

*MEP Statement to ABC News*

Mission Essential Personnel is an American success story and a responsible partner to the U.S. Government and servicemen and women around the world. Over the course of nearly three years, government requirements for linguists have increased nearly 1300 percent. MEP has met and exceeded the government's expectations each time. Our company has received "outstanding" performance ratings – the highest possible – from the U.S. Government for eight consecutive quarters. We are transparent and sensitive to our customers' needs and routinely survey our customers to ensure quality of services.

This story came to ABC through the self-serving statements of a former MEP employee who resigned in 2008 over misuse of company funds and has made false allegations against MEP in a lawsuit. We are concerned that ABC is being used to influence the litigation, which the company has moved to dismiss, and on which we expect to prevail.

MEP has the strongest and most comprehensive language testing and pre-deployment screening of any company providing linguists to Afghanistan. MEP's language testing program has three components with built-in safeguards designed to be independent and verifiable: an initial phone test, a written test administered by an autonomous outside vendor, and an integrity test that occurs by video conference or in person. The phone tests and written tests are catalogued and saved for review by the military. MEP's language testing programs were audited in 2008 and 2010.