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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

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MAJORITY (202) 225-5074
FACSIMILE (202) 225-3974
MINORITY (202) 225-5051

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April 11, 2011

Mr. Charles E. Haldeman, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer
Freddie Mac
8200 Jones Branch Drive
McLean, VA 22102-3110

Dear Mr. Haldeman:

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is investigating widespread allegations of abuse by mortgage loan servicing companies and attorneys engaged to prepare documents associated with foreclosure actions. Recent media reports indicate that the law firm of Shapiro & Burson has been accused of improperly preparing deeds associated with foreclosure cases and that Freddie Mac "has instructed its mortgage servicers to stop referring foreclosure cases to Shapiro & Burson."¹ In fact, it appears that Freddie Mac has removed this firm from its Designated Counsel/Trustee list for the state of Maryland.²

I am writing to request that Freddie Mac produce the following documents relating to this matter:

- (1) the results of any investigation Freddie Mac may have conducted into the firm's actions;
- (2) the number of foreclosure cases involving Freddie Mac-backed loans for which Shapiro & Burson prepared legal documents;
- (3) the results of any reviews Freddie Mac has conducted of any of the individual foreclosure cases handled by the firm;
- (4) the total amounts paid by Freddie Mac to the firm on an annual basis;

¹ *Shapiro & Burson No Longer a Freddie Mac Recommended Foreclosure Law Firm*, Baltimore Sun (Mar. 31, 2011).

² Freddie Mac Designated Counsel/Trustee List (accessed April 11, 2011) (online at www.freddiemac.com/service/msp/pdf/designcounsel.pdf).

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- (5) billing records associated with payments made to the firm from January 1, 2011, to March 31, 2011;
- (6) all documents pertaining to Freddie Mac's decision to include the firm Shapiro & Burson on the Designated Counsel/Trustee list; and
- (7) all documents pertaining to Freddie Mac's decision to remove this firm from the Designated Counsel/Trustee list or otherwise suspend or terminate work with the firm.

I request that you provide this information as soon as possible, but in no case later than April 29, 2011. When producing documents to the Committee, please deliver production sets to the minority staff in Room 2471 of the Rayburn House Office Building and the majority staff in Room 2157 of the Rayburn House Office Building. The Committee prefers, if possible, to receive all documents in electronic format. If you have any questions, please contact Lucinda Lessley with the Committee staff at (202) 225-5051.

Sincerely,


Elijah E. Cummings
Ranking Member

cc: The Honorable Darrell E. Issa, Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform