



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Professional Responsibility

950 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W. Room 3266  
Washington, D.C. 20530

JAN - 5 2012

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-0203

Dear Senator Murkowski:

We received your November 23, 2011 letter to the Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) and the Office of the Inspector General requesting that OPR initiate a formal inquiry into the Department of Justice's handling of the investigation and prosecution of Bill Allen on charges of transporting a minor from Seattle to Anchorage for immoral and exploitative purposes.

OPR has jurisdiction to investigate allegations of misconduct involving Department attorneys that relate to the exercise of their authority to investigate, litigate, and provide legal advice. We have initiated a preliminary inquiry into the potential misconduct allegations you have raised, and you will be notified when our determination is complete.

Thank you for bringing this matter to our attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Bradley Weinsheimer".

G. Bradley Weinsheimer  
Acting Counsel

cc: Cynthia A. Schnedar, Esq.  
Acting Inspector General  
Office of Inspector General

Ronald Weich  
Assistant Attorney General  
Office of Legislative Affairs