

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 26, 2024

The Honorable Antony J. Blinken
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Blinken:

We write requesting the immediate authorization of a reward of up to \$25 million under the State Department's Rewards for Justice (RFJ) program for information that leads to the arrest of, locates, or disrupts the financial support for Yahya Sinwar and other Hamas leaders or operatives responsible for the murder and kidnapping of Americans on October 7, 2023. The United States must use every tool and resource at its disposal as leverage to secure the release of hostages, including seven Americans, still being held in Gaza and to bring those terrorists responsible to justice.

As you know, Congress established the RFJ program when it passed the 1984 Act to Combat International Terrorism.¹ We can think of no better way to fulfill congressional intent than to offer rewards for those Hamas leaders identified in the recently unsealed federal criminal complaint charging Yahya Sinwar, Mohammad Al-Masri, Khaled Meshaal, Ali Baraka, and others with terrorism, murder conspiracy, and sanctions-evasion charges related to October 7th.²

We respectfully request a response to this letter no later than October 7, 2024.

Sincerely,



Ted Budd
United States Senator



Tom Cotton
United States Senator

¹ Public Law 98-533 (codified at 22 U.S.C. § 2708).

² U.S. Department of Justice, *Justice Department Announces Terrorism Charges Against Senior Leaders of Hamas* (September 3, 2024), <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-announces-terrorism-charges-against-senior-leaders-hamas>.



Kevin Cramer
United States Senator



Katie Boyd Britt
United States Senator



Jacky Rosen
United States Senator



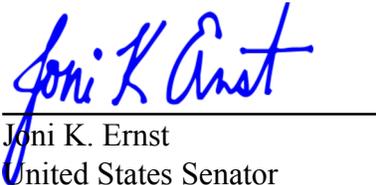
Deb Fischer
United States Senator



Thom Tillis
United States Senator



Lindsey O. Graham
United States Senator



Joni K. Ernst
United States Senator



Ted Cruz
United States Senator



Marco Rubio
United States Senator



Roger F. Wicker
United States Senator

CC:

The Honorable Merrick Garland, Attorney General of the United States