

Donald R. Signer
██████████
Fremont, CA 94539

December 16, 2011

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
U. S. Senate
1700 Montgomery St., Suite 240
San Francisco, CA 94111

Dear Senator Boxer:

I write to inform you that on December 9, I sent the enclosed letter, which I believe to be self-explanatory, to FBI San Francisco Special Agent in Charge Stephanie Douglas. I am requesting any assistance you are able to provide toward prompting an FBI investigation.

The FBI letter concerns actions that began with a June 21, 2010, complaint I sent, which alleged General Motors/IRS audit collusion to harass me, to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA.) I later sent your office a copy of that complaint, and Eric Jose Vizcaino was kind enough to send an inquiry on my behalf on September 28, 2010 (which Assistant Treasury Secretary Kim Wallace mysteriously withheld from TIGTA until November 24.) On April 27, 2011, TIGTA sent you a letter containing language implying that TIGTA had conducted an investigation, but TIGTA file documents I obtained through FOIA in June 2011 show that **TIGTA did not conduct an investigation**. Events and internal file documents, some of which contain statements that are indisputably false, clearly point to a cover-up by TIGTA as I reported to Maria Henderson in the attached e-mail I sent on September 9, 2011.

I have sent a series of letters containing my unambiguous allegations of a TIGTA cover-up to the addressees listed below, none of whom responded, nor apparently did anything to change TIGTA's position. The absence of denial of my allegations signifies to me that they are accurate. I did receive a short two paragraph letter dated August 29 from Principal Deputy Treasury Inspector General Joseph Hungate that contained the same deceptive "concluded our review" language used in an April 27, 2010, letter to your office, as noted in the attached e-mail to Maria Henderson. Following are the addressees who failed to respond to my letters:

- 8/5/11: Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration J. Russell George
- 8/22/11: Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner
- 9/9/11: Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration J. Russell George
- 9/10/11: President Barack Obama

GM intentional destruction: I believe that the aforementioned IRS audits, which were conducted on me in 2005 and 2008, were done to harass me to assist GM in getting me to sell my Signer Buick-Cadillac franchises to it for the purpose of GM's planned factory

takeover of dealerships in the Fremont/Newark market. As I survived that attack, and other concurrent GM and GMAC harassment acts, GM used the TARP bailout opportunity to confiscate my franchises in 2009 to give to its GM-sponsored, favored dealer two doors down from my facility. This destruction of everything I have ever worked for was an action that one would not believe could happen in America. The story may be viewed at donsigner.com. It is noteworthy that two attorneys have filed class action suits against the federal government on behalf of dealers whose GM and Chrysler franchises were taken away, as noted in the attached article I received this week.

Over the years leading up to my filing of suit against GM in February 2007, its various intentional demise-engineering actions denied me millions of dollars of return on investment that I documented, and was entitled to. I rejected GM's March 2007, \$5 million settlement offer (with GM indications of potential upward movement) in favor of going forward to trial where I anticipated an award in excess of \$30 million based on damages I documented. After my more than two years of preparation, GM was mysteriously able to get the judge to dismiss all eight counts in May 2009, just prior to a scheduled jury trial. This suspicious action was followed ten days later by GM filing bankruptcy on June 1, 2009.

In summary, GM cheated me out of millions of dollars, and then ultimately obtained the assistance of my country's Treasury Department to finally destroy me financially and emotionally – and both entities got away with it. Then, TIGTA refused to investigate, and it appears that the FBI will not investigate. Consequently, those responsible at TIGTA, the IRS, and GM, still have not been held accountable for their apparent conspired actions. I have worked more closely with Congressman Stark's office, and he has recently informed me that there is nothing more he can do. This is frightening, especially in light of the clear documented evidence of what I believe to be a TIGTA cover-up.

My remaining recourse is to expose to the American people the corruption I have witnessed in the hopes that they will demand a cleanup. The issues that for years could have been resolved along the way by each of the involved entities have compounded over time into a mountain of evidence that makes for a ready-made national story. As the conspired parties have intentionally ruined my life, the injustice has consumed me and I will pursue this goal incessantly until responsible parties have been held accountable.

System of checks and balances has failed: As I look at the big picture of unconstrained abuse I have suffered, it appears that America's system of checks and balances has woefully failed. I recently saw a bumper sticker that expresses my thoughts after my experiences – a tragedy in what I have thought was the greatest country in the world. The sticker stated the following:

“I LOVE MY COUNTRY BUT FEAR MY GOVERNMENT.”

Congressional inquiries: While Congressman Stark stated that he has done all he can do, I am aware of the nature of congressional inquiries, which, sadly, are usually poli-

tically motivated. In cases where members of Congress see something that's not right involving a federal agency, they relentlessly demand answers and accountability. My case is not political, it is simply one of right and wrong. However, exposure of the GM/IRS collusion, and now TIGTA's conduct, would seemingly be very damaging to the Treasury Department and its business partner General Motors, and may have been the motive for TIGTA's non-investigation. Exposure could also draw attention to the Treasury Department's support of its partner's unconscionable confiscation of my franchises, as well as those of hundreds of other dealers. As this was a result of the TARP bailout crafted by the Treasury Department's Presidential Task Force on the Auto Industry, it is closely tied to the Democratic Party. If my story fell into the hands of Republicans, they would undoubtedly see it as political red meat.

While I appreciate the efforts you and Congressman Stark have put forth on my behalf, they fell short of holding TIGTA, and in turn GM and the IRS, accountable. I hope that as a Senator, you have authority to hold the parties accountable that Congressman Stark apparently doesn't have, and ask that you exercise any that you have available. I assume that my original June 21, 2010, TIGTA complaint remains in your file, as well as information I sent to Maria Henderson on September 9, 2011. The entire story, along with supporting documents, appears on donsigner.com. The detailed description of TIGTA's actions, including links to the internal documents with false statements, may be accessed through a link in the right column of the website in the section "(2010-2011) U. S. Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) Secretly Avoids Investigation of Signer Allegations."

In reference to the enclosed letter to the FBI Special Agent in Charge, I would appreciate your correspondence to the FBI requesting an investigation of my allegations of a TIGTA cover-up. Additionally, I would appreciate anything you are able to do within the Senate to hold TIGTA accountable for its actions, as Congressman Stark apparently lacks authority to do so. Still, the GM/IRS collusion investigation has not been conducted, and I would appreciate any assistance you are able to provide toward that end as well. It should be conducted by an entity other than TIGTA, possibly the FBI, as at this point, a TIGTA investigation would seemingly lack credibility. I would appreciate it if you would let me know one way or the other about what you are able to do on these matters.

Thank you for your past efforts, and in advance for any assistance you are able to provide on the above.

Sincerely,



Donald R. Signer

Attachments: Letter to FBI Special Agent in Charge
September 9, 2011 e-mail to Maria Henderson
Article about dealer lawsuit against federal government.

Donald R. Signer
[REDACTED]
Fremont, CA 94539

December 8, 2011

Ms. Stephanie Douglas
Special Agent in Charge
FBI San Francisco
450 Golden Gate Avenue, 13th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102-9523

Dear Ms. Douglas:

I write to inform you of the FBI's response to an issue I reported on September 1, 2011. The issue involves what clearly appears to be wrongdoing by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) in its response (or lack thereof) to a complaint I filed. Now, a series of events causes me concern that the FBI is avoiding investigating my allegations about TIGTA's wrongdoing that I have meticulously documented – proven in my opinion – and furnished to the FBI. In the following, I will summarize the history as briefly as possible. I have added the document-supported TIGTA story to my website, donsigner.com. The website describes my unbelievable experiences as a General Motors dealer, in which GM engaged in many corrupt acts to harass me out of business.

Complaint to TIGTA

I became a General Motors (GM) dealer in Fremont, California, in 1980, and then relocated to neighboring Newark at in 1995. Following is a brief timeline of events leading up to the TIGTA complaint. I wish to make it clear that my observations of intentional wrongdoing by the various parties are my opinion only, but are overwhelmingly supported by extensive documentation on donsigner.com.

- 2005 and beyond: After years of attempting unsuccessfully to convince me to sell my business for its desired factory takeover of Newark GM dealerships, GM initiated a series of harassment acts to induce my exit, two of which were unprecedented IRS audits in 2005 and 2008.
- April 2009: I filed a claim for refund of the six-figure tax the IRS assessed in the 2008 audit.
- June 2009: With the full support of the Treasury Department's Presidential Task Force on the Auto Industry and the Obama Administration, GM terminated my franchises and hundreds of others nationally when it received the Treasury Department's controversial \$50 billion TARP bailout. GM then gave my franchises to its favored, factory-backed dealer next door after it destroyed everything I had ever worked for.
- June 2010: I filed a detailed and document-supported complaint with TIGTA alleging that GM and the IRS had conspired in the audits to harass me into conceding to its wishes. I believe that the content of my complaint letter left no reasonable doubt of the accuracy of my observations.

- October 2010: After a very bizarre process reviewing my claim for refund, the IRS finally admitted its 2008 audit was wrong, and in 2011 refunded me \$121,000 with interest.

TIGTA response to my complaint

- December 2010: After my multiple status requests to TIGTA about my June complaint, and under pressure from two Members of Congress who had inquired on my behalf, TIGTA finally contacted me and (falsely I would later learn) led me to believe it would conduct a criminal investigation of my allegations. I subsequently attempted to obtain status reports, but was denied due to confidentiality reasons, after which I made a FOIA request for file documents.
- April 2011: TIGTA informed the two inquiring Members of Congress in deceptively-worded letters that clearly implied, but carefully did not directly state, that the office had conducted an investigation of my allegations. TIGTA stated that it “found no evidence” of GM/IRS harassment conspiracy.
- June 2011: After two FOIA requests and an appeal to obtain meaningful file documents, I finally received TIGTA documents that state that **TIGTA did not investigate my allegations**, thus proving that, in truth, TIGTA “found no evidence” because it didn’t look. Several of the file documents contain false statements contributing to investigation avoidance in what clearly appears to be a cover-up of the facts that confirm my allegations.
- July-September 2011: In staged progression moving up the organizational chart of TIGTA and the Treasury Department, I sent detailed letters to the top three officials at TIGTA, and then to Treasury Secretary Geithner and President Obama, alleging a cover-up and inviting their responses. I only received one response; a two-paragraph letter from the Principal Deputy Treasury Inspector General that contained the same deceptively worded statements as in the letters to the Members of Congress. He did not deny my allegation of a cover-up, or any of the factors that led to my observation.

Summary of TIGTA’s response to my complaint: The Treasury Department and GM became, and remain today, business partners as a result of the TARP bailout in 2009. President Obama and Treasury Secretary Geithner went out on a limb with the controversial auto bailout. GM and the IRS conspired to damage me before the bailout, and then GM and the Treasury Department supported GM’s confiscation of the businesses of targeted GM dealers, including me, at the time of the bankruptcy/bailout. As these are actions that one would not believe could happen in America, TIGTA’s confirmation of my allegations would likely create outrage in the view of fair-minded U. S. taxpayers, and reflect very negatively on GM and the Treasury Department, as well as the creators of the TARP bailout. As I stated in my letters to Treasury Department officials, there would appear to be a strong motive at the top of the Treasury Department to make the story go away quietly.

Report to the FBI

As TIGTA’s role is to monitor fraud, waste, and abuse within the IRS, in my opinion TIGTA itself has committed fraud. After Secretary Geithner failed to respond to my letter to him, I contacted the U. S. Attorney General’s office and explained the situation. The representative responded that I needed to contact the FBI to initiate an investigation, which would in turn provide the information to the U. S. Attorney General’s office after completion. Following is the timeline of my contact with the FBI beginning September 1, 2011.

- September 1: I made contact with an unidentified Agent at the Palo Alto FBI office and explained my situation. I informed him of my website, which he said he would read, and then call FBI white-collar crime people.
- September 6: I re-contacted the Palo Alto Agent to update him on a new item, at which time he told me that he had informed the San Jose white-collar crime unit about my website, and that they would review it to determine if there is enough to open a case.
- September 14: As I felt it was important to provide something more tangible than the telephone call, I visited the San Jose FBI office with a printed explanation and set of supporting documents to formalize the telephone discussion. I met with an unidentified Duty Agent, who informed me that there was a record of my discussion with the Palo Alto Agent. He took notes, but refused to accept my package of documents. After further discussion, he agreed to accept a short cover letter from the package.
- September 21: At a men's club dinner in Fremont, San Jose FBI Agent Daniel Davis spoke to the group. After he spoke, I privately told him about the above FBI contacts, and asked for any insight he could give me about what would be done with my case. He said he would check and call me.
- September 29: Mr. Davis informed me that there is a record of my report, and it will be reviewed. He told me that I had reported the issue to the right people. He suggested I wait a month or so to hear from the FBI, and if I didn't hear from anybody within that time, that I should visit the San Jose office again and inquire about the status.
- November 18: I visited the San Jose office and met with a different unidentified Duty Agent. I asked about the status of my report about TIGTA, to which his vague reply did nothing to give me confidence that anything had been done. I handed him the envelope containing my description of TIGTA's actions, along with many supporting documents from the TIGTA internal file. I told him that the first Agent I met with wouldn't accept the package, to which he asked why not. I responded that I didn't know. He told me he would read the package and call me. I asked him when I would hear from him, to which he replied "next week."
- November 23: As it was Thanksgiving week, after not hearing from him by Wednesday at 11:40 AM, I called and left him a message with the receptionist. She said the office would be open Friday after Thanksgiving, so I asked that the Agent call me by Friday as he promised.
- November 25: After not hearing by 3:15 on Friday, I called and left another message with the same receptionist.
- November 28: After still not hearing from the Agent, I left him a voice mail at 4:20.
- December 1: After still not hearing from the Agent, I left a voice mail for Daniel Davis, the Agent I had met on September 21, and talked with again on September 29. I left a message about the Agent's not calling me as he said he would to, and asked Mr. Davis to call me.

As of this writing, I have heard nothing from either of the above Agents, and it is apparent that I never will. While Mr. Davis is not involved in the case, and his research and call to me after I met him at the men's club dinner were done as a courtesy, the unnamed Agent I met with on November 18 committed to call me. Since he has not done so, it is apparent to me that he has been instructed not to contact me, as most likely has anybody else involved in my case.

I recognize that the FBI has a large caseload of high priority items. However, I have virtually completed the investigation of my complaint, and given it to the FBI with documented support showing the names of the many people at TIGTA involved. About the only thing left for the FBI to determine is who gave to orders for what I believe I have proven to be a TIGTA cover-up of GM/IRS conspiracy to harass me in 2005 and 2008.

Disturbingly, the FBI's lack of response to me seems eerily similar to TIGTA's avoidance of action on my well-documented complaint about GM/IRS collusion. I have seen on the FBI website that the White-Collar Crime Division investigates government corruption, and uses Inspectors General of Federal Agencies to assist. As TIGTA is an Inspector General, my complaint involves an FBI ally, which makes for an awkward investigation, similar to TIGTA investigating the Treasury's business partner, GM.

I ask that you investigate what I have described above, much of which also appears on donsigner.com. I also ask that you, or somebody in authority at either the San Francisco or San Jose FBI office, contact me with a response to my serious concerns described above. I may be reached at home at [REDACTED] or on my cell at [REDACTED]

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,



Donald R. Signer

Cc: U. S. Congressman Pete Stark
U. S. Senator Barbara Boxer