



Press Release

Arar Commission will not appeal Federal Court decision on the release of public information

Ottawa, July 26, 2007 – The Arar Commission has now had the opportunity to carefully review the judgement of Mr. Justice Noël of the Federal Court concerning the disclosure of information which had been withheld up to this time. This information was part of Commissioner Dennis O'Connor's Report of the Events Relating to Maher Arar. The government claimed that the disclosure of this information would endanger national security. In the judgement, Justice Noël authorizes the release of some of the information which the government believes would endanger national security if disclosed.

Commission counsel, Paul Cavalluzzo, said: The Commission is content with justice Noël's decision because the more important information in dispute will now be disclosed. We will not initiate an appeal to the Federal Court of Appeal." Mr. Cavalluzzo went on to say that the judgement is "the culmination of a long process in which the government has released a great deal of information which it initially resisted and which the Commission felt should be disclosed to the public." Mr. Cavalluzzo concluded: "in the Commission's view, the public interest would be adequately served if Justice Noël's decision is accepted by all parties."

In the absence of any appeal of Justice Noël's decision within the next 10 days, the new information will be posted on the Commission's website at www.ararcommission.ca

The Commission's Report of the Events Relating to Maher Arar, released on September 18, 2006 is available on the same website.

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Information: Paul Cavalluzzo
Commission Lead Counsel
416-964-5500
pcavalluzzo@cavalluzzo.com