

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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<http://oversight.house.gov>

September 9, 2016

The Honorable John F. Kerry
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

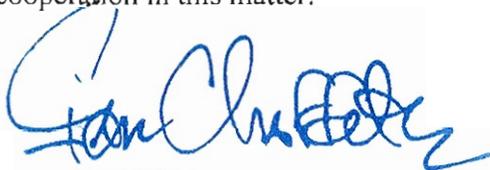
Dear Mr. Secretary:

The U.S. Department of State has failed to respond to a series of requests for documents and information related to the Committee's oversight and investigative initiatives. The same challenges that have thus far prevented the Department from complying with the Committee's requests may also be affecting the Department's ability to fulfill its responsibilities under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

To help the Committee understand how and why the Department is unable to comply with document requests in a timely and complete manner, please provide a briefing for Committee staff and a tour of the Department's resources for responding to document requests from Members of Congress and FOIA requests. The briefing and tour will assist the Committee's effort to identify ways by which the Department can improve the timeliness and completeness of its responses to such document requests.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee of the House of Representatives and may at "any time" investigate "any matter" as set forth in House Rule X.

Please have your staff contact Melissa Beaumont of Chairman Chaffetz' staff at (202) 225-5074 to schedule the briefing and tour, or with any questions about this request. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



Jason Chaffetz
Chairman

Sincerely,



Mark Meadows
Chairman
Subcommittee on Government Operations



Cynthia M. Lummis
Chairman
Subcommittee on the Interior

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cc: The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, Ranking Member

The Honorable Gerald E. Connolly, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Government Operations

The Honorable Brenda L. Lawrence, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Interior