



**Name:** John B. Bellinger, III

**Born:** March 28, 1960

**Profession:** Lawyer

**GW Bush Administration Position:**

- Legal Adviser to the Secretary of State of the United States (2005- Jan. 2009).
- Senior Associate Counsel to the President.
- Legal Adviser to the National Security Council at the White House (2001-2005).

**War crime charge(s):**

- Complicity in the commission of a war crime – torture, ill-treatment of detainees.
- Justified extended detentions in Guantanamo and transfer of prisoners to other countries (rendition).
- Crime against peace – planning and carrying out a war of aggression.
- Played key role in convincing British legal authorities of legality of 2003 invasion of Iraq.

**Primary Association:**

- currently unknown

**Secondary Association:**

- Council on Foreign Relations, 1777 F Street NW, Washington, DC 20006, 1-202-509-8400

**More Information:**

- [9-29-09 Profile: Jay S. Bybee](#)
- [5-12-13 Former White House Lawyer: Drone Strikes Used as 'Guantanamo Alternative'](#)

**Note:**

"The vast majority of the people who are in Guantanamo are being held under the typical laws of war<sup>1</sup>."

" There is no international definition of what is cruel, humane, or inhumane<sup>2</sup>."

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<sup>1</sup> (quoted in Feb 2006 Dept of Defense press release)

<sup>2</sup>( [Interview with Frontline on May 4th 2007](#))