

Alberto Mora, the former General Counsel of the U.S. Navy from 2001 to 2006, was a political appointee in the first and second Bush administrations and a political conservative who strongly supported George W. Bush's war on terror. In spite of these personal and political loyalties, Mr. Mora engaged in a behind-the-scenes battle to oppose the use of harsh interrogation techniques on detainees at Guantanamo Bay. Considered a hero by critics of torture, Mora argued — as he put it in a July 2004 memo -- that “cruelty disfigures our national character. It is incompatible with our constitutional order, with our laws, and with our most prized values. Where cruelty exists, law does not.”

Mr. Mora was joined by Vice President Walter Mondale and Professor [Lawrence R. Jacobs](#).



#### **ALBERTO MORA**

Alberto J. Mora served as General Counsel for the Department of the Navy from July of 2001-January 2006. As the chief legal officer of the Navy and Marine Corps, he had management responsibility for more than 800 attorneys and personnel across 146 offices throughout the United States and overseas. In this role, he also supervised the Navy's Judge Advocate General Corps and the Marine Corps Staff Judge Advocates and served as the Reporting Senior of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, the Department's Chief Ethics Officer and, on

occasion, Acting Secretary of the Navy.

Currently Mr. Mora is the Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel at Mars, Incorporated. He serves as a senior legal advisor to the Board of Directors, the President, and the other members of the senior management team and has oversight and management responsibility for all Mars legal strategies, issues, matters, services and resources. Prior to joining Mars, Mora served as Vice President and General Counsel, International, for Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., where he was responsible for the company's international legal affairs. In his role with Wal-Mart, Mora helped plan and execute the company's international expansion and initiated the redesign of the company's international anti-corruption effort. Earlier in his career, Mora also served in the U.S. State Department as a Foreign Service Officer and in the George H.W. Bush administration as General Counsel of the United States Information Agency.

Mora holds a bachelor's degree and Honorary Doctorate from Swarthmore College and a law degree from the University of Miami School of Law. A member of the Council of Foreign Relations, he sits on the Board of Directors of Human Rights First and Freedom House. In 2006, Mora was awarded the John F. Kennedy Memorial Foundation's Profile in Courage Award in recognition of his service to the Navy.