

# THE CONSTITUTION PROJECT



*Safeguarding Liberty, Justice & the Rule of Law*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - February 16, 2012

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## TCP Lauds Swiftess of Justice for Underwear Bomber

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Virginia Sloan, president of The Constitution Project, offered the following comment on today's imposition of a sentence of life imprisonment on Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab for trying to blow up a U.S. airliner bound for Detroit in 2009:

"We are pleased with the swift justice afforded Mr. Abdulmutallab by our civilian justice system. Mr. Abdulmutallab joins a group of over 400 terrorism suspects whose prosecutions have been brought in our traditional federal courts, compared to only six prosecutions completed in the military commissions system. The Abdulmutallab case proves, yet again, that our traditional criminal justice system is capable of handling complex terrorism cases, contrary to the concerns raised by some in Congress in last year's debate on the National Defense Authorization Act."

Abdulmutallab pleaded guilty to terrorism charges in federal court last October for trying to blow up an airliner on Christmas Day, 2009 with a bomb concealed in his underwear. The bomb caused a fire but failed to explode.

### [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.*



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