

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

August 29, 2006

The Honorable George W. Bush
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Bush,

On July 15, 2005, we asked the State Department Inspector General (IG) to investigate allegations of serious misconduct by Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) Chairman Kenneth Y. Tomlinson. Yesterday, the IG provided us the results of his investigation, which determined that Mr. Tomlinson:

- requested the hiring of a personal friend as a contractor without the knowledge of other board members or staff, and signed invoices providing almost \$250,000 in compensation even though the contractor provided no written reports or other supporting documentation required by the contract;
- used BBG resources to support his personal horse racing operation;
- requested and received compensation that exceeded the maximum allowed by law;
- requested and received compensation from both the BBG and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) on the same days on a number of occasions;
- directed BBG staff to work on matters unrelated to the BBG, including CPB business and personal matters; and
- conducted CPB work while at the BBG and had billed the BBG for those hours.

Mr. President, at the beginning of your first term, you said "I expect every member of this administration to stay well within the boundaries that define legal and ethical conduct." The results of the IG investigation leave no doubt that Mr. Tomlinson stepped well beyond those boundaries and violated the public trust. As such, we urge you to immediately remove Mr. Tomlinson from his position, and take all necessary steps to restore the integrity of the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

Sincerely,



HOWARD L. BERMAN
Member of Congress



CHRISTOPHER J. DODD
United States Senator



TOM LANTOS
Member of Congress