

United States Senate
Senator Tom Coburn, MD

November 13, 2012

Secretary Janet Napolitano
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

Secretary Napolitano:

Given the \$16 trillion national debt, it is critical that Congress and the Department carefully review and evaluate every line in the Department's budget to make sure that every dollar is spent wisely and on a national priority.

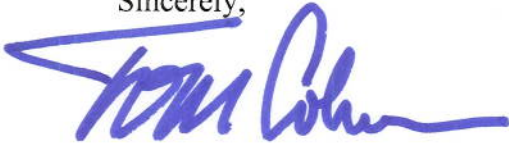
I am writing to request clarification about the Department's spending on ammunition purchases for its component agencies. It has been reported that DHS has recently purchased large amounts of ammunition, as much or more than 1 billion rounds according to some estimates. I request that you answer the following questions to help Congress better understand these purchases:

1. How many rounds of ammunition has the Department purchased during each of the last three fiscal years? How much did these acquisitions cost?
2. Does DHS plan to purchase more ammunition in the current fiscal year? How much is budgeted for ammunitions acquisitions?
3. How many rounds of ammunition does the Department currently have in its inventory? How are these rounds allocated to each of its agencies?
4. Please describe how DHS (and its component agencies) plan to use this ammunition. How many rounds are allocated for training? How many are allocated for operational use? How many rounds are allocated for other purposes?
5. Please detail approximately how many rounds DHS and its component agencies have used for training and operational purposes during the past three fiscal years.

Besides addressing these questions, please provide any additional information that you think would help me understand these purchases. I request your response by November 30th.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Coburn", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tom Coburn, M.D.
U.S. Senator