



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STATEMENT FROM SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

We Stand with our Afghan Allies

Washington, D.C. – For decades, our Afghan allies stood beside us on the battlefield. They fought with us. They bled with us. And in some instances, they died protecting us. In exchange for their bravery and their loyalty, we made a promise to them – a promise that was ripped apart as a result of America’s chaotic and deadly withdrawal from Afghanistan. Along with veterans and active duty servicemembers around the world, the Special Operations Association of America worked tirelessly to save as many of our allies as we could during the evacuation. But, sadly, many were left behind.

Today, even after four long years of efforts by SOAA and other veteran organizations who have worked tirelessly to help their brothers and sisters in arms, many of our Afghan allies still remain in the country – often under constant threat of violence or death because of their service to our nation. We are grateful the Trump administration has vowed to keep our promise to those who are able to qualify for Special Immigrant Visas, but we urge them to keep the spirit of that commitment as well. That should include providing any of our Afghan allies who have been able to make it safely to the United States a pathway to remain here, ensuring that all services necessary to complete the SIV applications continue to operate as effectively and efficiently as possible, and ensuring that every person who qualifies for an SIV is able to get one.

Our Afghan allies honored their commitment to fight along us. We must honor our commitment to them.

About the Special Operations Association of America

The Special Operations Association of America (SOAA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to advocating for the needs and interests of America's Special Operations Forces. SOAA works to provide support, resources, and a voice for those who have served in the most demanding and dangerous missions around the world.

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