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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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LAWRENCE J. BRADY
STAFF DIRECTOR

August 24, 2012

The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz
Inspector General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Horowitz:

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform hereby requests your testimony at a hearing on Tuesday, September 11, 2012, at 9:30 a.m., in room 2154 of the Rayburn House Office Building. The hearing will examine the Office of the Inspector General's report on Operation Fast and Furious and your impressions of its conclusions. Please be prepared to provide a five-minute opening statement and answer questions posed by Members.

I understand that your office transmitted the report to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives management, as well as the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of the Deputy Attorney General on August 21, 2012, for review and comment. Under normal circumstances, the Department has two weeks to complete this review, which would make its response due by September 4, 2012. It would be regrettable if senior Department officials applied political pressure on you to delay publication of this report. Given the considerable public interest in this case and the Attorney General's own purported interest in learning the recommendations set forth in your report in order to make important management changes, it is incumbent upon you to release this report as soon as practicable.

Instructions for witnesses appearing before the Committee are contained in the enclosed Witness Instruction Sheet. In particular, please note the procedures for submitting written testimony at least two business days prior to the hearing. If you have any questions, please contact Henry Kerner of the Committee staff at (202) 225-5074.

Sincerely,



Darrell Issa
Chairman

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, Ranking Minority Member

Witness Instruction Sheet
Governmental Witnesses

1. Witnesses should provide 70 copies of their written testimony to Sharon Casey, Senior Assistant Clerk, 2157 Rayburn House Office Building, no later than 10:00 a.m. two business days prior to the hearing. Witnesses should also provide their statement by this date in electronic format, either as a CD or via e-mail to Sharon.Casey@mail.house.gov.
2. Please do not send copies by U.S. Mail, UPS, Federal Express, or other shippers. Such packages are processed through an offsite security facility and will arrive 7-10 days late.
3. Witnesses should also provide a short biographical summary and include it with their written statement. The biographical summary should be attached to all 70 copies of the testimony and included with the electronic copy of the testimony provided to the Clerk.
4. At the hearing, each witness will be asked to summarize his or her written testimony in five minutes or less in order to maximize the time available for discussion and questions. Written testimony will be entered into the hearing record and may extend to any reasonable length.
5. Written testimony will be made publicly available and will be posted on the Committee's website.
6. The Committee does not provide financial reimbursement for witness travel or accommodations. Witnesses with extenuating circumstances, however, may submit a written request for such reimbursements to Robin Butler, Financial Administrator, 2157 Rayburn House Office Building, at least one week prior to the hearing. Reimbursements will not be made without prior approval.
7. Witnesses with disabilities should contact Committee staff to arrange any necessary accommodations.
8. Committee Rules governing this hearing are online at www.oversight.house.gov.

For inquiries regarding these rules and procedures, please contact the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform at (202) 225-5074.