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July 6, 2011

The Honorable Ron Bloom
Assistant to the President for Manufacturing Policy
Executive Office of the President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Bloom:

The Oversight and Government Reform Committee considers the veracity of witness testimony essential to conducting serious oversight of the federal government and how taxpayers' dollars are spent.

We want to give you an opportunity to clarify a series of statements that you made under oath before the Committee's Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs, Stimulus Oversight and Government Spending on June 22, 2011, if necessary. During that hearing, you had the following exchange with Representative Dan Burton:

Rep. Burton: Well did you say this at a dinner? There was a dinner and it was reported by David Shepardson, Washington correspondent for the *Detroit News*. At a farewell dinner of the Auto Task Force held in the restaurant Rosa Mexicano in late July 2009 that you allegedly said "I did this all for the unions."

Mr. Bloom: No I did not say that.

Rep. Burton: You didn't say that?

Mr. Bloom: No sir.

Rep. Burton: So, you were misquoted?

Mr. Bloom: That's correct.

Rep. Burton: Well I'm going to call that guy up and ask him if you said that. You know that you are under oath here?

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Mr. Bloom: I'm fully aware.

Rep. Burton: You made no comment like that at all?


Mr. Bloom: No sir.¹

Despite your five denials, two independent sources documented you saying these words. David Shepardson wrote in the *Detroit News* on November 24, 2009, that you said you "did this all for the unions."² Furthermore, Steven Rattner—your former boss at the Auto Task Force—wrote in *Overhaul: An Insider's Account of the Obama Administration's Emergency Rescue of the Auto Industry*, that at a "celebratory dinner" at Rosa Mexicano on July 21, 2009, that you said "I did this all for the unions!"³

It appears that either a respected reporter and your former boss in the Obama Administration have both given inaccurate accounts of your comments to the public, or your testimony was not completely truthful. Therefore, if you would like to amend or clarify your testimony for the record, we encourage you to do so as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Darrell Issa
Chairman



Dan Burton
Member of Congress

Jim Jordan
Chairman
Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs,
Stimulus Oversight and Government Spending

cc: The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, Ranking Minority Member

The Honorable Dennis Kucinich, Ranking Minority Member
Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs, Stimulus Oversight and Government Spending

¹ Hearing Before House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs, Stimulus Oversight and Government Spending, June 22, 2011.

² David Shepardson, "Obama Task Force Worked Fast, Hard on Auto Rescue," *Detroit News*, November 24, 2009.

³ Steven Rattner, *Overhaul: An Insider's Account of the Obama Administration's Emergency Rescue of the Auto Industry*, (New York, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2010): 269.