Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 9, 2018

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We write to urge you to personally raise the issue of Virginia resident Jamal Khashoggi's disappearance and welfare with the governments of Saudi Arabia and Turkey. We also request that you offer U.S. support to any independent investigation into his disappearance.

As you know, Mr. Khashoggi is an internationally renowned journalist and columnist for the Washington Post. In fact, Mr. Khashoggi was granted an O-1 visa, which is reserved for those with "extraordinary ability in the fields of science, education, business or athletics…indicating that the person is one of the small percentage who has risen to the very top of the field of endeavor."

On October 2, 2018, Mr. Khashoggi visited the Saudi consulate in Istanbul in order to obtain paperwork related to his upcoming marriage. Reportedly, there has been no confirmation that he departed the consulate though Saudi officials maintain that Mr. Khashoggi did so shortly after he visited. According to President Erdogan, the Justice Ministry and the chief prosecutor in Istanbul are undertaking an investigation into Mr. Khashoggi's whereabouts.

These conflicting reports and rampant speculation that he was murdered demand immediate answers from both Saudi Arabia and Turkey. We urge you to extend support from all appropriate U.S. federal agencies, such as the FBI, to these governments to conduct a thorough and transparent investigation of Mr. Khashoggi's case. We sincerely hope that Mr. Khashoggi emerges unharmed and is free to return safely to the United States, especially given the growing and deeply troubling trend of targeting journalists and oppositionists, not only in Saudi Arabia and Turkey, but around the world. The U.S. must speak out loudly wherever and whenever this occurs.

Best Regards,

Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress

Tim Kaine
U.S. Senator

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Mark R. Warner
U.S. Senator

Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress

Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress

David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress

Steve Chabot
Member of Congress

Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress

Ted Deutch
Member of Congress

Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress

Eliot L. Engel
Member of Congress

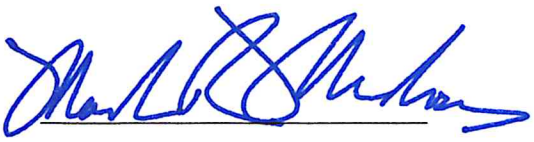
Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress

Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress

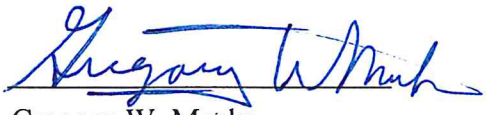
Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress

Michael T. McCaul
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Mark Meadows
Member of Congress



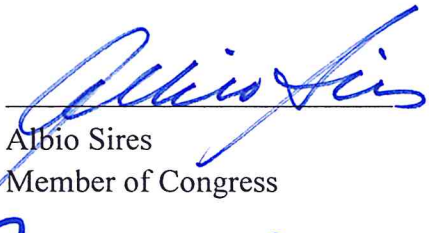
Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress

David E. Price
Member of Congress

Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress

Bradley S. Schneider
Member of Congress

Brad Sherman
Member of Congress



Albio Sires
Member of Congress

Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress

Norma J. Torres
Member of Congress