

RON JOHNSON, WISCONSIN, CHAIRMAN

JOHN MCCAIN, ARIZONA  
ROB PORTMAN, OHIO  
RAND PAUL, KENTUCKY  
JAMES LANKFORD, OKLAHOMA  
MICHAEL B. ENZI, WYOMING  
KELLY AYOTTE, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
JONI ERNST, IOWA  
BEN SASSE, NEBRASKA

THOMAS R. CARPER, DELAWARE  
CLAIRE McCASKILL, MISSOURI  
JON TESTER, MONTANA  
TAMMY BALDWIN, WISCONSIN  
HEIDI HEITKAMP, NORTH DAKOTA  
CORY A. BOOKER, NEW JERSEY  
GARY C. PETERS, MICHIGAN

# United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON  
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

KEITH B. ASHDOWN, STAFF DIRECTOR  
GABRIELLE A. BATKIN, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

March 24, 2015

The Honorable Robert A. McDonald  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
810 Vermont Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20420

Dear Secretary McDonald:

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is investigating the causes of the tragedies that occurred at the Tomah Veterans Affairs Medical Center (Tomah VAMC). As a part of this investigation, I requested the employee file of Dr. David Houlihan, the chief of staff at the Tomah VAMC.<sup>1</sup> Your staff has informed my staff that the Department possesses files relating to tort or Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) complaints made against Dr. Houlihan, but that these files are not a part of his employee personnel file. Therefore, I write to request all documents and communications in the possession, custody, or control of the Department of Veterans Affairs referring or relating to any tort or Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) complaint made against Dr. David Houlihan. I request these documents be produced without redactions as soon as possible but no later than March 31, 2015.

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized by Rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate to investigate “the efficiency and economy of operations of all branches of the Government.”<sup>2</sup> Additionally, S. Res. 253 (114th Congress) and S. Res. 73 (114th Congress) authorize the Committee to examine “the efficiency and economy of all branches of the Government including the possible existence of fraud, misfeasance, malfeasance, collusion, mismanagement, incompetence, corruption, or unethical practices . . . .”<sup>3</sup> For purposes of responding to this request, please refer to the definitions and instructions in the enclosure.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Kyle Brosnan of the Committee staff at (202) 224-4751. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

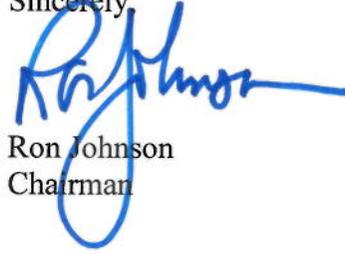
<sup>1</sup> Letter from Ron Johnson, S. Comm. on Homeland Sec. & Gov’t Affaris, to Robert McDonald, Dep’t of Veterans Affairs (Feb. 4, 2015).

<sup>2</sup> S. Rule XXV(k); *see also* S. Res. 445, 108th Cong. (2004).

<sup>3</sup> S. Res. 73 § 12, 114th Cong. (2015).

The Honorable Robert A. McDonald  
March 24, 2015  
Page 2

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ron Johnson", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ron Johnson  
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Thomas R. Carper  
Ranking Member

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin  
U.S. Senator

Enclosure