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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-4209

April 17, 2015

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The Honorable Julian Castro Secretary Department of Housing and Urban Development 451 7th Street S.W. Washington, D.C. 20410

Re: Goodwill Village and Warren Apartments in Memphis, TN

Dear Secretary Castro:

Further to my letter of April 13, 2015, I am deeply troubled by how long it took for the problems at Goodwill Village and Warren Apartments in Memphis to come to light. At a press conference today in Memphis, a representative from LEDIC Management Group suggested that problems at the properties were known a year ago. At the same press conference, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) acknowledged that it had canceled a previously planned inspection of the properties.

I am also concerned that even now that HUD is aware of the problem, it is waiting more than a week to inspect the properties.

In the meantime, residents are stuck living in conditions that are clearly unacceptable.

While I am grateful for the work HUD is doing to find a long-term solution, I would like to know what HUD is doing to help these residents in the interim.

I would also like to know how and why the previously planned inspection of these properties was canceled and who was responsible for the cancelation. In addition, I would like to know what HUD is doing to ensure that inspections of properties in the 9th Congressional District are carried out in a timely and effective manner.

As always, I remain,

Most sincerely,

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Steve Cohen Member of Congress