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July 12, 2017

The Honorable Charles Grassley  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing in response to your letter dated June 28, 2017, in which you asked about the Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of the Inspector General's (OIG) ongoing oversight of the DOJ's handling of sexual harassment and misconduct allegations. In addition, you asked whether the OIG has reviewed the DOJ Civil Division's data system for tracking and organizing case files.

The OIG has conducted substantial oversight of the DOJ's handling of these allegations, and we continue to monitor the DOJ's efforts to address concerns identified in our work. For example, on May 31 we released a memorandum to the Deputy Attorney General advising of the potential for systemic issues in the DOJ components' handling of sexual harassment and misconduct allegations. In the memorandum, we highlighted OIG reviews that identified several concerns about how these allegations are handled by the Civil Division (May 2017 report) and DOJ law enforcement components (March 2015 report). The OIG will continue to monitor the Department's efforts to address the concerns identified in the memorandum and reports.

As you note, in May 2017, we issued a report identifying significant weaknesses in the Civil Division's tracking, reporting, and investigating of sexual harassment and misconduct allegations, as well as inconsistencies among the penalties it imposed for substantiated allegations. As a result, we recommended that the Civil Division create a system to track all allegations of sexual harassment and misconduct, to include minimal standards for case file content. After the review, the Civil Division informed us that they created a mechanism for tracking and organizing case files, and a new method for maintaining files to ensure that, going forward, all necessary supporting documents are captured in case files and easily referenced. We have not sought access to the tracking and case file system at this time; however, we requested example case files and a more substantive description of the system. We anticipate receiving this information in the coming months and assessing

whether it adequately addresses the concerns giving rise to our recommendation.

After consulting with your staff, we understand that the second question posed in your letter requests the status of the OIG's ongoing review of gender equity in the DOJ's law enforcement components — specifically, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), and U.S. Marshals Service (USMS). This review will assess staff perceptions related to gender equity and the reasons why staff have those perceptions. We will also assess workforce demographics, gender discrimination complaints, and other related data at these law enforcement organizations. The review, however, does not involve an assessment of how specific allegations of sexual harassment were handled by Department components. When completed, we will be pleased to provide a briefing for you and your staff on our report.

I appreciate your support for my Office and hope this information is helpful for the Committee's purposes. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Greg Sabina, Advisor for Legislative Affairs, at (202) 514-3435.

Sincerely,



Michael E. Horowitz  
Inspector General

cc: The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate