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One Hundred Thirteenth Congress
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Foreign Affairs
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November 19, 2013

The Honorable John F. Kerry
Secretary of State
Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

As you know, the Committee on Foreign Affairs has been investigating the circumstances surrounding the deadly September 11, 2012 terrorist attacks on the U.S. Special Mission Compound in Benghazi, Libya. I remain deeply concerned about the apparent lack of accountability at the Department of State for this tragedy. As part of the Committee's inquiry, I am writing for an update on the status of the four Department employees cited by the Accountability Review Board (ARB) for "leadership and management deficiencies" that led to inadequate security in Benghazi.¹

Following release of the ARB report, the Department placed the four officials "on administrative leave pending further action."² On August 20, 2013, however, the Department announced it had reinstated the four employees and given them new assignments.³ On August 23, 2013, in response to the Committee's inquiry on this matter, Acting Assistant Secretary of State for Legislative Affairs Thomas B. Gibbons stated that the four would "be held accountable by permanently relieving them of the positions and duties that gave rise to the ARB's findings," and that their new assignments would "reflect a level of responsibility appropriate to their expertise

¹ Department of State, *Report of the Accountability Review Board for the September 2012 Benghazi Attack*, December 19, 2012.

² Michael Gordon and Eric Schmitt, "Four are Out at State Dept. after Scathing Report on Benghazi Attack," *New York Times*, December 20, 2012, <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/12/20/us/politics/3-state-dept-officials-resign-following-benghazi-report.html>.

³ Brian Knowlton, "U.S. Diplomats, Relieved after Libyan Attack, Are Reinstated," *New York Times*, August 20, 2013, <http://www.nytimes.com/2013/08/21/world/africa/us-diplomats-relieved-after-libyan-attack-are-reinstated.html>.

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and experience.”⁴ In testimony before the Committee on September 18, 2013, Under Secretary for Management Patrick Kennedy reiterated that those responsible had already been held accountable.⁵

Further to the Department’s prior representations on this matter, I request that you provide the following information:

- What is the current employment status for former Assistant Secretary for Diplomatic Security (DS) Eric Boswell, former Deputy Assistant Secretary (DAS) for Maghreb Affairs Raymond Maxwell, former DS DAS for International Programs Charlene Lamb, and former Director of the Diplomatic Security Service Scott Bultrowicz? If they remain employees of the Department of State, what are their current or pending assignments?

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ari Fridman, Counsel for Oversight and Investigations, at (202) 225-5021. Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



EDWARD R. ROYCE
Chairman

⁴ Letter from Acting Assistant Secretary of State for Legislative Affairs Thomas B. Gibbons to Rep. Edward R. Royce, August 23, 2012.

⁵ Testimony of Under Secretary of State for Management Patrick Kennedy before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, September 18, 2013.