



**OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**  
Department of Homeland Security

Washington, DC 20528 / [www.oig.dhs.gov](http://www.oig.dhs.gov)

February 27, 2013

The Honorable Claire McCaskill  
Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs  
United States Senate  
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator McCaskill:

This is a follow-up to your letter requesting that we review an allegation of waste related to the leasing and construction of housing in Ajo, Arizona.

Your concerns related to an allegation that the General Services Administration acquired park model trailers and constructed new housing in Ajo, Arizona for use by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) without considering more cost-effective solutions. We conducted preliminary research on this issue and determined that the CBP housing program warrants further review. We plan to start work in late 2013, if resources are available. When the audit is completed, you will be provided a copy of the final report.

Please call me with any questions, or your staff may contact Erica Paulson, Congressional Liaison, Office of Legislative Affairs, at (202) 254-4100.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Charles K. Edwards".

Charles K. Edwards  
Deputy Inspector General

cc: DHS Office of Legislative Affairs  
Acting Chief Privacy Officer