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## James Williamson, OPSEC President & Cofounder:

Special Ops OPSEC's charter is to protect US Special Operations Forces and intelligence officers from exploitation and ill thought policies. The disaster at Benghazi has come to epitomize all that's wrong with this administrations failed policies that have put our special operators – and our nation – at great risk. When the US fails in its foreign policy, it affects the entire world, not just the US. The Obama -Clinton failure in Libya, deposing a government without having a plan to fill that void, created a vacuum that lead to the formation of ISIS and the nightmare of Benghazi.

Just yesterday I received an email from a colleague regarding the so called 'Democrat Report' on Benghazi which had just been issued. As a former Special Forces soldier himself, he's understandably disillusioned with our government. He concluded his message saying, "Glen [Doherty] was a friend and a patriot. He died defending something he believed in, but didn't believe in him." How poignant, I thought, and how tragic. It's something every American needs to consider.

In light of the recently released report from the Select Committee on Benghazi, my initial reaction is one of anger, outrage, and disgust. At first glance, the whole Benghazi disaster appears to have come to pass as a result of former Secretary of State Clinton's personal political agenda and failed foreign policy. A failed policy that the Obama administration supported.

There was a distinct lack of will and a lack of urgency by the White House, State, Defense, and the CIA. Gross failings and dereliction of duty at the highest levels. And worse yet, their energies were devoted to covering up their own failures while Americans on the ground were still dying.

I'm angry, outraged, and disgusted that it was allowed to happen in the first place. Even more so, I'm angry and disgusted at the hubris and arrogance of the administration's priority being to lie to the American people and to the entire world, to cover up their own failures, and to believe they could *actually get away with it!* 

I hope the American voters will read the report, or summaries of it, and judge for themselves what the truth is and who was responsible. It's time Americans hold accountable their failed leadership! This isn't just about four dead Americans, it's about a broken and corrupt 'business as usual' political system that has to end.

Just look at what's happening in both parties today – Americans are FED UP with politics as usual and politicians as usual. It's time for a new paradigm in American politics on both sides of the aisle and Americans need to assume some responsibility ad take their country back. Those who remain silent are part of the problem.

Jamie Williamson is a co-founder of OPSEC and a retired US Army Special Forces Colonel with over thirty-three years of service. He has served in the 82nd Airborne Division, 10th Special Forces Group, and in a variety of Special Operations assignments.

OPSEC is a non-partisan grassroots advocacy organization of former members of Special Operations Forces and the Intelligence Community. OPSEC is focused on protecting U.S. Special Operations Forces and national intelligence assets from political exploitation, misguided policies, and intentional misuse of classified information, all of which expose them and their families to greater risk and reduce their ability to keep Americans safe. More information about OPSEC can be found at <a href="https://www.opsecTeam.org">www.opsecTeam.org</a>.