

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 3, 2009

Mr. Edward Maguire
Inspector General
Office of the Director of National Intelligence
Washington, DC 20511

Dear Mr. Maguire:

We are writing with concern over the appointment of Charles "Chas" Freeman as the next Chairman of the National Intelligence Council. Given his close ties to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, we request a comprehensive review of Amb. Freeman's past and current commercial, financial and contractual ties to the Kingdom to ensure no conflict of interest exists in his new position.

As you may know, Amb. Freeman most recently served as President of the Middle East Policy Council, a think-tank funded by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The board of directors includes Dr. Fuad Rihani, a consultant to the Saudi Binladin Group – a multinational construction conglomerate and holding company for the assets owned by the bin Laden family.

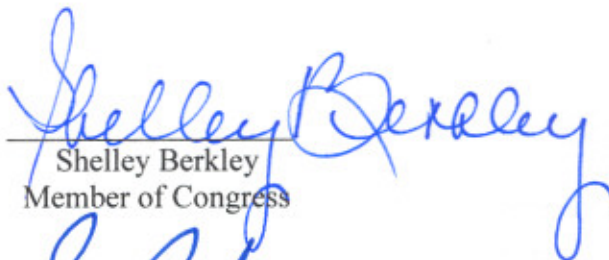
On September 20, 2006, in an interview with the Saudi-US Relations Information Service, Amb. Freeman said that "thanks to the generosity of King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz of Saudi Arabia we have managed to accumulate an endowment" for the Middle East Policy Council. According to filings with the Internal Revenue Service, Amb. Freeman drew an annual salary from the Middle East Policy Council. However, the foundation has never publicly released its list of contributors – Schedule B of IRS Form 990.

We ask you to fully investigate Amb. Freeman's past and current relationship with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia – both personal financial disclosures and the list of all contributors to the Middle East Policy Council across all years that Amb. Freeman drew a salary from the foundation – and report back to Congress on any potential conflicts of interest.

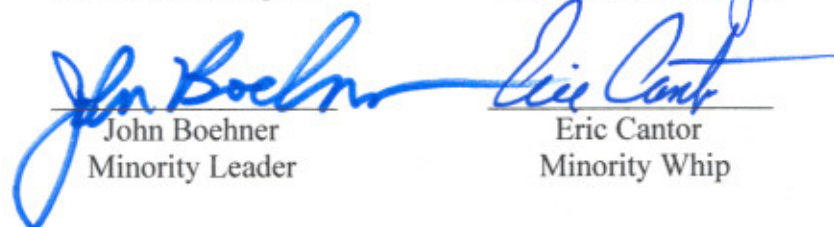
Sincerely,



Mark Steven Kirk
Member of Congress



Shelley Berkley
Member of Congress



John Boehner
Minority Leader

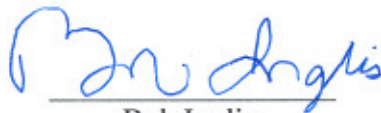


Eric Cantor
Minority Whip

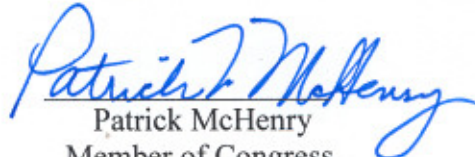
 

Mike Rogers (MI)
Member of Congress

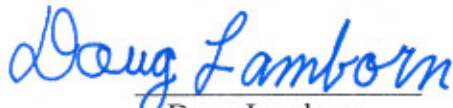
Sue Myrick
Member of Congress



Bob Inglis
Member of Congress



Patrick McHenry
Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress



Leonard Lance
Member of Congress