

**A.L.M.A. – Austinites Lobbying for Municipal Accountability**

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*A.L.M.A. is a coalition of citizens who share common questions about Affordable Housing Programs.  
A.L.M.A. insists that public officials be held accountable to their citizens.*

Friday, September 14, 2007

Honorable Johnny Sutton  
United States Attorney for the Western District of Texas  
816 Congress Avenue, Suite 1000  
Austin, Texas 78701

**Attn:** Mr. Anthony Brown, Chief

**RE: Questionable Use of Federal Housing Funds by CoA Officials & related Issues**

Dear Mr. Sutton:

The purpose of this letter (w/attachments) is to exercise the right and duty of a Citizen and taxpayer within the jurisdictions of the City of Austin and Travis County, Texas, to raise specific questions regarding conduct of Public Officials (elected & appointed) on their legal/fiduciary responsibilities in expenditure of Federal funds.

Briefly, as background: Austinites Lobbying for Municipal Accountability (A.L.M.A.), group of neighborhood and community residents, a number with membership in & represented by the Gray Panthers' organization of Austin, have for several years been raising questions (reflected in the attachments) about CoA's documented misuse of Federal housing funds, especially 'minority rehabilitation contracting' areas, but being 'stonewalled'. (In fact, similar issues were considered by a Travis grand jury some years back, but we know of no report(s).

Specifically, as the attachments reflect (and to which CoA has refused to respond to either Gray Panthers or HousingWorks), we have specifically (officially) raised questions in the attached 5 Apr '07 communication to Members of the Austin City Council – as individuals & a group - with respect to possible fraud, forgery and similar/related apparent violations of civil and criminal statutes. As of today's date, we have received neither an acknowledgement nor reply of any kind from these Public Officials to allegations of possible criminal conduct.

It is with disappointment in our inability to achieve response from Local Public Officials, especially on serious questions of possible mis/mal/nonfeasance, - i.e., their failure/**refusal to act** on reports of possible criminal conduct, that we now request appropriate inquiry be initiated by the **U.S. Attorney's Office** into these matters.

Sincerely,

Allissa Chambers,  
A.L.M.A.

\*\* Travis County DA **Ronnie Earle's** office: despite investigation/grand jury proceedings, no action resulted.

**ATTACHMENTS:** April 05, 2007 Letter (w/ attachments) to Council Member Mike Martinez

- 03/29/2007 Gray Panthers
- 03/29/07 Housing Works

*Some abuses happen incrementally, robbing a community of its ability to witness  
One Clear Moment, as to where and when to draw the line.*



**A.L.M.A. – Keeping the Power in the Hands of The People**

