SOCIAL SECURITY

The Commissioner

March 31, 2016

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Section 414 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-208) requires that we report to you annually on the number of Social Security numbers (SSN) we assigned to noncitizens who have not submitted evidence of employment authorization to us and under which the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) reports earnings to us. Because we maintain earnings records on a calendar year basis, rather than a fiscal year basis, we based our report on 2014 earnings processed in calendar year 2015.

In 2015, we credited earnings under 366,480 nonwork SSNs. This number represents a decrease of 14,145 from 2014. Because we do not routinely learn of changes in noncitizens' work authorization status after we assign SSNs, the fact that IRS reports earnings to us for a nonwork SSN does not necessarily mean that the number holder performed unauthorized work.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or have your staff contact Judy L. Chesser, our Deputy Commissioner for the Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs, at (202) 358-6030.

I have sent a similar letter to the Chairman of the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Sincerely,

Carolyn W. Colvin

Carolyn W. Colvin
Acting Commissioner

SOCIAL SECURITY

The Commissioner

March 31, 2016

The Honorable Robert Goodlatte
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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