MEMORANDUM FOR:  The Honorable Steven Mnuchin – Secretary of the Treasury  
FROM:  The Honorable Christy Goldsmith Romero – Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program  
SUBJECT:  Engagement Memorandum – Evaluation of Public Reporting in the Making Home Affordable program (EVAL 013)

SIGTARP’s Audit Mission:
SIGTARP audits and evaluates TARP programs to ensure transparency and accountability, and to prevent and identify the risk of fraud, waste, abuse, ineffectiveness, and inefficiency, among other risks that could jeopardize TARP programs. SIGTARP’s continued oversight of Treasury’s TARP housing initiatives, including the over $23 billion Making Home Affordable (MHA) program, and its signature program—the Home Affordable Modification Program (HAMP), remains one of our highest priorities.

Newly Announced Evaluation:
Treasury launched these housing programs to provide mortgage relief to homeowners and prevent avoidable foreclosures. With nearly 800,000 homeowners in HAMP, it is the largest open TARP program. Treasury paid over $1 billion last year to over 100 financial institutions and has approximately $3 billion available to pay until fiscal year 2024. SIGTARP will evaluate Treasury’s and other government public reporting on the program. SIGTARP will also review public reporting by certain participating financial institutions.

A member of SIGTARP’s staff will contact Treasury staff to arrange an entrance conference to discuss the scope and objectives of the evaluation. Please contact me at any point during the review.