

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 22, 2025

The Honorable Marco Rubio
Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary,

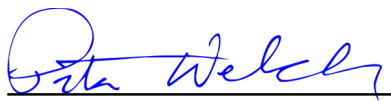
Thank you for your response of September 2, 2025, to our May 21, 2025, letter regarding the shooting of Palestinian American journalist Shireen Abu Akleh.

We understand that the Office of the U.S. Security Coordinator (USSC) is not an investigative body. However, not long after Ms. Abu Akleh was killed the USSC publicly endorsed the Israel Defense Forces' assertion, without citing any evidence, that the shooting was "unintentional".

As our May 21st letter made clear, we have repeatedly sought answers from the State Department which do not require an investigation. The answers are either currently known to State or readily obtainable from the Israeli Government. Copies of our May 21st letter, as well as our June 23, 2022 and September 25, 2024 letters about this matter, are attached.

We continue to believe that a U.S.-led investigation is necessary to secure transparency and accountability in this case. In the meantime, we are requesting answers to our questions about the violent, unexplained death of an American citizen more than three years ago and would appreciate receiving them within 20 business days of the date of this letter.

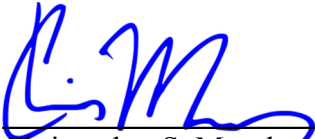
Sincerely,



Peter Welch
United States Senator



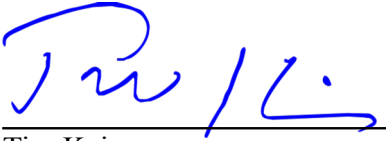
Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator



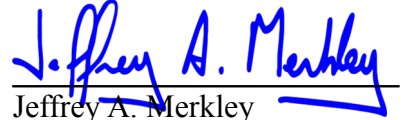
Christopher S. Murphy
United States Senator



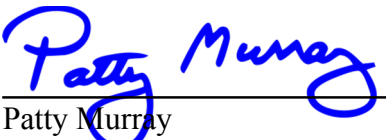
Bernard Sanders
United States Senator



Tim Kaine
United States Senator



Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator



Patty Murray
United States Senator



Raphael Warnock
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator