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**September 29, 2009**

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Re: OSC File No. DI-08-0715

Dear Mr. President:

The Office of Special Counsel received several disclosures from Ms. Tamarah Grimes, a paralegal employed by the Department of Justice (DOJ), U.S. Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Alabama (USAO-MDAL). In her disclosure, Ms. Grimes alleged that USAO-MDAL officials failed to report improper jury communication during the prosecution of former Governor of Alabama Don Siegelman and former Chief Executive Officer of HealthSouth Richard Scrushy.<sup>1</sup> Ms. Grimes also alleged that USAO-MDAL caused the U.S. Government to incur unnecessary expenses for a contract employee for approximately 5 years and that victim impact funds were used to pay the expenses of that employee to attend the sentencing of the defendants Siegelman and Scrushy. In addition, Ms. Grimes reported that U.S. Attorney Leura Canary abused her authority by obstructing an Office of Professional Responsibility investigation. Finally, Ms. Grimes reported that after she disclosed her allegations to DOJ's Office of Inspector General, USAO-MDAL officials initiated a retaliatory DOJ OIG criminal investigation into her conduct.

In accordance with a referral pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 1213(c) and (d), the Attorney General was required to conduct an investigation into these disclosures. Former Attorney General Michael B. Mukasey delegated authority to review the investigation and sign the report to Associate Deputy Attorney General David Margolis. As discussed further in the enclosed reports and Analysis of Disclosures, the OIG investigation did not substantiate the allegations. Ms. Grimes provided comments on the reports which are also enclosed.

I have reviewed the original disclosures and the agency reports. Based on that review, I have determined that the agency reports contain all of the information required by statute and that the findings appear to be reasonable.

As required by law, 5 U.S.C. § 1213(e)(3), I have sent a copy of the report and the whistleblower's comments to the Chairmen of the Senate and House Committees on the Judiciary. I have also sent copies to the Ranking Member of each Committee. A copy of the

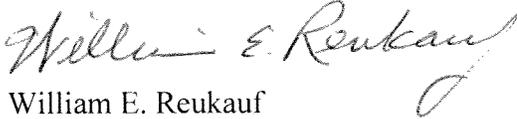
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<sup>1</sup>See *United States v. Siegelman*, No. 205-CR-119-MEF, 2006 WL 3218698 (M.D. Ala. Nov. 6, 2006).

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reports and the whistleblower's comments has been placed in our public file which is available online at [www.osc.gov](http://www.osc.gov). Accordingly, OSC has closed its case file in this matter.

Respectfully,



William E. Reukauf  
Associate Special Counsel

Enclosures