

Senator Chuck Grassley  
135 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510



December 21, 2013

Dear Senator Grassley:

When people decide to “blow the whistle” on corruption in the federal government they risk their lives and their futures. In some cases, they may even receive death threats for their actions. When they call the whistleblower hotline it is most commonly only as a last resort after they have tried everything possible to resolve their problems internal to a corrupt bureaucracy that wants to do everything in its considerable power to avoid embarrassment and quell dissent. Generally, whistleblowers are defamed, fired and their careers ruined for simply refusing to lie.

This is only the tip of the iceberg for most whistleblowers. Most of them, in the aftermath of their whistleblowing experience never fully recover from the blow. They are viewed with suspicion, they do not get the “big jobs” and their defamation continues for a lifetime. Many of them are driven to unemployment or jobs far below their capabilities as the result of their ordeals. I know these things because of my own personal experience as a so-called “whistleblower.”

The situation we tried to bring to your attention was much bigger than a single individual or one small business. It involves the systematic violation of Article I, clause 8, of the United States Constitution itself-the copyright clause of the Constitution. To add insult to injury in this case, you sir, sit as the ranking member on the Judiciary Committee, the very Committee that considers the intellectual property laws of the nation. The problem of the theft of intellectual property by the federal agencies is widespread with hundreds and hundreds of cases of small businesses across America being driven out of business by their own government.

So, when I wrote to you and called your staff I expected two simple things: 1) the courtesy of a response, and; 2) some modicum of respect for the sacrifices that whistleblowers make for their country. Instead, I had to raise hell even to get a member of your staff on the telephone.

When I finally did get someone on the phone, your staff did not apologize for the fact that no one ever even bothered to respond to our repeated pleas for help. Remember, that we are about to lose our houses, our entire retirement savings are gone, we have had to fire our employees, one of them just lost his house, our credit ratings are destroyed, we cannot afford to buy presents for our children and grandchildren and the list goes on and on.

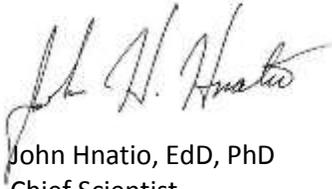
Instead, a senior member of your staff tried to defend his own failure to properly do his job respond by trying to give me meaningless excuses. Like an old farmer, I know “e-i-e-i-o” when I hear it. Instead of doing the right thing and apologizing, he tried to give me a song and dance that there weren’t enough people to answer every report of whistleblowing and that the decision to help someone is left to the discretion of each individual member of the staff. My response was, oh really? When I asked him how much he knew about my case I was surprised when he told me that he knew absolutely nothing about our repeated pleas for help except for an e-mail he just received from another member of the staff.

This, of course, is in spite of my letter to you and all of the phone calls and e-mails I sent personally to him over the past six weeks.

Your staff treated me with arrogance and failed to understand the importance of doing their jobs and using their God-given brains to distinguish the important from the unimportant. They do not have any idea of the high stakes involved in the case of whistleblowing and the importance of responding to reports by whistleblowers based on the due diligence of reading and thinking about what is provided to them. They also do not understand that they work for the American people-not the other way around.

I can only hope that you read this letter and take the actions necessary to properly manage whistleblower reports to your office.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Hnatio". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "H".

John Hnatio, EdD, PhD  
Chief Scientist