

GUANTÁNAMO TIMELINE



November 13, 2001

President George W. Bush issues an Executive Order, establishing military commissions to try those captured in the “War on Terror” and authorizing indefinite detention without due process of law.

January 11, 2002

The first 20 prisoners are brought to Guantánamo’s Camp X-Ray. They are labeled “unlawful enemy combatants,” denied any of the required legal protections under international law, held incommunicado, and subjected to torture and cruel and inhumane treatment.

February 2002

CCR and co-counsel file the first habeas corpus petition, *Rasul v. Bush*, on behalf of three Guantánamo detainees challenging the November Executive Order.

June 28, 2004

Supreme Court rules in *Rasul v. Bush* that Guantánamo detainees have the right to challenge the legality of their detention in federal court with the assistance of lawyers.

October 17, 2006

Congress enacts Military Commissions Act of 2006 to authorize the use of military commissions and to suspend the detainees’ right to habeas corpus.

June 12, 2008

Supreme Court holds in *Boumediene v. Bush*, that detainees have a constitutional right to file habeas petitions in federal court and to have a “meaningful” judicial review of the legality of their detention.

January 20, 2009

245 prisoners remain at Guantánamo when President Obama takes office. Two days later, he signs an Executive Order to close the prison within one year.

February 2016

Presidential candidate Donald Trump states his intention to keep Guantánamo open and to “load it up with some bad dudes.”

January 21, 2017

41 prisoners remain detained at Guantánamo, including five men who are cleared for release, when President Trump takes office.

January 11, 2018

The 16th anniversary of the prison’s opening. No one has been released from Guantánamo since President Trump took office. CCR and co-counsel for a group of uncharged prisoners file a challenge to Trump’s Guantánamo policies.



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