



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0905

BILL NELSON
FLORIDA

December 13, 2007

Honorable Michael Mukasey
United States Attorney General
U. S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

I write to express my deep concern over reports that the U.S. government may have failed to adequately investigate and prosecute extremely serious allegations made by women who claim they were raped by male coworkers while they worked in Iraq under a government contractor. The victims include a Texas woman, whose case has been the subject of recent news accounts, and a woman from my state of Florida. Both women have filed civil lawsuits against their former employers.

The Florida woman was working in Ramadi as an employee of Service Employees International, Inc., a KBR subsidiary headquartered overseas. She alleges that an intoxicated male colleague sexually assaulted her in 2005. I understand that the Navy Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) investigated the case, providing its results to the Department of Justice.

With respect to the Texas woman, she worked for KBR in the Green Zone in 2005 and alleges she was drugged and brutally raped by fellow male employees and then briefly held captive. She says she was examined by an Army doctor who verified she was raped. I understand the State Department investigated that case and forwarded the results to the Department of Justice, but that no criminal charges have been filed. State Department officials say that Justice has instructed them to not comment on the matter.

Both of these incidents occurred approximately two years ago, yet no one has been charged in either case. We need to know that there is a thorough and vigorous investigation of any and all of these cases.

U.S. Reps. John Conyers and Ted Poe already have requested specific information in the Jones case; I ask that you provide written answers to the following questions concerning the case of the Florida woman by no later than the close of business on Tuesday, December 18.

- 1) Is it true that the U.S. Attorney in Dallas has been investigating the Florida case?
- 2) Is it true that NCIS conducted an investigation of this case?

- a. If so, when did NCIS make its findings available to the Department?
 - b. Are you aware of any other investigation of the Florida woman's allegations by any other entity, such as the State Department or Halliburton/KBR or one of its subsidiaries?
 - c. Have those reports been made available to you?
 - d. Have you instructed NCIS or any other agency that has conducted an investigation to withhold any reports that they have prepared from being released publicly, or have you instructed them to desist from conducting their own investigation?
- 3) Is the Department of Justice aware of any other allegations of sexual assault reported by women who worked for government contractors in Iraq?
- a. If so, is the Department conducting a more wide-ranging investigation?
 - b. What type of coordination has taken place among the Departments of Justice, State and Defense regarding any investigation into the various allegations of sexual assault that have been made?

I appreciate your prompt and detailed response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Nelson". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.