

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

August 28, 2015

The Honorable Loretta E. Lynch  
Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

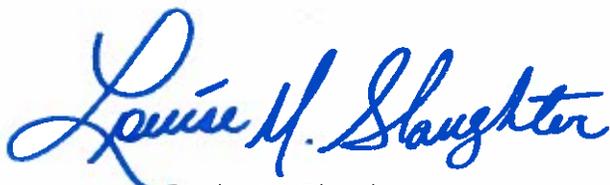
Dear Attorney General Lynch,

We write to bring to your attention a group of companies engaged in potentially predatory behavior that profit off of lead poisoning victims by purchasing structured settlement payments at a fraction of their value. We request that the Department of Justice investigate these practices for potential violations of federal law.

This issue was recently highlighted by *The Washington Post* on Wednesday, August 26 in the front-page story "Cashing in off poor lead-poisoning victims." We are extremely concerned that victims of lead poisoning, many of whom have suffered cognitive damage, are not receiving sufficient counsel and protection when deciding to sell their settlement. We also know that the effects of lead poisoning are felt disproportionately in urban areas, suggesting that the sale of these structured settlements may disparately impact minority communities.

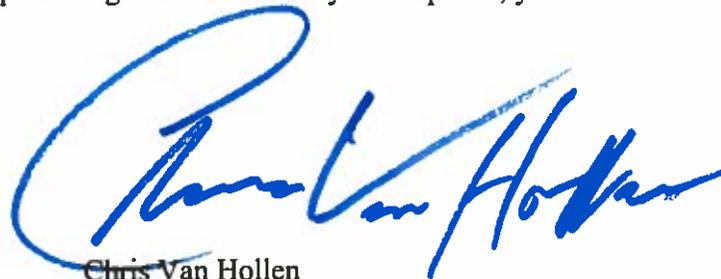
It is our hope that the Department of Justice will bring much needed scrutiny to these predatory practices and protect victims of lead poisoning from being taken advantage of in the future. The Department of Justice has a long history of fighting for equal opportunity for people with disabilities in the United States. We believe that victims of lead poisoning should have equal opportunity to receive proper protection and advocacy as they consider whether to sell their structured settlements.

Thank you for your dedication to protecting the most vulnerable in our society. We hope that you will continue this fight on the behalf of victims of lead poisoning. As we wait for your response, you can be assured of our continued interest in this issue.



Louise M. Slaughter  
Member of Congress

Sincerely,



Chris Van Hollen  
Member of Congress