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# IRS Report Insufficient in Answering Key Questions about Tea Party Harassment

*Tea Party Patriots Demand Full Investigation into Targeting*

**Washington, D.C.** – Today, **Tea Party Patriots**, the nation's largest tea party organization, responded to the release of the IRS inspector general report on the IRS targeting conservative groups for harassment.

"This report raises more questions as to why the IRS, a powerful government agency, chose to target specific groups for harassment and burdensome review during an election season," said **Jenny Beth Martin, National Coordinator for Tea Party Patriots**. "How high up in the organization does this go, how was it allowed to continue and why were groups like ours targeted to begin with are questions that must be answered.

"Tea Party Patriots locally affiliated groups from California to Chattanooga were singled out for 'further review' which included demands for Facebook posts, book lists, donor rolls and other information that clearly violates First Amendment principles. Why did this happen during an election season for months on end without proper oversight? How can the IRS claim that this was not 'politically motivated' when news reports have come out today saying that liberal groups were not targeted, what proof does the IRS have?

"At this point the IRS' integrity is shattered. How can we trust anything the IRS says from this point onward without a full Congressional investigation?

"This report reveals more about the problems within the IRS, but we are not yet satisfied that Americans are protected from additional abuse. We are not satisfied that this was not politically motivated. We are not satisfied that groups like ours were not specifically targeted. We are not satisfied that people higher up in the IRS and outside did not know about what was going on there. We will not be satisfied until a full reckoning occurs and those responsible face the consequences.

"We have called for a full, outside, Congressional investigation. How can we trust the Department of Justice to conduct a thorough and unbiased investigation in light of their own recent internal troubles?

"We are also seeking legal counsel on the next steps to prevent this from happening to any other group of Americans again."

**Tea Party Patriots** is a national grassroots coalition with more than 3,400 locally organized chapters and more than 15 million supporters nationwide. *Tea Party Patriots is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to promoting the principles of fiscal responsibility, constitutionally limited government, and free markets. Visit Tea Party Patriots online at [www.TeaPartyPatriots.org](http://www.TeaPartyPatriots.org).*

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