

MEMORANDUM

TO: Reporters and Editors
RE: FDA Criminal Division
DA: Thursday, March 4, 2010

Senator Chuck Grassley issued the comment below about a newly released report of the Government Accountability Office regarding the criminal division of the Food and Drug Administration. Grassley requested the review, in 2009, in response to allegations about lax standards and poor accountability in the criminal division. The senator has conducted extensive oversight of the FDA's performance and he has worked to hold federal officials accountable for mismanagement.

The report is posted with this memo at <http://finance.senate.gov> and <http://grassley.senate.gov>. Also posted with the report is a letter from the FDA Commissioner to Grassley regarding agency plans to respond to the shortcomings identified by the GAO.

Senator Grassley's comment:

“This report has made a difference already by securing a much needed commitment from the Commissioner to make the FDA's investigative unit live up to its significant responsibilities. There's no excuse for the fact that this division's failures have gone unchecked for years, and having the FDA leadership focused on fixing what's broken is the first, very important step needed.”