

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Members of the Committee on Financial Services
From: FSC Majority Staff
Date: January 30, 2015
Subject: February 4, 2015, Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee Hearing Titled
“Exploring Alleged Ethical and Legal Violations at the U.S. Department of
Housing and Urban Development”

The Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee will hold a hearing titled “Exploring Alleged Ethical and Legal Violations at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development” on Wednesday, February 4, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 2167 of the Rayburn House Office Building. The witnesses will be the Honorable David Montoya, Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD-OIG) and Ms. Edda Emmanuelli Perez, Managing Associate General Counsel for Appropriations Law, Budget Issues and Financial Management and Assurance Teams in the Office of General Counsel at the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO).

Both the HUD-OIG and the GAO have recently investigated and reported on potential ethical and legal violations by senior HUD officials. The most recent of these investigations relates to improper hiring and conflicts of interest, which were subjects of a HUD-OIG report dated August 20, 2014.¹ The second investigation relates to prohibited lobbying activities, which was the subject of a HUD-OIG report dated February 18, 2014,² a subsequent Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee hearing dated February 26, 2014, and a legal memorandum from GAO dated September 9, 2014.³ The purpose of this hearing is to examine the findings contained within all of these reports.

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¹ Report of Investigation titled “Debra Sue Gross, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Public Indian Housing, Office of Policy, Program and Legislative Initiatives, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), *et al.*”

² Report of Investigation titled “Maurice A. Jones, Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) *et al.*”

³ Legal Opinion titled “Department of Housing and Urban Development—Anti-Lobbying Provisions,” from Ms. Susan Poling, General Counsel, GAO, to the Hon. Patrick McHenry.