

# United States Senate

September 23, 2004

The Honorable Paul Wolfowitz  
Deputy Secretary of Defense  
1000 Defense Pentagon  
Washington D.C. 20301-1000

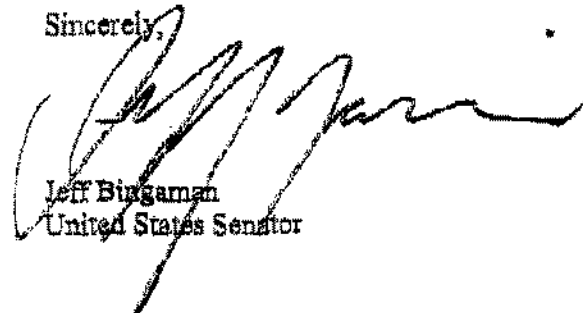
Dear Deputy Secretary Wolfowitz:

I am writing regarding one of my constituents, Richard Barlow, who, was employed as an intelligence officer in the Office of the Secretary of Defense during your tenure as Under Secretary of Defense in 1989. Mr. Barlow was falsely accused by an OSD co-worker of "intending" to provide classified intelligence information to a member of the House Intelligence Committee. Since that time, Mr. Barlow has been exonerated and his accuser's accounts have been proven false. Yet Mr. Barlow has suffered irreparable harm to his personal and professional life.

Mr. Barlow has recently approached me asking for the retirement benefits that he lost as a result of his whistle blowing activity. I think that this is a reasonable request and fully warranted; Mr. Barlow would have almost certainly continued as a federal employee and would now be eligible for retirement from the federal service in the "6c" retirement system that Secretary Cheney personally placed him in back in 1991 as part of a settlement proposal.

I request that you consider granting full retirement benefits under the "6c" retirement system for law enforcement officers as a GS-13. Further, I request that all 24 years of his service, including the last 13 years as a consultant to the federal government be counted towards his 6c retirement as if he had remained a full-time employee.

Sincerely,



Jeff Bingaman  
United States Senator

JB/dmm