



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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Food and Drug Administration  
Rockville MD 20857

• The Honorable John D. Dingell  
Chairman  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-6115

SEP 5 2007

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in response to your letter of August 13, 2007, co-signed by Ranking Member Joe Barton, Committee on Energy and Commerce, Chairman Bart Stupak, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, and Ranking Member Ed Whitfield, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations in which you inquired about compensation practices at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA or the Agency). Specifically, you requested records related to compensation for time set aside for religious observances. The enclosed documents are partially responsive to your request.

For the period of time beginning in January 1, 2002:

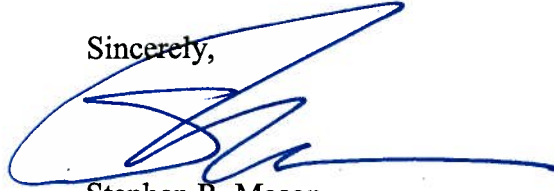
- Enclosed at Tab A is a list of all FDA employees, both former and present, who did, or have, accumulated credit time for religious observances.
- Enclosed at Tab B is a list, divided by calendar years, of the amounts paid to employees for accrued religious credit time. It should be noted that in some instances an employee had a negative balance for religious credit time. Those employees with religious credit time used but had worked time in the subsequent four pay periods (eight weeks) had that amount deducted from their final check. Two employees, Marjorie Shapiro and Joseph Biviano, have a positive and negative balance in the same year. The negative figures indicate repayment of the payout for religious credit time by the employees in that same year.

Also, you requested documentation of supervisory approval of credit time for religious observances, as well as records of adjusted work schedules for religious observances. We are attempting to retrieve this information from each Center and Office within the Agency, and will provide it as soon as it is located.

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Thank you for your continued interest in this matter. A similar letter has been sent to the co-signers of your letter without enclosures.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "S. Mason", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stephen R. Mason  
Acting Assistant Commissioner  
for Legislation

Enclosures