

Dear Honorable Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for holding the hearing on HR 3815, The Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act. My husband Peter was killed in the World Trade Center and along with thousands of other family members and survivors I have been waiting many long years for a full public accounting of the attacks. We hope the passage of this legislation will bring us closer to the answers and the justice we deserve.

I know you will be hearing from a panel of experts, but I am hoping you will also consider my comments as someone who was profoundly impacted by the attacks and who will be directly affected by your decisions on this legislation.

I am sure everyone can imagine the loss we suffered and the huge hole it has left in my family, which we feel every day. Another casualty that is not as obvious, but is felt very keenly, is the quite devastating loss of trust in my government. It may surprise you to know that the failure to prevent the attacks is not the cause of my disillusionment. Yes, mistakes were made, but I could have forgiven a mistake. What I am painfully struggling with is the fact that in the fight for justice and accountability, my biggest obstacle is my own government. The realization that there is a long list of things more important than the lives of 3000 innocent people is stunning to me. How is this okay?

I used to think that the safety of the American people was the number one priority of our elected officials. Now I feel stupid and naïve. And unsafe.

Please support this legislation and prove me wrong. Please renew my faith and tell me that money from oil or weapons or lobbyists or whatever doesn't mean more than our loved ones. Please don't say that we need to tolerate all of their murders just so we don't get sued someday. Please don't look the other way while those who provided material support for the hijackers continue to operate with impunity. Let me know that the war on terror is not just talk and you are doing all you can to stop the flow of money to terrorists. Please give us our day in court.

Please remember that if it hadn't been for those brave passengers on Flight 93, your families might be 9/11 families. Please help us.

Sincerely,

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