



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
**San Diego Public Library**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY HOSTS AUTHOR TALK DISCUSSING TORTURE,  
INCARCERATION, INTERROGATION AND ABUSE**

*Ongoing Civic Programs Foster Public Conversation about the Constitution*

**SAN DIEGO** –The San Diego Public Library will host an author talk featuring Thomas Jefferson School of Law professor Marjorie Cohn discussing her new book *The United States and Torture: Interrogation, Incarceration, and Abuse* on Monday, October 8, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at the Central Library located at 820 E Street in downtown San Diego.

*The United States and Torture* explores “America’s policy of torture,” dissecting America’s long relationship with interrogation and torture, which roots back to the 1950s. How did America come to embrace this practice so fully, and how was it justified from a moral, legal, and psychological perspective? This program is presented in conjunction with the months long library project, *Searching for Democracy: A Public Conversation about the Constitution* sponsored by the California Council for the Humanities.

*Searching for Democracy* brings together people from diverse backgrounds to attend and discuss the Constitution at programs including lectures, book discussions, films, digital stories, and performance. Young and old, rich and poor, new citizens and long-term residents will have the opportunity to openly explore the understanding of our American heritage and citizenry. The endeavor will also afford individual library patrons a greater understanding of the Library’s vast collection of Constitution related titles and digital resources.

Professor Cohn is a former president of the National Lawyers Guild. She lectures throughout the world on international human rights and U.S. foreign policy. A news consultant for CBS News and a legal analyst for Court TV, she also provides legal and political commentary on BBC, CNN, MSNBC, Fox News, NPR, Air America and Pacifica Radio. In addition, Professor Cohn is the author of *Cowboy Republic: Six Ways the Bush Gang Has Defied the Law* and co-author of

**-more-**

*Cameras in the Courtroom: Television and the Pursuit of Justice* and *Rules of Disengagement: The Politics and Honor of Military Dissent*. Her latest book, *The United States and Torture: Interrogation, Incarceration and Abuse*, came out in 2011.

Visit <http://sandiego.communityguides.com/constitution> to find out more about the Constitution series. Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library's catalog online at [www.sandiegolibrary.gov](http://www.sandiegolibrary.gov).

*Inspiring lifelong learning through connections to knowledge and each other*

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