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United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND
URBAN AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6075

June 20, 2019

Mr. Mark Bialek
Inspector General
Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
20th Street and Constitution Avenue NW
Mail Stop K-300
Washington, DC 20551

Dear Mr. Bialek:

According to news reports, on October 16, 2018 the Director's Office of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) requested you initiate an inquiry into Eric Blankenstein who, at the time, served as a Policy Director for the CFPB's Division of Supervision, Enforcement and Fair Lending. The inquiry was related to multiple racist and sexist statements Mr. Blankenstein made online.

On May 15 of this year, Mr. Blankenstein announced his resignation effective May 31, 2019. Less than a month later, it was reported that Mr. Blankenstein has been offered employment at the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which, like the CFPB, plays a critical role enforcing key civil rights laws addressing some of the financial harms of systemic racism in credit, mortgage, and housing markets.

Please provide me any documents related to the Inspector General's investigation into Mr. Blankenstein no later than July 5, 2019, so that the Committee may fully understand why the Administration decided it was appropriate to provide Mr. Blankenstein employment at HUD.

Thank you.



Ranking Member Sherrod Brown
United States Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs