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Committee on Foreign Affairs  
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June 11, 2013

The Honorable John Kerry  
Secretary of State  
Department of State  
2201 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am deeply troubled by the allegations made in a recent CBS News story that senior State Department officials prevented the Diplomatic Security Service (DSS) from investigating reports of administrative and criminal misconduct within the Department. This story further alleged that the Department's Office of Inspector General produced an October 2012 memorandum that contained eight specific instances in which DSS investigations were "influenced, manipulated, or simply called off."<sup>1</sup>

Among the cases reportedly investigated by DSS and contained in the memorandum: a State Department security official in Beirut was alleged to have sexually assaulted foreign nationals hired as embassy guards; members of former Secretary Hillary Clinton's security detail allegedly "engaged prostitutes while on official trips in foreign countries"; an "underground drug ring" may have supplied security contractors at Embassy Baghdad with drugs; and a U.S. Ambassador at a "sensitive diplomatic post" was "suspected of patronizing prostitutes in a public park."<sup>2</sup> The notion that any or all of these cases would not be investigated thoroughly by the Department is unacceptable.

According to the article, OIG then generated a draft report, apparently based on the above memorandum, in which the Office reportedly concluded: "Hindering such cases calls into question the integrity of the investigative process, can result in counterintelligence vulnerabilities and can allow criminal behavior to continue."<sup>3</sup> But in the final version of the report, which was released in February 2013, all references to these specific cases were removed. Instead, the OIG concluded simply: "The Bureau of Diplomatic Security (DS) Special Investigations Division (SID), which investigates allegations of criminal and

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<sup>1</sup> *State Department Memo Reveals Possible Cover-Ups, Halted Investigations*, CBS News, June 10, 2013, [http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-505263\\_162-57588456/state-department-memo-reveals-possible-cover-ups-halted-investigations/](http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-505263_162-57588456/state-department-memo-reveals-possible-cover-ups-halted-investigations/).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

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administrative misconduct, lacks a firewall to preclude the DS and Department of State (Department) hierarchies from exercising undue influence in particular cases.”<sup>4</sup>

In light of the possibility that the Department interfered with the independence of DSS investigations, I ask that you provide Committee staff with a briefing on this matter as soon as possible and answer the following questions in writing:

1. Did any State Department official instruct the Diplomatic Security Service not to pursue any of the eight cases identified in the October 2012 OIG memorandum?
2. If so, please identify the individual(s) and the nature of their influence on these DSS investigations.
3. Has the Department taken any actions in response to either the OIG February 2013 Inspection report and/or the CBS News report? If so, please detail them.

Please also produce all documents and communications referring and/or relating to the eight cases cited by the October 2012 OIG memorandum.

I request that you provide the requested documents and information as soon as possible, but **no later than 5:00 p.m. on June 25, 2013**. When producing documents to the Committee, please deliver production sets to the Majority Staff in Room 2170 of the Rayburn House Office Building and the Minority Staff in Room B360 of the Rayburn House Office Building. The Committee prefers, if possible, to receive all documents in electronic format. An attachment to this letter provides additional information about responding to the Committee's request.

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

Sincerely,



EDWARD R. ROYCE  
Chairman

Enclosure

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<sup>4</sup> United States Department of State and the Broadcasting Board of Governors Office of Inspector General, *Inspection of the Bureau of Diplomatic Security, Office of Investigations and Counterintelligence, Divisions of Special Investigations, Divisions of Special Criminal Investigations, and Computer Investigations and Forensics* (ISP-I-13-18), February 2013.

## DEFINITIONS

1. The term "document" means any written, recorded, or graphic matter of any nature whatsoever, regardless of how recorded, whether classified or unclassified, and whether original or copy, including, but not limited to, the following: memoranda, reports, expense reports, books, manuals, instructions, financial reports, working papers, records notes, letters, notices, confirmations, telegrams, receipts, appraisals, pamphlets, magazines, newspapers, prospectuses, interoffice and intra office communications, electronic mail (e-mail), contracts, cables, notations of any type of conversation, telephone calls, meeting or other communications, bulletins, printed matter, computer printouts, teletypes, invoices, transcripts, diaries, analyses, returns, summaries, minutes, bills, accounts, estimates, projections, comparisons, messages, correspondence, press releases, circulars, financial statements, reviews, opinions, offers, studies and investigations, questionnaires and surveys, and work sheets (and all drafts, preliminary versions, alterations, modifications, revisions, changes, and amendments of any of the foregoing, as well as any attachments or appendices thereto). The term also means any graphic or oral records or representations of any kind (including without limitation, photographs, charts, graphs, voice mails, microfiche, microfilm, videotape, recordings and motion pictures), electronic and mechanical records or representations of any kind (including, without limitation, tapes, cassettes, disks, computer server files, computer hard drive files, CDs, DVDs, memory sticks, and recordings) and other written, printed, typed, or other graphic or recorded matter of any kind or nature, however produced or reproduced, and whether preserved in writing, film, tape, disk, videotape or otherwise. A document bearing any notation not a part of the original text is to be considered a separate document. A draft or non-identical copy is a separate document within the meaning of this term.
2. The term "documents in your possession, custody, or control" means (a) documents that are in your possession, custody, or control, whether held by you or your past or present agents, employees, or representatives acting on your behalf; (b) documents that you have a legal right to obtain, that you have a right to copy, or to which you have access; and (c) documents that you have placed in the temporary possession, custody, or control of any third party.
3. The term "communication" means each manner or means of disclosure or exchange of information, regardless of means utilized, whether oral, electronic, by document or otherwise, and whether face-to-face, in a meeting, by telephone, mail, telexes, discussions, releases, personal delivery, or otherwise.



4. The terms "and" and "or" shall be construed broadly and either conjunctively or disjunctively to bring within the scope of this request any information which might otherwise be construed to be outside its scope. The singular includes plural number, and vice versa. The masculine includes the feminine and neuter genders.
5. The terms "person" or "persons" means natural persons, firms, partnerships, associations, corporations, subsidiaries, divisions, departments, joint ventures, proprietorships, syndicates, or other legal, business or government entities, and all subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, departments, branches, and other units thereof.
6. The terms "referring or relating," with respect to any given subject, means anything that constitutes, contains, embodies, reflects, identifies, states, refers to, deals with or is in any manner whatsoever pertinent to that subject.