

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 22, 2011

The Honorable John M. McHugh
Secretary of the Army
101 Army Pentagon
Washington, DC 20310-0101

The Honorable Ray Mabus
Secretary of the Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, DC 20350-1000

Dear Secretary McHugh and Secretary Mabus:

We write to you regarding the events surrounding the ambush of United States forces in the Ganjgal Valley of Afghanistan on September 8, 2009. We appreciate the focus that you and your staff have given to reviewing the incident, as well as the information shared with us about the circumstances that led to the tragic deaths of five Americans.

One of the Marines who lost his life in that battle, Marine Gunnery Sergeant Aaron Kenefick, hailed from Williamsville, New York. It is extremely important to the families of these brave Americans, who sacrificed their lives in that Ganjgal Valley battle, to fully understand the circumstances surrounding this incident. Following up on a request from earlier this month, we ask that the United States Army and Marine Corps provide a similar joint briefing to the families of those Americans who lost their lives that day, so that they may hear from our military directly on the details of the incident.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and we look forward to working together on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Kathleen C. Hochul
Member of Congress



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator