



Press Release



**Congressman John Conyers, Jr.
Michigan, 14th District**

**Ranking Member, U.S. House Judiciary Committee
Dean, Congressional Black Caucus**

www.house.gov/judiciary_democrats/index.html

For Immediate Release:
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Conyers and Others To Hold Democratic Hearing to Demand Details On Bush Spying Program

Releases Letter from Lawrence Tribe calling program “poppycock”

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressmen John Conyers, Jr., Bobby Scott and Chris Van Hollen to hold a Democratic Hearing to investigate President Bush’s controversial warrantless surveillance program by the NSA. Conyers issued the following statement in advance of the hearing:

“Last month all 17 House Judiciary Democrats called on Chairman Sensenbrenner to convene hearings to investigate the President’s use of the National Security Agency to conduct surveillance involving U.S. citizens on U.S. soil, in apparent contravention of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. Our request has since been ignored. It is apparent that the Republican majority has no interest in protecting the privacy rights of Americans, or restoring the checks and balances of our Constitution ???

I believe we simply cannot tolerate a situation where the Administration is both laying down and interpreting the law on its own accord, and not even sharing with the Members of Congress what the legal justification for such a program is.”

WHO: Reps. John Conyers, Jr., Bobby Scott and Chris Vanhollen

**Witnesses: Bruce Fein – former Associate Deputy AGI under Reagan
Professor Jonathon Turley – George Washington Law School
Jeff Smith – former CIA General Counsel
Caroline Frederickson – ACLU**

WHEN: Friday, January 20, 2006 @

WHERE: TBD