DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

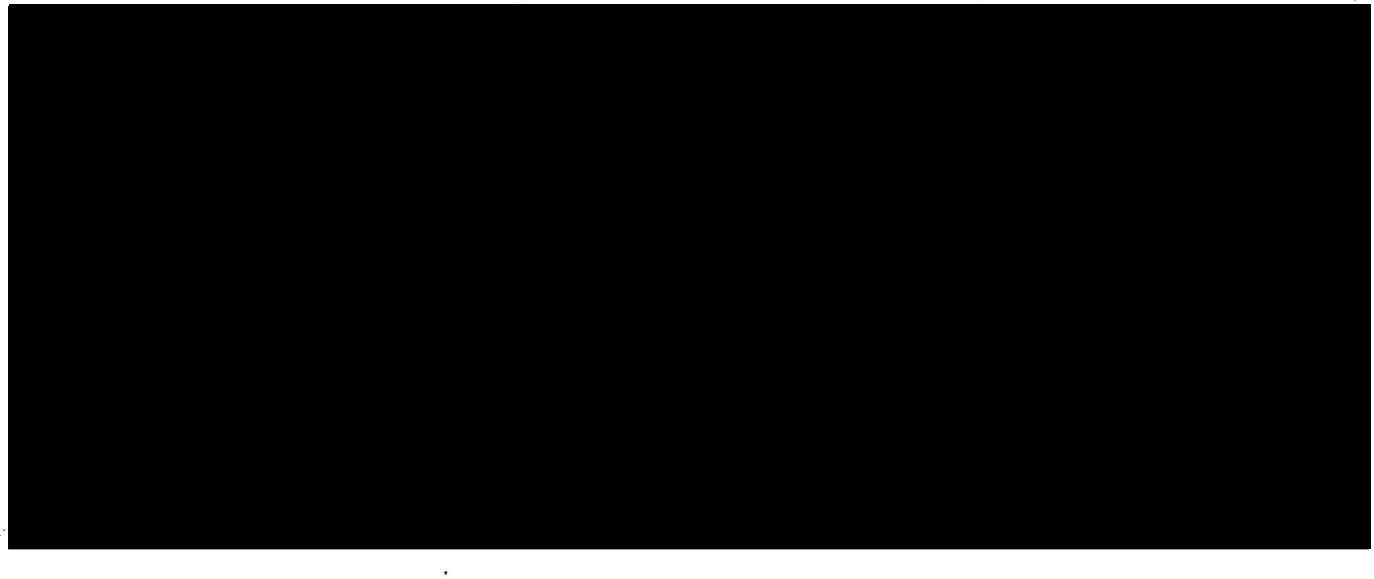
Food and Drug Administration
Office of Device Evaluation
9200 Corporate Boulevard
Rockville, MD 20850

April 2, 2009

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Senator and Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Finance
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-1501

Dear Senator Grassley:

We, physicians and scientists of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), are thankful for your strong support and want to express our sincere gratitude for your never-ending fight to make government more accountable and transparent, and your long career dedicated to protecting federal employees who are willing to speak out and expose fraud, corruption, and wrongdoing. Your recent actions demanding that the rights of FDA employees to communicate with Congress be protected and enforced sent a strong message on our behalf and give us confidence that our voices will be heard.

We have attached a letter addressed to the President of the United States calling on the President to drastically reform FDA. We strongly urged the President to hold accountable those FDA employees who have engaged in wrongdoing, who have violated laws, rules, and regulations, who have abused their power and authority, and/or who have engaged in retaliation. We strongly urged the President to enable the new HHS and FDA leadership to take immediate and decisive disciplinary action in order to send a strong message FDA-wide that wrongdoing will no longer be tolerated and those who engage in wrongdoing will be held accountable. It is also necessary that all improper adverse personnel actions be reversed and that the clearance/approval of medical devices that were not made in accordance with the laws, rules and regulations be re-visited. We request that you bring these matters to the direct attention of the HHS Secretary-Designate at the upcoming hearings.

Sincerely,