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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Senator John D. Rockefeller IV Awarded National Intelligence Distinguished Public Service Medal**

West Virginia Senator John D. Rockefeller IV received the National Intelligence Distinguished Public Service Medal from Director of National Intelligence (DNI) Mike McConnell in a ceremony today at ODNI headquarters.

Senator Rockefeller is the outgoing chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (SSCI); a position he held for the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress beginning January 3, 2007. The Senator will continue to serve as a member of the committee, and will become Chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, & Transportation for the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress. He has been a member of the SSCI since January 2001 and previously served as the committee's Vice Chairman during the 108<sup>th</sup> and 109<sup>th</sup> Congresses from January 2003 to December 2006.

Director McConnell highlighted Senator Rockefeller's commitment to the Intelligence Community citing his leadership, which fostered modernized intelligence capabilities and oversight on some of the most critical issues the Intelligence Community has ever faced.

As Vice Chairman of the SSCI, Senator Rockefeller was instrumental in developing the landmark Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Action of 2004 that established the DNI and the National Counterterrorism Center. As the Chairman, his efforts to successfully update the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) which the Intelligence Community needed to meet the technology demands of today's threats, were critical.

"Senator Rockefeller's advocacy for the change in the law provided the Intelligence Community with a critical capability for ensuring national security while respecting the privacy and civil liberties of Americans," said Director McConnell. "He is a true leader and someone who cares deeply about our country."

"I accept this award with gratitude and with a deep appreciation for the men and women of the Intelligence Community who go about their work with honor and dedication and under very difficult circumstances, often putting their lives on the line to protect this great nation," said Senator Rockefeller.

The National Intelligence Distinguished Public Service Medal is the highest award that can be granted to non-career Federal employees, private citizens or others who have performed distinguished service of exceptional significance to the Intelligence Community. The DNI established the award on Oct. 1, 2008 to acknowledge individuals who rendered extraordinary service at considerable personal sacrifice and who were motivated by patriotism, good citizenship or a sense of public responsibility.

The Director of National Intelligence oversees the 16 federal organizations that make up the intelligence community. The DNI also manages the implementation of the National Intelligence Program. Additionally, the DNI serves as the principal adviser to the president, the National Security Council and the Homeland Security Council on intelligence issues related to national security.

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*Director of National Intelligence Mike McConnell presents Senator John D. Rockefeller IV with the National Intelligence Distinguished Public Service Medal*



*Senator Rockefeller (Center) with Director of National Intelligence Mike McConnell (Left) and Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence Donald M. Kerr (Right) after receiving the National Intelligence Distinguished Public Service Medal*

MEDAL AND RIBBON  
NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE



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