ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM
2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

Majority (202) 225-5051 Minority (202) 225-5074

June 3, 2010

Mr. Sean P. Davoren
President and Chief Executive Officer
WIS
9265 Sky Park Court, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92123

Dear Mr. Davoren:

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee in the U.S. House of Representatives, with jurisdiction over "any matter." Under Rules X and XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee is investigating the recall of over-the-counter Johnson & Johnson/McNeil pediatric products.

In the course of our investigation, we discovered that in late 2008 Johnson & Johnson learned it had problems with a certain type of Motrin. Rather than announcing a recall, J&J allegedly hired a contractor to go to retail stores and surreptitiously purchase the suspect Motrin. The contractor's employees were allegedly instructed to act as though they were ordinary customers. It wasn't until this activity was discovered by the Food and Drug Administration that J&J announced a recall of the affected medication.

According to a document obtained by the Committee, WIS was recruited by CSCS "on behalf of Johnson & Johnson" to purchase the suspect Motrin. The WIS document states that the "objective" is, "To visit all the stores on your schedule; locate, and purchase all of the MOTRIN " In addition, the document provides the following instructions:

"You should simply "act" like a regular customer while making these purchases. THERE MUST BE NO MENTION OF THIS BEING A RECALL OF THE PRODUCT!" (emphasis in the original)¹

¹ CSCS Motrin Purchase Project (June 12, 2009), copy attached.

We have expanded our investigation to include the issue of Johnson & Johnson's phantom recall of Motrin. To assist the Committee in its investigation, please provide the following information and records:

- 1. Please provide a copy of the entire document entitled, "CSCS Motrin Purchase Project (June 12, 2009)".
- 2. Please provide copies of all records, including contracts, agreements, and communications, related to the Motrin work WIS performed for CSCS on behalf of Johnson & Johnson.
- 3. How many packages of the suspect Motrin did WIS purchase and what was done with them?
- 4. Is WIS currently performing any other services for Johnson & Johnson or McNeil, either directly or indirectly? If so, please provide a detailed summary of those services, including the products involved and the dates of performance.
- 5. Has WIS performed any other services for Johnson & Johnson or McNeil, either directly or indirectly? If so, please provide a detailed summary of those services, including the products involved and the dates the work was performed.

Please deliver the requested information and records to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, room 2157 Rayburn House Office Building, no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, June 11, 2010. To facilitate delivery and review, we prefer that the records be delivered in digital form. Please note that the terms "records" and "relating to" are defined in the attachment to this letter.

Should you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Chris Staszak or Kevin Barstow of the Committee staff at 202-225-5051.

Sincerely,

Edolphus Towns

Chairman

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Darrell Issa Ranking Minority Member

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

ATTACHMENT

- 1. The term "records" is to be construed in the broadest sense and shall mean any written or graphic material, however produced or reproduced, of any kind or description, consisting of the original and any non-identical copy (whether different from the original because of notes made on or attached to such copy or otherwise) and drafts and both sides thereof, whether printed or recorded electronically or magnetically or stored in any type of data bank, including, but not limited to, the following: correspondence, memoranda, records, summaries of personal conversations or interviews, minutes or records of meetings or conferences, opinions or reports of consultants, projections, statistical statements, drafts, contracts, agreements, purchase orders, invoices, confirmations, telegraphs, telexes, agendas, books, notes, pamphlets, periodicals, reports, studies, evaluations, opinions, logs, diaries, desk calendars, appointment books, tape recordings, video recordings, e-mails, voice mails, computer tapes, or other computer stored matter, magnetic tapes, microfilm, microfiche, punch cards, all other records kept by electronic, photographic, or mechanical means, charts, photographs, notebooks, drawings, plans, inter-office communications, intraoffice and intra-departmental communications, transcripts, checks and canceled checks, bank statements, ledgers, books, records or statements of accounts, and papers and things similar to any of the foregoing, however denominated.
- 2. The terms "relating," "relate," or "regarding" as to any given subject means anything that constitutes, contains, embodies, identifies, deals with, or is in any manner whatsoever pertinent to that subject, including but not limited to records concerning the preparation of other records.

OBJECTIVE

To visit all the stores on your schedule; locate, and purchase all of the MOTRIN® IB Caplet 8ct Vial product in the store, bagging the product by-store (with receipt), boxing-up multiple stores worth of product and returning to the manufacturer as outlined later in these instructions. Also, to complete the required paperwork as noted below.

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PROCESS

WIS has been asked by CSCS (our client) on behalf of Johnson & Johnson to purchase all MOTRING IB Caplet 8ct Vial in the stores you have been scheduled for. You will quickly enter each store, find ALL of the Motrin product described, make the purchase transaction, secure the receipt, and leave.

You should simply "act" like a regular customer while making these purchases.

THERE MUST BE NO MENTION OF THIS BEING A RECALL OF THE PRODUCT!

If asked, simply state that your employer is checking the distribution chain of this product and needs to have some of it purchased for the project.

With your purchase, ask for a bag for the product so you can keep the product from each visit separate with the corresponding receipt in a box in your car.

Immediately after each purchase and while in your car, fill out the attached Product Purchase & Ship Instructions Form and place it in the bag that contains that stores product with your receipt. You will need a copy of this form for each store you visit.

Next, fill out the WIS Daily Activity Sheet with your information from this individual store. You will add information to this form after each stop. You will use this form the entire day; a different one each day.

Proceed to the next stop on your schedule.

Repeat the above process for each visit.

BE AWARE THAT SOME LOCATIONS, POSSIBLY MANY OF THEM, WILL NOT HAVE ANY OF THIS MOTRIN PRODUCT. IF YOU CANNOT FIND THE PRODUCT, ASK THE STORE IF THEY CARRY ANY OF IT. IF NOT, THANK THEM AND LEAVE. YOU MUST STILL FILL OUT THE Product Purchase & Ship Instructions Form and the WIS Daily ACTIVITY SHEET FOR EVERY VISIT, EVEN IF YOU FIND NO PRODUCT. Simply enter zeros for product purchased.