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Christopher Shays, Connecticut
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October 10, 2006

Major General Elbert N. Perkins Commander,
9th Theater Support Command (TSC),
8831 John J. Kingman Rd,
Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060-5101

RE: LTC Anthony Shaffer- Top Secret/SCI security clearance.

Dear Major General Perkins,

As you may know, LTC Shaffer testified before my committee on February 14, 2006 regarding whistleblower protection laws and regulations to determine whether government employees in sensitive national security positions are sufficiently protected against certain forms of retaliation, such as arbitrary suspension or revocation of security clearances.

The Subcommittee determined that no independent procedure for due process exists to provide a means for redress in cases of security clearance suspension or revocation against those who attempt to point out wrongdoing in security agencies. We have drafted legislation to correct this problem.

Based on our investigation of security clearance retaliation it appears the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) used the security clearance system in an improper manner against LTC Shaffer and did not follow DOD security clearance guidelines using the "whole person" concept, the cornerstone of all security clearance actions, in its adjudication process. The allegations DIA used to justify the revocation of LTC Shaffer's Top Secret clearance included

the alleged misuse of a government cell phone in the amount of \$67.00 and the alleged misfiling of a travel voucher for \$180.00.

The Army Military District of Washington (MDW) Judge Advocate General reviewed these allegations and found that these were not uniformed code of military justice (UCMJ) issues—that there was no basis for punitive action and should be dealt with administratively. This decision cleared the way for LTC Shaffer’s promotion, and his current “good” standing in the Army Reserve and assignment to your command.

I am aware of LTC Shaffer’s record of outstanding service and dedication to duty for some 24 years. He has been at the forefront of this country’s counterterrorism efforts long before the current war and has been recognized with several major awards, to include the Bronze Star for his combat service in Afghanistan. He has put this country first and on multiple occasions put his life on the line without regard to his personal safety. This nation owes him a great deal.

I believe that an independent review by the Army security system will result in the return of LTC Shaffer’s Top Secret/SCI clearance. Therefore, I support a review of the facts and the call for an independent review of the circumstances resulting in LTC Shaffer’s clearance denial as soon as practicable. He is an outstanding leader who needs to be at the forefront of the current war with all of his security clearances in tact.

Thank you for your attention and assistance on this matter. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Vincent Chase of the Subcommittee staff at 202-225-2548.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher Shays". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Christopher Shays
Chairman