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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6275

March 14, 2002

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to you regarding FBI Agent Robert Wright. Mr. Wright is assisting my staff and me with an oversight investigation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and its counter-terrorism performance both before and after September 11, 2001.

As ranking member of the Subcommittee on Crime and Drugs of the Judiciary Committee, I conduct continual oversight of the FBI and its activities. As a U.S. Senator, I have made protecting whistleblowers a priority, and I will not tolerate retaliation against or interference with a whistleblower or a person cooperating with a Congressional investigation.

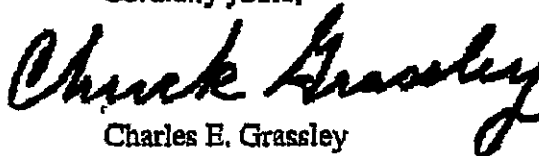
Federal law provides individuals who are assisting a Congressional investigation protection from retaliation. In addition, Federal law states:

Whoever corruptly, or by threats or force or by any threatening letter or communication influences, obstructs, or impedes or endeavors to influence, obstruct, or impede the due and proper administration of the law under which any pending proceeding is being had before any department or agency of the United States, or the due and proper exercise of the power or inquiry under which any inquiry or investigation is being had by either House, or any committee of either House or any joint committee of the Congress - Shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.

See 18 USCS 1505 (partial cite).

I have instructed Mr. Wright and his attorney, David Schippers, to contact me if they have any concerns in regards to retaliation. If you have any questions regarding this matter, you may contact John Drake of my staff at (202) 224-5315.

Cordially yours,



Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Crime and Drugs

cc: David Schippers
Via facsimile: (312) 419-6688