

NEWS ALERT



U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Homeland Security Committee

Rep. Bennie G. Thompson, Chairman



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Statement from Chairman Bennie G. Thompson

December 2, 2009 (WASHINGTON) – The following statement was released by Rep. Bennie G. Thompson, Chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security regarding the Committee’s hearing tomorrow:

“Late this evening, I was informed by the Salahis’ counsel, that their clients, Tareq and Michaele Salahi, may not appear before the Committee tomorrow as requested. The Salahis’ testimony is important to explain how a couple circumvented layers of security at the White House on the evening of a State Dinner without causing alarm.

The Committee on Homeland Security must understand the full scope of what went so terribly wrong on Tuesday night to ensure that security gaps are sealed. This can only be achieved by hearing both sides of the matter.

If the Salahis are absent from tomorrow’s hearing, the Committee is prepared to move forward with subpoenas to compel their appearance.”

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FOR PRESS INQUIRIES: Dena Graziano or Adam Comis at (202) 225-9978

United States House of Representatives
Committee on Homeland Security
H2-176, Ford House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: (202) 226-2616 | Fax: (202) 226-4499
<http://homeland.house.gov>
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