

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
August 2, 2016

COMMITTEES:  
APPROPRIATIONS  
BUDGET  
HEALTH, EDUCATION,  
LABOR, AND PENSIONS  
HOMELAND SECURITY  
AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Honorable Gale Stallworth Stone  
Acting Inspector General  
Social Security Administration  
Office of the Inspector General  
6401 Security Boulevard  
Baltimore, Maryland 21207

Dear Acting Inspector General Stone:

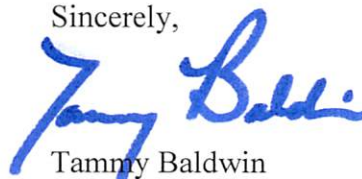
On July 20, 2016, I wrote to Acting Commissioner Colvin requesting immediate action be taken to address allegations of misconduct at the Social Security Administration's Office of Disability Adjudication and Review (ODAR) in Madison, Wisconsin. In that letter, I raised particular concern about overtly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

Prior to that correspondence to Commissioner Colvin, I wrote to your office on February 8, 2016 on behalf of my constituent, who is an employee at the Madison ODAR. This constituent filed a formal complaint with the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) Fraud Hotline on September 18, 2015, relaying concerns for internal corruption, waste, harassment and witness intimidation by an ALJ, and complete deterioration of the work environment. On February 26, 2016, then Inspector General Patrick O'Carroll, Jr. acknowledged your office received and was in the process of reviewing the complaints. It is my understanding that presently the OIG is actively engaged on this matter.

Please find attached supplemental evidence of this ALJ's abhorrent language when describing a female claimant that was recently shared with me by an employee at the Madison ODAR. It is my understanding that Writing Instructions provide guidance to ODAR staff who work to assist the ALJ in drafting formal case decisions. The notes in these instructions are not private. Obvious concern must be had for the impact such comments may have on claimant decisions and work place culture. I ask that you include this document in your investigation into this matter.

It is imperative that the Madison ODAR is a safe work environment, free from inappropriate behavior, that provides the highest-quality service to my constituents. Thank you for your ongoing efforts to address this critical matter.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator