

DEC 18 2012



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

DEC 17 2012

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of October 29 regarding the actions taken by the Department of State to investigate the April 6, 2012 and June 6, 2012 attacks against the U.S. Mission in Benghazi, as well as the actions taken to ensure that our mission there was properly resourced and protected following those attacks. Our personnel in both Libya and the United States closely monitored the fluid security environment in Benghazi in the months preceding the September 11 attack.

Following the April and June attacks, the Department took several steps to improve security at our mission in Benghazi. Mission Libya convened multiple Emergency Action Committee meetings, assessed available threat intelligence, and reviewed and adjusted its security posture. We implemented a number of additional countermeasures at our diplomatic compound in Benghazi, including extending the height of the perimeter walls, enhancing security camera coverage, and increasing security lighting, the use of razor wire, and local guard coverage at night. Furthermore, the Department intensified its engagement with Libyan authorities, particularly in seeking additional Government of Libya security support outside the U.S. Mission in Benghazi.

Your letter set out several specific questions regarding the April and June attacks and resulting investigations. As I noted in my November 30 and December 7 letters to you, the Department has identified, and provided to the Committee, two new tranches of potentially responsive records to the Committee's September 20 request for documents related to the September 11 attacks in Benghazi. These tranches of records include documents that we believe address the specific questions laid out in your October 29 letter.

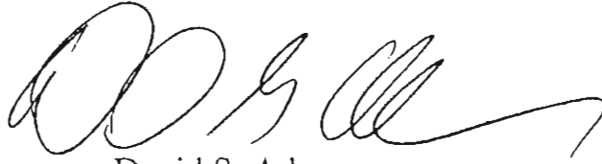
The Honorable

Darrell E. Issa, Chairman,

Committee on House Oversight and Government Reform,  
United States House of Representatives.

We hope this information is useful to you. Please do not hesitate to contact us again if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. S. Adams', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David S. Adams  
Assistant Secretary  
Legislative Affairs

cc: The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings



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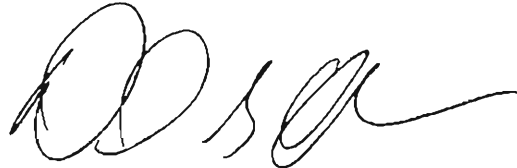
Jason Chaffetz, Chairman,

Subcommittee on National Security, Homeland Defense,  
and Foreign Operations,

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform,  
House of Representatives.

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Legislative Affairs

cc: The Honorable John F. Tierney