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August 16, 2019

Statement of Theodore J. Boutros Jr., Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, counsel for Playboy White House correspondent Brian Karem

The White House press secretary's arbitrary decision to suspend Brian Karem's hard pass press credential violates the First Amendment and due process and is yet another example of this administration's unconstitutional campaign to punish reporters and press coverage that President Trump doesn't like. The President and his administration are fostering an atmosphere of hostility and violence towards journalists that cannot be tolerated and they are illegally using the credential process to stifle freedom of the press and to disrupt the flow of vital information to the American people. We intend to seek immediate relief in federal court.