

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5074
MINORITY (202) 225-5051

<http://oversight.house.gov>

June 29, 2015

Mr. Michael J. Courts
Director
International Affairs and Trade
U.S. Government Accountability Office
441 G Street NW
Washington, DC 20548

Dear Mr. Courts:

The House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform hereby requests your testimony at a hearing on Thursday, July 9, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. in room 2154 Rayburn House Office Building. The hearing is titled, "Construction Costs and Delays at the U.S. Embassy in Kabul."

The hearing will examine issues related to the construction of the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, including the Government Accountability Office's report on the matter. You should be prepared to provide a five-minute opening statement and answer questions posed by Members.

Instructions for witnesses appearing before the Committee are contained in the enclosed Witness Instruction Sheet. In particular, please note the procedures for submitting written testimony at least two business days prior to the hearing. We ask that you please contact the Committee by July 2, 2015, to confirm your attendance. If you have any questions, please contact Cordell Hull of the Committee staff at (202) 225-5074.

Sincerely,



Jason Chaffetz
Chairman



Elijah E. Cummings
Ranking Member

Enclosure

Witness Instruction Sheet
Governmental Witness
Full Committee Hearing

The following are pertinent rules and procedures applicable to a witness testifying before the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1. The witness should prepare written testimony and provide a short biographical summary. **These two documents need to be provided to the Committee no later than 10:00 a.m. two business days prior to the hearing.**
 - a. Electronic submission: The witness should submit an electronic version of the written testimony and biographical information to Sarah Vance, Assistant Clerk, at Sarah.Vance@mail.house.gov.
 - i. The Committee prints the final record after the hearing. Considering printing costs, please submit your testimony single-spaced and no font size larger than 12 point.
 - b. Delivery of hard copies: The witness should print 70 copies of the written testimony and staple a copy of the biographical summary behind each copy of the written testimony. These 70 packets should be delivered to Sarah Vance at 2157 Rayburn House Office Building. Please do not send the packets by U.S. Mail, UPS, Federal Express, or other shippers. Such packages are processed through an offsite security facility and will arrive 7-10 days late.
2. At the hearing, the witness will be asked to summarize his or her written testimony in five minutes or less in order to maximize the time available for discussion and questions. However, the written testimony may extend to any reasonable length.
3. At the conclusion of the hearing, the witness' written testimony and biographical summary will be posted on the Committee's website. The documents will also be entered into the hearing record. Therefore it is recommended that personally identifiable information, such as addresses and phone numbers, not be included.
4. The Committee does not provide financial reimbursement for witness travel or accommodations. However, a witness with extenuating circumstances may submit a written request for such reimbursements to Robin Butler, Financial Administrator, 2157 Rayburn House Office Building, at least one week prior to the hearing. Reimbursements will not be made without prior approval.
5. A witness with a disability should contact Committee staff to arrange any necessary accommodations.
6. The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee in the U.S. House of Representatives. The jurisdiction of the Committee is set forth in the House Rules X, clauses 1(m), 2, 3, and 4.
7. Committee Rules governing this hearing are online at <http://oversight.house.gov/>.

For inquiries regarding these rules and procedures, please contact the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform at (202) 225-5074.