

August 2, 2018

Sarah Huckabee Sanders  
Press Secretary  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. Sanders:

We, a bipartisan coalition of transparency, government accountability, civil liberties and press freedom organizations, write concerning news reports that the White House prevented CNN reporter Kaitlan Collins from covering a Rose Garden event as a consequence of her having previously asked a question of President Trump at an Oval Office photo opportunity that drew the administration's ire.

In a statement condemning the White House's action, White House Correspondents' Association President Olivier Knox stated "Reporters asking questions of powerful government officials, up to and including the President, helps hold those people accountable." We agree.

An informed public and functioning democracy is contingent on a free press. We demand the White House refrain from punishing journalists for asking tough questions, and instead welcome *all* credentialed reporters to events where the press are admitted. This includes reporters who seek answers to questions the administration would rather avoid, including questions about potential wrongdoing or abuse of authority.

Sincerely yours,

American-Arab Anti-Discrimination  
Committee (ADC)  
American Booksellers Association  
American Society of Journalists and Authors  
(ASJA)  
The Authors Guild  
Defending Rights and Dissent  
Demand Progress  
DKT Liberty Project  
Electronic Frontier Foundation  
Free Press  
Free Speech Coalition  
Global Witness

Liberty Coalition  
Media Freedom Foundation  
Media Law Resource Center (MLRC)  
National Immigration Project of the  
National Lawyers Guild  
National Coalition Against Censorship  
(NCAC)  
Open the Government  
People For the American Way  
PEN America  
Project Censored  
Sunlight Foundation  
Tully Center for Free Speech