

February 6, 2025

The Honorable Scott Turner Secretary U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development 451 7th Street SW Room 10276 Washington, DC 20410

Dear Secretary Turner:

On behalf of the more than 16,000 members of the nation's largest organization of professional real estate appraisers, I write to extend my heartfelt congratulations on your confirmation as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD"). Your experience and dedication to public service position you well to lead HUD, and we look forward to collaborating with you and your team in addressing the critical housing challenges facing our nation.

I would like to draw your attention to an issue of significant concern to the appraisal community: the prolonged investigations of appraisers for alleged fair housing violations. While the Appraisal Institute fully supports efforts to uphold fair housing principles and to address instances of discrimination, the extended duration of these investigations has placed an undue burden on the appraisers involved. Many of these professionals have had their reputations and livelihoods negatively impacted, despite there being no definitive findings of wrongdoing thus far.

I respectfully urge HUD to prioritize the resolution of these cases to ensure a fair and timely process. Providing clarity on these matters is essential not only for the individuals under investigation but also for maintaining the confidence of the broader appraisal profession and HUD's commitment to due process and equitable treatment.

Congratulations again on your confirmation, and I look forward to working closely with you to advance policies that strengthen our nation's housing market and ensure opportunities for all Americans. Should you have any questions, the Appraisal Institute's Washington is ready to assist. Please contact Scott DiBiasio, Director of Government Affairs, at 202-298-5593 or <u>sdibiasio@appraisalinstitute.org</u>, or Brian Rodgers, Senior Manager of Federal Affairs, at 202-298-5597 or <u>brodgers@appraisalinstitute.org</u>.

Sincerely,

Paula K. Konikoff, JD, MAI, AI-GRS 2025 President Appraisal Institute