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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6275

KOLAN L. DAVIS, *Chief Counsel and Staff Director*
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July 16, 2015

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

Ms. Cate Dyer
Founder and CEO
Stem Express
778 Pacific Street
Placerville, CA 95667

Dear Ms. Dyer:

As you are likely aware, a video has recently surfaced in the media in which Planned Parenthood's Senior Director for Medical Services, Deborah Nucatola, discusses at length Planned Parenthood's role in the harvesting of fetal tissue. In the video, she describes, among other things, the fetal organs available for harvesting, the cost per "specimen," and the coordination with abortion providers to modify their procedures in particular cases to preserve selected organs in order to fill particular orders. Additionally, Nucatola allegedly stated that she encourages local affiliates to determine which fetal organs are most in-demand and described how abortion providers allegedly alter the method of abortion to keep the desired organs intact.

The video also includes an edited-in shot of Stem Express's online order form for fetal tissue. Nucatola further specifically mentions that Stem Express had approached the Planned Parenthood Federation of America in an effort to get PPFA to develop a more centrally-coordinated process for facilitating Stem Express's acquisition of fetal tissue from Planned Parenthood's individual affiliates.

As you know, various federal regulations and statutes govern the use of human tissue and organs. For example, it is unlawful under 42 U.S.C. § 274e for any person to knowingly acquire, receive, or otherwise transfer any human organ for valuable consideration for use in human transplantation if the transfer affects interstate commerce. 42 U.S.C. § 289g-1 further prohibits the use of fetal human tissue for research without the informed consent of the woman having the abortion and prohibits the alteration of abortion methods and procedures solely in order to obtain fetal tissue. Additionally, under 42 U.S.C. § 289g-2, it is unlawful for any person to knowingly acquire, receive, or otherwise transfer any human fetal tissue for valuable consideration if the transfer affects interstate commerce, and 18 U.S.C. § 1531 prohibits partial-birth abortions. Accordingly, the Senate Judiciary Committee is initiating an inquiry into the procurement of fetal tissue and related activities described in the video.

Please provide the Committee with the following by July 30, 2015:

1. All records relating to Stem Express's communications with Deborah Nucatola.
2. All records relating to Stem Express's communications with Planned Parenthood regarding the centralization or coordination of Stem Express's acquisition of fetal tissue from Planned Parenthood's individual affiliates, including for example, communications referenced in the video released by the Center for Medical Progress at 07:00-07:49: <https://youtu.be/jjxwVuozMnU?t=7m>.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Jason Foster of my Committee staff at (202) 224-5225. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chuck Grassley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Senate Committee on the Judiciary