



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
INSPECTOR GENERAL
WASHINGTON DC 20420

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NOV 16

Henry A. Waxman, M.C.
District Office

NOV 16, 2009

The Honorable Henry A. Waxman
Member, United States House
of Representatives
8436 West Third Street, Suite 600
Los Angeles, California 90048

Dear Congressman Waxman:

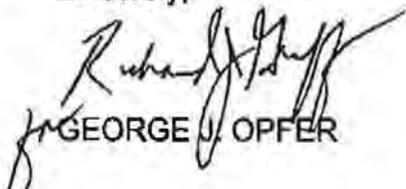
This is in response to your October 27, 2009, letter regarding the closure of the golf course located on the property of the West Los Angeles Healthcare System (WLAHS) in Los Angeles, California.

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) conducted an investigation of the theft of revenue from the golf course. This investigation resulted in a pleading of no contest to grand theft by one individual and agreement to donate \$45,000 to the WLAHS. Under exemption 7A of the Freedom of Information Act, (5 U.S.C. §552 (b)(7)(A)), we are withholding any reports of our investigation because this matter is still considered an open case since the individual will not be sentenced until August 2010. Exemption 7A authorizes the withholding of records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes but only to the extent that release of the information could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings.

However, with regard to the closing of the golf course, the OIG did not request or suggest that the golf course be closed during this investigation. Any decision regarding the operations of the golf course was made by officials at the Veterans Health Administration. They would be the appropriate officials to address your concerns about the use of the course.

Thank you for your interest in the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Sincerely,


for GEORGE J. OFFER