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July 29, 2010

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Clinton,

Thank you for your personal attention to the issue of the release in August 2009 of convicted Pan Am 103 bomber Abdelbasset al-Megrahi and for your continued reaffirmation of the Department of State's unshakeable conviction that al-Megrahi should not be a free man.

My staff has been in touch with the State Department's Office of Legislative Affairs to coordinate for appropriate agency representatives to testify before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to fully explore allegations surrounding the decision to release al-Megrahi, and in particular, whether a \$900 million oil exploration deal between BP and Libya directly or indirectly influenced the decision to release al-Megrahi. Recognizing that Assistant Secretary Jeffrey Feltman and other witnesses were not available to testify on the original hearing date, we have postponed the hearing and look forward to working with your staff to set a new hearing date on which he will be able to testify in September.

I believe it is critical to include the Department of State's perspective in this hearing. We ask that Assistant Secretary Feltman and other appropriate Department representatives elaborate on the details of the 1998 agreement reached between the U.S., the United Kingdom, and Libya that required anyone convicted of involvement in the Pan Am 103 bombing to serve out their sentence in Scotland. This agreement was the basis of Libya's fulfillment of one of its UNSCR requirements, which paved the way for Libya's removal from the State Sponsor of Terrorism list.

That al-Megrahi was released and is now living out his remaining days outside of Scottish custody is not only an affront to the victims' families, it also poses a threat to our own national security. I ask that Department representatives also address the implications of al-Megrahi's release to our national security in terms of the signal it sends to other would-be terrorists that such unjustifiable actions may not result in a fulfillment of justice.

Sincerely,

