

**A RESOLUTION OF
THE SOUTH CAROLINA REPUBLICAN PARTY STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**IN OPPOSITION TO THE CLOSING OF THE GUANTANAMO BAY DETENTION FACILITY
(GITMO) AND THE TRANSFER OR HOUSING OF ANY TERRORIST DETAINEE AT THE
UNITED STATES NAVAL BRIG CHARLESTON (NAVCONBRIG CHASN) LOCATED IN THE
CITY OF HANAHAN, BERKELEY COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA.**

Passed by the State Executive Committee – March 5, 2016

WHEREAS, the United States government established a detention facility at the United States Naval Station at Guantanamo Bay Cuba in 2002 for the specific purpose of housing unlawful enemy combatants captured during the Global War on Terror; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed the Military Commissions Act of 2006 to “establish procedures governing the use of military commissions to try alien unlawful enemy combatants engaged in hostilities against the United States for violations of the law of war and other offenses triable by military commission,” which provides a legal process for prosecuting unlawful enemy combatants through military tribunals and not through the United States Civilian Justice System; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2011 and every year since that has specifically forbidden the appropriation of funds for the purpose of closing GITMO. And the United States Congress has sole authority for such appropriations under Article I, section, 9, clause 7 of the United States Constitution: “No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law”; and

WHEREAS, GITMO currently houses several of the most dangerous terrorists in the world including but not limited to: Khalid Sheikh Mohammed (KSM) - the self-confessed mastermind of the 9/11 attacks and the kidnapping-murder of journalist Daniel Pearl; Ramzi Bin al-Shibh - a key facilitator of the 9/11 attacks and lead operative in a plot to crash hijacked aircraft into the United Kingdom’s Heathrow Airport; Abu Faraj al-Libbi - KSM’s operational successor and number three leader of al-Qaeda after Osama bin Laden and Ayman al-Zawahiri; Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri - the mastermind behind the 2000 bombing of the USS Cole; and Abu Zubaydah, a facilitator of the attempted millennium terrorist attacks on targets in the United States and Jordan; and

WHEREAS, NAVCONBRIG CHASN is a medium security facility, is completely inadequate to house high risk and high profile terrorists, and is located near several residential communities and within miles of one of the most active tourist destinations and fourth largest container port on the eastern United States seaboard; and

WHEREAS, NAVCONBRIG CHASN is located adjacent to the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Atlantic Headquarters (SPAWAR Atlantic) and SPAWAR Atlantic is the third largest employer in Berkeley County responsible for 4,100 direct jobs, 15,000 indirect jobs and a statewide economic impact of \$3.7 billion; and

WHEREAS, in August 2007 Kuwaiti-born Ahmed Abdellatif Sherif Mohamed was apprehended in Goose Creek, South Carolina outside the gates of Charleston Naval Weapons Station where NAVCONBRIG CHASN

is located during the detention and interrogation of terrorist suspect Jose Padilla at the facility. Explosives and ammunitions were found in the vehicle along with a laptop holding videos he created on how to create a bomb detonator. Mohamed has since pled guilty to providing material support to terrorism and is in a federal maximum security prison; and

WHEREAS, housing foreign terrorists at NAVCONBRIG CHASN would drastically increase the risk of terror activity in the Charleston Region, endangering the lives of innocent American men, women, children, and tourists; and

WHEREAS, housing foreign terrorists at NAVCONBRIG CHASN could do irreversible economic harm and potentially jeopardize almost 20,000 SPAWAR Atlantic and numerous more tourism-related jobs; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the South Carolina Republican Party State Executive Committee hereby opposes the closing of the Guantanamo Bay Detention Facility, opposes any attempt to relocate unlawful enemy combatants to the United States, opposes the use of United States Civilian Courts to prosecute said unlawful enemy combatants, and vigorously opposes the use of the United States Consolidated Naval Brig Charleston to house any unlawful enemy combatant or terrorists at any time.