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# United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON  
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

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May 17, 2010

The Honorable Martha N. Johnson  
Administrator  
U.S. General Services Administration  
1800 F Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20405

Dear Administrator Johnson:

At least one media report indicates that the General Services Administration (GSA), on behalf of the United States Census Bureau, may have leased office space in Fairfax County, Virginia owned by the Dar Al-Hijrah Islamic Center.

Please provide answers to the following questions:

1. Did GSA enter into a lease with the Dar Al-Hijrah Islamic Center, or an affiliated entity, on behalf of the U.S. Census Bureau, or any other government entity?
2. If so, was GSA aware of any derogatory information relating to the Dar Al-Hijrah Islamic Center, including any activities relating to support to terrorist organizations or immigration violations?
3. Explain how GSA verifies that a potential landlord has not engaged in prohibited conduct related to terrorism or other unlawful matters or whether the landlord has other questionable ties to terrorist organizations or their supporters.
4. Were these vetting procedures followed in this case? If so, was derogatory information regarding the landlord discovered or were mitigating factors considered that would otherwise qualify the landlord to do business with the government?
5. If derogatory information was discovered indicating law enforcement or immigration concerns with the landlord, did GSA consult the Federal Bureau of Investigation or the Department of Homeland Security before awarding the lease?
6. Does GSA intend to change its process for verifying potential landlords before entering into future leases?
7. Have you discussed the present lease with the Census Bureau, and if so, what action does GSA intend to take?

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions about this request, please contact me directly or have your staff contact Amanda Wood on the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee staff at (202) 224-4751.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins  
U.S. Senator

Cc: The Honorable Robert Groves  
Director  
U.S. Census Bureau