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January 13, 2017

Mr. Nate Jones
National Security Archive
George Washington University
2130 H Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20037

Dear Mr. Jones:

On behalf of the Public Interest Declassification Board (the Board), I thank you for providing remarks on modernizing the national security classification and declassification systems at our December 8th public meeting at the National Archives and Records Administration. I appreciate your willingness to provide a white paper on your recommendations we were able to post to our blog, *Transforming Classification*, to engage our stakeholders ahead of our meeting.

Your recommendations concerning the National Declassification Center mirror recommendations of the Board found in our 2012 Report to the President on *Transforming the Security Classification System*. We believe the National Declassification Center needs expanded authority and capacity with specific measures to advance government-wide declassification. As you noted in your remarks, we also consider the prioritization of Presidential records for declassification review must be a part of this strategy.

Again, thank you for participating in our public meeting and for your continued engagement with the Board and our activities as we prepare for the Presidential transition.

Sincerely,

Trevor W. Morrison
Chair, Public Interest Declassification Board