

June xx, 2013

Mr. J. Russell George
Inspector General for Tax Administration
Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration
City Center Building
1401 H Street, N.W, Suite 469
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. George:

We, the undersigned representing many taxpaying American citizens write to express our growing concerns with not only the specific targeting of newly formed conservative groups by the IRS but also with the IRS's practice of targeting existing conservative public policy organizations for audits.

For example in 2011 and 2012, the IRS audited the Leadership Institute's operations for 2008. Based in Arlington, Virginia the Leadership Institute's audit cost more than \$50,000 in legal fees and hundreds of hours in personnel costs. They had to produce 23,430 pages of documentation to provide the information demanded in the IRS audit. As a Wall Street Journal editorial from May 28, 2013 pointed out the timing of the audit coincided with the period for which the IRS is now being investigated for stonewalling applications by new conservative groups for tax-exempt status. Finally on July 26, 2012 the IRS informed the Leadership Institute that the audit was over and that their tax-exempt status would continue.

The Leadership Institute is but one example of the many conservative public policy groups that have been targeted and suffered long and expensive audits at the hands of the IRS. Many more groups have suffered in silence. You do not know their story for fear that being "public" in their comments will invite even more IRS persecution their way, but there are many more groups we assure you.

The Wall Street Journal article mentioned earlier also points out that growing public outrage about IRS abuses and misbehavior has risen to such a level that the Congress and the news media may look into the IRS targeting of existing conservative groups for audits. Our desire is that this will indeed be the case.

Therefore we the undersigned call upon you as the Inspector General for Tax Administration to begin immediately the process of conducting a full and complete audit of IRS practices concerning the deliberate targeting of existing conservative public policy organizations.

We look forward to your prompt reply.

Sincerely,

James S. Gilmore III
President and CEO
Free Congress Foundation

Morton C. Blackwell
President
The Leadership Institute