

Media Release



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CIVIL LIBERTIES VERSUS TERRORISM

*Badolato Distinguished Speaker Series in Homeland Security
Brings Former Attorney General Meese to Towson, Md.*

Towson, M.D. –Former U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese, III, author of, *The Heritage Guide to the Constitution*, served as keynote speaker for the fourth lecture in the Edward V. Badolato Distinguished Speaker Series in Homeland Security at Towson University, on June 28.

The speaker series – endowed by Colonel Edward Badolato, President and CEO of Integrated Infrastructure Analytics, Inc. – brings distinguished leaders in the field of Homeland Security to share their perspectives on what needs to be done to combat terrorism and make our nation safer.

Mr. Meese, who currently serves as Ronald Reagan Distinguished Fellow in Public Policy and chairman of the Center for Legal and Judicial Studies at The Heritage Foundation, discussed considerations of civil liberties in a post-September 11 world.

He said that he thought the realities of September 11 have been somewhat forgotten and that the war on terrorists was “being fought with great sensitivity by our government towards our liberties and toward our people.”

Meese also noted that today’s warfare is unconventional, with small inexpensive weapons bringing about more extensive casualties. He said that the government had to examine whether “our Constitution is going to be sufficient, with its provisions, for us to deal with the asymmetrical warfare we are facing in this battle against terrorists.”

Meese defended the Patriot Act and creation of the Department of Homeland Security as needed in a post-September 11 climate, and stated that the government has acted “with a constant consideration of the matter of the Constitution and civil liberties.”

A wide range of members from the first-responder and security community attended the event, including employees of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and Department of Justice, U.S. Secret Service, as well as several State of Maryland agencies such as the Maryland Aviation Administration, Maryland Emergency Management Agency, and Maryland Department of Transportation. Several local police and fire departments were also represented.

Another lecture in the ongoing series will be scheduled for the fall. For more information, please refer to our website at <http://wwwnew.towson.edu/outreach/homelandsecurity/speaker.asp>

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