## Congress of the United States

Washington, A.C. 20515

October 14, 2008

The Honorable Erik C. Peterson United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin 660 West Washington Avenue Suite 303 Madison, WI 53703

Dear Mr. Peterson:

We are writing to you regarding the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN), a tax-exempt organization with a long and detailed history of engaging in illegal political activity, including vote fraud.

Specifically, in Wisconsin, ACORN has engaged in the following:

- In August 2008, Milwaukee election officials turned over the names of 39 individuals to the district attorney's office. The individuals, some of whom were ACORN employees, tried to submit falsified voter registration cards of dead, imagined, or imprisoned individuals.
- In October 2004, ACORN/Project Vote workers admitted that they didn't even meet with the people whose voter registration applications they signed, a violation of state election law. The group alleged to have registered 30,000 voters in southeastern Wisconsin, but specific voters on their lists were never contacted by any voter registration drive.

The right to vote is a fundamental pillar of our democracy, and any organization that engages in vote fraud should be held accountable for corrupting our democratic form of governance.

We respectfully call upon you to be extremely vigilant in investigating and preventing any attempts to unlawfully influence the upcoming Presidential election by ACORN or any other organization that would submit false voter registrations, encourage or engage in vote fraud, or otherwise use illegal means to disrupt this election.

Thank you for your time and assistance. We appreciate your efforts to ensure that our voting laws are strictly enforced.

Sincerely,

TOM PETRI Member of Congress

PAUL RYAN Member of Congress

cc:

The Honorable Michael Mukasey, US Attorney General

The Honorable Grace Chung Becker,

Assistant US Attorney General for Civil Rights