

## Victim Impact Statement

Your Name: Ted W. Lieu  
Defendant's Name: Mir Islam  
Case Number: 15-CR-00067  
Sentencing Date: July 11, 2016

### To the Honorable Judge Randolph D. Moss:

**How has this crime affected you and those close to you?** (e.g. feelings of anger, rage, blaming self, or family, helplessness, vulnerability, fear, paranoia, hopelessness, frustration, loss of trust and faith in the world)

*To the best of my recollection, I was about half an hour away from my home when I received a call from a police officer at the Torrance Police Department. He asked if I was Ted Lieu. I said yes. He then asked if I had shot my wife. I said no. He told me that there was a 911 call that stated I had shot my wife Betty. I said again that I did not shoot my wife. I think he then said ok and hung up. I recall the phone conversation was quite short and unfortunately he hung up before I could ask more questions.*

*For a few moments I just sat there quite stunned. Then it occurred to me that maybe someone else had shot my wife. So I frantically tried calling the officer back and there was no answer. I then called my wife multiple times and there was no answer. I then tried our next door neighbor's cell phone and there was no answer. The next 30 minutes were the single worst 30 minutes of my life as I rushed home. It was a mixture of fear, helplessness, and despair. I had no idea what was going on and the thought kept running through my mind that maybe someone else shot my wife.*

*As I was close to getting home, I finally reached someone at the Torrance Police Department. The person said my wife was okay and it appeared that we were victims of swatting.*

*As I approached the home I could see police cars and fire engines. When I got out of the car and started walking to my home, I saw police officers armed with what looked like semi-automatic assault rifles.*

*I then saw the love of my life, my wife Betty, and we hugged and held each other close. I said I called her multiple times. She said she was sorry she wasn't able to call because police officers entered our home with rifles and asked her to put her hands up and walk outside of the house. She said the officers then searched our home for intruders. My wife was traumatized by this incident because it came without any warning and the presence of so many armed police officers was very scary to her.*

*We later learned that TMZ aired footage of our home and what happened. Our privacy felt invaded. I understand that elected officials have less privacy, but this incident certainly is not within the reasonable realm of an elected official's duties.*

*Thank goodness no one was injured that day, and that there was not some other emergency for which first responders were needed at the same time.*

***How has this crime affected your ability to perform your work, make a living, run a household, go to school, or enjoy any other activities you previously performed or enjoyed?*** (e.g. over react to situations, overprotective of family members, socially withdrawn, fear of going out in a world that has been proven unsafe.)

*I have been informed that my family and I were targeted for swatting because I authored legislation in California to increase penalties on swatting. I was a California State Senator at the time (currently I am a Member of Congress). This makes me angry because in a democracy, elected officials should never be criminally targeted or become victims of crime because of legislation we choose to author.*

*During the course of working on swatting legislation, it became clear to me that swatting incidents such as the one targeted at my family cause significant disruption to first responders and wasteful allocation of scarce first responder resources. Local governments have to shoulder the cost of sending multiple police and fire vehicles along with large amounts of personnel to swatting incidents. This makes all of us less safe because there are less resources to respond to other emergencies.*

*In addition, swatting incidents can be very dangerous. Suppose a swatting call occurred late at night and law enforcement went to a celebrity's home that had private security who had no idea about the swatting call. There could be miscommunications that could cause injuries or loss of life.*

**Reactions feelings toward the criminal justice system:**

(e.g. How the process impacted on you, how you/your family were treated; information on court proceedings and case status; feeling abandoned by the system, defense attorney's insinuations, how it felt enduring the trial, seeing the offender(s)).

*I want to thank the incredible work and dedication by the FBI for tracking down the perpetrators of this swatting incident. I also want to thank the professionalism of the first responders that arrived at our home during the swatting incident.*

**Recommendations for sentencing (mandatory/maximum):**

(Do you want to be notified what the sentence is, how it computes to actual time served, when this individual comes up for parole?)

*I believe swatting is a serious crime that can result in injuries or death. Swatting also causes a significant expenditure of critical first responder resources. I urge the Court to render a sentence that will deter both this defendant as well as others in the future from committing this crime.*

7/7/16

Date

Paul W. Luan

Signature