SPECIAL ENVOY PAUL LEWIS

Paul M. Lewis was the Department of Defense Special Envoy for Guantanamo Detention Closure from 2013-2017. The office of the Special Envoy was established by President Obama and Mr. Lewis was appointed to his position by Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel. He began service on November 4, 2013.

Previously he served as both the General Counsel and Minority General Counsel of the House Armed Services Committee. He also was the Director of the Office of Legislative Counsel at the Pentagon from 2008-2010.

Special Envoy Lewis was the Counsel to the Chairman of the House Ethics Committee from 2003-2005. During this period, the Ethics Committee admonished the Majority Leader, Representative Tom DeLay. He also served as lead counsel for the Ethics Committee when the House of Representatives expelled Representative James Traficant in 2002.

Special Envoy Lewis received his undergraduate degree in History from the University of Notre Dame in 1980. After his graduation from Notre Dame Law School in 1983, he served as a judge advocate in the United States Marine Corps, an Assistant District Attorney in the Manhattan DA’s Office and as a trial attorney in the Organized Crime and Racketeering Section of the Department of Justice. He is admitted to the New York Bar and other federal jurisdictions.

Special Envoy Lewis is an adjunct professor at Georgetown University, where he teaches courses on “Ethics and Decision-Making,” “Introduction to Ethics,” “Politics of Terrorism,” “Ethical Issues in American Politics,” and related subjects. He also regularly lectures on ethics and congressional investigations at Georgetown Law School and George Washington University Law School.

Commentary by Special Envoy Lewis is available on Lawfareblog.com.

Special Envoy Lewis is currently writing a book on the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.