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**KENNEDY ON THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT'S DECISION
TO ISSUE AN ARREST WARRANT FOR WAR CRIMES IN DARFUR**

Washington, DC -- Congressman Patrick J. Kennedy (D-RI) issued the following statement after the International Criminal Court's issued an arrest warrant for Sudanese President Omar Hassan al-Bashir for war crimes in the conflict in western Darfur.

"Today, [the](#) International Criminal Court took the first step towards bringing the perpetrators of the violence in Darfur to justice. For far too long, President Omar Hassan al-Bashir has violated human rights and committed heinous acts of violence against civilians in Sudan. We cannot afford to delay or stall while innocent people continued to be slaughtered in Darfur. Today, the International Criminal Court has demonstrated its moral authority by holding accountable those who are responsible for war crimes and now the United States must demonstrate its leadership in global justice by renewing its commitment to the Court's mandate. Only then will the International Criminal Court have the tools at its disposal to prosecute and try those who commit mass murder and other crimes against humanity around the world," said Kennedy.

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