Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Noel Francisco Solicitor General Office of the Solicitor General U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, D.C. 20530

October 26, 2017

Dear Solicitor General Francisco,

We write you today to respectfully urge your expeditious response to the request of the United States Supreme Court for a brief expressing the views of the United States in *Sokolow v. PLO*.

The *Sokolow* plaintiffs are American victims of terrorism abroad, who sought civil redress from the Palestine Liberation Organization ("PLO") and Palestinian Authority ("PA") pursuant to the Anti-Terrorism Act of 1992 ("ATA"). The ATA was passed by Congress to deter support for terrorism, thereby protecting Americans abroad and advancing vital U.S. interests, while equipping the victims with the right to hold perpetrators liable.

A unanimous jury in the Southern District of New York determined the PLO and PA liable for their brutal acts of terrorism and awarded compensation to the plaintiffs. The Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit then vacated the jury's decision on jurisdictional grounds. The plaintiffs have now filed a petition for certiorari.

As Members of Congress, we have a compelling interest to speak out in defense of the ATA, passed with overwhelming bipartisan support, and in support of these American victims waiting for justice. We also seek to prevent future victims. For this reason an *amicus* brief supporting the grant of certiorari has already been filed by the House of Representatives. The Court should grant certiorari to review the Court of Appeals' deeply flawed and troubling decision, which concerns issues of exceptional importance to the Nation.

We ask you now to expedite the requested response of the Solicitor General and request the full and fair consideration of the views herein.

Thank you in advance for your prompt reply.

Sincerely,

Kathleen M. Rice

Member of Congress

Christopher Smith

Ted Budd

Member of Congress

Joseph P. Kennedy III Member of Congress

Jerry Nadler
Member of Congress

Mike Quigley
Member of Congress

Frederica Wilson Member of Congress William R. Keating
Member of Congress

Stephen Lynch
Member of Congress

Scott Perry
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Brian Fitzpatrick

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Bill Flores

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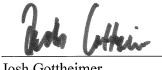
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Cc: Attorney General Jeff Sessions Cc: Secretary of State Rex Tillerson