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February 25, 2014

The Honorable Jeh Johnson  
Secretary of Homeland Security  
Washington, D.C. 20528

Secretary Johnson:

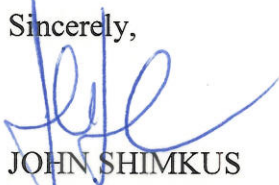
The recent Department of Homeland Security (DHS) solicitation for 141,160 rounds of Hornaday .308 Winchester 168gr A-MAX TAP Ammunition (Solicitation Number: HSCEMS-14-Q-00004) has raised questions among my constituents with regard to DHS ammunition purchases. Many of these questions pertain to the purchase of these high-powered rounds so soon after other large ammunition purchases by the Department.

To better understand the solicitation and the Department's reasoning behind it, I submit the following questions:

1. How many of these rounds did the Department purchase in past acquisitions?
2. How many of these rounds does the Department currently hold in inventory?
3. Please provide approximate total expenditures of this ammunition for each of the last three fiscal years.
4. Please provide a breakdown of training and operational expenditures of this ammunition.
5. Given the cost of Hornaday .308 Winchester 168gr A-MAX TAP Ammunition, were more cost-effective options such as lower-grain ammunition considered when preparing the solicitation?

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your timely response.

Sincerely,

  
JOHN SHIMKUS  
Member of Congress