

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 18, 2008

The Honorable Michael Mukasey
Attorney General
U. S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Mukasey:

We are writing to request that the Department of Justice review the reports of recent investigations by the Department of Veterans Affairs into deaths at the Marion VA Medical Center to determine if criminal charges are warranted. Several investigations at the facility uncovered incompetent mismanagement and fatally inadequate health care. Investigations by both the Medical Inspector's Office and the Inspector General's Office discovered that substandard healthcare directly resulted in the deaths of at least nine veterans.

We strongly believe these serious circumstances at the facility warrant the DOJ's consideration. In addition, it will provide needed closure to the community affected by these tragic events. We would like to request that all investigations of the facility, including reports from the Administrative Board Investigations, the Medical Inspector's Office, the Inspector General's Office, and the Office of Resource Management, be reviewed. We appreciate your consideration of this very important issue. Please notify us whether you will review the Department of Veterans Affairs' investigations into deaths at the Marion VA Medical Center to determine if criminal charges are warranted. Due to the gravity of this issue, we would appreciate a response as soon as possible, and in no case later than September 30, 2008.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



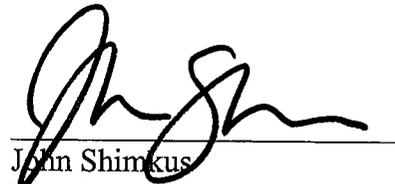
Richard J. Durbin
U.S. Senator



Barack Obama
U.S. Senator



Jerry F. Costello
Member of Congress



John Shimkus
Member of Congress