

Congressman Bilirakis, member of the Foreign Affairs Committee and the Congressional Anti-Terrorism Caucus, today joined over 50 of his Congressional colleagues in sending a letter to President Obama and U.S. Secretary of State Clinton to demand answers regarding the security failures that led to the September 11 terrorist attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya.

[The letter](#) raises the following questions:

- Why did the Administration repeatedly deny requests for stronger security measures from U.S. personnel on the ground in Libya, especially in light of the escalating violence leading up to the September 11 attack?
- Why did the Administration withdraw elite Special Forces units from the Benghazi compound and seek to replace them with poorly paid local Libyan contractors, even after the compound had been bombed twice?
- Why did the Administration pursue what U.S. personnel on the ground described as a “cookie cutter” approach to security in Libya and impose an “artificial time table” toward “normalization” that ignored the dangerous facts on the ground?

Over seven weeks have passed since Ambassador Stevens, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods and Glenn Doherty were murdered in a coordinated terrorist attack in Benghazi. The American public deserves to know why the pleas for increased security from personnel on the ground were routinely ignored.