



## SOCIAL SECURITY

October 21, 2005

Mr. Joseph Fried  
Director  
Public Program Testing Organization  
P.O. Box 31275  
Cleveland, Ohio 44131

Dear Mr. Fried:

This is in response to your October 7, 2005 letter to the Inspector General concerning the application of Government Pension Offset for Social Security beneficiaries who were previously employed by several Texas school districts. Your letter states that approximately 22,000 individuals may have been improperly exempted from Government Pension Offset. You also estimated that this will result in the improper payment of \$2 billion in Social Security trust funds.

We take your concern seriously and will open an audit to verify the facts presented in your letter. We will contact you to discuss our planned review and request evidence gathered during your audit.

Thank you for bringing this information to my attention. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please call James J. Klein, Director, San Francisco Audit Division, at (510) 970-1739.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steven L. Schaeffer'.

Steven L. Schaeffer  
Assistant Inspector General  
for Audit

cc:

Jo Anne B. Barnhart, Commissioner of Social Security  
Patrick P. O'Carroll, Jr., Inspector General  
Kathy A. Buller, Chief Counsel to the Inspector General