



June 21, 2023

Senator John Cornyn
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Robert Menendez
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Support for the Ensuring Justice for Victims of Terrorism Act

Dear Senators Cornyn and Menendez,

I am the National Chair of 9/11 Families United, an organization consisting of family members of those murdered in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, as well as many of those who survived, were injured in or sickened from the attacks. Our community numbers well over 10,000.

9/11 Families United strongly supports the Ensuring Justice for Victims of Terrorism Act (EJVTA), and urges Congress to pass it quickly. The 9/11 community spent many years working with Congress and urging the passage of the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act (JASTA), which was designed to ensure that victims of terrorism in the United States can hold foreign nations and entities liable if they aided and abetted the attacks. The promise from Congress *to our community* was clear: terrorism victims should get their day in court, and terrorism supporters should be held accountable.

JASTA succeeded by enabling us to revive our lawsuit against Saudi Arabia regarding September 11, and we have since uncovered thousands of new documents and forced our own government to release evidence that would have been hidden. We remain very confident that Saudi Arabia and other regional entities will be found liable for their support of al Qaeda and the hijackers themselves.

The EJVTA is necessary because terrorism defendants have exploited drafting oversights in JASTA to suggest that Congress made us a false promise. But JASTA's promise was clear: all U.S. terror victims could bring suit against foreign nations for aiding and abetting terrorism in the United States, and they would be able to recover if they prevailed. *EJVTA is needed now to reaffirm that promise that Congress made to us in 2016.*

Please do not underestimate the importance of this legislation. If terrorism defendants are able to exploit drafting oversights through clever lawyering, then our case—which is reaching a critical stage—may be derailed for years. *Any delay in passing the EJVTA will empower terrorism defendants to dodge accountability in the courts and deny the 9/11 community the justice that we have been seeking since the murders of our family members.*

Thank you for your continuing support for our community and for terrorism victims everywhere.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Strada'.

Terry Strada
National Chair