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December 11, 2000

VIA HAND DELIVERY

The Honorable Dan Burton
Chairman
Committee on Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
2157 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

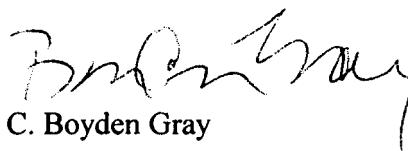
Dear Mr. Chairman:

We were dismayed to see your Committee Report, "Janet Reno's Stewardship of the Justice Department," made final without providing us with the right to review and comment as promised in response to my letter of September 21, 2000. Accordingly, there is no point in detailing here the errors in that Report that we would otherwise have identified.

We would nevertheless make the following observations which we would hope you could make part of the record: (1) as the Minority Report makes clear, Rebekah Poston never asked her investigators to do anything illegal ("[I]n fact, contrary to the Majority's allegations, no evidence received in the Committee demonstrates that Ms. Poston instructed private investigators to break the law"); (2) throughout the hearing, the two investigators at issue, Philip Manuel and Richard Lucas, each testified under oath that Ms. Poston had never asked them to do anything which they thought was illegal; (3) the Department of Justice ultimately granted her request for information by informing her that there was no information to provide in any event; and (4) it was entirely improper to hold and structure a hearing for the evident and sole purpose of provoking a claim of Fifth Amendment rights in order to create the impression that Ms. Poston had done something improper.

Accordingly, we respectfully request that you include this letter as part of the Congressional record relating to the above-described report.

Sincerely,


C. Boyden Gray

cc: Honorable Henry A. Waxman