DARRELL E. ISSA
49TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
211 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3906
FAX: (202) 225-3303

DISTRICT OFFICE:
1800 THIBODO ROAD, SUITE 310
VISTA, CA 92081
(760) 599-5000
FAX: (760) 599-1178

SOUTHWEST RIVERSIDE COUNTY
(951) 693-2447

www.issa.house.gov

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515–0549

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM
SUBCOMMITTEES:
DOMESTIC POLICY – RANKING MEMBER
FEDERAL WORKFORCE, POSTAL SERVICE & THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
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COURTS, THE INTERNET & INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
CONSTITUTION, CIVIL RIGHTS, & CIVIL LIBERTIES

REPUBLICAN POLICY COMMITTEE

October 22, 2008

The Honorable Henry A. Waxman
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Tomorrow the Committee will consider a report about the President's assertion of executive privilege. The report pertains to certain records collected during Special Counsel Patrick Fitzgerald's investigation into the circumstances in which Valerie Plame Wilson's covert status at the Central Intelligence Agency became known. Accordingly, it seems a propitious time to consider a very important related issue.

Material has recently come to my attention about the possibility that false or misleading testimony was given to this Committee. The Director of Congressional Affairs for the Central Intelligence Agency has forwarded information to the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI) from an employee that raises an "urgent concern" relating to "[a] false statement to Congress, or a willful withholding from Congress, on an issue of material fact relating to the funding, administration, or operation of an activity." As a Member of HPSCI, I have had an opportunity to review the transmittal and I believe it calls into serious question whether Valerie Plame Wilson's March 16, 2007 testimony before the Oversight and Government Reform Committee was truthful.

The transmittal has reinforced questions about Ms. Plame Wilson's testimony which were raised by Ranking Member Davis, including in his letter to you of July 17, 2008,[1] and (along with Mr. Shays) in a September 16, 2008 letter to HPSCI.[2] Chairman

[1] Letter from Rep. Tom Davis, Ranking Member, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform [hereinafter OGR Comm.], to Rep. Henry A. Waxman, Chairman, OGR Comm., (Jul. 17, 2008)
[2] Letter from Rep. Tom Davis, Ranking Member, OGR Comm., and Rep. Christopher Shays, Ranking Member, National Security Subcomm. of OGR Comm., to Rep. Silvestre Reyes, Chairman, House

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Reyes refused to even consider the latter request to review certain materials in HPSCI's possession, despite the obvious relevance to investigation of a potential criminal offense.

I appreciate the courage of this whistleblower in coming forward. I urge the Committee to work on a bipartisan basis with HPSCI to ensure that this serious matter is promptly and carefully reviewed.

Sincerely,

Darrell Issa

Darrell Issa

cc: The Honorable Tom Davis,
Ranking Republican Member

Permanent Select Comm. on Intelligence, and Peter Hoekstra, Ranking Member, House Permanent Select Comm. on Intelligence (Sep. 16, 2008).