Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

January 30, 2018

The Honorable Christopher A. Wray Federal Bureau of Investigation U.S. Department of Justice 935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7240 Washington, DC 20535-0001

Dear Director Wray:

We write on behalf of James and Kelly Ghaisar, whose 25-year old son, Bijan, was shot multiple times at close range by U.S. Park Police last November, resulting in his death ten days later.

After nearly three months, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the U.S. Park Police have offered virtually no explanation of the circumstances that led to Bijan's death. This lack of transparency from law enforcement is disturbing and unacceptable.

After communicating with the Ghaisar family, we request answers on the following key points of concern:

- While Bijan was on life support in the hospital following the shooting, the family reportedly was told that he was under arrest. The family has requested a copy of the arrest reports, dispatch records, and radio transcripts. Will you promptly provide these documents to the family?
- It is our understanding that the family was not notified of the shooting until five hours after the event and did not learn of U.S. Park Police involvement until the local news broadcast, 12 hours after the shooting. What was the reason for this delay? Why did U.S. Park Police itself not inform Bijan's family of the simple matter that U.S. Park Police had fired the shots?
- It is also our understanding that while Bijan was in the hospital, law enforcement severely limited contact between his family and him, telling his family that he was under arrest and that his body was considered evidence. What are the applicable policies, of both the U.S. Park Police and the FBI, governing family visitation with a hospitalized individual in custody?
- The U.S. Park Police described its policies regarding the use of deadly force in a *Washington Post* article published on January 24, 2018. Are these policies consistent with FBI policies? Was the FBI consulted or involved in the preparation of those policies?
- The identities of the U.S. Park Police officers involved in the traffic stop and shooting have not been released to the family or the public. When and how will you be releasing this information?

Our staffs have met with the Ghaisar family and believe that their request for transparency is reasonable. They have now suffered for several weeks with very little knowledge about how their son was killed. In the wake of this tragedy, we respectfully urge the FBI to provide as much information about the circumstances surrounding Bijan's death as possible in a timely manner and in such a way that does not compromise the integrity of the ongoing investigation. Bijan Ghaisar was an active 25-year-old college graduate. By all accounts, he was known as a kind soul who made friends easily. We are told he did not have a criminal record and was initially spotted by U.S. Park Police for a minor traffic accident. It is extremely disturbing that his life would end due to a fatal police shooting, in which the U.S. Park Police fired 9 times into his vehicle.

With your direct involvement, it is our hope that the FBI will assist the family in getting the answers they deserve.

Sincerely,

MARK R. WARNER

R Wences

United States Senator

TIM KAINE

United States Senator

DONALD S. BEYER JR.

United States Representative