

For more than five years, the ACLU has been fighting to unearth government documents that would show the origins and scope of the Bush administration's torture program.

In October 2003, the ACLU and other organizations—the Center for Constitutional Rights, Physicians for Human

Through litigation under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the ACLU and its partners have obtained more than 100,000 pages of government documents relating to the abuse of prisoners in U.S. military and CIA detention centers around the world. But the documents were released only after the ACLU filed a lawsuit to enforce the public's right of access to information about government conduct. Since October 2003, the ACLU has filed dozens of legal briefs to enforce this right, and courts in New York have issued dozens of orders requiring the government to comply with the law. More than five years after the ACLU's initial FOIA request, some crucial documents are still being withheld.

