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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6200

July 18, 2023

The Honorable J. Russell George
Inspector General for Tax Administration
U.S. Department of the Treasury
1401 H Street NW, Suite 469
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Inspector General George:

We write to ask for an investigation into a new allegation involving the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

Specifically, we request you investigate the circumstances described in a June 16, 2023, letter from Congressman Jim Jordan to IRS Commissioner Daniel Werfel. The letter describes in detail a series of direct and indirect encounters between a taxpayer in Ohio and IRS agent “Bill Haus,”¹ who allegedly used an alias and gained entry to the taxpayer’s residence under false pretenses.

On April 25, 2023, a taxpayer in Marion, Ohio, allegedly received an unannounced home visit from an IRS Criminal Division agent identifying himself with the alias “Bill Haus.” Agent “Haus” accepted the taxpayer’s invitation to enter her home to discuss an estate tax matter, with respect to which the taxpayer was the executor. The agent later identified that he was in fact seeking to contact the taxpayer about a different matter, apparently using false pretenses to gain permission to enter the residence.

After making aggressive claims against the taxpayer, the agent was asked to leave, whereupon he said he was entitled to enter homes because of his position at the IRS. Agent “Haus” also made a statement to the taxpayer about the extreme financial consequences of not complying with an IRS request. After the initial disturbing encounter, the taxpayer continued to experience upsetting

¹ Letter from Cong. Jim Jordan to Commissioner Daniel Werfel, June 16, 2023, https://judiciary.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/republicans-judiciary.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/2023-06-16-jdj-to-irs-oig_redacted.pdf. See also, The Editorial Board, The IRS Makes Another House Call, Wall Street Journal, June 16, 2023, https://www.wsj.com/articles/irs-house-call-bill-haus-jim-jordan-letter-daniel-werfel-house-republicans-7858932d?mod=Searchresults_pos1&page=1#comments_sector.

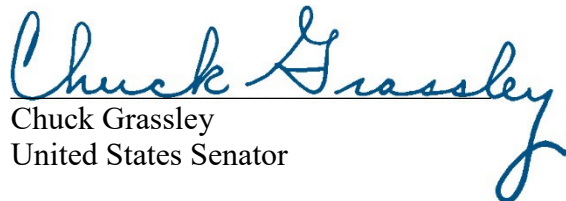
interactions with Agent “Haus,” despite his supervisor admitting to the taxpayer that she did not owe any tax and that “things never should have gotten this far.”

The Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) has responsibility and authority under the Inspector General Act of 1978 to supervise the operations of the IRS, including its criminal functions and employees. Americans have a right to know whether the serious allegations described above are being investigated. We urge TIGTA to open an investigation immediately, and further ask TIGTA to be prepared to provide Members of the Finance Committee with regularly scheduled updates and briefings on the progress of your investigation.

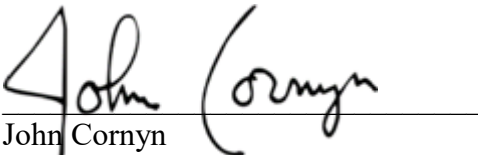
Sincerely,



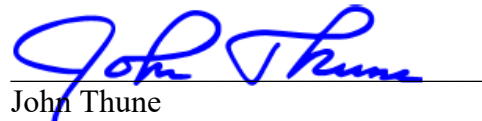
Mike Crapo
United States Senator



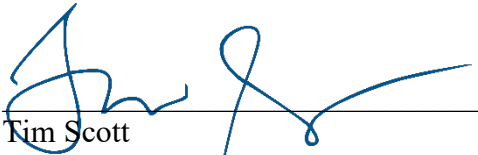
Chuck Grassley
United States Senator



John Cornyn
United States Senator



John Thune
United States Senator




Tim Scott
United States Senator



Bill Cassidy, M.D.
United States Senator



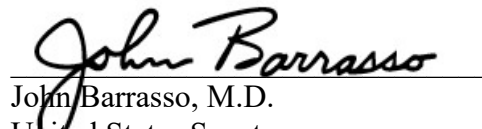
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United States Senator



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United States Senator



Thom Tillis
United States Senator



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