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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4403

May 19, 2010

Dr. Robert Groves
Director
U.S. Department of Commerce
Bureau of the Census
Room 8H002
Washington, DC 20233

Dear Dr. Groves,

In previous conversations with you, I have expressed serious concerns about the Census Bureau hiring enumerators with criminal backgrounds. Today, we have seen several media reports regarding a convicted sex offender, Frank J. Kuni, being hired as a Census enumerator in Pennsauken, New Jersey.

According to these reports, Kuni was fingerprinted but was allowed to visit residences as an enumerator before he was fired based on the results of his fingerprint test.

I would like to obtain answers to the following questions:

1. Are the media reports regarding this incident correct?
2. How many days did Kuni visit residences before he was fired?
3. Does the Census Bureau routinely send enumerators to residences prior to receiving the results of the fingerprint tests? If so, how many times has this happened?
4. Prior to this case, had Census Bureau fired enumerators who were later determined to have criminal backgrounds but had already visited residences? If so, how many times has this happened?
5. What is the timeline of events regarding this case? Specifically, when did the following occur?
 - a. When was Kuni hired?
 - b. When was Kuni fingerprinted?
 - c. When were the results of the test available to the Census Bureau?
 - d. When was Kuni notified he was fired?

6. Did the Census Bureau fire Kuni before he was identified to the Pennsauken Police Department as a sex offender by Amy Schmalbach?

The American public is entitled to be sure that their lives and property are not endangered by Census enumerators. Successful completion of the 2010 Census depends on the public being able to trust Census enumerators.

Sincerely,



Jason Chaffetz
Member of Congress

cc Rep. Edolphus Towns, Chairman, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
Rep. Darrell Issa, Ranking Member, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
Rep. Wm. Lacy Clay, Chairman, Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census, and
National Archives
Rep. Patrick McHenry, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census,
and National Archives