



Senator Bob Corker
Ranking Member
185 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

January 22, 2012

Dear Ranking Member Corker,

In the wake of the September 11, 2012 attacks on the U.S. diplomatic mission in Benghazi, Libya, President Obama vowed to bring the killers of Ambassador Christopher Stevens and three other Americans to justice. Four months later there has been little progress on that front and the events surrounding this tragedy remain unclear.

Congress and the American people have yet to be given a full accounting by the Obama administration's most senior leaders, despite the erroneous reports in the aftermath of the attacks claiming they were caused by the release of "inflammatory material posted on the Internet." It is most concerning that to date, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has yet to testify before Congress regarding these attacks.

In the coming weeks, the Senate will begin the confirmation process of Senator John Kerry to become the 68th United States Secretary of State. I am confident Senator Kerry will be confirmed and congratulate him on his appointment. Senator Kerry's confirmation also presents a new opportunity to forge a new path in this investigation and redouble our commitment to ensuring justice will be done. As you are tasked under the Constitution to provide advice and consent on Senator Kerry's nomination, I urge you to take this opportunity to gain a pledge from Senator Kerry to do all that he can so that we see justice in this matter.

The first difficult job for Senator Kerry will be to cooperate with and encourage a complete and thorough investigation of the Benghazi killings. Americans deserve a detailed timeline of all the relevant components both at and near the sites in question and from any of the decision makers. We need to know everything from the Ambassador's autopsy report, to who was in the Situation Room and when, to what time the President went to bed that night, to the logistics of our military assets in the region. As was made clear by the report issued by the Benghazi Accountability Review Board, we must implement measures to correct the massive failures that occurred at all levels of our leadership to keep our government employees who are serving abroad safe and secure.

The upcoming confirmation process presents a unique opportunity to gain a pledge from Senator Kerry to follow through on the Benghazi investigation, bring the perpetrators to justice, and implement the reforms necessary so that this type of attack is never again successful. I urge you to withhold your consent unless there is a true commitment in this regard.

Our next Secretary of State will need to clear up all these issues so that he can get on with the business of foreign relations after providing the American people with the answers they deserve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve King". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Steve King

Member of Congress

cc: Senator Barbara Boxer
 Senator Robert Menendez
 Senator Benjamin L. Cardin
 Senator Robert P. Casey Jr.
 Senator Jeanne Shaheen
 Senator Christopher Coons
 Senator Thomas Udall
 Senator Christopher Murphy
 Senator Tim Kaine
 Senator James Risch
 Senator Marco Rubio
 Senator Ron Johnson
 Senator Jeff Flake
 Senator John McCain
 Senator John Barrasso
 Senator Rand Paul