

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable George W. Bush
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20500

April 23, 2004

Dear President Bush,

For more than two years we have been seeking a full accounting of federal aid to New York City following the September 11, 2001 attacks. None of our letters or requests have ever been answered and no complete accounting exists.

This week we have learned from Bob Woodward's book, "Plan of Attack", that \$700 million in funds appropriated by Congress after the September 11, 2001 for military action in Afghanistan were allegedly diverted to secretly fund war planning in Iraq. Yesterday we learned that New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg has been working behind the scenes to recover \$2.6 billion in assistance that his office has estimated New York City will never receive. If the Mayor's estimates are correct, New York will not receive the full \$20 billion you have repeatedly pledged to New York as a minimum amount of assistance to recover from September 11, 2001.

As you know, the funds that were appropriated for military action in Afghanistan were included in Public Law 107-38. PL 107-38 appropriated \$40 billion, \$20 billion for disaster relief for New York City, Northern Virginia and Pennsylvania and \$20 billion for the Department of Defense for military actions. This appropriation required substantial reporting requirements to ensure this money was used properly. Part of this reporting requirement was a quarterly report by your Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Information regarding this reporting requirement can still be found on OMB's website at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/bulletins/b02-01.html>. In this bulletin it clearly states that assistance to New York should be identified separately from expenses for military actions.

Despite the reporting requirements that OMB lists on their website, no report has been posted since May 9, 2003 (available online at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/legislative/erfreports/>) for the quarter ending February 28, 2003 and nowhere in the report is there an accounting of funds specifically obligated or disbursed to New York for the September 11th Attacks. It is not possible looking at the reports to determine what funds were used for New York and what funds were used for military actions. This lack of this accounting and news of the alleged diversion of \$700 million in funds once again raises more questions than answers. We would like you to direct OMB to meet the Congressionally mandated reporting requirements for these funds. This reporting should include an accounting of which funds were made available to New York.

We would like to reiterate that we appreciate your commitment to New York to provide at least \$20 billion in aid. We can only assume that if this aid has been provided or is on its way to New York an accounting should be a reasonable request and would go a long way in assuring the people of New York that your commitment will be met. Continued non-reporting can only be met with continued skepticism about whether New York will receive the full amount you committed and all of the funds appropriated in the aftermath of September 11, 2001 have been used for their intended purpose.

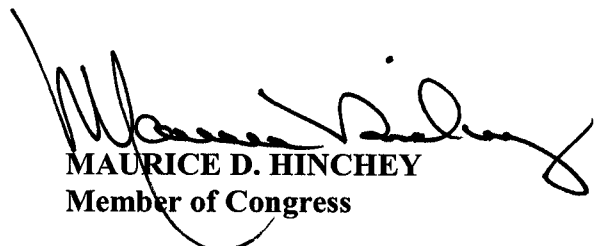
As a reference to our prior requests to you and to OMB that have not received a response, please find the following available online.

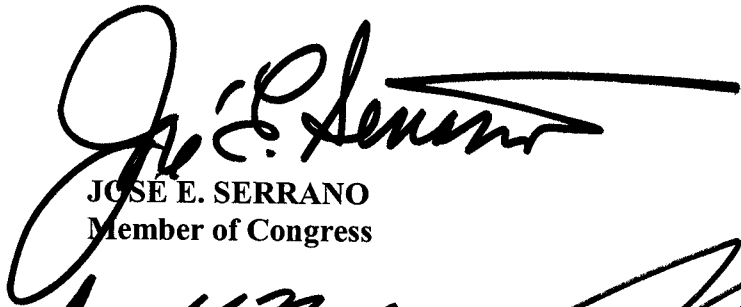
- Letter to OMB Director Joshua Bolton regarding the lack of any reporting over the last year.
<http://www.house.gov/maloney/issues/Sept11/TheChart/030504Bolten.pdf>
- An accounting of assistance to New York on the 2nd anniversary of the attacks
<http://www.house.gov/maloney/issues/Sept11/TheChart/ChartUpdate.pdf>
- Letter to your office on the 2nd Anniversary of the attacks asking for a complete accounting.
<http://www.house.gov/maloney/issues/Sept11/2yearslater/MaloneyMillerLettertoPOTUS.pdf>
- A chart prepared in December 2002 seeking an accounting of assistance to New York.
<http://www.house.gov/maloney/issues/Sept11/TheChart/TheChart.pdf>
- A letter to OMB Director Mitch Daniels asking for an accounting of assistance to New York.
<http://www.house.gov/maloney/issues/Sept11/TheChart/LettertoOMB.pdf>

A response to this letter and a complete accounting of the assistance to New York is the least we could expect given the questions that have been raised. Any accounting should certainly be completed before the third anniversary of the attacks and before your visit to New York in August that will undoubtedly highlight your commitment to rebuilding our great city.

Sincerely,


CAROLYN B. MALONEY
Member of Congress

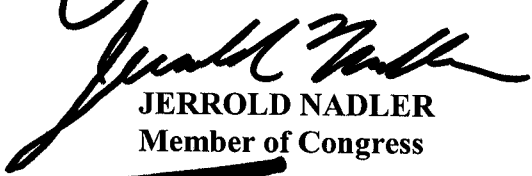

MAURICE D. HINCHEY
Member of Congress



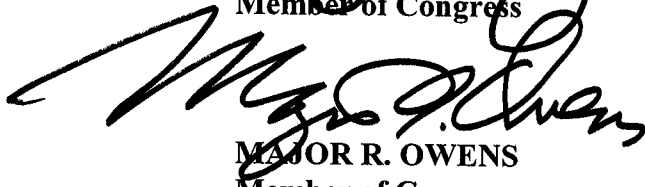
JOSE E. SERRANO
Member of Congress



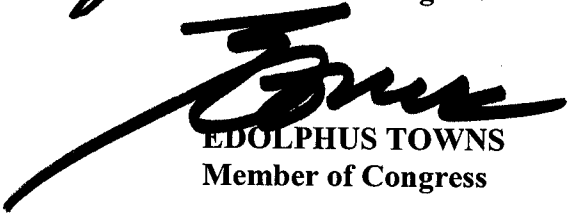
TIMOTHY H. BISHOP
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