



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005

INSPECTOR GENERAL
FOR TAX
ADMINISTRATION

July 15, 2016

Alfred J. Lechner, Jr.
President & CEO
Cause of Action Institute
1875 Eye Street, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Mr. Lechner:

This letter is in response to your June 29, 2016, correspondence to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration. In your correspondence, you state that on March 9, 2016, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) responded to a Freedom of Information Act request submitted by the Cause of Action Institute on October 9, 2012, seeking records related to the potential disclosure of taxpayer records. In their response, the IRS provided records indicating that more than 1.1 million pages of return information were disclosed in October 2010, to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) Public Integrity Section, who inspected that information.

Further, the information provided by the IRS showed that between 2009 and 2012, neither the FBI nor DOJ submitted the statutorily-required requests for the disclosure of such sensitive return information. In your correspondence, you request an investigation into the possible unauthorized disclosure of confidential tax information by the IRS.

We are conducting a review of this matter and upon completion, to the extent allowable under the law, we will advise you of the results. Thank you for sharing your concerns and for bringing this matter to our attention. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (202) 927-7160, or have a member of your staff contact Mr. David Barnes, Acting Congressional Liaison, at (202) 622-3062.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy P. Camus".

Timothy P. Camus
Deputy Inspector General
for Investigations