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Congress of the United States House of Representatives Mashington, DC 20515–3217

Paul Bascobert President Reuters News 30 South Colonnade London, UK E14 5EP, GB

November 21, 2023

Dear Mr. Bascobert:

On October 7, 2023, Hamas terrorists led a brutal and barbaric attack on Israel, which included the gruesome murders of over 1,200 people. The atrocities committed by Hamas were well-documented on that day, including by journalists associated with Reuters News. We write today to raise concerns about the implications of this content, particularly whether there was any prior knowledge of the attack by Reuters journalists and any connection to Hamas by your company.

A month after the attack, the nongovernmental organization HonestReporting found that certain photographs were taken in the attack's earliest hours. Hamas began their invasion of Southern Israel around 5:00 am and only shortly after did Gaza-based journalists begin capturing their invasion and their atrocities.

Most concerning is the potential that a Reuters journalist may have had prior knowledge of this deadly attack yet said nothing, which would be unethical, inhumane, and indefensible. In light of this disturbing report, we have several questions:

- 1. Did the Reuters journalist have any prior knowledge of the Hamas-led attack on Israel?
- 2. How did the Reuters journalist know to be awake during the early hours of the Hamas invasion of Israel?
- 3. How did the Reuters journalist know where to go during the early hours of the Hamas invasion of Israel?
- 4. Had the Reuters journalist had any contact with Hamas officials or militants prior to the invasion?
- 5. Had the Reuters journalist had any contact with Hamas officials or militants during the invasion?
- 6. If the answer is yes to any of these questions, when did you become aware of this and what actions have you taken in light of these facts?

As we're sure you understand, this is a highly sensitive topic. We appreciate your timely review of these questions and look forward to hearing back.

Sincerely,

K. l. Michael

Michael V. Lawler Member of Congress

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