

Dane post the below email from Ed Michel to me dated 5/12/21 per our conversation of today. Thanks, Harry

Harry Blumenthal <hblumenthal316@gmail.com>

Tue 5/25/2021 4:12 PM

To: Dane S. Ciolino <dane@daneciolino.com>

Cc: Ashley Barriere <ABarriere@huberthomaslaw.com>; Bill Banta <billbanta1968@gmail.com>; Harry Blumenthal <hblumenthal316@gmail.com>

Harry Blumenthal  
hblumenthal316@gmail.com  
Cell: 504-338-2666  
Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Ed Michel <emichel@nolaoig.gov>

**Date:** May 12, 2021 at 3:57:16 PM CDT

**To:** Harry Blumenthal <hblumenthal316@gmail.com>

**Cc:** Ashley Barriere <ashleybarriere@gmail.com>, mcowan@loyno.edu, "Dane S. Ciolino" <dane@daneciolino.com>, Bill Banta <billbanta1968@gmail.com>

**Subject: RE: QRC 2020 Assurance Review Attached**

Mr. Blumenthal,

Please allow me to first thank you, Mr. Banta and Ms. Barriere for your service. I sincerely appreciate your dedication and professionalism.

I completely understand why you would want these interactions to be in writing, however, when our reports are typically issued we routinely give the entity being reviewed approximately 30 days to review the content and schedule a follow-up visit to engage in conversation to address potential inaccurate or perhaps incomplete information before publication.

I would like to explore the opportunity in the future of perhaps both of us contributing to the overall quality of this report by joint collaboration and understanding of our respective positions. Combining our resources effectively in the future would perhaps provide us the opportunity to consider multiple perspectives and at least consider them before publications are made in the future.

I sincerely believe we can learn much from each other by simply sharing our perspectives. Again, I appreciate the time each of you have dedicated to this report, and I understand it is time spent away from your respective families and careers and once again, our office deeply appreciates your commitment to the ERB and the OIG.

Your report contains several appropriate suggestions as well as observations which warrant additional discussion. We are looking forward to our meeting on May 26, 2021 and to future interactions with the QRC in the future.

If I can be of service before our meeting, please do not hesitate to reach out at your leisure.

Sincerely,

Ed Michel  
D (504) 681-3263  
C (504) 330-8943

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**From:** Harry Blumenthal <hblumenthal316@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 2:53 PM  
**To:** Ed Michel <emichel@nolaoig.gov>  
**Cc:** Ashley Barriere <ashleybarriere@gmail.com>; mcowan@loyno.edu; Dane S. Ciolino <dane@daneciolino.com>; Bill Banta <billbanta1968@gmail.com>; Harry Blumenthal <hblumenthal316@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: QRC 2020 Assurance Review Attached

IG Michel,

I am responding to your email as Chair of our Committee.

First, please be advised that we had asked Dane to post our Report immediately upon receipt. Our Report has been posted so in a sense this exchange is now somewhat moot.

In part our rationale is that we are tasked by the enabling Ordinance to create a Report on the OIG's Published Annual Report which is a public document and therefore should be self explanatory.

But mainly we believe that all exchanges and documents (the Annual Report, our Report and your Response) should be in writing and public.

We look forward to reviewing your response and considering any questions, concerns or corrections you delineate.

We also look forward to meeting with you and your team on our May 26th zoom public meeting.

All my best,

Harry

Harry Blumenthal  
[hblumenthal316@gmail.com](mailto:hblumenthal316@gmail.com)  
Cell: 504-338-2666  
Sent from my iPad

On May 11, 2021, at 9:28 AM, Ed Michel <[emichel@nolaoig.gov](mailto:emichel@nolaoig.gov)> wrote:

Ms. Barriere,

Thank you for the report and for your service.

May I please request a conference meeting between the QRC and my executive team the week of May 17 before the publication of this document?

Sincerely,

Ed Michel

**From:** Ashley Barriere <[ashleybarriere@gmail.com](mailto:ashleybarriere@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 10, 2021 6:26 PM  
**To:** Ed Michel <[emichel@nolaoig.gov](mailto:emichel@nolaoig.gov)>; [mcowan@loyno.edu](mailto:mcowan@loyno.edu); Dane S. Ciolino <[dane@daneciolino.com](mailto:dane@daneciolino.com)>  
**Cc:** Harry Blumenthal <[hblumenthal316@gmail.com](mailto:hblumenthal316@gmail.com)>; Bill Banta <[billbanta1968@gmail.com](mailto:billbanta1968@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** QRC 2020 Assurance Review Attached

Mr. Michel, Dr. Cowan, and Mr. Ciolino,

On behalf of the Quality Assurance Review Advisory Committee ("QRC"), please find attached the 2020 QRC assurance review of the Office of Inspector General.

We look forward to presenting our report at the May 26, 2021 public meeting.

Many thanks,  
Ashley

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Ashley L.F. Barriere