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## Supporting Information

## Mechanistic studies of visible light-induced CO release from a 3-hydroxybenzo[g]quinolone

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**Fig S1** (top) Photo of  $H_2O_2$  test strips which indicate formation of  $H_2O_2$  in the reaction mixtures of **4** and **5** (6.6 x 10<sup>-4</sup> M) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN upon exposure to visible light (419 nm). For each set the left strip is the compound in CH<sub>3</sub>CN prior to illumination. The center are right strips are following illumination for 12 and 24 min, respectively. The appearance of the blue color indicates  $H_2O_2$  formation in the reaction of **5**.



**Fig S2** ESI-MS of doubly <sup>18</sup>O labeled **7** ([MH<sup>+</sup>] = m/z 296) produced upon illumination of **5** with 419 nm light in the presence of <sup>18</sup>O<sub>2</sub>.



Fig S3 <sup>1</sup>H NMR features of a solution of 5 in wet CD<sub>3</sub>CN illuminated (465 nm) at ~35 °C under O<sub>2</sub>.



**Fig S4** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of **6** (9 x 10<sup>-4</sup> M) in CD<sub>3</sub>CN upon addition of  $H_2O_2$  (10 eq, 30% solution in water) and illumination at 419 nm. (top) Full <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra; (bottom) features in the aromatic region of each spectrum. (a) **6** in CD<sub>3</sub>CN; (b) **6** +  $H_2O_2$ , 15 min illumination; (c) **6** +  $H_2O_2$ , 30 min illumination; (d) **6** +  $H_2O_2$ , 45 min illumination. The broad resonance centered at ~8.6 ppm is due to the presence of  $H_2O_2$ .



**Fig S5** (Top) <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of **6** in CD<sub>3</sub>CN (7.7 x  $10^{-4}$  M (a)) and upon treatment with D<sub>2</sub>O (10 eq, (b)) at room temperature. Spectra (c) and (d) show changes that occur due to (c) the solution remaining at room temperature for 24 h under air, and (d) upon subsequent illumination of the solution for 15 min (419 nm)). (Bottom) Expanded views of the aromatic region of (a) – (d).