

Senator Patrick Leahy  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
437 Russell Senate Building  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510



December 31, 2013

Dear Senator Leahy:

My name is John Hnatio and I own a small business called FoodQuestTQ in the State of Maryland. At FoodQuestTQ we build risk management computer software to keep the food Americans eat safe.

The Food and Drug Administration plagiarized my doctoral dissertation, pirated my patents and stole my company's trade secrets to duplicate the products that my company was already selling to the food industry.

The FDA then re-copyrighted, as the property of the U.S. government, the products they duplicated based on my intellectual property.

The FDA is currently giving away to the food industry the products they duplicated free of charge dropping the bottom out of our sales and forcing our small company out of business.

When our attempts to try and resolve the situation with FDA hit an impasse we were forced to file a complaint with the National Ombudsman for Small Business of the Small Business Administration.

The National Ombudsman for Small Business recently provided us with documents indicating that the FDA and their parent Agency, the Department of Health and Human Services, are engaging in the "blacklisting" our small company with the food industry in retaliation for filing a complaint with the National Ombudsman.

Consequently, the National Ombudsman for Small Business referred the matter to the Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services with a request to investigate the matter. At this time, we have not heard whether the Inspector General will investigate the matter.

A short summary of the matter appears at [Attachment A](#).

A recent news story on the case appears here:

[http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2013/12/16/small-businesses-claim-us-government-stealing-their-ideas/?cmpid=cmt\\_twitter\\_fn](http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2013/12/16/small-businesses-claim-us-government-stealing-their-ideas/?cmpid=cmt_twitter_fn)

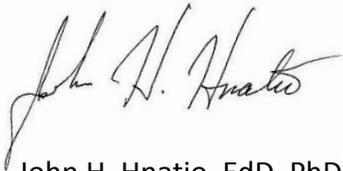
In a recent letter to Senator Mikulski we requested a formal referral of our matter to the Judiciary Committee for action.

We did this because of: 1) the Senate Judiciary Committee's jurisdiction over matters pertaining to Article I, clause 8 of the United States Constitution-the copyright clause, and; 2) pervasive evidence of government fraud, waste and abuse.

A copy of our letter to Senator Mikulski appears at [Attachment B](#).

We respectfully request that the Senate Judiciary Committee act to preserve the Constitutional rights of Americans and prevent the unfair competition by the Federal government against small businesses across America. Thank-you.

Sincerely yours,

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

John H. Hnatio, EdD, PhD  
Chief Science Officer

cc:

Senator Chuck Grassley  
Senator Barbara Mikulski  
Representative John Delaney  
Representative Rob Wittman  
Representative John Mica  
Representative Tim Murphy  
Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary, HHS  
Dan Levinson, Inspector General-HHS  
Margaret Hamburg, Commissioner, FDA  
Brian Castro, NOSB-SBA