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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

October 28, 2008

The Honorable Michael B. Mukasey
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530-2000

Dear Attorney General Mukasey:

I am writing to request that you immediately direct the necessary resources and personnel to work on the more than 1,500 corporate fraud cases that the F.B.I. has opened since the onset of the current financial crisis.

Let me be clear about the desired outcome I believe we both share when it comes to these F.B.I. fraud investigations: Any corporate executive who recklessly contributed to the current financial crisis should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Reports indicate the F.B.I. is not sufficiently staffed to carry out these fraud investigations. They further state that during the past eight years of corporate excess, the insufficient number of F.B.I. agents assigned to white-collar criminal investigations led to the near 50 percent decline in corporate fraud prosecutions from 2000 to 2007.

Americans are struggling and I have heard from countless Middle Tennessee residents who have lost their jobs, cannot make a loan payment, or have seen their retirement savings disappear. With these considerations in mind, I respectfully urge you to make it a priority to ensure that the F.B.I. has the necessary resources to duly investigate corporate executives that recklessly brought about this crisis. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bart', written over a faint circular stamp.

Bart Gordon
Member of Congress