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July 12, 2012

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

The recent disclosure of national secrets is of great concern to all Americans. To conduct our foreign policy and keep Americans safe, some operations and sources of intelligence must be kept strictly secret. Concern about these leaks knows no party line. When national security secrets leak and become public knowledge, our people and our national interests are jeopardized. And when our enemies know our secrets, American lives are threatened.

Senator Dianne Feinstein, Chairwoman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, said that the recent national security leaks have been "like an avalanche. It is very detrimental and . . . very concerning." House Intelligence Committee Chairman Mike Rogers called the recent slew of leaks "probably the most damaging" in America's history. As a result of these leaks, according to Chairman Rogers, "[s]omebody's going to lose their life. We're going to have operations that will cease. We'll have lost opportunities. All those things are going to happen."

The members of the House Judiciary Committee agree that this is a very serious issue. At a hearing yesterday, Ranking Member John Conyers, Crime Subcommittee Chairman Jim Sensenbrenner, and I agreed to exercise the Committee's investigative capacities, including subpoenas if necessary, and compile lists of people within the Administration with whom the Committee should talk to discover the sources of the recent leaks and prevent further leaks in the future.

As Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, I request the following individuals be made available for interviews with the Committee:

- Thomas E. Donilon, National Security Advisor;
- William M. Daley, former White House Chief of Staff;
- Antony Blinken, National Security Advisor to the Vice President;

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- Denis R. McDonough, Deputy National Security Advisor;
- Audrey Tomason, Director for Counterterrorism;
- John O. Brennan, Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism;
and
- James R. Clapper, Jr., Director of National Intelligence.

These individuals should be prepared to discuss, to the full extent of their knowledge, how, why, and by whom each of the following classified matters was leaked or otherwise became public information accessible to America's enemies:

- The Stuxnet attack involving Iran;
- The Flame virus attack involving Iran;
- Operational details of Bin Laden raid;
- The identity of the doctor who did DNA tests to locate Bin Laden;
- The introduction of members of Seal Team 6 to Obama campaign film producers;
- The Administration's targeted killings; and
- The disruption of the recent plot by al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula to send a terrorist with an explosive hidden in his underwear to conduct a suicide bombing on a plane bound for America.

I look forward to your cooperation with the Committee's inquiries. The American people deserve to know the facts about this pattern of leaks and how we can prevent similar leaks in the future. The safety of Americans at home and abroad depends on the government's ability to protect our nation's secrets. And the government's ability to keep national security secrets depends on identifying the causes of the recent leaks and putting a stop to them.

Sincerely,



Lamar Smith
Chairman

Cc: The Honorable John Conyers, Jr.
Cc: The Honorable F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr.