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**For Immediate Release:**

October 30, 2007                      Contact: Peter Karafotas  
(202) 226-6898

**SCHAKOWSKY CONDEMNS STATE DEPARTMENT FOR OFFERING B**

Washington, D.C.—U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL), a member of the House

Schakowsky joined Judiciary Chairman John Conyers (D-MI) and Representative David P

“I asked Mr. Starr if it is the policy of the State Department to allow private security contra

The fact that the State Department may have offered these contractors limited immunity r

According to internal State Department emails obtained by ABC News, the Department k

The State Department’s addiction to private security contractors has compromised our ru

The State Department’s investigation into the September 16th incident was bungled from

October 30, 2007

Acting Attorney General Peter D. Keisler  
Office of the Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

The Honorable Condoleezza Rice  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20520  
Re: Immunity in Blackwater Probe

Dear Secretary Rice and Acting Attorney General Keisler:

We are deeply concerned about the reported immunity received by Blackwater guards

The seriousness of the shooting incident — and its effect on the U.S. military's reputation

It is our understanding that as a result of any immunity given to the guards, prosecutors

Because the decision to give immunity to Blackwater guards was a serious

- 1). Who made the decision to provide immunity to the Blackwater guards? Why was the
- 2). Under what legal authority was the immunity granted?
- 3). What type of immunity was extended and how far does it reach?
- 4). What is the usual procedure for granting such immunity and was it followed in this case?
- 5). To what extent does the immunity affect the investigation conducted by the FBI and the
- 6). Was the FBI or the Justice Department consulted before immunity was provided to the
- 7). When will the FBI agents turn over their information to Justice Department prosecutors?
- 8). What is the status of the incident in which a bodyguard of an Iraqi vice president was
- 9) Where are the Blackwater guards, who are under investigation for the September 16
- 10) Should the suspects be handed over to the Iraqis for further investigation and possible

I ask you to provide responses to these questions by November 7, 2007. I hope that you

Sincerely,

The Honorable John Conyers, Jr.  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary

The Honorable David E. Price  
Member of Congress

The Honorable Janice D. Schakowsky  
Member of Congress

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