



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

October 10, 2008

Gene L. Dodaro
Acting Comptroller General of the United States
Government Accountability Office
441 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20548

Dear Acting Comptroller General Dodaro:

We respectfully request that you thoroughly review and investigate the award of the Fast Response Cutter – Sentinel Class patrol boat by the United States Coast Guard to Bollinger Shipyards, Inc.

On September 26, 2008, the U.S. Coast Guard announced that it had chosen Bollinger Shipyards, Inc. to design and build the Fast Response Cutter – Sentinel Class. Two other finalists in the competition to build the first Fast Response Cutter were Marinette Marine Corporation and General Dynamics.

The Fast Response Cutter would replace the U.S. Coast Guard's Island Class cutters which were built more than 20 years ago. The initial award made by the U.S. Coast Guard is to build the first Fast Response Cutter, with the potential to expand the contract to a total of 34 cutters.

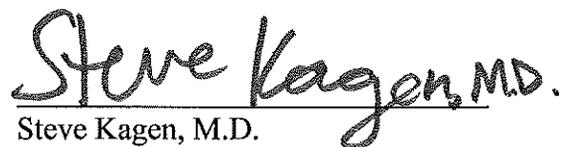
On October 7, 2008, Marinette Marine Corporation filed a formal protest with you against the U.S. Coast Guard's decision. We believe it is appropriate for you to investigate the acquisition process and final decision made by the U.S. Coast Guard. Such a review is an important part of ensuring transparency in the federal procurement process. Determining that the right decision was made by the U.S. Coast Guard is critical to ensuring that the men and women of the U.S. Coast Guard receive the best replacement for the Inland Class patrol boats to fulfill their national and homeland security missions.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



Bart Stupak
Member of Congress



Steve Kagen, M.D.
Member of Congress