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Description of document: Farm Credit Administration (FCA) records provided to Senator Charles E. Grassley and Senator Tom Coburn concerning the independence of Inspectors General necessary to promote efficiency and prevent fraud, waste and abuse in agency programs, in response to the Senators' inquiry, 2011-2012

Requested: 15-April-2012

Released date: 08-May-2012

Posted date: 04-July-2012

Source of document: Freedom of Information Act Officer  
Farm Credit Administration  
1501 Farm Credit Drive  
McLean, VA 22102-5090  
Fax: (703) 790-0052  
Email: [foiaofficer@fca.gov](mailto:foiaofficer@fca.gov)  
[Online FOIA Request Form](#)

Note: This is one of several files on the same subject for various agencies available on governmentattic.org. See: <http://www.governmentattic.org/6docs/GrassleyCoburn.htm>

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From: "Pienta, Jeffrey"  
Date: May 8, 2012 3:08:16 PM  
Subject: FOIA Request CTS#12829

This email is the final response to your Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552 (FOIA), request to the Farm Credit Administration (FCA or Agency) dated April 15, 2012. You requested "each and every biannual response/report to Senators Grassley and Coburn."

After a thorough search of the Agency, we have found 4 pages of responsive documents. We are releasing all 4 pages in their entirety.

We believe this is fully responsive to your request.

If you have any questions, please call me.

Sincerely,  
Jeffrey C. Pienta  
Attorney Advisor  
Office of General Counsel  
Farm Credit Administration  
1501 Farm Credit Drive  
McLean, VA 22102  
703-883-4431

**From:** [Clinefelter, Carl A., Jr.](#)  
**To:** [Brian\\_Downey@finance-rep.senate.gov](mailto:Brian_Downey@finance-rep.senate.gov)  
**Cc:** [OIG](#)  
**Subject:** Response to April 8, 2010 Letter from Senators Grassley and Coburn  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 15, 2010 1:37:38 PM  
**Attachments:** [Carl A Clinefelter.vcf](#)  
[Reply to Senators Grassley and Coburn June 2010.pdf](#)

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Mr. Downey,

As requested in the subject letter, attached is my office's response to the April 8, 2010 letter from Senators Grassley and Coburn regarding my office's independence and ability to conduct unimpeded oversight of Farm Credit Administration operations.

If you need anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me.



## Farm Credit Administration

Office of Inspector General  
1501 Farm Credit Drive  
McLean, Virginia 22102-5090

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June 15, 2010

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Finance  
United States Senate  
135 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom A. Coburn  
Ranking Member  
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations,  
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee  
United States Senate  
172 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Grassley and Coburn:

This is in reply to your April 8, 2010, letter to me requesting information regarding my independence to carry out audits, evaluations, and investigations as Farm Credit Administration's (FCA) Inspector General. I and the rest of the Inspectors General community appreciate the efforts of the Congress to enhance and protect the independence of Inspectors General.

In your letter, you first requested a description of any instances during October 1, 2008 through April 8, 2010, where the FCA resisted and/or objected to oversight activities and/or restricted my access to information, and you asked to receive the information on June 15, 2010. There were no instances during the described period or subsequent to April 8, 2010, where my office did not receive complete cooperation in the conduct of audits, inspections, evaluations, investigations or any other activity undertaken by my office.

Second, you requested biannual reports on all closed investigations, evaluations, and audits conducted by my office that were not disclosed to the public for the period January 1, 2009 through April 30, 2010, and you asked to receive the information on June 15, 2010. My office conducted no investigations during the period and all audits, inspections, and evaluations conducted during the period are posted on my office's web site at [www.fca.gov/home/inspector](http://www.fca.gov/home/inspector).

Third, your letter referenced section 6(f)(3)(E) of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, which states that an Inspector General shall have his/her comments included in the budget of the United States Government submitted to Congress if the Inspector General concludes that the budget would "substantially inhibit" the Inspector General's office from performing its duties. In this regard, your letter requested to be apprised of any instance where a Federal official threatens and/or otherwise attempts to impede my office's ability to communicate with Congress, whether that communication concerns the budget or any other matter. Since July 2005, when I was appointed as FCA's Inspector General, my office has not experienced any actions to impede my office's ability to carry out its duties either through the budget approval process or otherwise.

Finally, your letter requested a copy of my letter to the Honorable Darrell E. Issa, Ranking Member, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, U.S. House of Representatives, in response to his March 24, 2010, request for information related to my office's open and unimplemented recommendations, and the number of recommendations accepted and implemented by the FCA during the period January 5, 2009 through March 31, 2010. The April 1, 2010, letter is enclosed.

If anything further is needed, please contact my office at (703) 883-4030.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carl A. Clinefelter".

Carl A. Clinefelter  
Inspector General

Enclosure



April 1, 2010

The Honorable Darrell E. Issa, Ranking Member  
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform  
House of Representatives  
Congress of the United States  
2157 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-6143

Dear Congressman Issa:

This is in response to your letter dated March 24, 2010, in which you requested information regarding my office's open and unimplemented recommendations, and the number of recommendations accepted and implemented by the agency. Your letter also asked for any legislative suggestions to further improve the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended (IG Act).

As of March 31, 2010, the Farm Credit Administration (FCA) has no open or unimplemented recommendations. The number of recommendations the FCA accepted and implemented from January 5, 2009 and March 31, 2010, was seven.

As to legislative suggestions to further improve the IG Act, individually I have none to offer at this time.

If you need anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me at (703) 883-4030.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Carl A. Clinefelter'.

Carl A. Clinefelter  
Inspector General  
Farm Credit Administration

cc: The Honorable Edolphus Towns, Chairman  
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform