
**OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR
GENERAL**

**RESOLUTION TRUST
CORPORATION**

January 26, 1994

Honorable Larry H. Colleton
United States Attorney
Middle District of Florida
500 Zack Street
Tampa, Florida 33602

Dear Mr. Colleton:

I would like to commend Assistant United States Attorney Mark Jay Krum for his outstanding efforts in the prosecution of United States v. James M. Claassen and D. Richard Claassen.

Both James M. Claassen, a Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) Bank Examiner and real estate investor, and D. Richard Claassen, his father, were convicted on December 11, 1993, after a seven day jury trial in Tampa. They were each found guilty of making false statements and conspiring to defraud the Resolution Trust Corporation (RTC) by inappropriately obtaining property through an RTC Affordable Housing Disposition Program auction. This case was of particular significance to the RTC due to the widespread abuse in this important program. The deterrent effect of this conviction will be felt nationwide and will help deserving buyers to obtain affordable housing without unfair competition from investors.

I have been advised that Mr. Krum handled this case with the highest level of professionalism and competence. Mr. Krum worked tirelessly and sacrificed many evenings and weekends to prepare for the trial. His thorough preparation, his knowledge of the law, and his trial experience enabled the government to win the case.

Please express my thanks to Mr. Krum for his dedication and professionalism in handling this case. We look forward to working with him in the future.

Sincerely,



John J. Adair
Inspector General