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July 11, 2010

Ms. Olare A. Nelson
Attorney, Disclosure Unit
U. S. Office of Special Counsel
1730 M Street, N.W. Ste. 218
Washington, DC 20036-4505

Re: OSC File No.: DI-09-2611

Dear Ms. Nelson:

Upon receipt and review of the Investigative Report from the Department of Interior dated June 7, 2010, my comments are as follows:

1. Executive Summary

¶1: There was more concerns regarding my whistleblowing then just the three (3) mentioned in this paragraph. i.e. (a) lack of adequate protective equipment; (b) improper obstruction of designated exit routes; (c) issuance of respirators without medical evaluation.

(a) Lack of Adequate Protective Equipment: after I mentioned to Gus that we didn't have the proper PPE, why didn't he informs us to where we can retrieve it or why didn't he tell us that we couldn't do the job today until we got the proper equipment. Why didn't he order us to stop instead of telling us that the job had to get done today?

(b) Improper Obstruction of Designated Exit Routes: Myself and other workers in Building 98 told Gus that chaining the emergency exit in the electrical shop is a life threaten situation months before he attempted to contract cleaning it.

(c) Issuance of Respirators without Medical Evaluation: There was a mandatory unit meeting one morning held in the Ryan Center by Pete McCarthy, Richard O'Neill, Brian Collier, Joe Greene, Gus Halouvas and Christine Hoepfner. The topic we were discussing was Health and Safety- during this meeting Michael Sullivan a long time employee, mentioned to the supervisors that we need medical clearance to wear respirators. Yet it took this case for them to recognize this issue.

2. Background

Page 9, ¶1: it states that (Mr. Greene and the Supervisors decided that a respirator program was not required for the park because jobs didn't warrant it.) But I feel that it's not the jobs that warrant it, it's the poor conditions of the buildings that make it a necessity.

¶2: contradicting paragraph prior – Superintendent Pete McCarthy determined that a mandatory use of full face or half mask respirators is required or recommended for employees in performance of routine duties.

3. Appendix A: last paragraph states: Supervisors are responsible for assuring compliance with Management Policy germane to Health and Safety Practices-why didn't Supervisor Gus Halouvas take the initiative to assure that the Health and Safety issues pointed out to him on numerous occasions by fellow employees be reconciled in a timely manor.

4. Appendix B: In the letter from OSHA dated February 3, 2009, it recognizes that the conditions found in Building 98 of excessive bird droppings may have exposed employees to dust that may be contaminated with biological hazards. These hazards have been medically linked to the illness in the form of psittacosis, cryptococcoses, and histoplasmosis. These very illnesses were addressed to Gus Halouvas on many occasions and he did nothing about prior to this case. I still feel that the employees who have been possible exposed to these medical issues should be informed and tested.

5. Page 23- A7615 (Gate-jaba) – I would like to request copies of the Inspection Citations mentioned.

6. Page 23 – last sentence states that employees exposed to area were informed orally and in writing of the ACM's on the Building 98 3rd Floor- I was never informed orally or written.

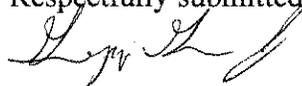
7. A2427 – (2430) dated April 26, 2010:
Second Paragraph 1: Those safety issues did not directly contribute to the incident at issue in the whistle blower complaint. My feeling is that it may not have been directly connection to my dismissal, but it may have been contributed to having to go to a higher authority since my Supervisors seem to dismiss my concerns regarding the Health and Safety.

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8. I feel that the agencies should also be investigating Gus' allegations mentioned in my termination papers, since they are all disputable and I have legitimate responses. In my initial correspondence, you will find my rebuttals to all of his allegations to my Notice of Termination (P4019(Gate-AHR)).

Should you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,



Guiseppi Grassi, Jr.