

AUG 19 2005

Office of Legislative Affairs

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Washington, DC 20528



**Homeland  
Security**

The Honorable Charles A. Gonzales  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-4320

Dear Representative Gonzales:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of your constituent, Bill Conroy, relating to the conduct of two Special Agents employed by the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR).

I have reviewed the allegations contained in your constituent's letter and offer the following information. Mr. Conroy notes in his May 30, 2005, letter to your office that ICE Special Agents attempted to reach him at his home, and subsequently interviewed him at his place of work regarding their investigation of an unauthorized disclosure of a sensitive internal ICE memorandum by an ICE employee. Under DHS Delegation Order 7030, the Secretary of Homeland Security delegated all authority with respect to the investigation of alleged misconduct committed by officers, agents, or employees of ICE, the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, to the Assistant Secretary for ICE. The Assistant Secretary for ICE has delegated such authority to the Director of OPR. Pursuant to these delegations, ICE OPR Special Agents have broad authority to conduct investigations into allegations of employee misconduct. This authority includes interviewing ICE employees as well as members of the public whom the Special Agents believe might have information relevant to their investigation. Members of the press are not entitled to any special treatment in this regard. Nevertheless, I have forwarded Mr. Conroy's concerns to ICE OPR for that office's review and appropriate action.

I appreciate your interest in the Department of Homeland Security, and I look forward to working with you on future homeland security issues. If I may be of further assistance, please contact the Office of Legislative Affairs at (202) 205-4412.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pamela J. Turner".

Pamela J. Turner  
Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs

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