United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 5, 2025

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

Dear Mr. Secretary,

I write following up on questions my office has sent to the State Department regarding the October 13, 2023, attack on journalists in southern Lebanon, including my constituent, Dylan Collins. On July 28, 2025, my office submitted a staff request with the questions below. Since then, my office has followed up seven times requesting a response to the exact same questions. The context and questions are below:

We've learned from the Israeli Embassy that the Israeli Defense Forces conducted an investigation into the shooting of the journalists, finding the soldiers involved in the shooting did not act outside of their rules of engagement.

1. *Did the Government of Israel inform the Department of State that it was conducting an investigation of an attack that injured an American citizen?*
2. *Has the State Department requested a copy of the report of the investigation?*
3. *Has the report of the investigation been shared with the State Department?*

We have been informed by Dylan Collins that in the days after the attack he was interviewed by a US official from the Embassy of Beirut on two separate occasions. The State Department informed us on November 11, 2025, that Department officials were aware of the attack on the day it happened. The Israeli Embassy informed us that in the days following the attack, they were not notified that an American was injured in the incident, though they had been informed of the nationality of the other journalists involved and killed in the same attack.

4. *Please confirm whether US Embassy Beirut shared this information with the State Department in Washington.*
5. *Was the Israeli government notified that an American citizen was injured in the attack, and if so, when?*

Please reply by Thursday, December 11. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Peter Welch

Peter Welch

United States Senator