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TCP Lauds Nominations of Wald and Medine to Privacy Board

WASHINGTON, D.C.-- Sharon Bradford Franklin, senior policy counsel at The Constitution Project, offered the following comment on the announcement that the president nominated three new members to the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board (PCLOB):

"We are pleased that President Obama has finally acted to name the three remaining members to serve on the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, and we are particularly thrilled with his selection of Judge Patricia Wald and of David Medine to serve as chair. We know from our work with both of them that they are excellent choices for this critical work.

"We urge the Senate to act quickly on all five nominations, so that the Board can begin its important work of ensuring that the administration of programs intended to secure our nation's liberty do not compromise Americans' civil liberties or privacy in the process."

Wald is a longtime member of TCP's Liberty and Security Committee as well as its War Powers Committee, and Medine served as a reporter for two of the Liberty and Security Committee's reports.

Created by Congress based on the recommendations of the bipartisan 9/11 Commission, the PCLOB is designed to play a vital independent role in oversight of privacy and civil liberties. The Constitution Project has long urged Congress and the President to create and staff an independent Board. Most recently, in August, TCP led a diverse coalition urging the administration to fill the long-standing vacancies on the Board.

About The Constitution Project
Created out the belief that we must cast aside the labels that divide us in order to keep our democracy strong, The Constitution Project (TCP) brings together policy experts and legal practitioners from across the political spectrum to foster consensus-based solutions to the most difficult constitutional challenges of our time. TCP seeks to reform the nation's broken criminal justice system and to strengthen the rule of law through scholarship, advocacy, policy reform and public education initiatives. Established in 1997, TCP is based in Washington, D.C.