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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE,  
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JOHN KEAST, STAFF DIRECTOR  
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January 24, 2020

The Honorable Calvin L. Scovel, III  
Inspector General  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Inspector General Scovel,

As part of my ongoing investigation regarding aviation safety, I have received concerning allegations from a whistleblower employed by the FAA in Honolulu, Hawaii. The whistleblower, Mr. Joseph Monfort, alleges egregious misconduct by FAA managers. Misconduct reported to my investigative staff includes authorities improperly issued to pilots and check-airmen, management direction to alter investigative reports, and management retaliation for making protected disclosures. Mr. Monfort's description of events includes multiple fatal helicopter accidents which followed his reports of safety compliance concerns and subsequent attempts to enforce compliance. He further claims his efforts were circumvented by FAA management.

Given the seriousness of these allegations and their implications for aviation safety, I respectfully request you thoroughly investigate these matters. I would appreciate periodic updates on the status of your investigation, as appropriate. Please contact Robert Turner or Steven Wall of the majority staff for additional detailed information.

Sincerely,



Roger F. Wicker  
Chairman