



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

NOV 15 2013

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of October 30 proposing the use of the Rewards for Justice (RFJ) program to bring to justice the perpetrators of the September 2012 terrorist attack in Benghazi.

As you note in your letter, RFJ is a highly valuable counterterrorism program that has had much success since its inception in 1984. With such a tragic loss of life occurring at one of our overseas diplomatic missions, the State Department family has an especially deep commitment to seeing that justice is done, and is using every tool at its disposal to help achieve that goal.

As evidence of that commitment, we can report that the RFJ program does already have an active reward offer of up to \$10 million for information leading to the arrest or conviction of any individual involved in the September 2012 attack on our temporary mission facility in Benghazi. This reward offer was approved in January by Secretary Clinton and is part of the broader Interagency and investigative effort.

There is an ongoing investigation into the Benghazi attack, led by the FBI, which leverages many of the tools and resources available to the federal government. With a program like RFJ, we have to be especially cognizant of inadvertently publicizing not only the names of individual suspects, but also bringing any additional public attention to sensitive investigations, which can adversely affect efforts to bring to justice those responsible for the attack.

Not only does the RFJ program have a deliberative interagency process to recommend reward offers, but the timing and the ways in which these reward offers are disclosed or used to incentivize individuals to come forward with information is closely coordinated with the activities of other agencies. For

The Honorable

Edward R. Royce, Chairman,  
Committee on Foreign Affairs,  
House of Representatives.

multiple reasons, which may include security concerns and/or investigative sensitivities, authorized reward offers are not always advertised publicly in the United States or on the RFJ website. There are other means to use the RFJ tools without publicizing them on the website.

As we have said before, we are committed to bringing the perpetrators to justice utilizing the various tools available to the U.S. government. We can arrange for a briefing in the appropriate setting to discuss additional information about the reward offer.

We hope you find this information helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact the RFJ program if you have any additional concerns or questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Julia Frifield  
Assistant Secretary  
Legislative Affairs