## HON. LOUIE GOHMERT FIRST DISTRICT, TEXAS

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

2440 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515 (202) 225–3035 FAX: (202) 226–1230



COMMITTEES:

NATURAL RESOURCES

REPUBLICAN STUDY COMMITTEE

HOUSE POLICY COMMITTEE

## Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

November 5 In the Year of our Lord 2012

House Committee on Ethics 1015 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

RE: 20122 Financial Disclosure filing notice

Dear Committee,

HAND DELIVER 2012 NOV - 5 PH

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESE

Thank you for your letter regarding my filing this year. Your earlier letter dated June of this year was received subsequent to that letter's date, and upon initial review left me with the impression that if no additional information was mandatory, there was no need to file anything further. I have, unfortunately, not been able to lay my hands on that letter, but it did cause me to pull out my prior filings of the last few years to look at the loan dates listed in them. A review of my prior filings revealed that the information, specifically loan origination dates, had not been in the prior filings, and the prior filings before mine of last year did not even appear to have a slot for such date. Even in last year's filing where a slot for a date is included, I had worked off my information in the forms I filed prior to that and had not inserted a date in such slot last year. So far as I am aware, the Committee did not send any notice that last year's filing was a problem though it was identical to this year's.

The Committee's apparent finding last year certainly seemed to be that the absence of the dates did not require a supplement to be added. This was the reason that dates were not considered necessary this year either. My initial thought was that since it was not required or demanded in any of the past filings, surely this was not a matter that required further filing. First blush also seemed to indicate that if the simple action was taken to add the dates as a supplement, it might be taken as an admission against interest to allow claim that a penalty fee assessment could follow. Though this year's Disclosure filing notice included the new legal requirement of "Periodic Transaction Reports," I have had no transactions to report under those new requirements and did not realize such new rule might have added a new mandatory listing of loan dates under the previous rules.

So that you have the information in your possession that you mentioned, the date for the loan from Citizen's First Bank is December 21, 2005. Also, the date for the ACS consolidated student loans should be February 1, 2011, as the consolidation was redone at that time and a new loan made, if you feel the date is still necessary to include. I truly hope this is considered sufficient to avoid the need for an additional filing or assessment. The Committee can be assured that I will certainly include the dates for any filings in future years now that it is clear that the Committee believes them to be required, as opposed to the Committee's perceived position of the past. As the Committee probably has noticed and others have noticed publicly, I have one of the lowest levels of financial activity of any member of Congress leaving me with little to file and nothing to hide.

I am very grateful to you for affording me the option in your October letter of sending this letter of explanation. Pursuant to your letter's options, a waiver is also requested if the committee does feel that anything further is necessary in regard to the filing.

With appreciation for your kind consideration in these matters, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Rep. Louie Gohmert Member of Congress