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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND
 URBAN AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6075

March 7, 1990

The Honorable Charles A. Bowsher
 Comptroller General of the United States of America
 General Accounting Office
 441 G Street, N.W.
 Washington, D.C. 20548

Dear Mr. Bowsher:

I would like the General Accounting Office to obtain from the appropriate sources answers to the followings questions. I would also like the General Accounting Office to review these answers and determine whether they raise any issues which Congress should be concerned about regarding the Securities Investor Protection Corporation ("SIPC").

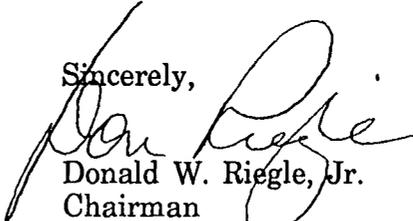
1. What is the amount of SIPC exposure?
2. What are SIPC's reserves in relation to its exposure? Is the SIPC reserve fund sufficient for anticipated needs?
3. Historically, has SIPC paid out on claims that are not insured? Is this a frequent practice?

Further, please have the appropriate sources compare SIPC with other Federally-sponsored insurance funds, such as the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. For instance, I am interested in knowing how the SIPC assessment rate compares with the FDIC assessment rate.

I would like to receive this information as soon as possible. If you believe you are experiencing any unreasonable delays in gathering this information, please let me know.

If you have any questions regarding this request or would like to discuss these matters before drafting your report, please contact Sharon Heaton, counsel on the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs at (202) 224-3462.

Sincerely,



Donald W. Riegle, Jr.
 Chairman