

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

June 5, 2007

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy Chairman Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This supplements our May 8, 2007, response to your letter, dated May 2, 2007, which requested documents pertaining to an order by the Attorney General that delegated authorities relating to certain personnel matters to the Chief of Staff and White House Liaison. We are sending similar letters to the other Members who joined in your request to us.

Enclosed are documents provided by the Department's Justice Management Division regarding the development of this order. Several of them bear redactions of text that is wholly unrelated to this order; the unredacted versions of those documents and others, such as drafts of the order, have not been produced here because they implicate certain Department confidentiality interests, but we are prepared to make them available for review by Members and Committee staff.

We have also identified a limited number of responsive documents from within the Office of Legal Counsel (OLC). We are not making these documents available because they implicate substantial Executive Branch interests in preserving the confidentiality of the internal deliberations and legal advice within the Department. They do not address the purpose or policy underlying the delegation order. As you know, we have already produced the formal OLC advice on this matter, which was a memorandum approving the order for form and legality.

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy Page Two

I hope that this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact this office if you would like additional assistance regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Hertling

pull A. Heat

Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General

ce: The Honorable Arlen Specter Ranking Minority Member

The Honorable John Conyers, Jr. Chairman
The Honorable Lamar Smith
Ranking Minority Member
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives