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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

MICHAEL L. ALEXANDER, STAFF DIRECTOR
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April 7, 2009

Mr. Gordon Heddell
Inspector General
Department of Defense
Office of the Inspector General
400 Army Navy Drive
Arlington, VA 22202-4704

Dear Mr. Heddell:

I am writing to invite you to testify before the Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight at a hearing entitled, "Improving the Ability of Inspectors General to Detect, Prevent, and Prosecute Contracting Fraud." The hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 21, 2009 at 2:30 P.M. in Room SD-342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to hear testimony from Inspectors General regarding obstacles to their investigation of contracting fraud. The hearing will also discuss legal and regulatory reforms suggested last year by the National Procurement Fraud Task Force Legislative Committee, including establishing a national procurement fraud database and allowing the use of Social Security numbers in the Excluded Parties List System.

Your testimony should highlight specific examples of obstacles you encountered in investigations or audits relating to federal contracting. You should address the recommendations of the National Procurement Fraud Task Force and also provide other recommendations for reforms that you wish to have considered by Congress and the Administration. In addition, I ask that you speak to the coordination of efforts between and among Inspectors General, agency officials, and the Department of Justice.

The Subcommittee requests that you summarize your testimony in 5 minutes, although a longer written statement may be submitted for the official record. This will allow adequate time for you to engage in questions and answers with members of the Subcommittee. Subcommittee rules require that your testimony be submitted by 2:30 P.M. on Friday, April 17, 2009. Please send an electronic copy of your written statement and a brief one page biography to Subcommittee Clerk, Kelsey Stroud, at Kelsey_Stroud@hsgac.senate.gov.

I look forward to your participation in this hearing. Please contact Margaret Daum with the Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-8316 with any questions.

Mr. Gordon Heddell
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Claire McCaskill". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Claire" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "McCaskill".

Claire McCaskill
Chairman
Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight

cc: Susan Collins
Acting Ranking Member