From: Lerner Lois G

Sent: Friday, May 10, 2013 3:21 PM

To: Flax Nikole C; Eldridge Michelle L; Lemons Terry L; Marks Nancy J

Subject: RE: Proposed answers: Washington Post Editorial Board

It isn't the balance I am focused on --it's the idea that we know --that sounds like we track it and we don't. Doesn't look good if it looks like we check to see what side of the aisle an org is on.

Lois G. Lerner

Director of Exempt Organizations

From: Flax Nikole C

Sent: Friday, May 10, 2013 4:17 PM

To: Lerner Lois G; Eldridge Michelle L; Lemons Terry L; Marks Nancy J **Subject:** RE: Proposed answers: Washington Post Editorial Board

(b)(5)

From: Lerner Lois G

Sent: Friday, May 10, 2013 4:09 PM

To: Flax Nikole C; Eldridge Michelle L; Lemons Terry L

Subject: RE: Proposed answers: Washington Post Editorial Board

I can't confirm that there was anyone on the other side of the political spectrum --I think that sentence presumes we keep track of which side of the aisle an or falls --we don't. The one with names used were only know because that have been very loud in the press. I think that line is dangerous

Lois G. Lerner

Director of Exempt Organizations

From: Flax Nikole C

Sent: Friday, May 10, 2013 3:44 PM

To: Lerner Lois G; Eldridge Michelle L; Lemons Terry L

Subject: FW: Proposed answers: Washington Post Editorial Board

(b)(5)

From: Flax Nikole C

Sent: Friday, May 10, 2013 3:35 PM

To: Eldridge Michelle L; Vozne Jennifer L; Lemons Terry L; Miller Steven T

Cc: Patterson Dean J

Subject: RE: Proposed answers: Washington Post Editorial Board

(b)(5)

From: Eldridge Michelle L

Sent: Friday, May 10, 2013 3:15 PM

To: Flax Nikole C; Vozne Jennifer L; Lemons Terry L

Cc: Patterson Dean J

Subject: Proposed answers: Washington Post Editorial Board

Here is the proposed answer based on our discussion. Comments or concerns?

Proposed answer:

Here is our full statement. I have also answered your questions below.

IRS Statement



From: Stromberg, Stephen W [mailto:stephen.stromberg@wpost.com]

Sent: Friday, May 10, 2013 1:46 PM

To: Burke Anthony

Subject: From Washington Post Editorial Board

Hi –

I am writing an on-deadline editorial on the Tea Party/IRS issue, filing by 4:30 p.m. at the latest. At the moment, I have three questions:

Why weren't there protections in place to ensure that selecting out groups of a particular political stripe was not possible? What procedures are in place now to prevent this, both in the tax -exempt office and elsewhere in the IRS?



Who has led the investigation into this episode? Is someone else inside or outside of the IRS going to investigate further?

Thanks in advance.

Best, Steve Stromberg

Steve Stromberg Editorial Writer The Washington Post Office: 202.334.6370 Cell: 310.770.6646