

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510
February 14, 2017

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
United States Attorney General
Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530

Attorney General Sessions,

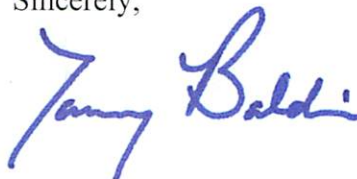
I write to inquire as to the status of an investigation of the handling of chemical and hazardous waste by Greif, Inc., including at Mid-America Steel Drum Company, Inc. sites in Milwaukee, St. Francis and Oak Creek, Wisconsin. My office was recently contacted by a whistleblower who reports that he has been working with the Department of Justice's Environmental Crimes Section since June 2016 to support an investigation of serious and willful violations of federal environmental and hazardous materials transportation law that may have put workers and the community at great risk. However, despite the urgent nature of his allegations, he indicates that the Department's communication with him about this case ceased in December of last year.

The whistleblower's account alleges serious violations of laws designed to protect human health and the environment, as well as repeated failures to comply with requirements for hazardous waste transportation, handling, and processing designed to safeguard workers and local communities from exposure to the most toxic substances used in commerce.

This situation merits your immediate attention. I ask that you promptly update me on the status of the Department's investigation and that you move expeditiously towards appropriate action on these troubling allegations.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

CC: Jeffrey Wood, Acting Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources
Division

Deborah Harris, Chief, Environmental Crimes Section