



United States Government Accountability Office  
Washington, DC 20548

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June 10, 2005

The Honorable F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr.  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
House of Representatives

Subject: *Federally Chartered Corporation: Financial Statement Audit Reports  
for the Gold Star Wives of America, Incorporated, for Fiscal Years 2004  
and 2003*

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As requested, we read the audit reports covering the financial statements of the Gold Star Wives of America, Incorporated, a federally chartered corporation, for the fiscal years ended May 31, 2004, and 2003. The corporation's purposes include honoring the memory of those who have served the United States and improving the lives of their children.

Federally chartered corporations are required under 36 U.S.C. §10101 to

- present the corporation's assets and liabilities and reasonable detail on the corporation's income and expenses in annual financial statements and
- obtain an annual financial audit by an independent public accountant.

Our objective was to advise you of any matters in the reports regarding compliance with the financial reporting requirements of the law. In carrying out our work, we read the corporation's financial statements and the accompanying notes, performed certain analytical procedures related to information presented in the financial statements, and read the auditor's reports. We also held limited discussions with the corporation's auditor regarding potential enhancements that could be made to the corporation's financial reporting. We did not identify any instance of noncompliance with the above financial reporting requirements of the law.

We did not perform an audit or review the auditor's working papers, and we are not rendering an audit opinion.

The audit reports included the auditor's opinions that the financial statements of the corporation were presented fairly in accordance with United States generally accepted accounting principles. We are returning the audit reports you sent with your letters.

This letter is intended solely for your use and the use of the Committee on the Judiciary.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Steven J. Sebastian". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'S' at the beginning and a long, sweeping underline.

Steven J. Sebastian  
Director  
Financial Management and Assurance

w/o Enclosures

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