

**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Professional Responsibility

950 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W. Room 3266
Washington, D.C. 20530

MAY 5 2008

The Honorable John Conyers, Jr.
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Conyers:

This is in response to the Judiciary Committee's letter of April 17, 2008, in which you requested that the Office of Professional Responsibility and the Office of Inspector General conduct a joint investigation into allegations of "selective, politically-motivated" prosecutions by the Department of Justice. You enclosed with your letter an April 17, 2008 Report prepared by the Committee's majority staff which describes allegations of selective prosecution in the federal criminal justice system. The report highlights four cases where allegations of selective or politicized prosecution have arisen. These cases pertain to: (1) former Alabama Governor Don Siegelman; (2) Wisconsin procurement official Georgia Thompson; (3) Allegheny County (PA) Coroner Dr. Cyril Wecht; and (4) Mississippi Supreme Court Justice Oliver Diaz and attorney Paul Minor.

For your information, the Office of Professional Responsibility currently has pending investigations involving, among others, allegations of selective prosecution relating to the prosecutions of Don Siegelman, Georgia Thompson, and Oliver Diaz and Paul Minor. We will advise you of the results of those investigations when they are concluded.

We are sending similar responses to Congresswoman Linda T. Sanchez, Chair, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, and Congressman Arthur Davis and Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin who joined in your letter.

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Thank you for your interest in these matters.

Sincerely,



H. Marshall Jarrett
Counsel

cc: Honorable Lamar S. Smith
Committee on the Judiciary
Ranking Member