

FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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May 19, 2016

The Honorable George Holding
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Representative Holding:

The Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA) – the nation's largest non-partisan professional association, representing more than 26,000 active and retired federal law enforcement officers from every federal law enforcement agency – applauds the introduction of new legislation to distinctly create a Bureau of Criminal Investigation within main Treasury and transfer the functions of the Criminal Investigation Division (CI) from under the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to this new Bureau.

The CI is the only federal law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over violations of federal tax laws and shares jurisdiction over money laundering and bank secrecy act violations. It is because of these unique authorities that the CI cannot be treated as just another operating division within the large civil IRS bureaucracy.

Currently, the CI makes up about 4% of the IRS, but with over 2300 special agents and more than 3200 employees, it is the 6th largest federal law enforcement agency within the federal government.

While the CI is the law enforcement arm of the IRS, it has vastly different needs and responsibilities from those of the civil operating divisions and offices that make up the majority of the agency.

By realigning CI within main Treasury, it will enable this division to focus the Treasury Department's law enforcement efforts on high priority criminal violations involving identity theft, cyber-crime, international tax fraud, terrorist financing, public corruption, offshore money laundering and other high impact financial crimes.

This will also enable the Deputy Commissioner, whose main priority is taxpayer service and tax collection, to dedicate his or her attention to those areas, without the additional task of overseeing operational needs of a federal law enforcement agency.

We thank you for your leadership on this important issue and please do not hesitate to contact me if we can provide you with any additional assistance.

Respectfully yours,

Nathan R. Catura

Nathan R. Catura

National President