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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

September 13, 2013

Lynne M. Halbrooks
Acting Inspector General
Office of Inspector General
United States Department of Defense
4800 Mark Center Drive
Alexandria, VA 22350-1500

Dear Ms. Halbrooks:

On August 1, 2013, the Subcommittee on Financial and Contracting Oversight held a hearing entitled, "Mismanagement of POW/MIA Accounting." The purpose of the hearing was to review the Department's financial management and oversight of its accounting mission, including the roles and responsibilities of the Joint Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Accounting Command, the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Person Personnel Office, the Central Identification Laboratory, and the Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory.

During the Subcommittee's preparation for the hearing, the Subcommittee heard from numerous current and former employees from within the accounting community who described the accounting components as hostile work environments. These employees also alleged that the components' leaders engaged in systemic retaliation and discrimination against employees who reported problems.

I understand that your office is now conducting a review of the accounting community. I request that you include in your review an assessment of the work environment and procedures for responding to employee complaints. I also request that you review the complaints of the specific whistleblowers named in the attachment to this letter and, if warranted, undertake a thorough investigation.

The jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Financial and Contracting Oversight is set forth in Senate Rule XXV clause 1(k); Senate Resolution 445 section 101 (108th Congress); and Senate Resolution 64 (113th Congress).

Please contact Sarah Garcia with Senator McCaskill's Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-5602 with any questions. Please send any correspondence relating to this request to the Subcommittee's clerk at Kelsey_Stroud@hsgac.senate.gov.

Lynne M. Halbrooks
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Claire McCaskill". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Claire" written in a large, circular loop.

Claire McCaskill
Chairman
Subcommittee on Financial and
Contracting Oversight

cc: Ron Johnson
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Financial and
Contracting Oversight

Enclosure