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October 29, 2012

Rep. Elijah Cummings
Member of Congress
2235 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Your interview and comments concerning True the Vote

Dear Rep. Cummings:

I represent Catherine Engelbrecht and True the Vote. We are shocked at your comments on "The Ed Show" of MSNBC, which you either know not to be true or have done nothing to assure their accuracy. We had higher hopes for you as an otherwise respected Member of Congress.

You said on MSNBC that we had "gone silent" in terms of a response to your requests. As you well know, we responded to your request for information when you wrote us the first letter, which was filled with inaccuracies and innuendo. Catherine Engelbrecht offered to travel to meet you in Washington D.C. to explain the actual activities of True the Vote and dispel the misinformation you and your staff had recited in your letter. Instead of agreeing to a meeting, you demanded more and different information – information which would be near impossible to directly gather. True the Vote has been organizing and doing its work for all of 2012, and yet you demand information from us – without any right or authority to do so – in the time most calculated to keep us from our task of reducing voter fraud.

You have accused our organization of committing a crime, of acting in an illegal manner and acting so as to reduce the opportunity of minorities to vote. You have said that our poll watchers illegally cause problems at polling places, all with the desire to cause people to get out of line and not vote. You have said that we have targeted the elderly. Each and every one of these allegations is categorically false, has no basis in

truth, and is not anything about which you are capable of substantiating with anything other than a conjured allegation of some individual seeking to distort reality. This defamation per se is shameful. Without so much as the common courtesy to meet with Ms. Engelbrecht, where you could have quickly learned how off track your allegations are and have been, you instead go on national television and call this group names and cast them in the most unflattering light possible.

You incorrectly conclude that the activities of True the Vote constitute some secret plot by the Republican Party to cast out unfavorable voters. True the Vote is a non-partisan group, who has reached out any number of times to offer poll watcher training services to Democrats as well as Republicans. We are interested in a fair election, untainted by voter fraud, where voters are alive, registered, who they say they are and vote only once.

Your admonition to True the Vote that you and apparently a group of others will be watching their activities is interesting. We operate completely in the open, with anyone and everyone available to see what we do and when we do it. Though many may accuse us of misconduct, never has anyone been able to establish anything close to the convenient fabrications that have been alleged about our activities. We are a group of concerned citizens, both Democrats and Republicans, who are fed up with the business as usual activities where voter fraud becomes the rule rather than the exception, and no one seems to care. We care. You should care. Instead of doing all you can to thwart the efforts of those attempting to eliminate voter fraud, one might think you would join us in these efforts. But eliminating or reducing voter fraud is apparently not your interest.

A statesman looks for truth, seeks justice and acts in the common good without consideration of fealty to personal interest or party. A statesman would accept the invitation to meet with Catherine Engelbrecht and learn first hand what True the Vote actually does and how they do it. The offer still stands for her to meet with you.

If you choose to meet with her, you will most surely be compelled to retract the comments you have made, and we would hope that MSNBC would give you the same opportunity for setting the record straight as they gave you for the time spent in casting misinformation. If you choose not to meet with her, a retraction of your comments is still necessary, and we will insist on nothing less.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brock C. Akers". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brock C. Akers

BCA:pdg