August 5, 2009

By fax: (202) 336-5708

Dear Dr. Bray,

As you will see in the attached letter, the Canadian Centre for International Justice and the U.S.-based Center for Constitutional Rights today called on Canada’s Minister of Public Safety, the Honourable Peter Van Loan, to launch an investigation into whether any attendees of this week’s APA Convention in Toronto were complicit in war crimes and/or torture. Publicly-available information, summarized in the letter and an appendix, indicates that retired U.S. Army colonel and psychologist Dr. Larry C. James and possibly other attendees may have had a role in abusive interrogations in Guantanamo, Afghanistan or Iraq. Faced with this information, we have called on Minister Van Loan to investigate whether Dr. James or others acted in violation of Canada’s Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes Act and/or section 269.1 of the Criminal Code.

We are aware that the role of psychologists in U.S. military interrogations is an issue that has been raised by APA members over the last few years. We hope that the APA will enact strong measures to ensure that its members are not involved in abuses and take appropriate steps against those found to have played a role in human rights violations.

Sincerely,

William Quigley
Legal Director
Center for Constitutional Rights

Jayne Stoyles
Executive Director
Canadian Centre for International Justice