



Reverend Al Sharpton, President & Founder
Reverend Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson, Chairman of the Board
Tamika D. Mallory, National Executive Director

The Honorable Darrell Issa
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

May 9, 2012

Dear Chairman Issa:

Recent media reports have indicated that you are preparing to issue a contempt citation against Attorney General Eric Holder for allegedly failing to provide information related to the "Fast and Furious" program. We believe that this would be both an abuse of power and an unjustified use of such power. We appeal to you to reconsider such a blatantly partisan political act. The National Action Network is a civil rights organization that has been dedicated to continuing the Dream of Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. of an America that truly lives up to the ideal of one nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all. To abuse the power given to you as Chairman of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform offends the nation's desire for Liberty and Justice for all. This becomes more pertinent when most reports indicate that the DOJ and Attorney General Holder have disputed the allegations of any failure to comply with the committee's request for documents and information. Indeed, it is our understanding that the DOJ has indicated that they have turned over more than 7,600 pages from approximately 46 separate productions of documents. It is further reported that the Attorney General has testified to Congress on the "Fast and Furious" program seven times in the last year and a half, in addition to other members of DOJ having provided information to congressional investigators. Mr. Chairman, the American people and the families of those who may have been adversely affected by any failures of the "Fast and Furious" program deserve better. We hope that you will reconsider this misguided use of the legitimate power of Congress to hold those who willfully and unjustifiably fail to cooperate in contempt of Congress.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tamika D. Mallory

Executive Director

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