



Department of Justice
Drug Enforcement Administration

Office of Congressional Affairs

Springfield, VA 22152

August 1, 2023

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Grassley:

Thank you for your April 20, 2023, and May 24, 2023, letters regarding hiring and contracting practices at Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

As the single mission agency tasked with enforcing our nation's drug laws, DEA welcomes the review of its hiring and contracting practices and is committed to ensuring that these practices are in accord with federal law.

As you are aware, the Department of Justice's Office of Inspector General (OIG) is conducting an administrative review of several DEA contracts. DEA welcomes the OIG's review of these contracts and looks forward to the conclusion of the OIG's review and findings.

Your letters also inquired about the contract between DEA and the WilmerHale law firm for a review of the agency's foreign operations. The purpose of that engagement was for the contractor to develop a series of actionable recommendations for potential reform or improvements, including for the DEA headquarters elements that support DEA's international elements. A copy of the WilmerHale contract can be found posted publicly on the DEA website at:

<https://www.dea.gov/sites/default/files/2023-05/Contract%20with%20Wilmer%20Cutler%20Pickering%20Hale%20and%20Door%20LLP.pdf>

We appreciate your ongoing interest in DEA's work, and we welcome the opportunity to work together on these important issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Joshua R. Lipman", is positioned above the printed name.

Joshua R. Lipman
Chief
Office of Congressional Affairs