



Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D. C. 20530

April 24, 2013

The Honorable Frank R. Wolf
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Representatives
H-309 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Wolf:

I write in response to your letter of today, to thank your colleagues and you for your help in ensuring that there will not be a need for me to order furloughs, at this critical time, as a result of the ill-advised sequestration. This will allow the dedicated men and women of the Department of Justice to do that which we are sworn to do: keep the American people safe.

I must take issue with your repeated contention that the acquisition of the Thomson prison has somehow placed the Department in this financial situation. As you know, the buying of Thomson was accomplished through the use of funds unconnected to the operating budget of this Department and in no way caused the potential harm that you and your colleagues have helped to alleviate. Should you wish to understand this better, I would be glad to have my staff brief yours or, alternatively, I would be glad to meet with you to explain the facts and correct any misunderstanding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric H. Holder, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Eric H. Holder, Jr.