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United States Government Accountability Office  
Washington, DC 20548

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October 16, 2006

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Chairman, Committee on Finance  
United States Senate

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letters dated September 19, 2006, asking the Government Accountability Office to review issues regarding the Securities and Exchange Commission, including its oversight of self-regulatory organizations and the operations of its Enforcement Division and its Office of Compliance, Inspection, and Examination, including its district field offices.

GAO accepts these requests as work that is within the scope of its authority with a clarification. As agreed with Ms. Emilia DiSanto of your staff, you are willing to consider requests from committees or subcommittees of jurisdiction who may ask to be added as co-sponsors of this work.

The requests have been assigned to Mr. Richard J. Hillman, Managing Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment team, who has staff available to begin both engagements immediately. Mr. Hillman or a member of his team will contact Ms. Emilia DiSanto to discuss the requests, your needs, and the engagements' objectives, scope, and methodology in accordance with GAO's protocols.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Hillman at 202-512-8678 or Ms. Beth Sirois, Assistant Director for Congressional Relations, on my staff at 202-512-8989.

Sincerely yours,

Gloria L. Jarmon  
Managing Director for  
Congressional Relations

Cc: The Honorable Richard C. Shelby  
Chairman  
The Honorable Paul S. Sarbanes  
Ranking Minority Member  
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs  
United States Senate

The Honorable Michael G. Oxley  
Chairman  
The Honorable Barney Frank  
Ranking Minority Member  
Committee on Financial Services  
House of Representatives

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