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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

RICHARD J. KESSLER, STAFF DIRECTOR
KEITH B. ASHDOWN, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

October 30, 2013

Charles Edwards
Deputy Inspector General
Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Mr. Edwards:

We are writing to express our concerns over the delay in your response to our investigation of allegations of misconduct and abuse by you in your position as Acting Inspector General and Deputy Inspector General.

On June 27, 2013, the Subcommittee on Financial and Contracting Oversight wrote to you asking for information and documents relating to whistleblower allegations received by the Subcommittee, including allegations that you had misused agency resources and abused your authority. We also requested that you make individuals within your office available for interviews with Subcommittee staff.

Over four months have passed since our request and the Subcommittee has received only partial responses to our sixteen document requests, and no response at all to five requests. The documents received do not include any email communications, with the exception of two requests, and we understand that your office has failed to conduct electronic searches for many of the documents and communication identified by the Subcommittee. Your office has failed to provide certain relevant, accessible documents specifically identified by Subcommittee staff. The Subcommittee has not received any documents from your office since September 6, 2013, more than seven weeks ago. Finally, six senior Special Agents have declined our requests for interviews.

In order to ensure that federal laws have not been broken, and that the integrity of the Office of Inspector General has not been compromised, it is imperative that we have access to the information requested. In the interests of concluding this investigation as quickly as possible, we urge you to fully comply with the Subcommittee's requests in a timely fashion.

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 in Senate Resolution 64 (113th Congress). An attachment to this letter provides additional information about how to respond to the Subcommittee's request.

Please contact Jackson Eaton with Senator McCaskill's Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-6579 or Rachel Weaver with Senator Johnson's Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-2186. Please send any official correspondence related to this request to Kelsey Stroud at Kelsey_Stroud@hsgac.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Claire McCaskill
Chairman
Subcommittee on Financial and
Contracting Oversight



Ron Johnson
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Financial and
Contracting Oversight

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Phyllis K. Fong
Chair
The Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency