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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0905

December 20, 2011

Attorney General Eric Holder
Attorney General of the United States
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0009

Dear Attorney General Holder,

It is out of respect for the office of the Attorney General of the United States that I contact you today regarding the current investigation surrounding the flawed operation known as Fast and the Furious.

The actions of the Department of Justice and those overseeing this operation, which lead to the death of U.S. Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry, are unacceptable. That is why I am demanding your resignation as Attorney General of the United States. Your handling of the Fast and the Furious case was so flawed that the American people have lost their confidence in you as our nation's Attorney General. At this point, the only way that this nation can finally begin to restore the confidence necessary to fulfill the responsibilities of the Attorney General of the United States is if you step down from this office.

As the head of the Department of Justice (DOJ) you also serve as the chief law enforcement officer of the Federal Government. To fulfill the responsibilities of that office, you must have the faith and trust of the country as you provide the President and other heads of departments within the administration with opinions on important legal matters. Unfortunately, both you and the agencies within the DOJ have consistently disrupted this Congress' attempts investigate this deeply flawed and ultimately deadly operation.

Thanks to the ongoing Congressional investigation of the operation "Fast and the Furious," both the chief federal prosecutor in Arizona, whose office was running operation, along with the acting director of the ATF in charge at the time of this operation were removed from their positions. However, it has become abundantly clear that those higher up within the Department of Justice knew about what was happening in the Fast and the Furious operation and allowed it to continue.

At a time when faith in government has reached historic lows, this nation deserves to feel confident that the Attorney General has control over the agencies that he is charged with

overseeing, and that the Attorney General will not attempt to stonewall Congress' oversight responsibilities regarding programs and operations which fall under his jurisdiction. Unfortunately, following the hearing held by the House Judiciary Committee on December 8, 2011, it has become clear to me that you will not take responsibility for the actions of your department.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Richard B. Nugent". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "R".

Richard B. Nugent
Member of Congress