

**News and Information**

Government, Community and Public Affairs  
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June 17, 2008

Mr. Neil Gordon  
Project on Government Oversight  
Suite 900  
666 11th St. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001-4542

Dear Mr. Gordon:

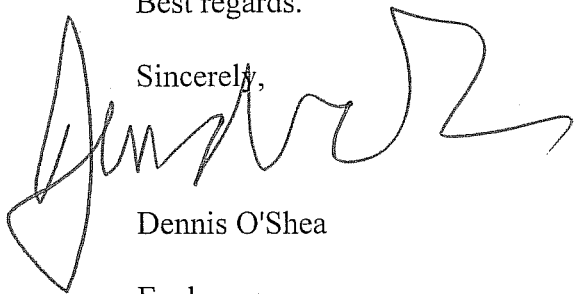
Your letter of June 4 addressed to Johns Hopkins University was routed to me. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your proposed additions to your database regarding Johns Hopkins.

We have looked at the items you sent and have a number of corrective amendments to suggest, which we submit with the enclosed copy of your letter. On items 1, 3, 4 and 5, we provide suggested revised corrective wording for you to consider. On item 2, we suggest a complete rewrite, since the entire basis of the item is incorrect. We explain why it is incorrect on the copy enclosed and also enclose a copy of a 2003 news release explaining the outcome of the Medicare audit in question.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide you with this information.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

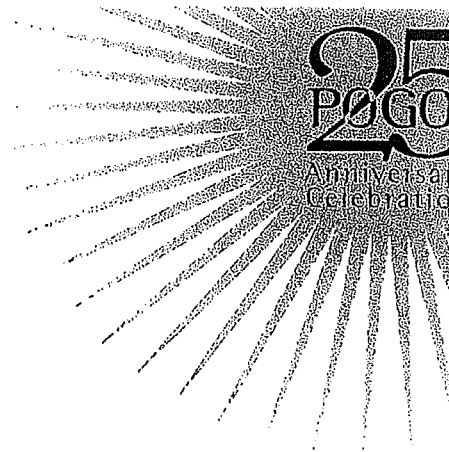
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis O'Shea", written over the word "Sincerely,".

Dennis O'Shea

Enclosure

# Project On Government Oversight

Exposing Corruption Exploring Solutions [www.POGO.org](http://www.POGO.org)



June 4, 2008

Johns Hopkins University  
3400 N. Charles St.  
Baltimore, MD 21218

Dear Sir or Madam:

Sometime in the next few weeks, the Project On Government Oversight (POGO) will update its Federal Contractor Misconduct Database (<http://www.contractormisconduct.org/>), a compilation of information from public resources regarding government contractors, including Johns Hopkins University. I have enclosed the findings relevant to your company, and I am seeking verification of this data.

Any response would be greatly appreciated, as the accuracy of this information is in the best interest of all parties. Out of fairness to Johns Hopkins University, please be assured that any response received by POGO will be posted on the website along with the data.

The biggest change we will be making to the database is the inclusion of more federal contractors (the top 100). We are also adding new instances that we have found in recent months and updating instances already in the database with new information. Please note that the database also includes pending instances, but these are kept separate from resolved instances and are not included in the totals.

If you have any questions, I can be reached at (202) 347-1122. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neil Gordon'.

Neil Gordon  
Investigator

Enclosure

666 Eleventh Street, NW  
Suite 900  
Washington, DC  
20001 4592  
Phone: 202-347-1122  
Fax: 202-347-1116

[www.POGO.org](http://www.POGO.org)  
[pogo@pogo.org](mailto:pogo@pogo.org)

Instances

1. Erroneous Grant Charges

Date: 02/26/2004 (Date of Settlement Announcement)

Misconduct Type: Government Grant Fraud

Enforcement Agency: Health and Human Servs.

Contracting Party: Health and Human Servs.

Court Type: Civil

Amount: \$2,664,155

Disposition: Settlement

Synopsis: Johns Hopkins settled civil claims by the U.S. Department of Justice related to the administration of NIH clinical research and other services grants at its Bayview Medical Center, from January 1994 through December 2001. The case concerned allegations that there were erroneous charges to certain grants performed at Bayview with respect to the allocation of personnel time and the calculation of fringe benefits. As part of the settlement, Hopkins agreed to pay \$2,076,882 in addition to \$587,273 already paid.

*which is a separate legal entity,*  
*the University denied any liability.*

2. Medicare Fraud Audit

Date: 02/14/2003 (Date of Settlement Announcement)

Misconduct Type: Government Contract Fraud Audit

Enforcement Agency: Health and Human Servs.

Contracting Party: Health and Human Servs.

Court Type: ~~Civil~~ None

Amount: \$800,000

Disposition: Settlement

Synopsis: Inspector General Janet Rehnquist and the United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, Thomas DiBiagio, entered into an \$800,000 settlement agreement with Johns Hopkins to resolve charges of fraudulent Medicare billings. The settlement resolved a federal investigation under the False Claims Act arising from alleged false or improper billings for the services of teaching physicians to beneficiaries of the Medicare program covering calendar year 1994. The government alleged Johns Hopkins submitted or caused the submission of false claims to the Medicare program on behalf of certain faculty physicians without documentation to show that they -- and not interns or residents -- were personally involved in providing the claimed services.

*There was no charge of fraud. This was a settlement of issues that arose in an audit, see attached statement. The University denied liability.*

*(of individual)*

3. Failure to Comply With Ethics Policies

Date: 05/22/2007 (Date of Resignation)

Misconduct Type: Ethics

Enforcement Agency: ~~Non-Governmental~~ None

Contracting Party: None

Court Type: N/A

Amount: \$0

Disposition: ~~Administrative Agreement~~ Resignation

Synopsis: Ellen Frishberg, a former financial aid director at Johns Hopkins University, resigned after it was discovered she had accepted thousands of dollars from several lending industry companies during her tenure, including \$65,000 from a lending company she had urged students

*This relates to an individual, not the University itself.*

*that appeared on a list of lenders.*

to use. Frishberg admitted taking payments from or working on advisory committees for various lenders. See related Johns Hopkins University instance, "Financial Aid Conflicts of Interest."

4. Financial Aid Conflicts of Interest

Date: 06/14/2007 (Date of Announcement)

Misconduct Type: Ethics

Enforcement Agency: State/Local

Contracting Party: None

Court Type: ~~Administrative~~ None

Amount: ~~\$1,125,000~~ See below

Disposition: Settlement

Synopsis: As part of an ongoing nationwide probe of the \$85 billion a year student loan industry, the New York State Attorney General's Office reached a settlement with Johns Hopkins University addressing improper transactions between financial aid officials and student loan companies. The Attorney General found former Johns Hopkins financial aid director Ellen Frishberg improperly promoted lender Student Loan Xpress, which had paid her more than \$65,000 in consulting fees and tuition payments. Under the settlement, Johns Hopkins will pay \$1.125 million. See related Johns Hopkins University instance, "Failure to Comply With Ethics Policies."

*alleged threat*

*allegedly*

*via*

*via*

Pending Instances

Fischer v. The Johns Hopkins University (Gender Discrimination)

Date: 04/28/2008 (Date of Filing)

Misconduct Type: Labor

Enforcement Agency: Non-Governmental

Contracting Party: None

Court Type: Civil

Amount: \$0

Disposition: Pending

Synopsis: Dr. Anne C. Fischer, a former professor at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, is suing the school and two of her supervisors, claiming a "long-standing pattern of gender discrimination, sex-based bullying, and harassment" forced her to leave her job.

*contribute \$502,100 to an educational fund and will spend within 5 years \$502,100 to benefit Maryland high school students and their parents regarding financial aid. The University denied any liability.*