



U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20416

OCT 11 2005

The Honorable John Kerry  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Small Business  
and Entrepreneurship  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Kerry:

Administrator Barreto has asked me to address your concerns regarding the relocation expenses at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). SBA appreciates your interest in its relocation expenses, and we are willing to discuss these issues at length. However, it is still not possible to release "all 606 forms regarding SBA's workforce that were signed and approved by the Administrator in FY2002 - FY2005.

Respectfully, SBA must reiterate that these records are privileged and hence not disclosable, to you as the Ranking Member on the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. While the Administrator's signature and approval of a 606 does constitute a final decision, the 606 form itself contains analysis and recommendations, from senior SBA management officials that are entirely privileged. Consistent with the right of the Executive Branch to engage in a free exchange of thoughts and information during the deliberative process, and not wishing to chill this process, SBA must continue to respectfully deny your request.

SBA appreciates your oversight role and is ready, as stated above and in our prior response of February of 2004, to meet with your staff and fully discuss the relocation expenses and their ramifications. Should you or your staff have any questions, please feel free to have your staff contact me at (202) 205-6703.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Edward Rowe III".

C. Edward Rowe III  
Associate Administrator  
Congressional and Legislative Affairs