

**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of the Inspector General

August 30, 2007

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy:

This is in response to your letter to me, dated August 16, 2007, in which you requested that the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) investigate testimony provided by Attorney General Gonzales before the Senate Judiciary Committee on July 24, 2007, and in previous hearings before the Judiciary Committee and other congressional committees. In particular, you identified five issues and asked that we investigate whether the statements made by the Attorney General were intentionally false, misleading, or inappropriate.

The OIG has ongoing investigations that relate to most of the subjects addressed by the Attorney General's testimony that you identified. In particular, the OIG is conducting a review relating to the terrorist surveillance program, as well as a follow-up review of the use of national security letters. In addition, the OIG is conducting a joint investigation with the Department's Office of Professional Responsibility into allegations regarding the removal of certain United States Attorneys and improper hiring practices.

We believe that through those investigations and other OIG reviews we will be able to assess most of the issues that you raise in your letter.

Thank you for your letter and for your interest in our work. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Glenn A. Fine".

Glenn A. Fine
Inspector General