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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

June 2, 2009

Kathleen M. Watson
Defense Security Service
U.S. Department of Defense
1340 Braddock Place
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Ms. Watson:

We are writing to invite you to testify before the Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight at a hearing entitled, "Allegations of Waste, Fraud, and Abuse in Security Contracts at the U.S. Embassy in Kabul." The hearing will be held on Wednesday, June 10, 2009 at 2:30 P.M. in Room SD-342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to examine concerns relating to ArmorGroup North America's contract to provide security services at the U.S. Embassy in Kabul. The Subcommittee has learned of allegations that the security of the Embassy may have been jeopardized over the last two years because of ArmorGroup's failure to comply with U.S. laws and contract terms, including provisions relating to foreign ownership, control, or influence. The hearing will examine these allegations and explore potential abuses in the management and oversight of these contracts.

Your testimony should highlight the role of the Defense Security Service in investigating and adjudicating facility security clearances. You should also address the Defense Security Service's specific oversight of the foreign ownership, control, or influence of ArmorGroup North America.

The Subcommittee requests that you summarize your testimony in 5 minutes, although a longer written statement may be submitted for the official record. This will allow adequate time for you to engage in questions and answers with members of the Subcommittee. Subcommittee rules require that your testimony be submitted by 2:30 P.M. on Monday, June 8, 2009. Please send an electronic copy of your written statement and a brief one page biography to Subcommittee Clerk, Kelsey Stroud, at Kelsey_Stroud@hsgac.senate.gov.

We look forward to your participation in this hearing. Please contact Alan Kahn with Senator McCaskill's Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-3230 or Molly Wilkinson with Senator Collins' Subcommittee staff at (202) 228-3141 with any questions.



Senator Claire McCaskill
Chairman
Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight

Sincerely,



Senator Susan Collins
Acting Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight