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## **Rep. Towns Holding Brooklyn Hearing to Ensure Accuracy in the 2010 Census**

*Event will examine recent problems at the North East Local Census Office*

BROOKLYN, New York, July 19, 2010 – Rep. Edolphus “Ed” Towns (D-NY, NY-10), chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, today announced that he will hold a hearing on Monday, July 19, 2010 in Brooklyn, New York, to examine a recent incident involving two senior managers at the Brooklyn North East Local Census Office who were fired for fraudulently completing census surveys.

The hearing, that will feature testimony from the Census Director, the New York Regional Census Director and the Commerce Department Inspector General, will also examine the steps the Census Bureau is taking to ensure the accuracy of the 2010 count. The New York State Congressional Delegation has been invited to participate in the hearing.

“Given my commitment to the success of the 2010 Census, this recent problem is particularly troubling,” said Chairman Towns. “Any attempt to compromise the integrity of the census is simply unacceptable given what is at stake for our community. I am holding this hearing to ensure that the Census Bureau is following all of the necessary steps to accurately count every resident in Brooklyn.”

Chairman Towns’ committee is the main congressional committee charged with oversight of the Census, and he has been committed to ensuring the accuracy and integrity of the 2010 Census, as well as ensuring the Census Bureau does everything possible to reach out to hard-to-count populations. Last month, upon hearing disturbing constituent reports of how then-employees at the Brooklyn office used unauthorized data to complete thousands of Census questionnaires, Rep. Towns opened an investigation into the allegations.

The hearing will be held on Monday, July 19, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. in the courtroom of Brooklyn Borough Hall, located at 209 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn, NY.

The witnesses invited to testify are:

Dr. Robert M. Groves  
Director  
U.S. Census Bureau

Mr. Todd J. Zinser  
Inspector General  
U.S. Department of Commerce

Mr. Lester A. Farthing  
Regional Director  
U.S. Census Bureau NY Regional Census Center

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