

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 18, 2016

The Honorable John F. Kerry
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C St. NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Kerry:

The State Department's Bureau of Counterterrorism, as part of its mission to develop and implement counterterrorism strategies, policies and operations, hires contractors to engage in and coordinate social media messaging operations. Social media counter-messaging is a critical component in the effort to prevent radicalization both at home and abroad. However, I am concerned that the federal government may not be effectively using social media in this effort, and may be continuing to rely too heavily on traditional forms of media at the expense of a more robust social media effort.

To assist me in my oversight, I request that your office provide the following documents and information:

- 1) The complete contract files for all contracts used to provide counterterrorism social media messaging operations;
- 2) A list of all State Department contracts used for counterterrorism messaging via billboards, fliers, posters, newspaper articles, radio, television and other forms of "traditional" media; and
- 3) All policies, procedures and protocol for coordinating the State Department's counterterrorism social media messaging operations with operations conducted by the Department of Homeland Security, Department of Defense, Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Security Agency and other intelligence agencies.

I request you provide this information as soon as possible, but no later than March 18, 2016.

I appreciate your assistance. If you have any questions please contact Charlie Moskowitz at 202-228-6471 or Charlie.Moskowitz@mccaskill.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Claire McCaskill
U.S. Senator