

STOCKTON COLLEGE

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



Stockton College's Hughes Center to Examine 9/11 Attacks from Unique Perspective

Former Gov. Thomas H. Kean, Co-chair of 9/11 Commission, Will Interview
John Farmer, Jr., Senior Counsel to the Commission and Author of
The Ground Truth: The Untold Story of America Under Attack on 9/11

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A Revealing Look at 9/11/ page 2

John Farmer is currently the Dean of the Rutgers University - Newark School of Law. In addition to his work on the 9/11 Commission, Farmer served as attorney general of New Jersey, and chief counsel to Governor Christine Todd Whitman. A former federal prosecutor, law enforcement expert and special envoy for Middle East regional security, Farmer has researched the September 11 attacks at a level of very few individuals in the world.

In his book, Farmer concludes the command structure of the executive branch and military were ill-prepared to the attacks and that a bureaucratic hindrance remains to the “on the ground” way in crises are experienced and most effectively addressed. Moreover, the book maintains that misleading accounts by the administration and the military of key aspects of the air and ground response on 9/11 may have set the nation up to fail in response to future terrorist threats.

Farmer’s research draws not only on his work with the 9/11 Commission but also recently declassified documents, tapes and transcripts.

In a recent book review, *The New York Times* stated, “Farmer’s accomplishment is to throw 9/11 into fresh relief. A precise and reliable accounting of what happened has been absent until now. This is it.”

Stockton has long been an educational leader in the scholarly understanding of the 9/11 attacks. “Understanding September 11,” was a national award-winning course developed by Stockton Professors the late Paul Lyons and the late David Emmons. It examined the attacks from a variety of perspectives including what should be the U.S. role in the world; what is the nature of terrorism in the 21st century; how did Afghanistan come to be the base for Al Qaeda and Osama bin Laden; in what ways do fundamentalist beliefs in the Middle East breed hostility and terrorism directed at the West; and how has Sept. 11 changed American life?

Additionally, Stockton veteran-related enrollment has increased nearly 200 percent since the opening of its Office of Veteran Affairs and implementation of the Post 9/11 GI Bill.

The William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy of The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey seeks to inform and engage the community on key policy issues. Past events have included discussions on human trafficking, the impact of negative political campaigns, environmental and energy issues among others. Such speakers as presidential candidate Bill Richardson, Gov. and then - U.S. Attorney Chris Christie, and NJ Attorney General Anne Milgram have appeared at Hughes Center events. The Hughes Center, named in honor of former U.S. Ambassador to Panama and longtime Congressman William J. Hughes, also conducts polls with Zogby International and has hosted several political debates.

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