

May 24, 2007

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The Honorable Scott J. Bloch  
The Special Counsel  
U.S. Office of Special Counsel  
1730 M Street, N.W., Suite 300  
Washington, D.C. 20036-4505

Re: OSC File No. HA-07-1160

Dear Special Counsel Bloch:

I am writing on behalf of GSA Administrator Lurita A. Doan, whom we represent, to express utter outrage that the confidentiality of the report concerning allegations against her has not been maintained.

The report which included a cover letter signed by you was delivered on Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. By Monday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, members of the media had sensitive information about the report. By Wednesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, they had copies of what we believed was the same report. As deplorable as that circumstance is, we learned today that the breaches of confidentiality were even worse than we knew. There are now two reports in the hands of the media – the version you sent dated May 18<sup>th</sup> and an earlier version dated May 17<sup>th</sup> which is even more disparaging in its terms than the report sent by you.

It would be beyond reason to conclude that the leak of these reports is from any source other than your office. The leak of the May 17<sup>th</sup> version – clearly a draft – is particularly egregious. It evidences a malicious effort by someone on your staff to seriously disparage Administrator Doan publicly – perhaps before she even received the report – but certainly before she had any meaningful opportunity to respond. Furthermore, the fact that some version of the report is now in the hands of at least three major media outlets leads to the very reasonable conclusion that this is not simply a case of one person providing a copy of the report to a favored journalist. Instead, it appears to be carefully planned campaign to cause maximum damage to Ms. Doan.

The obligation to maintain the confidentiality of the report lies with your office and ultimately with you as The Special Counsel. The gross and inexcusable failure to prevent the release of the report is extraordinarily unfair to Administrator Doan and has compromised the integrity of the

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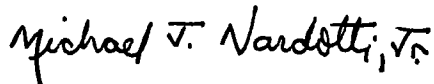
process. To the extent that the report lacks objectivity and impartiality as written, those serious deficiencies are only aggravated by the premature release of the damaging information.

For these reasons we demand that you take immediate action to investigate and hold accountable those responsible for the leak of this sensitive information and that you take whatever action is necessary to prevent any further leaks.

In addition to the extraordinary unfairness to Administrator Doan caused by this misconduct, the objectivity and impartiality of the Office of the Special Counsel in this matter has been irreparably damaged. The Office of Special Counsel has an obligation to avoid even the appearance of impropriety. No action by your office now could erase the stigma of impropriety that now overshadows this case.

We intend to pursue alternative disposition of this matter with the Office of the President, and we believe it would be appropriate, under these very exceptional circumstances, for you to disapprove the current report and support any further consideration of this matter by an investigative body outside the Office of Special Counsel.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Nardotti, Jr.  
Major General, U.S. Army, Retired

*Counsel to GSA Administrator Lurita A. Doan*