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THE LAW FIRM OF PUCKETT AND FARAJ, PC

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Via Facsimile 202.225.5745

Congressman Dennis Kucinich
2445 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Statements regarding your alleged association and visit to Syria with Mr. Anas (Alex) Soueid

Dear Congressman Kucinich:

I am deeply distressed that statements I made to the press were misconstrued. After a detention hearing yesterday in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia to have my client Mr. Mohamed Anas Haitham Soueid released from detention, I was approached by a reporter from the Associate Press to provide a statement. I provided a statement in which I stated that Mr. Soueid visited Syria at the same time that Congressman Kucinich visited. My statement also referred to my client, Mr. Soueid, visiting as a member of a delegation. Those statements led to news reports stating that Mr. Soueid and you were members of the same delegation and that you and he are perhaps acquainted. That is not accurate. I wish to, therefore, clarify our position. Mr. Soueid does not personally know you nor does he maintain that you and he were on the same delegation.

Mr. Soueid did visit Syria as a member of a delegation at about the same time that you visited and met with Mr. Assad. Like you, his delegation asked Mr. Assad to institute democratic reforms and end the violence. The delegation that Mr. Soueid went with included members of the clergy and prominent members of the community. It did not include you. My lack of clarity resulted in the AP reporter writing a report that linked you to Mr. Soueid. I take responsibility for the error and apologize for any negative consequences that you have had to suffer. My statements were intended to draw a parallel between your visit and Mr. Soueid's visit as part of a delegation and to demonstrate that a mere visit with a head of state should not automatically result in nefarious inferences about the purpose of the visit.

I regret that my statements may have caused you any embarrassment or a need to have to answer for matters that you are not associated with.

Sincerely,

Haytham Faraj, Esq.