



**Name:** Michael Chertoff

**Born:** November 28, 1953, in Elizabeth, New Jersey

**Profession:** Attorney

### **GW Bush Administration Position:**

- Secretary of Homeland Security

### **War crime charge(s):**

- Complicity in the commission of a war crime – torture, ill-treatment of detainees.
- Violated legal standards for protections and rights of domestic detainees, including approximately 750 Muslim and Arab men rounded up and held without charges for up to 3 months, in the name of the war on terror. <sup>1</sup>
- Co-author of the [USA Patriot Act](#) .
- Helped draft secret 2002 memo describing interrogation methods allowed to CIA interrogators against detainees, including waterboarding. <sup>2</sup>

### **Primary Association:**

- Principal member of [The Chertoff Group](#) . The Chertoff Group provides strategic security advice and assistance, risk management strategy and business development solutions for commercial and government clients on a broad array of homeland and national security issues. The Group also partners with private equity firms across the investment spectrum to maximize client value by providing sector knowledge and monitoring or managing target companies during periods of transition. Based in Washington, DC, the Chertoff Group also has offices in London and New York City.
- Senior of counsel in the Washington, DC office of major law firm Covington & Burling and a member of its White Collar Defense and Investigations practice group.
- Member, Homeland Security Advisory Council. Appointed by Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, March 2022.
- As of late March 2010, Chertoff joined the board of the highly controversial and largest British arms firm, BAE.
- There are some indications that Chertoff was working on the transition at the Department of Homeland Security as recently as February 2009. Despite having been replaced by Janet Napolitano in the Obama administration, Chertoff introduced the Department of Homeland Security's 2009 report: [National Infrastructure Protection Plan: Partnering to enhance protection and resiliency 2009](#) , published online Feb. 19, 2009

### **Secondary Associations:**

- Federalist Society  
1015 18th Street, NW, Suite 425  
Washington, DC 20036  
(202) 822-8138

**More Information:**

- [6-22-09 Bush officials: Where are they now?](#)
- [3-31-10 BAE's perfect match](#)
- [12-8-11 The Chertoff Group Expands With New Office in San Francisco](#)
- [3-21-22 Michael Chertoff](#)

**Note:**

"It's not like the 20th century, where you had time to get warrants" (said in April 2008 briefing with Canadian press.<sup>3</sup>

[Michael Chertoff Played Integral Role in Authorizing Torture](#)

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<sup>1</sup> <http://rightweb.irc-online.org/profile/1099.html>

<sup>2</sup> [New York Times, Jan. 29, 2005](#)

<sup>3</sup> <http://rinf.com/alt-news/surveillance-big-brother/chertoff-says-fingerprints-aren%E2%80%99t-%E2%80%99personal-data%E2%80%99/3093/>