



United States General Accounting Office
Washington, DC 20548

February 20, 2001

The Honorable F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr.
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
House of Representatives

Subject: Federally Chartered Corporation: Review of the Financial Statement Audit Report for The Foundation of the Federal Bar Association for Fiscal Years 1998 and 1997

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As requested, we reviewed the audit report covering the financial statements of The Foundation of the Federal Bar Association (the Foundation), a federally chartered corporation, for the fiscal years ended September 30, 1998 and 1997. The Foundation's purposes are to promote the study of law through various programs and to provide for the acquisition, presentation, and exhibition of rare objects of historical interest relating to the law, the courts, and the legal profession.

Federally chartered corporations are required under 36 U.S.C. 10101 to

- present the corporation's assets and liabilities and reasonable detail on the corporation's income and expenses in annual financial statements,
- obtain an annual financial audit by an independent public accountant, and
- submit the auditors' report and the corporation's financial statements to the Congress.

The objective of our review was to determine whether the audit report complied with the financial reporting requirements of the law. In carrying out our work, we reviewed the corporation's financial statements and the accompanying notes, performed certain analytical procedures related to information presented in the financial statements, reviewed the auditors' report, and made inquiries to corporation officials or the auditors as we deemed necessary. We did not review the auditors' working papers. Our review disclosed no reportable instances of noncompliance.

The auditors' report and the notes to the financial statements disclosed that the Foundation's law library ceased operations subsequent to September 30, 1998 and all library property and equipment was sold or abandoned. The financial statements do not include any adjustments related to this event that occurred subsequent to the date of the financial statements.

The audit report included the auditors' opinion that the financial statements of the corporation were presented fairly in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. We are returning the audit report you sent with your letter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey C. Steinhoff". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Jeffrey C. Steinhoff
Managing Director
Financial Management and Assurance

w/o Enclosure

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