

United States Senate

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August 4, 2016

The Honorable Carolyn W. Colvin
Acting Commissioner of Social Security
Social Security Administration
6401 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21235

Dear Acting Commissioner Colvin:

On July 20, 2016, I wrote to you requesting immediate action be taken to address allegations of misconduct at the Social Security Administration's Office of Disability Adjudication and Review (ODAR) in Madison, Wisconsin. In that letter, I raised particular concern about overtly racist and sexist descriptions of claimants and other allegations of misconduct by an Administrative Law Judge.

Subsequently, I was supplied additional evidence of this judge's repugnant language used in Writing Instructions intended to guide ODAR staff in drafting formal case decisions. This evidence was forwarded to Acting Inspector General Stone on August 2, 2016, and is attached to this letter for your further review.

It has been my understanding that the Office of Inspector General is actively engaged in review of this matter. Thus, I am alarmed to learn that this judge is scheduled to hear 35 new cases next month.

My constituents working through the Social Security disability hearing process must be guaranteed a principled, impartial adjudicator. Until your office can make such a guarantee, I ask for your immediate intervention as to the hearing schedule assignments in the Madison ODAR.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

cc: The Honorable Gale Stallworth Stone
SSA Office of Inspector General