Strasbourg, 16 April 2019

Dear Mr Gruden,

In response to the Alert published on the Platform for the Safety of Journalists and Protection of Journalism of the Council of Europe on 2 June 2017, concerning the attack on reporter Lidija Valtner, I would like to convey the following information received from the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Serbia:

This event has been qualified as an offence under the Law on public order. The police officers of the Ministry of the Interior have identified the perpetrator. Since the competent office of the prosecutor concluded that there were no elements of a criminal act to be prosecuted ex officio, on 5 December 2018 offence proceedings were initiated against the perpetrator for the offence "insult, violence, threat or fight" in accordance with the mentioned Law.

Yours sincerely,

Marija Antonijević
Charge d'affaires j.l.

Mr Matjaž Gruden
Director of the
Directorate of Democratic Participation
Strasbourg