From:

Weich, Ron (OLA)

To:

Reich, Steven (ODAG); Burton, Faith (OLA); Colborn, Paul P (OLC); Ramirez, Monica (ODAG)

CC:

Schmaler, Tracy (OPA); Richardson, Margaret (OAG)

Sent:

Subject:

9/14/2011 12:50:21 PM conversation with Castor --

As we discussed this AM. I called him to complain about the chairman's most recent unwarranted public statements about the AG. I noted that the comments were especially offensive in light of the extraordinary cooperation we are providing to the committee, as evidenced by the ATF briefing yesterday.

He responded, in essence, that he doesn't script the chairman. He didn't defend Issa's statement, but he explained it by saying that the chairman was angered by the AG's public statement last week which suggested that some members have political motivations for focusing on F+F. He also said Issa is frustrated by the fact that he has not yet received documents in response to the "dirty dozen" letter (no mention of USAO letter). I assured him we are working diligently on those, but I said insulting public statements undermine our efforts to work with them constructively.

He expressed appreciation for the ATF briefing, said it was very useful, and acknowledged that it was beyond what we usually do with respect to oversight.