8/14/05 - Forest Service Chief Dale Bosworth signed and released a 6570 letter to RF&Ds, SUBJ: Initiating Collection Actions on Trespass Claims for the Government. ATTACHMENT 16

5/3/06 – In consultation with the OGC,

(6)(5)

ATTACHMENT 17

12/5/07 – OGC Attorney Matthew Tilden sent an email message to me discussing several issues and a number of affirmative FS fire cases. Attorney Tilden advised

(b/5)

ATTACHMENT 18



3/12/08 – A follow up demand letter containing due process notification was mailed to Henry Brown. ATTACHMENT 19

3/13/08 – Following direction from ASC B&F Deputy Director Michael Clonts, Supervisory Legal Administrative Specialist Rick Anderson directed that the letter be retrieved from the post office, in order to prevent it being delivered to Henry Brown. The letter had left Albuquerque, but paperwork was processed to have the letter stopped at the South Carolina Post Office and returned to the ASC. ATTACHMENT 20

3/17/08 – The demand letter and bill that were sent to Henry Brown on 3/12/08 were returned to ASC Claims by the North Charleston, South Carolina, Post Office.

NOTE: Since prior to, and from the beginning of, the migration of the Claims Program to the ASC in 2005, federal attorneys have been working with the Claims Staff to develop legally sound demand letters and processes to ensure compliance with all applicable federal laws and regulations, as well as Departmental and agency policies. We make every effort to be in compliance with these, as well as to treat all debtors fairly and consistently.

It has been argued that Henry Brown has not been treated consistently with the processes followed in similar fire trespass cases. This is not the case. Claims personnel have made every attempt to follow established procedures, remain in compliance with all applicable requirements, and handle this case in the same manner as all affirmative claims are

handled. These efforts have been interrupted, numerous times, not by Claims personnel, but by other concerned parties. Any additional time, effort, and resources put into the Henry Brown fire trespass claim collection efforts have been the result of managerial inquiries and decisions.