

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, April 28, 2010 8:02 PM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: Bridgepoint investigation

(b)(6) we spoke earlier today. I am with the AES (www.eally.org) I am not with bridgepoint and have no relationship with them. I didn't call you for information. I called to provide information to you about facts that you have not discovered and the laws that have been broken. I certainly hope you were acting when you made it seem as if you didn't know anything about the doe's 5 years old investigation into ashford. It would be scandalous if you didnt. This matter is too serious for acting and aes is very concerning about the way you handled the call.

More importantly, I called you to tell you that the methods you used for identifying the size of the illegal incentive compensation at bridgepoint are deficient. The information you have provided is incomplete and grossly underestimates the severity and frequency of brigdepoint's violations. Thus oig's report is adverse to the interest of taxpayers, harmful to the negotiations between the fed student loan and bridgepoint and unless corrected will result in a settlement that is not remedial and sanctions that provide an incentive and inducement to increase the amount of fraud and abuse in the title iv program.

Bridgepoint is as a matter of law and fact stealing millions of dollars from taxpayer every business day, and harming students in the process.

Please call me at (b)(6). Thank you.

Alliance For Economic Stability, Inc.
747 Third Avenue, 25th Floor
New York, New York 10017

July 1, 2010

Arne Duncan, Secretary
U.S. Department of Education
LBJ Education Building
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Room # 7W311
Washington, DC 20202

Dear Secretary Duncan:

We have written you and Inspector General Kathleen Tighe concerning the failure of the Department of Education's ("DOE") Office of Inspector General to design a proper audit and investigation of Bridgepoint Education, Inc.'s ("BPI") incentive compensation scheme. We recently wrote a report showing that Ms. Tighe has wrongfully¹ expressed an inability to protect the Federal Student Aid ("FSA") program from incentive compensation abuses. This is apparently the result of either some bias, conflict or influence that is allowed to affect discretion (which is not known to us) or complacency.

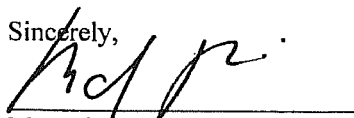
The below statements were extracted from Senator Dick Durbin's Speech on "For-Profit Colleges and Federal Student Aid: Preventing Financial Abuses" given on June 30, 2010 at the National Press Club.

"In many for-profit schools, recruiters' salaries are determined by how many students they sign up....The goal seems to be to bring in as many students as possible – regardless of their ability to succeed or graduate – load them up with loans, and leave taxpayers on the hook if students default....The big for-profit colleges spend more than a quarter of their revenue on advertising and marketing. To compare, McDonald's only spends 3 percent of its revenues on advertising."

If the Inspector General's BPI audit is not properly designed and executed, then the changes and sanctions that the FSA will be able to obtain will not remediate the abuse, and will only embolden BPI's peers to violate the law.

The AES is available for any further assistance in this regard. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Manuel F. Asensio
Director, President and
Chief Executive Officer

¹ Ms. Tighe misstated the success of qui tam lawsuits when compared to the DOE's results despite the DOE's far greater resources and direct authority in Congressional testimony.