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Subject: **Statement - September 11th Advocates Regarding Surveillance of Mohammed Atta**
Date: August 10, 2005 5:25:07 AM PDT
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For Immediate Release
August 10, 2005

**Statement of September 11th Advocates
Regarding Surveillance of Mohammed Atta**

As a group of 9/11 widows who fought for the creation of the 9/11 Independent Commission, we are horrified to learn of further possible evidence (*as detailed by the New York Times article, "4 in 9/11 Plot Are Called Tied to Qaeda in '00"*) that the 9/11 Commission failed to fully investigate all of the facts and circumstances surrounding the 9/11 attacks.

By legislative mandate, *Public Law 107-306, November 27, 2002*, the 9/11 Independent Commission was charged with *providing a full accounting of the 9/11 attacks to the American people*. As has been indicated repeatedly since the release of the Commission's Final Report and via the NY Times article published yesterday, the 9/11 Commission failed to provide said full accounting. As a result, each Commissioner and Staff Member should be held accountable.

Nearly four years since the attacks of 9/11, we are tired of our nation's leaders (elected and appointed officials from *both* political parties) not being held accountable for their actions or inactions – particularly when it comes to fighting the "ongoing war against terrorism." We believe that the time has come for the American people to demand the necessary accountability from *all* of our leaders. The 9/11 Commissioners and Staff who had a *legal* obligation to investigate and report upon all of the facts relevant to the 9/11 attacks should, therefore, be the very first individuals to be held accountable and responsible for their collective failure to meet their legislative mandate.

Because the 9/11 Commission's Report is incomplete, nearly four years after the 9/11 attacks, the American people clearly suffer from a false sense of security. How can we know that we are truly safer from terrorists if the 9/11 Commission has chosen to hide certain facts? Particularly when those withheld facts detail specific actions made by intelligence community officials at the following agencies: the Central Intelligence Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the National Security Agency, and the National Security Council. These are the very same agencies and individuals that are charged with keeping us safe from the terrorists today.

Yet, a close inspection of the failures made by these *individuals* reveals that these same *individuals* had ample opportunity to unravel the 9/11 plot *prior* to the 9/11 attacks and failed to do so. In fact, a fair reading of these occurrences could lead one to believe that some of these individual actions or inactions actually contributed to the "catastrophic success" of the 9/11 attacks.

The revelation of this information demands answers that are forthcoming, clear, and concise. The 9/11 attacks could have and should have been prevented. To date, not one individual has been held accountable for this nation's failure to prevent the 9/11 attacks. Thus, the 9/11 Commission Report is incomplete and illusory.

As 9/11 widows who fought tirelessly for the creation of the 9/11 Commission, we are wholly disappointed to learn that the Commission's Final Report is a hollow failure. We spent innumerable hours of our time away from our families to ensure that the 9/11 Commission had the tools and resources necessary to provide a complete and thorough accounting of the 9/11 attacks to the American people. We truly wanted to learn lessons from the 9/11 attacks so that we could all live in a safer environment. We find this latest revelation of the Commission's failure to adequately and aggressively pursue the complete truth surrounding 9/11 absolutely shameful.

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