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November 19, 2008

Mr. Brian Ross
Chief Investigative Correspondent
ABC News
7 West 66th Street
New York, NY 10023

Dear Mr. Ross:

Concerning your November 19 report, "Big Three CEOs Flew Private Jets to Plead for Public Funds," it is unfortunate that your story did not give viewers a full picture of why companies have planes and use them as part of routine business.

The truth is that companies of all sizes, all across the country, fly many types of aircraft to places where there is often little or no commercial airline service, so that they can reach new markets, deliver parts to keep assembly lines open, provide just-in-time customer service, reach distant company offices, transport sales teams, and fly a host of other types of missions in order to stay nimble and remain competitive, especially in a tough economic climate.

Studies show business use of general aviation aircraft adds tangible value to a company's bottom line. Businesspeople can make a trip involving stops at several locations, then return to headquarters the same day, saving time and travel expenses that would be needed to make the same trip over several days via auto, train or airline transport. Also, because employees can meet, plan and work with each other aboard business aircraft, productivity, confidentiality and security en route are assured.

In a difficult economy like the one facing us now, the opportunities offered by this mode of transport become even more important, because companies have to work harder to grow their business, find new markets and serve existing customers.

We're disappointed that your report left viewers with a skewed impression of how and when business airplanes are routinely used.

Sincerely,

Ed Bolen

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed Bolen", written in a cursive style.

President and CEO
National Business Aviation Association

member of  international business aviation council, Ltd.