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October 25, 2018

Attorney General Jefferson Sessions Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Sessions:

Yesterday, our nation was shocked as an attempted act of domestic terrorism targeted political leaders and media outlets unfriendly to the President. A person or persons, in a highly-coordinated attack, sent mail bombs to former President Barack Obama, Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Congresswomen Maxine Waters and Debbie Wasserman Schultz, George Soros, and CNN.

What all these victims have in common is that they have frequently been the target of President Trump's ire, via Twitter, interviews, speeches at mass rallies, and informal statements to the press. The morning following the attempted bombings, the President again took to twitter to imply that the media is to blame for the attacks. Every public official has an obligation to ensure that their words cannot be taken to inspire violence of any sort. We must seek to elevate the national discourse and create a public arena where people feel comfortable to voice their opinions without fear of violent reprisals.

I respectfully request that you publicly promise to conduct a fair and impartial investigation into these attacks. We are on the cusp of a national election, and early voting has started in several states. What if the next target is a polling place, a campaign office, or any other target without the safety protocols of the October 24 attacks? The American people must be immediately assured that the United States Department of Justice will not allow any political violence to go unpunished and that the perpetrators will be brought to justice.

In order to ensure that the executive branch is carrying out its duties, Congress is entrusted with an oversight responsibility. As a Member of the Oversight Committee, I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure that the Department of Justice fulfills its duty to protect Americans from political violence. Congress will not hesitate to subpoen documents and testimony if we feel the Department of Justice is not fully committed to ending political violence and upholding the rights of all Americans.

Sincerely,

Raja Krishnamoorthi Member of Congress

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