

## HRSP Mission

*Promoting justice by prosecuting human rights violators and other international criminals*

## Report Violations

HRSP is seeking information that may assist the U.S. Government in identifying human rights violators.

If you know of anyone in the United States or of any U.S. citizen anywhere in the world who may have been involved in perpetrating human rights violations abroad, please contact:

**Kathleen O'Connor**  
**1-800-813-5863**  
(The call is free.)

Or email her at  
**hrsptips@usdoj.gov.**

You **do not** have to identify yourself when providing information.

Please provide as much detail as possible.

Your information will be reviewed promptly by HRSP.



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
**Criminal Division**

**For assistance or further information:**



U.S. Department of Justice  
Criminal Division  
Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section  
Keeney Building, Suite 200  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20530-0001  
1-800-813-5863 (Kathleen O'Connor)  
hrsptips@usdoj.gov

**<http://www.justice.gov/criminal/hrsptips>**



## BACKGROUND

The Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section (HRSP) is a component of the Criminal Division of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) in Washington, D.C. It was created in March 2010 by merging the Domestic Security Section and the Office of Special Investigations.

HRSP's responsibilities include enforcing federal criminal laws relating to:

- 1) serious human rights violations such as torture, genocide, war crimes, and use of child soldiers;
- 2) immigration related offenses, particularly those involving human rights violators or smuggling networks connected with national security or transnational organized crime; and
- 3) international violent crimes, particularly those involving U.S. government employees and contractors overseas.

HRSP prosecutes cases, primarily in partnership with United States Attorneys Offices (USAOs), works on policy matters, and assists U.S. and foreign prosecutors. HRSP regularly works with law enforcement officials in the Department of Justice, other federal departments, and foreign governments. The Section works especially closely with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations (HSI); the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI); the Bureau of Diplomatic Security (DS) and other State Department components; and various law enforcement agencies within the Department of Defense. HRSP also coordinates closely with DOJ's National Security Division, which handles terrorism-related matters.

## HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

HRSP investigates and prosecutes human rights violators. Where federal jurisdiction exists, this effort includes the prosecution of individuals who engaged in torture, war crimes, genocide and the use or recruitment of child soldiers. HSI and FBI are the principal law enforcement agencies with which HRSP works in pursuing these cases.

HRSP is involved in a coordinated effort with other federal entities to ensure that the United States does not become a safe haven for human rights violators. In this work, HRSP has frequent contact with foreign governments, international tribunals and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

HRSP pursues accountability for human rights abusers in a variety of ways. In addition to prosecution for the substantive offenses, HRSP prosecutes for immigration and naturalization fraud related to efforts to conceal an abuser's background, trains prosecutors and agents on human rights law, and conducts outreach to nongovernmental organizations and immigrant communities.

HRSP plays an important role in the work of the inter-agency Atrocities Prevention Board (APB), created in 2012 to coordinate a "whole-of-government" approach to the prevention of, and response to, incidents of genocide and mass atrocities.

HRSP is also responsible for the identification, investigation, civil prosecution, and removal or extradition of participants in World War II-era Nazi-sponsored acts of persecution.

## SELECT CASES

***U.S. v. Roy M. Belfast, Jr. a/k/a Chuckie Taylor:*** The first-ever federal prosecution of a charge of torture involved the American son of former Liberian President Charles Taylor. Chuckie Taylor was commander of an armed security force in Liberia during his father's administration. He was accused of having committed torture by, among other things, burning victims with molten plastic, lit cigarettes, candle wax, and an iron. Taylor was convicted after a jury trial and was sentenced in 2009 to 97 years in prison.

***U.S. v. Steven D. Green:*** A former U.S. Army soldier, Green was tried and convicted in 2009 after a jury trial on charges arising from an incident that occurred in March 2006 in Iraq, during which Green and several fellow soldiers raped, killed, and then burned the body of a 14-year-old Iraqi girl. They also killed the girl's parents and six-year-old sister during the same incident. Green was sentenced to life imprisonment.

***U.S. v. Gilberto Jordan:*** Jordan was convicted in 2010 of naturalization fraud for concealing his participation in a notorious massacre perpetrated in the village of Dos Erres, Guatemala, in 1982 while Jordan was serving in the Guatemalan military. In 2010, he received the statutory maximum sentence of 10 years' imprisonment.

***U.S. v. Ivan Kalymon:*** In 2011, a removal order was issued in U.S. immigration court directing Kalymon's deportation on the basis of his conduct in shooting Jews in 1942 while serving in a Nazi-sponsored police unit in German-occupied Ukraine.