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United States Senate

November 29, 2004

The Honorable John Ashcroft
Attorney General of the United States
United States Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20530-0001

Dear General Ashcroft:

I enjoyed our lunch together last week with our Senate colleagues. It has come to my attention that many Virginians have raised concerns regarding the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). I respectfully request that you review this matter and take appropriate action as soon as practicable.

Since Hurricane Isabel hit the Commonwealth of Virginia on September 18, 2003, numerous Virginia constituents have contacted my office to request assistance in resolving their claims. While it has been over a year since the storm hit, nearly 180 households in the State remain living in FEMA trailers and still more live in damaged homes awaiting the resolution of their claims.

Recently a member of my staff met with Steven J. Kanstoroom, an advocate for victims of Hurricane Isabel. Mr. Kanstoroom presented serious allegations regarding the oversight of the NFIP and the unresponsiveness of the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Inspector General. Mr. Kanstoroom is requesting an investigation into the claims handling practices carried out by the NFIP, its contractors, and business partners. If these allegations are verified, I respectfully ask that you take every appropriate action to address this matter.

General, thank you for your attention to this pressing concern. Finally, I wish you all the best in your next adventure in life. Thank you for your dedicated service and leadership for our country these past 4 years.

With kind personal regards, I remain

Sincerely,

George Allen

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