

JODY B. HICE  
10TH DISTRICT, GEORGIA  
HICE.HOUSE.GOV

1516 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4101 PHONE  
(202) 226-0776 FAX

100 COURT STREET  
MONROE, GA 30655  
(770) 207-1776

3015 HERITAGE ROAD, SUITE 6  
MILLEDGEVILLE, GA 31061  
(478) 457-0007

210 RAILROAD STREET, ROOM 2401  
THOMSON, GA 30824  
(706) 969-1461

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-1010**

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT  
AND GOVERNMENT REFORM  
SUBCOMMITTEES:

HEALTH CARE, BENEFITS, AND  
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES  
NATIONAL SECURITY

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES  
SUBCOMMITTEES:

ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES  
FEDERAL LANDS  
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS  
POLICY COMMITTEE

June 16, 2016

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As a member of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee and House Natural Resources Committee, I am deeply troubled by the pattern of misconduct and unethical behavior by employees of the National Park Service, and specifically, Director Jonathan Jarvis. Over the past month, I have had the opportunity now to participate in two separate hearings where the problems at this agency have become more publicly known.

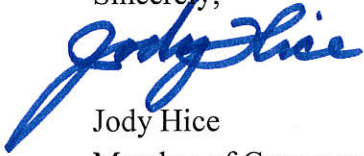
Unfortunately, this pattern of misconduct starts at the very top of the National Park Service with Director Jarvis. Last year, the Department of Interior's Office of Inspector General (OIG) began an investigation associated with a book deal on the National Park System that Director Jarvis negotiated without consulting the Department's Ethics Office. To make matters worse, the OIG noted in its report on Director Jarvis that he chose to avoid consultation with the Ethics Office because it would essentially delay his book from being published.

Furthermore, this misconduct does not stop with Director Jarvis. In the hearings held in these two House Committees, we learned of two additional investigations conducted by the OIG on allegations of sexual harassment at the Grand Canyon National Park's River District and Cape Canaveral National Seashore. In both locations, the OIG found that individuals chose not to come forward out of a fear of professional retaliation or that complaints were not properly sent up the chain of command.

Regrettably, in these cases – and others – the proper form of discipline was not pursued. In the case of Director Jarvis' book deal, the only punishment he faced was that he was stripped of his authority to implement the Park Service's Ethics Program and is required to attend monthly ethics training courses for the remainder of his tenure. Others have either been transferred out of their positions or have been allowed to retire without facing the punishment that fits the misconduct.

These are just some of the examples of the ethical failures and misconduct committed by employees of the National Park Service and the lack of discipline they have faced. Ultimately, Director Jarvis must be held accountable for these actions. Therefore Mr. President, I believe that the time has come for you to call on Director Jarvis to tender his resignation as the Director of the National Park Service. Should he choose not to resign, I believe that you must relieve him of his duties effective immediately.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jody Hice". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

Jody Hice  
Member of Congress

Cc: The Honorable Sally Jewell, Secretary, Department of the Interior