

FORTNEY PETE STARK
13TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS
JOINT COMMITTEE
ON TAXATION

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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
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November 1, 2011

Mr. Donald R. Signer

[REDACTED]
Fremont, California 94539

Dear Mr. Signer:

I am writing to you to enclose the response I received from the Department of the Treasury, which addresses the requests, allegations and concerns expressed in your letter of September 2, 2011.

I have maintained volumes of correspondence in my office related to your case and I have tried to assist you to the fullest extent possible within my authority as your congressional representative.

The government agencies which I have referred to you and which I have intervened with my request for a review and determination in your case have been appropriate for you to seek options and redress. These agencies have responded to you, after their review, and have provided their findings.

As I am not an attorney, I am unable to offer you any legal advice as to how best you can pursue your grievances. I am fully aware of the challenges and frustration you have faced over the years as you have tried to resolve the matter of your terminated franchises and ensuing tax issues.

I trust you will agree that a court of law is the appropriate jurisdiction for you to seek remedies.

Sincerely,


Pete Stark
Member of Congress



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005

INSPECTOR GENERAL
for TAX
ADMINISTRATION

October 27, 2011

The Honorable Fortney Pete Stark
United States House of Representatives
39300 Civic Center Drive, Suite 220
Fremont, California 94538

Dear Representative Stark:

This is in response to your inquiry dated September 14, 2011, to Ms. Ora Starks, United States Treasury Department Congressional Correspondence Office, on behalf of your constituent, Mr. Donald Signer. Ms. Starks forwarded your information to my office on September 27, 2011. In his letter to you, dated September 2, 2011, Mr. Signer alleges that the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) failed to provide him with information regarding documents that were not released to him pursuant to his Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request. Additionally, Mr. Signer indicated that TIGTA did not properly classify and investigate his allegation of harassment by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as a violation of Section 1203 of the IRS Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998.

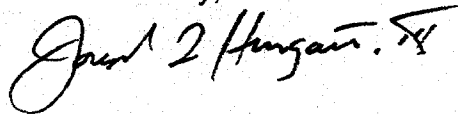
We have concluded our review of the information you provided on behalf of your constituent and determined that the allegations are unsubstantiated. I have consulted with our Office of Chief Counsel and have concluded that we provided Mr. Signer with all the documentation not specifically exempt from release under the FOIA. Mr. Signer was advised of the judicial remedies granted in the FOIA should he wish to dispute this finding.

In Mr. Signer's letter of September 2, 2011, he stated that two of the documents he received as a result of his FOIA request classified his complaint of harassment by the IRS as a "non-1203 violation allegation." I want to assure you that the description of Mr. Signer's complaint on these forms had no bearing on the outcome of our inquiry. In a letter dated August 29, 2011, I notified Mr. Signer that we found no evidence to support his assertion that IRS and General Motors officials conspired to commit fraud and to harass him. To date, TIGTA has not received any additional information to warrant further review of this matter. Accordingly, we have closed our file on this matter.

The Honorable Pete Stark
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Thank you for bringing this matter to our attention. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or have a member of your staff contact Ms. Judith Grady, Congressional Affairs Liaison, at (202) 622-6500.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph Hungate, III". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Joseph Hungate, III
Principal Deputy Inspector General