



## THE NEWSGUILD – CWA

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May 12, 2017

Randolph D. Alles, Director  
United States Secret Service  
Secret Service  
950 H St NW #912  
Washington DC 20223

Dear Director Alles:

The NewsGuild-CWA objects in the strongest possible terms to the arrest of Public News Service reporter Dan Heyman in the West Virginia State Capitol building on May 9, when he was questioning Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price as the Secretary walked through the hallway.

Mr. Heyman was doing what any good reporter would do – asking questions and attempting to hold a government official accountable for his decisions.

According to published [reports](#), Secret Service agents were providing security in the capitol for Price and Kellyanne Conway, Special Counselor to the President. The complaint alleges that Mr. Heyman was “aggressively breaching the Secret Service agents to the point where the agents were forced to remove him a couple of times from the area walking up the hallway in the main building of the capitol.”

However, the article also notes, “The officer who filed the report said he and another officer “were able to detain the defendant *before* he tried aggressively to breach the security of the secret service.” [Emphasis added.]

Please clarify what role, if any, Secret Service agents played in arresting Mr. Heyman or in suggesting or encouraging West Virginia Capitol Police to arrest him.

Any such role would be cause for great concern. Freedom of the press is a sacred right, enshrined in our nation’s Constitution, and it is a right I’m sure the Secret Service would not wish to violate.

I await your reply.

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Martha Waggoner  
Chairperson

Bernard Lunzer  
President

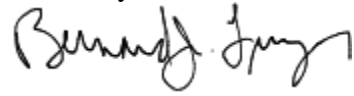
Marian Needham  
Executive Vice President

Vice Presidents: John Hill, Sheila Lindsay, Kevin Flowers, Michael Cabanatuan  
Eric Russ, Jeff Gordon, Scott Edmonds



Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bernard Lunzer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'B' and a long, sweeping tail.

Bernard Lunzer  
President