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INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND MONETARY POLICY

September 10, 2020

The Honorable Steven T. Mnuchin  
Secretary of the Treasury  
U.S. Department of the Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Secretary Mnuchin,

I am writing to you in response to the Treasury Department's August 20, 2020 letter concerning the withholding of approximately \$1.5 million in reimbursements to the New York City Fire Department (FDNY) for health care provided to firefighters who are sick and injured due to the toxins they encountered at Ground Zero.

This letter eerily coincides with the 19<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the September 11<sup>th</sup> attack. The reverberations of this day are felt throughout our country and especially in my community. There is still a palpable sense of loss within our first responder community, as the illnesses and death mount each day.

I appreciate the detailed explanation from your office and that Treasury has been in touch with the New York City's Department of Finance. Nevertheless, my greater concern is the impact on the FDNY's World Trade Center Clinic.

I understand that the Treasury Department has been at the forefront of responding to the COVID-19 crisis. However, it is essential that you address this injustice. Our first responders in New York City have been at the epicenter of this crisis; putting themselves in harm's way for their citizens, just as they did on September 11<sup>th</sup>. It is essential that you release these funds immediately to the FDNY's World Trade Center Clinic. Our firefighters should not be punished for an administrative issue with New York City's Department of Finance.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter T. King".

PETER T. KING  
Member of Congress