TED POE 2ND DISTRICT, TEXAS

COMMITTEES:
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE
FOUNDER OF CONGRESSIONAL
VICTIM'S RIGHTS CAUCUS



Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-4302

October 20, 2008

The Honorable Michael Mukasey Attorney General of the United States U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Mukasey:

In response to our government's recent attempts to stabilize the economy, our constituents repeatedly ask us why they must pay the price to bail out failing financial institutions. They want to know why people who avoided engaging in risky financial behavior are responsible for the greed and recklessness of Wall Street. Our constituents are concerned about their retirement accounts, their savings, and how they can afford to send their kids to college. Since these taxpayers are forced to take a stake in the financial institutions that our government has chosen to assist, they have valid questions, and they deserve honest answers.

We recognize that as Attorney General of the United States, you investigate crime on behalf of the American people. Accordingly, we request that you conduct an appropriate and thorough investigation into any and all financial institutions, corporations, and individuals that are suspect of criminal action relating to our current economic crisis. We also ask that you seek cooperation from financial crime units in other federal agencies.

In order to help restore the public's trust in our government, we believe that transparency and accountability is paramount, and therefore encourage you not only to respond to this letter, but also to periodically notify the committees of jurisdiction in Congress with the results of your investigation.

Also, we know that since the 2001 terrorist attacks, the F.B.I has shifted its primary focus from criminal investigations to counterterrorism efforts, resulting in a sharp decline of available resources to investigate white-collar crimes. However, the country's economic climate clearly illustrates the need for the F.B.I. to drastically increase its efforts to investigate criminal activity such as mortgage fraud. We therefore ask that you would address this problem, and that you would acknowledge our request for the F.B.I. to focus the appropriate funding and manpower to investigate financial crimes.

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During this time of financial uncertainty, people are looking to their government leaders for answers. Thank you for helping us assure them that the truth is being sought, and that justice will prevail.

Rep. Ted Poe	Sincerely,	Rep. Nancy Boyda
Rep. John Culberson		Modal T- Malal Rep. Michael McCaul
Rep. Joe Sestak		Rep. Henry Brown
Rep. John Carter		Rep. William Jefferson
Rep. Paul Broun	- (Rep. Rete Sessions
Rep. Frank LoBiondo		Rep. Jerry Costello

Harsha Blackburn	Rep. Michael Burgess
Ralph M. Hall Rep. Ralph Hall	Rep. Gabrielle Giffords
Rep. Brian Bilbray	Rep. Kay Granger
Rep. Charlie Melancon	Rep. Thaddeus McCotter
Rep. Roscoe Bartlett	Rep. Frank Wolf
Rep. John McHugh	Rep. John Duncan
Rep. Donald Manzullo	Stort Scaline Rep. Steve Scalise

cc:

The Honorable Barney Frank Chairman Committee on Financial Services 2129 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Spencer Bachus Ranking Member Committee on Financial Services 2129 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Conyers, Jr. Chairman Committee on the Judiciary 2138 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lamar Smith Ranking Member Committee on the Judiciary 2138 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515