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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

November 29, 2011

Mr. Walter Tamosaitis
1622 Meadow Hills Drive
Richland, WA 99352

Dear Mr. Tamosaitis:

We are writing to invite you to testify before the Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight at a hearing entitled, "Whistleblower Protections for Government Contractors." The hearing will be held on Tuesday, December 6, 2011 at 10:00 A.M. in Room SD-342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to review the "Non-Federal Employee Whistleblower Protection Act," a bill that was introduced by Senator McCaskill to bolster whistleblower protections for government contractors and other non-federal employees. The hearing will also review whether current whistleblower protections for contractors working under Defense Department and Recovery Act contracts have been effective in encouraging reports of waste, fraud, and abuse. It will also examine whether these protections have had any adverse impact on the efficiency and effectiveness of government acquisition and procurement. Finally, the hearing will explore what additional legislation may be needed to encourage and protect contractor whistleblowers in the disclosure of waste, fraud, and abuse of taxpayer dollars.

Your testimony should address your experiences as a contract employee for URS while you were the research and technology manager for the Waste Treatment Project (WTP) at Hanford Nuclear Site. You should be prepared to testify regarding your disclosure of serious safety concerns at the WTP as well as the reaction of the prime contractor, Bechtel, and the Department of Energy to your disclosures. You should be prepared to discuss any instances of retaliation that you experienced as a result of these disclosures. Your testimony should also address whether you have sought any whistleblower protections or administrative remedies.

The Subcommittee requests that you summarize your testimony in 5 minutes, although a longer written statement may be submitted for the official record. This will allow adequate time for you to engage in questions and answers with members of the Subcommittee. **Subcommittee rules require that your testimony be submitted by no later than 10:00 A.M. on Friday, December 2, 2011.** Please send an electronic copy of your written statement and a brief one page biography to Subcommittee Clerk, Kelsey Stroud, at Kelsey_Stroud@hsgac.senate.gov.

The jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight is set forth in Senate Rule XXV clause 1(k); Senate Resolution 445 section 101 (108th Congress); and Senate Resolution 73 (111th Congress).

We look forward to your participation. Please contact Sarah Garcia with Senator McCaskill's Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-1014 or Senator Portman's Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-3353 with any questions.

Mr. Walter Tamosaitis
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Sincerely,



Claire McCaskill
Chairman
Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight



Rob Portman
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight