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J. Randy Forbes
United States Congress

4th District, Virginia

March 4, 2014

The Honorable Eric H. Holder, Jr.
Attorney General
United States Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Holder:

In 2012, I joined my colleagues in expressing concern that the Internal Revenue Service had been subjecting certain non-profit organizations to extensive delays and burdensome requests regarding their application for tax-exempt status under Section 501(c) of Title 26.

In May of 2013, a report issued by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration confirmed that the IRS had in fact used inappropriate criteria that identified for review certain organizations applying for tax-exempt status based upon their names or policy positions.

During your testimony before the House Judiciary Committee on May 15, 2013, you indicated that you ordered an investigation and said, "I can assure you and the American people that we will take a dispassionate view of this. This will not be about parties. This will not be about ideological persuasions. Anybody who has broken the law will be held accountable."

Despite these facts and your commitment not to make this about parties or ideological persuasions, a known political supporter of the President and Democratic National Committee was appointed to lead this investigation.

This is particularly troublesome as Ms. Bosserman's appointment creates a discernible conflict of interest, which will detract from an expedient and complete investigation into this malfeasance. As such, I respectfully request Ms. Bosserman be removed from this ongoing investigation.

It is imperative that an unbiased, nonpartisan official be appointed to lead this investigation. Your Department's failure to do so will be viewed as yet another roadblock to transparency erected by this Administration and will further erode the credibility of this investigation in the eyes of American people. I implore you to act in a manner that will bring about a swift and comprehensive conclusion in this case, holding those responsible accountable for their actions, and working to ensure that these acts of injustice against conservative actions do not happen again.

Sincerely,

J. RANDY FORBES
Member of Congress