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## **House Committee On Ways And Means Holds A Hearing On The Irs And Conservative Groups**

TRANSCRIPT

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### **Transcript: Rep. Dave Camp Holds A Hearing On The IRS And Conservative Groups**

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TRANSCRIPT

May 17, 2013

COMMITTEE HEARING

REP. DAVE CAMP

CHAIRMAN

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

WASHINGTON, D.C.

REP. DAVE CAMP HOLDS A HEARING ON THE IRS AND CONSERVATIVE GROUPS

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MILLER: Wolin.

JENKINS: And how did that conversation go? What did Treasury have to say?

MILLER: We just talked through the -- the troubling nature of the reports. I indicated that we had worked on fixing the problem. And that's what we talked about.

JENKINS: They didn't give you any advice and counsel on how to move forward?

MILLER: No.

JENKINS: OK.

Mr. George...

GEORGE: Yes?

JENKINS: How often do you meet with Treasury leadership and IRS leadership regarding open audits?

GEORGE: With the IRS leadership, we meet monthly with the commissioner or acting commissioner on a standing basis and then we'll have communications as necessary.

The secretary holds a monthly meeting with the bureau heads. And in conjunction with those meetings I met monthly with the general counsel of the Department of the Treasury, and then on an as-needed basis with the deputy secretary, Mr. Wolin.

JENKINS: OK. When did you first alert Treasury leadership and IRS leadership about this specific audit?

GEORGE: I alerted the commissioner, then-Commissioner Shulman, on May 30th, 2012. I subsequently alerted the general counsel of the Department of the Treasury on June 4th, and subsequently -- and I do not have the exact date -- alerted the deputy secretary, Neal Wolin about this matter. And then, upon assumption in -- into the position, I mentioned it to Secretary Lew.

JENKINS: OK. So, May 30th would have been the first time that Mr. Shulman what have known about the troubling allegations?

GEORGE: From my perspective, I would assume that people within the Internal Revenue Service would have gave him a heads up about this troubling mater, but I can't say that for certain.

JENKINS: OK. In your report, you indicate that the decisions to target Americans based on political beliefs were made only within the IRS. How did you determine that?

GEORGE: These were through interviews with IRS staffers both in Cincinnati, Ohio, as well as in Washington, D.C., at the headquarters of the Determinations Unit and their and their -- the Exempt Organizations Unit.

JENKINS: So, did you interview Mr. Miller?

GEORGE: We did not interview Mr. Miller.

GEORGE: So, how would you know or did you interview anyone at Treasury?

GEORGE: We did not. And -- and the reason for that is because at that time of our interviews, we had no indication, because this was an ongoing matter and we didn't have any indication from those initial interviews that they were implicated in this matter.

JENKINS: So, had anyone given you any indication that you needed to visit with someone higher, you -- you would have...

GEORGE: Most...

JENKINS: ... had the authority to?

GEORGE: Most definitely.

CAMP: All right. Time has expired.

Mr. Paulsen is recognized.

PAULSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.