

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 18, 2019

Ms. Tamara Christian
President and Chief Operating Officer
International Spy Museum
700 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Ms. Christian:

We write to request an update on the status of comprehensive modifications planned for the International Spy Museum's exhibit on torture.

As members of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, we were deeply dismayed to learn about how the museum's exhibit misrepresents the CIA's torture program, sanitizing depictions of how techniques were applied and suggesting that torture is effective in stopping terrorist attacks. Our Committee learned from reviewing over six million documents and producing a report of over 6,700 pages that torture was not effective, that it led to fabricated information, and that its use undermined our security and betrayed our values. It has long been the consensus among experts that torture is ineffective, and yet the Committee's confirmation of this fact, told through a thorough history of the CIA program and based on the CIA's own internal records, goes unmentioned in the exhibit.

We understand that in an exchange of correspondence, museum officials recently told Committee staff that a polling question has been removed from the exhibit and that other recommended changes to the exhibit would be presented to the Board and implemented in the March 2020 timeframe.

Please provide us with an update on the Board-approved changes and an approximate timeframe for their completion.

Sincerely,



Martin Heinrich
United States Senator



Ron Wyden
United States Senator

Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator