended Phillabaum's command on January 17, 2004, about eight months after receiving notice of torture committed by Phillabaum's soldiers. Lieutenant General Sanchez issued a formal admonishment to Brigadier General Karpinski on January 17, 2004, but left her in command of all detainee operations in Iraq until the torture and other abuses at Abu Ghraib were publicly exposed in the media in May 2004.

129. Documents produced by the Department of Defense in litigation under the Freedom of Information Act, *see American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, et al. v. Dep't of Defense, et al.*, No. 04-cv-4151 (AKH) (S.D.N.Y. 2004), demonstrate that Defendant Rumsfeld and others under his command failed to investigate detainee deaths adequately and failed to punish soldiers responsible for deaths. For example, on September 11, 2003, a U.S. soldier shot

and killed an Iraqi detainee under suspicious circumstances. The Army Criminal Investigations Command did not receive a report on the shooting until September 15, 2003. During the intervening time, the crime scene was significantly altered, the weapon and bullet had not been collected, and no autopsy was conducted. Although the Army Criminal Investigations Command determined that probable cause existed for a murder charge, it was too late. The Army held a hearing under Article 32 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice to determine whether there was cause to charge the soldier with voluntary manslaughter. The result was a decision not to prosecute. The soldier had received a reduction in rank and was discharged from the Army before the Criminal Investigations Command's investigation was concluded.

130. The documents obtained through the Freedom of Information Act further reveal that in November 2003, the Army Criminal Investigations Command at Fort Stewart, Georgia, received a U.S. soldier's sworn statement that he had observed "war crimes" by U.S. military personnel against detainees in Iraq and that his "chain of command did nothing to stop these war crimes and allowed them to happen." Among other things, the soldier stated that detainees were forced to stay outdoors in extremely hot weather for up to 12 hours, with their hands bound so tightly behind their backs that their hands turned purple. The soldier also stated that U.S. military personnel drove a Bradley fighting vehicle toward detainees in order to "spook" them. The Criminal Investigations Command closed its investigation on the purported ground that "a thorough investigation failed to produce any logical subjects and there is no serious injury, and ... furtherance of the investigation would be of little or no value or leads remaining to be developed are not significant."

131. Defendant Rumsfeld has also failed and continues to fail in his duty to investigate the responsibility of high-level commanders and civilian officials for the torture or other cruel,

inhuman or degrading treatment of detainees. Although Defendant Rumsfeld and Lieutenant General Sanchez ordered investigations into the torture of prisoners, they knowingly limited those investigations in a manner that precluded finding wrongdoing by or assigning responsibility to high-ranking civilian or military commanders or officials, including themselves.

132. Despite having notice of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment at multiple detention facilities throughout Iraq, Lieutenant General Sanchez ordered Generals Fay and Taguba to investigate torture only in relation to Abu Ghraib and only in relation to certain brigades and for certain time periods. Lieutenant General Sanchez thus intentionally and knowingly avoided a meaningful and thorough inquiry into the knowledge and conduct of higher-level officials, as well as an investigation into the widespread nature of torture in Iraq. Defendant Rumsfeld knew of and acquiesced in or approved of Lieutenant General Sanchez's actions.

133. Official reports by Army investigators Generals Taguba, Jones and Fay concluded that Brigadier General Karpinski and Colonel Pappas, among others, were responsible for the abuses at Abu Ghraib through their failures of leadership. However, Defendant Rumsfeld and Lieutenant General Sanchez have failed to bring charges against anyone other than soldiers who personally tortured or otherwise abused detainees, despite having information that those soldiers acted at the direction of superior officers.

134. Although the U.S. military has taken some steps to punish personnel who committed homicide, torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, those steps began primarily after media attention to the Abu Ghraib scandal in May 2004, which was far too late to prevent the torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment inflicted on Plaintiffs.



135. In March 2004, approximately two months after Defendant Rumsfeld and high-ranking commanders in Iraq under his command came into possession of photographs of torture at Abu Ghraib but before those photographs became public, a detainee in U.S. custody in Mosul, Iraq, stated that he had been tortured by U.S. personnel. According to government documents produced under in litigation under the Freedom of Information Act, the detainee stated that U.S. personnel bent his thumb backwards, kicked him, hit him in the neck with the butt of a gun, deprived him of sleep, slammed his head against a wall, and repeatedly burned him with hot liquids and a lamp. A U.S. Army noncommissioned officer stated that he believed Navy SEALs might have physically abused the detainee and a U.S. military medical screening record reflected that the detainee had second-degree burns and singed tissue on his body. The Criminal Investigations Command nonetheless concluded that there was insufficient evidence to prove or disprove the detainee's statements, and it ended its investigation.

136. Other belated steps have been inadequate to stop the abuse of detainees, as demonstrated by the continued torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of detainees disclosed in documents produced pursuant to litigation under the Freedom of Information Act.

137. For example, the Freedom of Information Act documents reveal that prior to June 25, 2004, officers of the Defense Intelligence Agency witnessed members of a U.S. military unit known as Task Force 626 punching a detainee in the face "to the point that the individual needed medical attention." The Defense Intelligence Agency officers also observed that detainees arriving at a temporary detention facility in Baghdad had bruises and burn marks on their backs. When task force members learned that a Defense Intelligence Agency officer had photographed some detainees' injuries, the task force members confiscated the photographs and

threatened the officer. Task force members also seized the Defense Intelligence Agency officers' vehicle keys and ordered them not to leave the U.S. military compound. On information and belief, Defendant Rumsfeld was aware of the activities of Task Force 626 because he had established and directed activities of an intelligence-gathering unit that worked closely with Task Force 626.

138. The Freedom of Information Act documents further reveal that on or about May 11, 2004, a Defense Intelligence Agency officer witnessed detainees in Baghdad, Iraq, being abused by U.S. military personnel during an interrogation. The officer witnessed four or five non-interrogator military personnel enter the interrogation room and begin slapping the detainee as he was attempting to answer questions.

**C. Consequences of Defendant's Conduct**

**1. Defendant's Policies, Patterns or Practices Resulted in Widespread Torture and Abuse of Detainees in Afghanistan and Iraq**

139. On information and belief, the U.S. military has detained and continues to detain individuals at approximately 22 locations in Afghanistan, including facilities in Asadabad, Kabul, Jalalabad, and Khost under the control of the U.S. military.

140. As a result of Defendant Rumsfeld's policies, patterns or practices, the torture and abuse of detainees in U.S. military custody in Afghanistan has been widespread and systemic. It began soon after the commencement of military actions and has lasted well beyond the declared end of major combat.

141. In December 2001, John Walker Lindh, a U.S. citizen, was arrested and detained by the U.S. military in Afghanistan. Photographs taken at the time of his arrest show him emaciated, stripped naked, and bound to a stretcher.

142. In January 2002, U.S. soldiers detained a number of Afghan men for more than two weeks following a nighttime raid on a village, during which time the detainees were beaten and kicked. Upon their release, a spokesman for the U.S. Defense Department admitted that the detainees had not been part of the Taliban or Al Qaeda.

143. As widely documented in press reports, U.S. military personnel have subjected detainees in U.S. custody in Afghanistan to the following forms of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, among others:

- a. Extreme physical abuse: Soldiers severely beat detainees, forced them into painful and contorted positions for hours or days on end, and dumped cold water over detainees in the middle of the winter. Beatings were for the specific purpose of making detainees more susceptible to interrogation.
- b. Sexual abuse and humiliation: Detainees were kept naked for prolonged periods in the presence of male and female soldiers and in front of other detainees. Soldiers, both male and female, subjected detainees to sexual taunts, with knowledge that such treatment would be particularly offensive and humiliating by Afghan cultural norms.
- c. Use of dogs to frighten and intimidate detainees.
- d. Sensory deprivation: Detainees were kept hooded or goggled, held in dark cells, and kept in isolation for prolonged periods.
- e. Sleep deprivation: Detainees were forced to stay awake for prolonged periods by methods such as shining bright lights, blaring loud music, shouting at them or beating them if they fell asleep.

144. Detainees have been killed by torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment while in U.S. custody in Afghanistan. For example:

- a. According to documents produced by the Defense Department pursuant to litigation under the Freedom of Information Act, the Army Criminal Investigation Command concluded in September 2002 that a U.S. Army captain and three noncommissioned officers murdered a detainee in Afghanistan.
- b. Two other Afghan detainees, Mullah Habibullah and Dilawar, died in December 2002 at the Bagram detention facility in Afghanistan while in the custody of the U.S. military. During interrogation by members of the U.S. Army's 519th Military Intelligence Battalion, the detainees were shackled to the ceiling with their hands suspended over their shoulders for prolonged periods. Both had suffered blunt force trauma to the legs, and investigators determined that they had been beaten by multiple soldiers. Military pathologists determined within days of the deaths that the cause was homicide. Nevertheless, for months afterwards, and until the *New York Times* obtained a copy of Dilawar's autopsy report, the military falsely asserted that the men had died of natural causes.
- c. Another detainee, Jamal Naseer, died at a U.S. firebase in Gardez after being tortured and abused while in U.S. custody. Naseer and seven other members of the Afghan Army were arrested in March 2003; they were detained by U.S. forces and interrogated at Gardez for 17 days. The detainees were beaten regularly by U.S. interrogators, some reportedly

while shackled or while suspended upside down. Some were subjected to electric shocks and immersion in cold water. They were denied medical treatment for the injuries they received.

145. On information and belief, multiple other detainees have died while in U.S. military custody in Afghanistan under circumstances suggesting the cause of death was homicide.

146. The U.S. Army Criminal Investigations Command determined that members of the 377th Military Police Battalion and military intelligence officers based in Fort Bragg, North Carolina (apparently referring to the 519th Military Intelligence Battalion) committed abuses against detainees in Afghanistan, including the following: slamming detainees into walls, twisting handcuffs to cause pain, kneeling detainees, forcing a detainee to maintain painful, contorted positions, shackling a detainee's arms to the ceiling, and forcing water into the mouth of a detainee until he could not breathe.

147. On information and belief, the U.S. military has detained and continues to detain individuals at numerous detention facilities in Iraq under the control of the U.S. military. The policies, patterns or practices of torture and abuse of detainees that commenced in Afghanistan were extended and used against detainees in Iraq as a result of the actions and derelictions of Defendant Rumsfeld.

148. The U.S. government, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and non-governmental human rights organizations have documented hundreds of cases of abuse committed at U.S. detention facilities in Iraq.

149. These reports demonstrate that detainees in facilities under the exclusive control of the U.S. military have been subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment

on a widespread basis in Iraq. U.S. personnel have engaged in this unlawful conduct at facilities including but not limited to the notorious Abu Ghraib prison; the detention facility known as “Camp Cropper” at the Baghdad international airport; a facility near the city of Umm Qasr known as Camp Bucca; facilities in or near the cities of Tikrit and Mosul; and numerous locations in or near the city of Baghdad.

150. According to reports by the U.S. military, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and other non-governmental human rights organizations, and as revealed in voluminous documents produced by the government pursuant to litigation under the Freedom of Information Act, U.S. personnel inflicted the following types of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, among others, on detainees at numerous U.S. facilities in Iraq:

- a. Extreme physical abuse: Soldiers tore out detainees’ toenails, administered electric shocks, beat detainees with hard objects (including pistols and rifles), slapped and punched detainees, kicked them with knees or feet on various parts of the body (legs, sides, lower back, groin), forcefully pressed detainees’ faces into the ground by stepping on their heads, purposely exposed detainees to severe heat and sun for prolonged periods, and forced detainees to stay in “stress” positions (kneeling, squatting, standing with arms raised over their heads) for hours at a time.
- b. Various forms of sexual abuse and humiliation: Detainees were stripped naked and forced to stand for prolonged periods in public view, with arms raised or with women’s underwear over their heads, while male and female guards observed and laughed. Detainees were photographed in these positions. Detainees were paraded naked in front of other detainees.

Detainees were kept naked in solitary confinement for periods of several days.

- c. Threats of death, abuse, reprisals against family members, imminent execution or transfer to the military detention facility at Guantanamo: Soldiers aimed rifles at detainees, sometimes putting firearms directly against detainees' heads or torsos.
- d. Sensory deprivation: Hooding detainees to prevent them from seeing, to disorient them, and to prevent them from breathing freely. Hooding was sometimes used in conjunction with beatings, thus increasing fear because blows were unanticipated. The practice of hooding also allowed the interrogators to remain anonymous and thus to act with impunity. Detainees were also held in total darkness for prolonged periods.
- e. Painful and humiliating restraints: Soldiers applied flexi-cuffs to detainees' wrists so tightly and for such extended periods that they caused skin lesions and long-term nerve damage. Soldiers restrained detainees repeatedly over periods of several days, for several hours each time, with handcuffs to the bars of their cell doors in humiliating (i.e. naked or in underwear) and/or uncomfortable positions causing physical pain.

151. Official U.S. military reports have documented the notorious abuses at Abu Ghraib prison, among other detention facilities. These reports determined that soldiers inflicted the following torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment on detainees at Abu Ghraib:

- a. Homicide: A Navy SEAL beat a detainee to death. He struck the detainee in the head with a rifle butt. After the detainee lost consciousness, he was

placed in a shower room with a sandbag over his head, and, when guards returned 30-45 minutes later, he was dead.

- b. Extreme physical abuse: Soldiers punched, kicked and slapped detainees. A soldier knocked a detainee unconscious, and another punched a second detainee in the chest so hard that he could not breathe. Soldiers beat detainees with a broom handle and a chair. Soldiers broke chemical lights and poured the contents on detainees. A soldier slammed a detainee against a wall so hard that he required stitches, and then an ordinary military police guard was permitted to stitch the wound. A detainee was forced to “bark like a dog” and crawl on his stomach while military police personnel spit and urinated on him and beat him until he lost consciousness.
- c. Sexual abuse and humiliation: Soldiers threatened to rape detainees. An interpreter allegedly raped a juvenile male detainee while a female U.S. soldier watched and took pictures. Soldiers forced a naked detainee to stand on a box with a sandbag on his head, and attached wires to his fingers, toes and penis to simulate electric torture. Soldiers stripped detainees naked and kept them naked for prolonged periods. Soldiers photographed and videotaped naked detainees, sometimes while forcibly posed in sexual positions, forcibly dressed in women’s underwear, or forced to masturbate. Soldiers arranged naked detainees in a pile and then jumped on them. Soldiers placed a dog leash around a naked male detainee’s neck, posed a female soldier next to him and photographed him.



- d. Use of military dogs to intimidate and attack detainees: In at least one case, soldiers caused a dog to bite and severely injure a detainee. Some soldiers referred to the use of dogs to frighten or attack detainees as “doggy dance” sessions. On one occasion, soldiers placed vicious dogs into a cell with two juvenile detainees. Witnesses reported that the children screamed in terror as the dogs lunged and snapped at them, and that the younger child tried to hide behind the older one. On another occasion, two military dog handlers held a “contest” in which they competed against each other to see who could force detainees to lose control of their bladders or bowels out of fear.
- e. Sensory deprivation: Soldiers kept detainees in solitary confinement, sometimes in empty concrete cells in total darkness.

152. In reports presented to U.S. government officials and military commanders, the International Committee of the Red Cross documented hundreds of additional individual allegations of abuse committed at U.S. military detention facilities throughout Iraq. Fifty incidents of torture and other abuse were reported as occurring at the Camp Cropper detention facility alone. Among the “illustrative” cases of torture reported by the International Committee of the Red Cross are the following:

- a. At least two detainees were forced to sit or lie down on blistering surfaces, causing severe burns that resulted in large crusted lesions and, in one case, three months’ hospitalization, the amputation of a finger and large skin grafts.

- b. Military interrogators hooded and restrained a detainee with flexi-cuffs, threatened to torture and kill him, urinated on him, kicked him in the head, lower back and groin, force-fed him a baseball which was tied into his mouth, and deprived him of sleep for four consecutive days. When the detainee said he would report the abuse to the International Committee of the Red Cross, interrogators beat him again.

2. **Plaintiffs Injured in Afghanistan and Iraq By Defendant's Actions and Derelictions**

153. Plaintiffs Ahmad, Siddiqi, Shirullah and Abdul Rahman ("Afghanistan Detainee Plaintiffs") and Plaintiffs Arkan M. Ali, Sabbar, Khalid and Ali H. ("Iraq Detainee Plaintiffs") are among the countless detainees who were tortured and otherwise abused at U.S. military facilities in Afghanistan and Iraq as a result of the Defendant's policy, pattern or practice of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. The Plaintiffs are and were non-combatant innocent civilians who pose no threat to the United States, were not engaged in hostilities against the United States, were not prosecuted for criminal violations and were released from custody by the U.S. military after being brutally abused and tortured.

a. **Mehboob Ahmad**

154. Plaintiff Mehboob Ahmad was detained by U.S. military forces from approximately June to November 2003. Plaintiff Ahmad was detained in U.S. custody at various locations in Afghanistan, including the Gardez firebase and the Bagram air base.

155. For the purpose of causing severe pain and injuring, interrogating, intimidating, degrading and abusing him while he was in U.S. military custody, care and control, Defendant Rumsfeld's subordinates subjected Plaintiff Ahmad to the following forms of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, among others:

- a. Subjecting Plaintiff Ahmad to abusive and painful positions for several hours at a time during nightly interrogations, in order to humiliate him and cause severe pain. These abusive positions included: (1) hanging him upside-down from the ceiling with a chain; (2) hanging him by his arms with a chain; (3) forcing him to kneel on a wooden pole, cuffing his hands and forcing them to be raised to the ceiling with a chain, and repeatedly pushing and kicking him;
- b. Sexually assaulting, taunting and humiliating Plaintiff Ahmad by forcing him to strip and stay naked for lengthy periods of time; stripping and anally probing him; and having interrogators direct insults at his mother, wife, and sister and imply that the soldiers would rape his wife;
- c. Threatening Plaintiff Ahmad with transport to Guantanamo;
- d. Intimidating and threatening Plaintiff Ahmad with a snarling and barking dog at close range;
- e. Causing pain and fear by forcing Plaintiff Ahmad to drink twelve half-liter bottles of water in five minutes;
- f. Subjecting Plaintiff Ahmad to extreme sensory deprivation for the purpose of degrading and dehumanizing him by forcing him to wear black, opaque goggles almost continuously for the entire first month of his detention and for a period of several days' duration thereafter, and by applying sound-blocking earphones;
- g. Detaining Plaintiff Ahmad outdoors for weeks with no protection from the elements; and

- h. Forbidding Plaintiff Ahmad to speak with other detainees for the entire time he was detained, approximately five months, for the purpose of dehumanizing and degrading him.

156. As a result of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment while in U.S. custody, Plaintiff Ahmad suffered severe physical and psychological injuries. He continues to suffer the lasting effects of those injuries. Among other things, he suffers from leg pain and he sometimes cannot move his limbs when he awakes from sleep.

**b. Said Nabi Siddiqi**

157. Plaintiff Said Nabi Siddiqi was detained by U.S. military forces in Afghanistan from approximately July to August 2003. Plaintiff Siddiqi was detained at various locations in Afghanistan, including the Gardez firebase, the Kandahar airfield, and the Bagram air base.

158. For the purpose of causing severe pain and injuring, interrogating, intimidating, degrading and abusing him while he was in U.S. military custody, care and control, Defendant Rumsfeld's subordinates subjected Plaintiff Siddiqi to the following forms of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, among others:

- a. Subjecting Plaintiff Siddiqi to painful and abusive positions for long periods during interrogations, including forcing him to hold a 15-pound piece of wood in his cuffed hands, forcing him to maintain a pushup position while dousing him with water, beating him if he did not maintain the positions, kicking and poking him during interrogations, flashing bright lights into his eyes and yelling directly into his ears at top volume;
- b. Sexually humiliating and assaulting Plaintiff Siddiqi by stripping him naked, photographing him naked, probing his anus, and during interrogations, by making animal sounds and demanding to know which

animals he had sex with and by repeatedly telling him that his wife was a slut and his daughter was a street beggar;

- c. Causing extreme thirst by denying Plaintiff Siddiqi water for a prolonged period of time;
- d. Throwing stones and other objects at Plaintiff Siddiqi and other detainees while they used an open bucket toilet, and forcing Plaintiff Siddiqi and others to expose themselves publicly with knowledge that this would cause extreme humiliation and degradation by Afghan cultural norms;
- e. Subjecting Plaintiff Siddiqi to sleep deprivation for lengthy periods by throwing stones at him and other detainees all night in order to keep them from sleeping and by awakening them during the night, forcing them to roll around, dousing them with water and verbally abusing them, all for the purpose of dehumanizing and disorienting them;
- f. Interrogating Plaintiff Siddiqi every night for approximately two weeks, keeping him handcuffed and blindfolded for that entire period of time;
- g. Detaining Plaintiff Siddiqi for weeks in an outdoor area with no protection from the elements and extreme weather, for the purpose of dehumanizing him;
- h. Acting with deliberate indifference to Plaintiff Siddiqi's medical needs and health, confiscating his asthma inhaler, and detaining him in a room flooded with water.

159. As a result of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment while in U.S. custody, Plaintiff Siddiqi suffered severe physical and psychological injuries. He continues to

suffer the lasting effects of those injuries. Among other things, he has had depression, thoughts of suicide and nightmares, is quick to anger, and has suffered from memory loss.

**c. Mohammed Karim Shirullah**

160. Plaintiff Mohammed Karim Shirullah was incarcerated by U.S. military forces in Afghanistan from approximately December 2003 to June 2004. Plaintiff Shirullah was detained at various locations in Afghanistan, including the Gardez firebase and the Bagram air base.

161. For the purpose of causing severe pain and injuring, interrogating, intimidating, degrading and abusing him while he was in U.S. military custody, care and control, Defendant Rumsfeld's subordinates subjected Plaintiff Shirullah to the following forms of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, among others:

- a. Punching and kicking Plaintiff Shirullah in the head during interrogation so fiercely and repeatedly that he fell to the ground repeatedly and that the blows ruptured his right eardrum;
- b. Stripping Plaintiff Shirullah naked and throwing water on him during interrogation;
- c. Intentionally dehumanizing Plaintiff Shirullah by subjecting him to sensory deprivation by forcing him to wear black, opaque goggles and wrist restraints for a period of more than two weeks, and by subjecting him to solitary confinement in a room with no windows for over one month;
- d. Humiliating Plaintiff Shirullah and causing pain by forcing him to maintain painful and contorted positions, including forcing him to maintain his arms in a "T" position for one hour, and forcing him to sit in

a very small space with no back support for six hours with his wrists and legs tied and his eyes and ears covered;

- e. Sexually humiliating Plaintiff Shirullah by stripping him naked, probing his anus and photographing him while he was naked, and forcing him to use an open toilet, with knowledge that such treatment would cause extreme psychological suffering by Afghan cultural norms;
- f. Failing to treat the injury that U.S. personnel caused to Plaintiff Shirullah's ear while beating him; and
- g. Dehumanizing Plaintiff Shirullah by forbidding him to speak with other detainees for the entire time that he was detained, approximately six months.

162. As a result of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment while in U.S. custody, Plaintiff Shirullah suffered severe physical and psychological injuries. He continues to suffer the lasting effects of those injuries. Among other things, he is deaf in his right ear, and his legs swell painfully. He cannot sleep through the night without medication.

**d. Haji Abdul Rahman**

163. Plaintiff Haji Abdul Rahman was incarcerated by U.S. military forces in Afghanistan from approximately December 2003 to May 2004. Plaintiff Abdul Rahman was detained in various locations in Afghanistan, including the Gardez firebase and the Bagram air base.

164. For the purpose of causing severe pain and injuring, interrogating, intimidating, degrading and abusing him while he was in U.S. military custody, care and control, Defendant Rumsfeld's subordinates subjected Plaintiff Abdul Rahman to the following forms of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, among others:

- a. Subjecting Plaintiff Abdul Rahman to interrogation while forcing him to kneel with his hands cuffed behind his back and with blackout goggles on, placing a chain or other object through the handcuffs and repeatedly jerking on it to pull his arms and wrench his shoulders and wrists to cause extreme fear, intimidation and pain;
- b. Sexually assaulting and humiliating Plaintiff Abdul Rahman by forcing him to strip naked in front of other people and anally probing him on multiple occasions, and by placing blackout goggles over his eyes, and photographing him while he was naked;
- c. Subjecting Plaintiff Abdul Rahman to extreme restraints, blackout goggles and handcuffs for virtually the entire first month of his detention; subsequently placing him in blackout goggles and sound-deadening headphones and subjecting him to solitary confinement for 15 days for no reason other than to intimidate, humiliate, degrade and abuse him;
- d. Subjecting Plaintiff Abdul Rahman to sleep deprivation by detaining him in brightly-lit areas for approximately three months and by making loud noises to keep him and other detainees awake and to dehumanize them and to disorient them as to the passage of time; and
- e. Threatening to transport him to Guantanamo.

165. As a result of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment while in U.S. custody, Plaintiff Abdul Rahman suffered severe physical and psychological injuries. He continues to suffer the lasting effects of those injuries. Among other things, he suffers great pain and sometimes loss of sensation and near-paralysis in his leg and back. He suffers vision



problems and memory lapses. He has emotional problems and is quick to anger, which has caused difficulties with his family and work.

e. **Arkan M. Ali**

166. Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali was detained by U.S. military forces in Iraq for approximately 11 months, from approximately July 2003 to June 2004. Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali was detained at various locations in Iraq, including a civil defense station in Baghdad, a military prison at the Baghdad international airport, Camp Bucca, and the Abu Ghraib prison.

167. For the purpose of causing severe pain and injuring, interrogating, intimidating, degrading and abusing him while he was in U.S. military custody, care and control, Defendant Rumsfeld's subordinates subjected Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali to the following forms of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, among others:

- a. Subjecting Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali to severe beatings by groups of military personnel throughout his eleven months in U.S. custody, including twice beating him to unconsciousness during interrogation, using hands, feet, chains and weapons;
- b. Forcibly restraining Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali and using a large knife to repeatedly stab and slice his forearm causing extreme pain, bleeding and scarring;
- c. Burning or shocking Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali's forearm with a small metal device;
- d. Subjecting Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali to prolonged sensory and sleep deprivation;

- e. Repeatedly locking Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali for several days in a wooden coffin-like box, sometimes after stripping him naked and tying a hood over his head;
- f. Urinating on Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali intentionally to humiliate and degrade him;
- g. Detaining Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali in a “silent tent” for days at a time, during which he was denied sleep and dragged face-down along the ground and severely beaten by soldiers whenever it appeared he might be falling asleep;
- h. Subjecting Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali to multiple death threats, including but not limited to the following: threats to transfer him to Guantanamo where he was told soldiers could kill detainees with impunity; mock executions by threatening to run Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali and other detainees down with a large military vehicle; brandishing guns and threatening to shoot Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali and other detainees; approaching Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali with a sword and threatening to slaughter him;
- i. Falsely telling Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali and other detainees during transport between prisons that they were being taken to another country, in order to terrorize and disorient them and to lead them to believe that they would never see their families again;
- j. Denying Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali food and water for long periods, intentionally causing extreme hunger and thirst; and

- k. Repeatedly desecrating the Quran in the presence of Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali and other detainees to demean and degrade them, including having a military dog pick up the Quran in its mouth.

168. Upon Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali's release from U.S. custody, a U.S. official threatened him by specifically telling him that if he ever reported or discussed the abuse he and others suffered in detention, the U.S. government would find him and he would never see his family again. Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali understood the official to mean that such future detention would be retaliatory and would include further torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or even death.

169. As a result of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment while in U.S. custody, Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali suffered severe physical and psychological injuries. He continues to suffer the lasting effects of those injuries. Among other things, he suffers from pain in the kidneys, colon and urinary tract. He also bears severe scars on his arm from the stabbing and burning he suffered. He has severe depression, frequent severe nightmares, and episodes of shortness of breath and an involuntary gulping reflex, which he never experienced prior to his detention. As a result of his continuing injuries, Plaintiff Arkan M. Ali has been unable to maintain employment and his personal relationships with his family and others have deteriorated.

**f. Thahe M. Sabbar**

170. Plaintiff Thahe M. Sabbar was detained by U.S. military forces in Iraq from approximately July 2003 to January 2004. Plaintiff Sabbar was detained at various locations in Iraq, including locations in Baghdad known as al-Qasr al-Jumhuri and al-Qasr al-Sujood, the prison at the Baghdad international airport, Camp Bucca, and Abu Ghraib.

171. For the purpose of causing severe pain and injuring, interrogating, intimidating, degrading and abusing him while he was in U.S. military custody, care and control, Defendant

Rumsfeld's subordinates subjected Plaintiff Sabbar with the following forms of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, among others:

- a. Frequent severe beatings, including beating Plaintiff Sabbar with their fists and guns while he was handcuffed and helpless, hitting him in the genitals, and forcing him and other detainees to run through a gauntlet of 10 to 20 uniformed soldiers who were screaming at them and beating them with wooden batons;
- b. Twice using a gun-shaped device to inflict excruciating electrical shocks on Plaintiff Sabbar;
- c. Sexually assaulting Plaintiff Sabbar: One or more soldiers in the presence of male and female soldiers inserted their fingers into Plaintiff Sabbar's anus and grabbed and fondled his buttocks and penis while making moaning sounds and jeering at him in a sexually degrading and intimidating manner;
- d. Staging extraordinary mock executions of Plaintiff Sabbar and other detainees to terrorize, humiliate and degrade them and to extract false confessions, including: forcing Plaintiff Sabbar and other detainees to stand against a wall and staging a mock firing squad with simulated gunfire, laughing as detainees lost control of their bladders in their terror; and threatening to send Plaintiff Sabbar to Guantanamo and informing him that he would be killed there;

- e. Using extreme restraints, hooding him and applying handcuffs so tightly that Plaintiff Sabbar suffered extreme pain and experienced numbness in his hands and wrists;
- f. Shackling Plaintiff Sabbar's hands to a fence behind his back, subjecting him to that position for several hours at temperatures exceeding 120 degrees Fahrenheit (50 degrees Celsius) while denying him any water or food, and other prolonged periods of exposure to extremely hot conditions and denial of water, to the point that he lost consciousness on several occasions;
- g. Intentionally causing humiliation and extreme hunger by depriving Plaintiff Sabbar of food and water for extended periods of time, or by providing him with food containing pork or foul-smelling and spoiled food which caused detainees to vomit when they tried to eat it;
- h. Intentionally humiliating Plaintiff Sabbar by denying him the use of toilet facilities for extended periods while he was shackled thereby causing him to soil his pants; and
- i. Desecrating the Quran in the presence of Plaintiff Sabbar and other detainees to demean and degrade them, including throwing the book to the floor and stepping on it.

172. After his release from U.S. custody, Plaintiff Sabbar and Plaintiff Khalid returned to Abu Ghraib to seek return of property confiscated from them by U.S. forces and to inquire about a mutual business partner who remained in custody. Plaintiffs Sabbar and Khalid were detained in a locked room by military personnel and then released without receiving any

response to their inquiries. As a result of this experience, Plaintiff Sabbar fears that U.S. forces will detain him again if he pursues remedies for his injuries and losses from U.S. military officials in Iraq.

173. As a result of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment while in U.S. custody, Plaintiff Sabbar suffered severe physical and psychological injuries. He continues to suffer the lasting effects of those injuries. Among other things, Plaintiff Sabbar continues to suffer from nerve damage and pain in his shoulder, severe nightmares, incontinence, impotence, and uncontrollable bouts of shaking and crying as a direct result of the torture and abuse he experienced.

**g. Sherzad K. Khalid**

174. Plaintiff Sherzad K. Khalid was detained by U.S. military forces in Iraq from approximately July to September 2003. Plaintiff Khalid was detained at various locations in Iraq, including locations in Baghdad known as al-Qasr al-Jumhuri and al-Qasr al-Sujood, a prison at the Baghdad international airport, and Camp Bucca.

175. For the purpose of causing severe pain and injuring, interrogating, intimidating, degrading and abusing him while he was in U.S. military custody, care and control, Defendant Rumsfeld's subordinates subjected Plaintiff Khalid to the following forms of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, among others:

- a. Kicking and punching Plaintiff Khalid over a period of hours while he was shackled and hooded and seated on the ground, terrorizing and injuring him with random and unanticipated blows;
- b. Forcing Plaintiff Khalid and other detainees to run a gauntlet of approximately 10 to 20 uniformed U.S. soldiers who beat them with batons; grabbing Plaintiff Khalid by the head, shoving him to the ground,

- and stepping on his head; interrogating Plaintiff Khalid on numerous occasions and beating him severely before each interrogation; and routinely beating Plaintiff Khalid throughout his period of detention, such that his body was covered with deep bruises at the time of his release;
- c. Sexually assaulting and humiliating Plaintiff Khalid by grabbing his buttocks and simulating anal rape by pressing a water bottle against the seat of his pants; putting a hand inside Plaintiff Khalid's pants and grabbing his buttocks during a severe beating, punching him in the mouth breaking one of his teeth when he protested, and then brandishing a long wooden pole and threatening to sodomize him on the spot and every night of his detention;
- d. Using extreme restraints, applying tight hoods that restricted Plaintiff Khalid's breathing and vision, and handcuffing him so tightly that he suffered severe and long-lasting pain, in order to cause pain and fear;
- e. Shackling Plaintiff Khalid's hands to a fence behind his back, subjecting him to that painful position for several hours at temperatures exceeding 120 degrees Fahrenheit (50 degrees Celsius) while denying him any water or food, in order to cause extreme thirst, pain, and humiliation, and other prolonged periods of exposure to extremely hot conditions;
- f. Subjecting Plaintiff Khalid to prolonged sleep deprivation in a so-called "silent tent" for several days and severely beating him whenever he started to fall asleep;

- g. Subjecting Plaintiff Khalid to extraordinary mock executions and death threats to coerce false confessions, including placing a gun to Plaintiff Khalid's head and demanding a confession and placing him in a mock firing squad with simulated gunfire;
- h. Intentionally causing Plaintiff Khalid severe hunger and humiliation by denying him food and water for extended periods, or providing him with food containing pork or foul-smelling, spoiled food that caused detainees to vomit when they tried to eat it;
- i. Intentionally humiliating Plaintiff Khalid by denying him the use of toilet facilities for extended periods while he was shackled thereby causing him to soil his pants;
- j. Deliberately depriving Plaintiff Khalid of adequate medical attention and acting with deliberate indifference to his medical needs, including refusing to provide adequate treatment for severe abdominal pains, which were diagnosed after his release as caused by a serious stomach infection.

176. After his release from U.S. custody, Plaintiff Khalid accompanied Plaintiff Sabbar to Abu Ghraib to seek return of property confiscated by U.S. forces and to inquire about a mutual business partner who remained in custody. Both Plaintiff Sabbar and Plaintiff Khalid were detained in a locked room by military personnel and were then released without receiving any response to their inquiries. As a result of this experience, Plaintiff Khalid fears that U.S. forces will detain him again if he pursues remedies for his injuries and losses from U.S. military officials in Iraq.



177. As a result of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment while in U.S. custody, Plaintiff Khalid suffered severe physical and psychological injuries. He continues to suffer the lasting effects of those injuries. As a result of the untreated stomach infection he suffered in detention, he now has ulcers of the stomach and is required to take medication. Since his detention, he has continued to suffer from increased and high blood pressure and severe back pain. In addition, he suffers from severe depression and nightmares that have caused serious difficulties in his work and family relationships.

**h. Ali H.**

178. Plaintiff Ali H. was detained by U.S. military forces in Iraq from approximately August to September 2003, when he was 17 years old. Plaintiff Ali H. was detained at various locations in Iraq, including a former Baghdad police station, a facility in or near the city of Al-Tasfeerat, the Baghdad airport prison, Abu Ghraib, and facilities near the cities of Yusufiya and Mosul and in the Jarf al-Sakhr desert.

179. For the purpose of causing severe pain and injuring, interrogating, intimidating, degrading and abusing him while he was in U.S. military custody, care and control, Defendant Rumsfeld's subordinates subjected Plaintiff Ali H. to the following forms of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, among others:

- a. At the time of arrest, shooting Plaintiff Ali H., hitting him with a gun, throwing him to the ground, and stepping on his head even though he was innocent of any wrongdoing, bleeding profusely from two gunshot wounds, and posed no threat to the arresting soldiers;
- b. Refusing to provide medical care for gunshot wounds inflicted by U.S. forces for several hours and then removing bullets from Plaintiff Ali H.'s neck and back without anesthetic, intentionally causing excruciating pain;

- c. Refusing to provide Plaintiff Ali H. with food, water, and pain medication for one-and-a-half days, despite his gunshot wounds, in order to cause pain, hunger, thirst, and humiliation;
- d. Refusing to provide Plaintiff Ali H. with adequate medical care and pain medication when he received a life-threatening shrapnel wound during a mortar attack, while he was housed in an outdoor tent at Abu Ghraib. U.S. military personnel intentionally inflicted pain and torture on Plaintiff Ali H. while he was recovering from abdominal surgery by: roughly dragging him from one location to another after surgery, in a way calculated to cause severe pain; keeping him shackled hand and foot to a bed with a blanket placed over his face; transferring him to a prison where he was forced to sleep on the ground outdoors in extremely hot weather without any shelter, despite being in excruciating pain and having an intravenous tube in his arm; and refusing to change the bandages on his surgical wounds and humiliating him when he requested medical assistance, thereby causing his surgical wound to become infected and leak pus, and inflicting further extreme pain and humiliation by roughly ripping away the bandage and then intentionally leaving the wound half-exposed in order to humiliate and injure him; and
- e. Intentionally releasing Plaintiff Ali H. in a manner intended to terrorize and degrade him by first informing him that he would be released, then telling him he would be sent to another prison, and then cutting off his identification bracelet, confiscating his release papers and physically

throwing him from a bus to the ground outside while he still had an intravenous tube in his arm, in a manner calculated to prevent him from seeking relief for the injuries he suffered while in custody.

180. As a result of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment while in U.S. custody, Plaintiff Ali H. suffered severe physical and psychological injuries. He continues to suffer the lasting effects of those injuries. Among other things, he suffers severe abdominal pain, particularly in cold weather and while lifting objects. His physician has advised him not to lift objects weighing over two pounds and has further advised that his condition may worsen over time. Plaintiff Ali H. has frequent nightmares relating to the abuse he suffered and witnessed in detention, and awakens his parents during the night when he screams and cries in his sleep. In addition, he is often forced to leave school because of debilitating fatigue, severe depression and abdominal pains.

**D. Additional Allegations**

181. Defendant Rumsfeld has neither denied nor refuted the widespread torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of detainees in Iraq and Afghanistan under the effective control and exclusive care and custody of U.S. military forces under his command.

182. Defendant Rumsfeld is a civilian commander of the U.S. Armed Forces. He at all times had authority and control over the detention facilities in Afghanistan and Iraq at which Plaintiffs were tortured. He had effective control over all personnel within those detention facilities who carried out, authorized or allowed the widespread and systematic torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of detainees. Defendant Rumsfeld also had effective policymaking authority over the detention and interrogation of detainees in U.S. military custody.

183. The Afghanistan and Iraq Detainee Plaintiffs were detained under the complete and exclusive jurisdiction and control of military police, military intelligence or other individuals or agents under the direction and control of the U.S. military.

184. Defendant Rumsfeld's actions and omissions were the proximate cause of the torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of Plaintiffs and other detainees in U.S. military custody in Iraq and Afghanistan and are the proximate cause of injuries suffered by Plaintiffs. In that conduct, Defendant Rumsfeld acted under color of law beyond the scope of his lawful and delegated authority.

185. Defendant Rumsfeld acted under color of law in formulating, authorizing, ratifying, implementing, and failing to prevent a policy, pattern or practice causing detainees in U.S. military facilities under the exclusive custody and control of the United States to be tortured and subjected to other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. Defendant Rumsfeld knew and should have known that subordinate personnel in U.S. military facilities were engaging in such unlawful conduct on a widespread basis, yet he failed to ensure that those subordinate personnel acted lawfully. As a result, Plaintiffs and other prisoners in U.S. military custody in Afghanistan and Iraq have been tortured or subjected to other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. Thus, by his acts, omissions and derelictions, Defendant Rumsfeld is liable for the injuries that Plaintiffs suffered as victims of the widespread policy, pattern or practice of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment in violation of law.

186. At the time the Afghanistan Detainee Plaintiffs were detained by U.S. military forces, Defendant Rumsfeld knew and had notice of widespread torture by subordinates but failed to take steps to stop the unlawful conduct. At the time the Iraq Detainee Plaintiffs were detained by U.S. military forces, Defendant Rumsfeld and others under his command knew and

had notice of widespread torture by subordinates but failed to take steps to stop the unlawful conduct.

187. Each of the Plaintiffs suffered serious physical and psychological injury as a result of Defendant Rumsfeld's actions and omissions.

188. Defendant Rumsfeld's subordinates maliciously and sadistically inflicted unnecessary pain and harm on Plaintiffs. Defendant Rumsfeld could foresee these actions by his subordinates because he had notice that the U.S. military was engaging in torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment before Plaintiffs suffered their injuries. Defendant Rumsfeld thus acted with conscious disregard of the excessive risk of harm to Plaintiffs.

189. In carrying out his unlawful policies, patterns, practices and procedures, and in his other actions and omissions described above, Defendant Rumsfeld violated clearly established constitutional rights and other domestic and international laws, and knew that he was doing so.

190. Absent judicial action, Plaintiffs have no meaningful avenue for obtaining adequate redress for their injuries, including a declaration of their rights against Defendant Rumsfeld.

191. Plaintiffs have no effective means to prevent the policy, pattern, or practice at issue in this suit except through an action against high-ranking civilian and military U.S. commanders and officials.

192. Plaintiffs and each of them fear and are at risk of detention by the U.S. military and of continued injury and abuse in violation of law. On information and belief, Defendant Rumsfeld has not rescinded his authorizations for harsh interrogation and detention policies that caused Plaintiffs' torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. Defendant Rumsfeld's policy, pattern, or practice that caused Plaintiffs' injuries continues in effect.

## **JURY DEMAND**

193. Plaintiffs request a trial by jury in this action on each and every count alleged herein.

## **CLAIMS**

### **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

#### **Violation Of Fifth Amendment Due Process Clause**

194. Paragraphs 1 through 193 are incorporated as if set forth fully herein.

195. Defendant's actions described herein violate the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution, which prohibits any person acting under color of U.S. law from engaging in or allowing torture, abuse or other treatment that "shocks the conscience," of any person in U.S. custody or control.

196. In his conduct set forth in this Complaint, Defendant acted under color of federal law.

197. Defendant's actions, orders, authorizations, approvals and omissions caused the torture and abuse of Plaintiffs in violation of the Fifth Amendment and gives rise to a cause of action for damages directly under the Constitution pursuant to *Bivens v. Six Unknown Named Agents of Federal Bureau of Narcotics*, 403 U.S. 388 (1971).

198. Defendant had actual and constructive knowledge that his subordinates were violating the constitutional rights of Plaintiffs, and had actual and constructive knowledge that it was highly likely that these constitutional violations would occur as a result of his actions, orders, policies, practices and omissions. Despite this knowledge, Defendant acted with reckless and deliberate indifference to his subordinates' unconstitutional actions. Through his actions and failures to act, Defendant expressly and tacitly authorized his subordinates' unlawful conduct.

199. Defendant Rumsfeld had power to formulate policies relating to the treatment and interrogation of detainees, and exercised that power to generate illegal practices, namely, the torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of detainees in Iraq and Afghanistan.

200. Defendant Rumsfeld directly and knowingly authorized his subordinates to engage in conduct that shocks the conscience — namely, the torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of detainees.

**SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**Violation Of the Fifth and Eighth Amendment Prohibition On Cruel And Unusual Punishment**

201. Paragraphs 1 through 200 are incorporated as if set forth fully herein.

202. Defendant's actions described herein violate the prohibition on cruel and unusual punishment in the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment and the Cruel and Unusual Punishment Clause of the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution. Those amendments prohibit any person under color of U.S. law from engaging in or allowing torture, or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment or other treatment that constitutes deprivation of basic human needs such as food and reasonable safety, and the unnecessary and wanton infliction of pain on any person in U.S. custody or control. The Cruel and Unusual Punishment Clause of the Eighth Amendment and the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment give rise to a cause of action for damages directly under the Constitution pursuant to *Bivens v. Six Unknown Named Agents of Federal Bureau of Narcotics*, 403 U.S. 388 (1971).

203. Defendant Rumsfeld and his subordinates authorized, ratified, and failed to stop and prevent the torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of Plaintiffs and other detainees in U.S. custody, which occurred as a form of summary punishment for perceived or

alleged wrongdoing and constituted imposition of sentence on Plaintiffs without an adjudication of guilt.

204. Defendant Rumsfeld had power to formulate policies relating to the treatment and interrogation of detainees, and exercised that power to generate illegal practices, namely, the torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of detainees in Iraq and Afghanistan.

205. Defendant was responsible for the command and supervision of individuals who subjected Plaintiffs and other detainees to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. Defendant knew that his subordinates had engaged in such unlawful activity, including actions undertaken maliciously and sadistically for the very purpose of causing unnecessary pain and harm to further unlawfully the interrogation, punishment, intimidation or coercion of Plaintiffs and other detainees. Defendant also knew that it was highly likely that his subordinates would continue to engage in such unlawful torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. Yet Defendant acted with deliberate indifference and conscious disregard of the high likelihood of injury, and failed to take steps to prevent his subordinates from engaging in such conduct.

**THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**Torture In Violation Of The Law Of Nations**

206. Paragraphs 1 through 205 are incorporated as if set forth fully herein.

207. Defendant's actions described herein violate the law of nations which prohibits engaging in or permitting torture. The prohibition against torture is a "specific, universal, and obligatory" norm, from which no derogation is allowed. *See Sosa v. Alvarez-Machain*, 124 S. Ct. 2739, 2763, 2766 (2004); *id.* at 2783 (Breyer, J., concurring); U.N. Convention Against Torture or Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, Dec. 10, 1984, 23 I.L.M. 1027, 1465 U.N.T.S. 85.



208. Defendant's actions and omissions are the direct and proximate cause of Plaintiffs' injuries and give rise to a cause of action for a tort in violation of the law of nations.

209. Defendant had effective command and control of individuals who intentionally and knowingly subjected each of the Plaintiffs to torture, which is prohibited by the law of nations.

210. Defendant had actual and constructive knowledge of his subordinates' torture of detainees in U.S. custody and violated his duty as a commander to punish the perpetrators or otherwise to prevent further acts of torture.

**FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**Cruel, Inhuman Or Degrading Treatment In Violation Of The Law Of Nations**

211. Paragraphs 1 through 210 are incorporated as if set forth fully herein.

212. Defendant's actions described herein violate the law of nations which prohibits engaging in or permitting cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. The prohibition against cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment is an international law norm, which applies without exception. *See, e.g.*, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 999 U.N.T.S. 171, Mar. 23, 1976; Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, Art. 147 & Art. 3 Common to all Four Geneva Conventions. Defendant's actions and omissions are the direct and proximate cause of Plaintiffs' injuries and give rise to a cause of action for a tort in violation of the law of nations.

213. Defendant had effective command and control of individuals who intentionally and knowingly subjected each of the Plaintiffs to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, which is prohibited by the law of nations.

214. Defendant had actual and constructive knowledge of his subordinates' torture of detainees in U.S. custody, but did not fulfill his duty as a commander to punish the perpetrators or otherwise to prevent further acts of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

**FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**Violation Of The Geneva Conventions**

215. Paragraphs 1 through 214 are incorporated as if set forth fully herein.

216. Plaintiffs were tortured and subjected to other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment during their detentions in U.S. custody in violation of specific provisions of the Third and Fourth Geneva Conventions, including but not limited to Article 3 Common to all Four Conventions.

217. Violations of these provisions of the Geneva Conventions are direct and enforceable treaty violations as well as violations of the law of nations.

218. Defendant is liable for violations of Plaintiffs' rights under the Geneva Conventions because Defendant formulated, authorized, approved, directed or ratified the torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of Plaintiffs as part of a policy, pattern or practice. In addition, Defendant is liable because his subordinates deliberately and intentionally engaged in the torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of Plaintiffs while acting under his effective command and control, and Defendant knew and should have known of his subordinates' actions but failed to prevent or punish them.

**SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**Declaratory Relief For Violation Of The Law Of Nations, Of The Geneva Conventions And  
Of The Constitution**

219. Paragraphs 1 through 218 above are incorporated as if fully set forth herein.

220. There is a real and actual controversy between Plaintiffs and Defendant Rumsfeld as to whether he has violated the Plaintiffs' legal rights under the law of nations, binding treaties and the U.S. Constitution as a result of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of Plaintiffs while in U.S. custody.

221. Plaintiffs reasonably fear that they are at risk of and will again be subjected to Defendant's unlawful and unconstitutional actions, and seek a judicial declaration that Defendant's conduct deprived them of their rights under the law of nations, provisions of the Geneva Conventions, and the Fifth and Eighth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

222. The Court therefore should grant declaratory relief and any further necessary and proper relief as set forth below, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201, 2202.

## **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

Plaintiffs therefore respectfully request that the Court enter a judgment including but not limited to:

- a. A declaration that the acts alleged herein are unlawful and violate the Constitution, treaty provisions including provisions of the Geneva Conventions, military rules and guidelines, and the law of nations;
- b. A declaration that the policy, pattern, or practice of the Defendant alleged herein is unlawful and violates the Constitution, treaty provisions including provisions of the Geneva Conventions, military rules and guidelines, and the law of nations;
- c. A declaration that assigns responsibility for Plaintiffs' injuries to Defendant for his failure to take necessary and adequate measures to prevent persons under his effective command from engaging in the torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of Plaintiffs and his failure to punish persons under his effective command for engaging in such conduct;
- d. Compensatory damages for violation of the law of nations and the Constitution in an amount that is fair, just and reasonable;
- e. Attorneys' fees and costs; and
- f. All other appropriate relief as may be just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

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