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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-4302

January 28, 2008

Jeffrey T. Bergner  
Assistant Secretary  
Legislative Affairs  
United States Department of State  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Bergner:

I am in receipt of your January 7, 2008 letter in regards to Jamie Leigh Jones. The investigation timeline that you presented has raised serious concerns. Your letter states that the Department's Bureau of Diplomatic Security conducted an investigation on Ms. Jones' case beginning in 2005 and referred Ms. Jones' case to the Department of Justice in the spring of 2007. In your letter, you referred me to direct all questions concerning criminal prosecution to the Department of Justice.

However, my office has been informed that State Department Special Agent Lynn Falanga was in frequent contact with Ms. Jones throughout the fall of 2007 and is still in frequent contact with Ms. Jones, as recently as the week of January 22, 2008. In the spring of 2007, Jenna Lipinski, a State Department attorney, informed Ms. Jones' attorneys that "forensic evidence was processed" in the fall of 2006 and that no decision was made in the case. At no time did the Department of State notify Ms. Jones that it closed its investigation. Nor did the Department ever inform Ms. Jones that it referred her case to the Department of Justice. If the investigation was indeed closed, Department of State employees would have no contact with Ms. Jones.

I find your response unacceptable. I eagerly await your explanation as to why the Department of State is still in frequent communication with Ms. Jones if its investigation was closed and referred to the Department of Justice. In addition, I now request a meeting with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to discuss this issue further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ted Poe", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

TED POE  
Member of Congress  
TEXAS