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United States Senate

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

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June 13, 2014

The Honorable Zoe Lofgren
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ranking Member Lofgren:

We are writing in response to your letter of May 2, 2014 to Chairman McCaskill. Your letter requested information from our investigation of former Acting and Deputy Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security, Charles Edwards. We appreciate your attention to and consideration of our report. We are pleased to provide you with that information, and hope that it can assist you in your own oversight work.

As you stated, our report found that "Mr. Edwards directed language to be changed in the [Secure Communities audit] report at the request of DHS officials before the final draft was formally sent to DHS for comment." The audit report referred to an instance where the "Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security" had provided information that could have been misleading. After the report had been finalized, but before it was submitted to the Department, Mr. Edward's requested that language to be changed. The report was changed to say that the "Department" had provided information that could have been misleading.

I have attached the relevant portion of the interview transcript discussing this change. While this letter will be made public, we are not releasing the interview transcript and I ask that you treat it as sensitive information.

Please contact Jackson Eaton with Senator McCaskill's Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-6579 or Mike Howell with Senator Johnson's Subcommittee staff at (202) 228-0653 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Claire McCaskill
Chairman
Subcommittee on Financial and
Contracting Oversight



Ron Johnson
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Financial and
Contracting Oversight

cc: The Honorable Trey Gowdy
Chairman
Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security
U.S. House of Representatives

Attachment