



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

February 13, 2025

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

The Honorable Ron Wyden
United States Senate
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
United States Senate
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Raphael Warnock
U.S. Senate
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Ben Ray Lujan
United States Senate
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse
U.S. Senate
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Ruben Gallego
United States Senate
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Bernard Sanders
United States Senate
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Lisa Blunt Rochester
United States Senate
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Tina Smith
United States Senate
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Jack Reed
United States Senate
Washington DC 20510

Via email to 

Dear Senators:

Thank you for your letter of February 7, 2025, in which you express urgent concerns regarding recent reports that unauthorized individuals have gained access to protected government networks and sensitive, potentially classified data.

On February 6, 2025, we initiated an audit related to the Bureau of the Fiscal Service's (Fiscal Service) sensitive payment systems, with the objectives to

- (1) determine the adequacy of controls in place for granting or restricting access to Fiscal Service's sensitive payment systems,
- (2) determine the adequacy of controls in place to ensure payments are made in accordance with laws, regulations, and federal guidance, and
- (3) follow up on any allegations of improper or fraudulent payments made by Fiscal Service.

The scope of this audit will cover a review of applicable payment system controls in place from October 1, 2024, to present, as well as the recent two fiscal years as it relates to alleged fraudulent payments. We expect to begin our fieldwork immediately. Given the breadth of this effort, the audit will likely not be completed until August; however, we recognize the danger that improper access or inadequate controls can pose to the integrity of sensitive payment systems. As such, if critical issues come to light before that time, we will issue interim updates and reports. We anticipate we will be able to more fully respond to your inquiry as we embark upon our work.

As you are aware, the Internal Revenue Service also maintains highly sensitive information in its systems, disclosures of which are restricted by 26 U.S.C. 6103. We are coordinating with the Treasury Office of Inspector General for Tax Administration regarding those systems. In addition, we are aware that the Government Accountability Office has initiated work in this area, and we will also coordinate with its representatives.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L J Scieurba". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Loren J. Scieurba
Deputy Inspector General