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November 18, 2009

The Honorable Hillary Clinton  
Secretary of State  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Clinton:

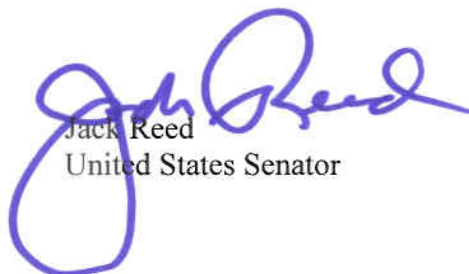
I write regarding the murder of Rhode Islander Jon A. LaChappelle, Jr., which occurred in Thailand in September 2006. Since that time, his family has been in contact with the FBI office in New Haven, Connecticut and the U.S. Consulate in Chiang Mai to follow the investigation and arrest of the perpetrators.

According to the information I have received from Mr. LaChappelle's family, Thai authorities have apprehended the shooter and the individual who hired the shooter, both of whom confessed to their participation in the crime. Additionally, both of these individuals told authorities that Dara Panasy, who was at one time Mr. LaChappelle's fiancée, paid them to carry out the murder. Ms. Panasy now resides in Stonington, Connecticut. It is my understanding that the Thai authorities have issued a warrant for her arrest, but have not yet pursued a formal request to extradite her from the United States for prosecution in Thailand.

I know you recognize, as I do, the anguish that the LaChappelle family feels about this situation. I respectfully request that you do all you can within your authority to urge the Thai government to properly complete this process, according to the provisions of our extradition treaty. The LaChappelle family deserves our commitment to carrying out justice.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Jack Reed  
United States Senator