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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURSHIP
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6350

August 12, 2005

VIA FIRST-CLASS MAIL AND FACSIMILE

The Honorable Hector V. Barreto
Administrator
Small Business Administration
409 Third Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20416

Re: Increased Employee Relocation Expenditures and 606 Forms

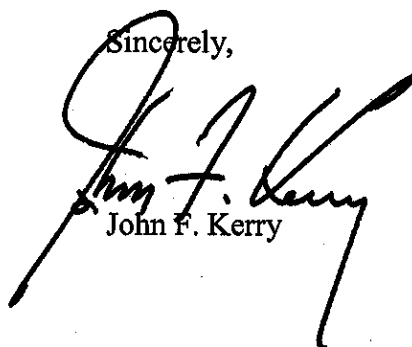
Dear Administrator Barreto:

A few months ago I contacted your office regarding the substantial increase in relocation expenses at SBA. Relative to the cuts that SBA has received in other areas, this increase is unusual. Based on this concern, I requested copies of all 606 forms regarding the SBA's workforce that were approved in FY2002, FY2003 and FY2004, as well as those that are signed throughout the rest of the calendar year.

Your office, however, denied the request based on concerns for the privacy of the Agency's deliberative process. While I appreciate your concern, it is my understanding that these signed 606 forms constitute a final decision by yourself and your Agency, and are not privileged - particularly to the Ranking Member of this Committee - once finalized.

The production of these forms is important to the continuing oversight role of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. Please have copies of the 606 forms signed in 2004 or this year delivered to my Committee office (Russell Senate Office Building, room 442) by September 9, 2005. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this request, please feel free to contact me or have your staff contact Naomi Baum, Democratic Staff Director, at (202) 224-8496. Thank you for your correspondence and prompt attention to this request.

Sincerely,



John F. Kerry