



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

OCT - 9 2012

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing in response to your letter of September 20 requesting the Department to provide seven categories of information related to the September 11 attacks in Benghazi.

We are in the process of gathering and reviewing responsive records, and our efforts have already identified a large volume of potentially responsive records. Consistent with Secretary Clinton's letter of October 2 to Chairman Issa, we are moving as expeditiously as possible to review these materials in order to produce responsive information, taking into account any necessary measures to protect classified information.

To facilitate preparation for the upcoming hearing, we want to offer you and other members of the Committee the opportunity to review a number of cables and memoranda that address the security situation leading up to the attack. This set of materials contains classified and other sensitive information, including information about the security of U.S. diplomatic missions overseas, foreign government information, and personal privacy information, the unauthorized release of which could cause damage to national security and foreign relations. Mindful of these concerns, as well as the Committee's desire to review relevant records as soon as possible, the Department is prepared to make copies of these records available on a read-only, no copy basis.

Please contact me to make arrangements for review of these documents. In the meantime, we will continue to work diligently to identify, review and produce records responsive to your request.

Sincerely,

David S. Adams
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

The Honorable
Jason Chaffetz, Chairman,
House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform,
House of Representatives.