

Rt Hon. Theresa May MP
Home Secretary
Home Office
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

26 January 2011

Consideration of the case of Sergei Magnitsky and grounds for amendment to the Proscribed Organisations Order

Dear

On 19th January during debate on the draft Terrorism Act 2000 (Proscribed Organisations) (Amendment) Order 2011, I drew to the attention of the Immigration Minister the case of Sergei Magnitsky and asked that the Government give consideration to whether those involved in his imprisonment, torture, and murder, should be added to the list of proscribed organisations denied entry into the UK.

Sergei Magnitsky's case dates back to 2008 when, working as a lawyer for a British company based in Moscow, he uncovered a vast nexus of corruption in the Russian system amounting to \$230 million, and testified against complicit state officials. He was subsequently arrested and imprisoned without trial, tortured and died on 16 November 2009. To date despite significant international pressure, including a congressional Act in the US imposing visa bans on those officials involved in his arrest and similar measures being considered by the European Parliament, no one has been convicted for his death.

I have been presented with evidence relating to around 60 state officials and individuals exposing their roles in Sergei Magnitsky's death. I am writing to request the opportunity to present this evidence to yourself and officials at the Home Office as a clear case of economic terrorism against Britain. I urge you to consider adding the individuals involved to the list of proscribed organisations, or seek a more appropriate mechanism to condemn and seize the assets of those involved.

I would very much appreciate the opportunity to discuss this case at greater length and will be in touch with your private office to agree a convenient time to meet.

Kind regards

Chris Bryant MP
Chair of All Party Parliamentary Group on Russia