

# United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE,  
AND TRANSPORTATION

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6125

WEB SITE: <http://commerce.senate.gov>

DANIEL K. INOUE, HAWAII  
JOHN F. KERRY, MASSACHUSETTS  
BYRON L. DORGAN, NORTH DAKOTA  
BARBARA BOXER, CALIFORNIA  
BILL NELSON, FLORIDA  
MARIA CANTWELL, WASHINGTON  
FRANK R. LAUTENBERG, NEW JERSEY  
MARK PRYOR, ARKANSAS  
CLAIRE McCASKILL, MISSOURI  
AMY KLOBUCHAR, MINNESOTA  
TOM UDALL, NEW MEXICO  
MARK WARNER, VIRGINIA  
MARK BEGICH, ALASKA

KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON, TEXAS  
OLYMPIA J. SNOWE, MAINE  
JOHN ENSIGN, NEVADA  
JIM DEMINT, SOUTH CAROLINA  
JOHN THUNE, SOUTH DAKOTA  
ROGER F. WICKER, MISSISSIPPI  
JOHNNY ISAKSON, GEORGIA  
DAVID VITTER, LOUISIANA  
SAM BROWNBACK, KANSAS  
MEL MARTINEZ, FLORIDA  
MIKE JOHANNIS, NEBRASKA

ELLEN DONESKI, CHIEF OF STAFF  
CHRISTINE KURTH, REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR AND GENERAL COUNSEL

June 26, 2009

Ms. Gale Rossides  
Acting Administrator  
Transportation Security Administration  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
61 South 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Arlington, VA 20598

Dear Acting Administrator Rossides:

Verified Identity Pass, Inc., (VIP) ceased its operations as a provider of the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) Registered Traveler (RT) program on June 22, 2009. VIP provided this service through its Clear program. As you are aware, the RT program permits an airline passenger to be expedited through airport security with the use of a biometrically verifiable and encrypted smart card. This biometric identification provides airport and TSA officials greater certainty regarding the identity of an airline passenger. It is my understanding that total RT enrollment in VIP's Clear program exceeded 200,000 individuals.

To enroll in the RT program individuals are required to provide personal information, including biometric data and credit card information, and submit to a background check. Given the sensitive nature of the information collected by VIP through its Clear program, I have concerns regarding how the company will dispose of its clients' personal information. Such information in the wrong hands could lead to identity theft, and have severe consequences for VIP's clients.

Accordingly, I am requesting that you carefully review what steps VIP is taking to make certain the personal information it has collected from its clients is disposed of properly. I am also asking that you review the guidelines that govern the RT program to make sure that all RT providers have processes in place to dispose of client information in a safe and appropriate manner in the event that the company ceases its RT operations. Additionally, I am interested in knowing if the clients of RT providers have the ability to reclaim their fees when a provider ceases RT operations.

I appreciate your cooperation in addressing these matters.

Sincerely,



John D. Rockefeller IV  
United State Senator