

JOE WILSON  
2ND DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP

COMMITTEES:  
ARMED SERVICES  
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE  
HOUSE POLICY

## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

November 21, 2008

COUNTIES:  
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BARNWELL  
BEAUFORT  
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HAMPTON  
JASPER  
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RICHLAND\*  
(\*PARTS OF)

ERIC DELL  
CHIEF OF STAFF

The Honorable Bob Filner  
Chairman  
House Veterans' Affairs Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
335 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Steve Buyer  
Ranking Member  
House Veterans' Affairs Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
335 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Filner and Ranking Member Buyer,

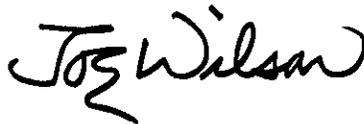
As I am sure you are aware, last month the Veterans' Affairs Regional Office in Columbia, South Carolina started an investigation into how, and why, 95 documents were mishandled and dumped into a shredder bin for destruction. With evidence that there were mishandled records in 41 of the 52 regional offices around the country, this is an endemic problem within the Department as a whole. Even more disturbing to me is that most of the shredded documents come from the regional office in which I represent.

As a veteran I find myself, joining with the thousands of other veterans that are serviced by this regional office and across the United States, outraged. I have received numerous phone calls and letters from constituents in my district asking what can be done to ensure that this never happens again.

In light of these disturbing revelations, I call upon House Veterans' Affairs Committee to hold hearings on this issue at the earliest convenience. I have sent a separate letter to Secretary Peake requesting information that is specific to the Columbia Regional Office.

I look forward to hearing from you, as well as working with you on this and other important veteran's issues. Thank you in advance for your time and concern in this and all other matters.

Very truly yours,



JOE WILSON  
Member of Congress

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