Roger W. Cressey, who served in senior counterterrorism positions in the Clinton and George W. Bush administrations and has been a crisis manager for Africa, the Middle East and the Balkans, will speak at The Florida State University on Nov. 18 as part of the “Human Rights & National Security in the 21st Century” lecture series.

Cressey currently advises clients on homeland security and counterterrorism issues and is an on-air counterterrorism analyst for NBC News. He served as chief of staff to the President’s Critical Infrastructure Protection Board at the White House from November 2001 to September 2002. From November 1999 to November 2001, Cressey served as director for Transnational Threats on the National Security Council staff, where he was responsible for coordination and implementation of U.S. counterterrorism policy and managed the U.S. government’s response to the Millennium terror alert, the USS Cole attack and the Sept. 11 attacks.

Prior to his White House service, Cressey served in the Department of Defense, including a tour as deputy director for War Plans. From 1991 to 1995, he served in the Department of State working on Middle East security issues. He also has served overseas with the U.S. Embassy in Israel and with United Nations peacekeeping missions in Somalia and the former Yugoslavia, where he was part of a United Nations team that planned the successful capture of the first individual indicted for war crimes in Croatia.

Cressey received his bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of Massachusetts at Lowell and a master’s degree in security policy studies from The George Washington University. He taught a graduate course on U.S. counterterrorism policy at Georgetown University. He is the recipient of the State Department’s Meritorious and Superior Honor Awards and the Defense Department's Exceptional Civilian Service Award.

The FSU Center for the Advancement of Human Rights lecture series examines human rights interests and national security imperatives in the post-Sept. 11 world. This lecture is sponsored in collaboration with the National Security Network and is free and open to the public. It will be held:

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 18
NOON
FSU COLLEGE OF LAW ROTUNDA
425 W. JEFFERSON ST., TALLAHASSEE
Public parking is available across the street at the Tallahassee-Leon County Civic Center.

-- Jennifer Howard
Communication & Public Affairs Associate