

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 21, 2017

The Honorable Stephen E. Boyd
Acting Assistant Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Legislative Affairs
950 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Acting Assistant Attorney General Boyd:

Thank you for your November 17 and December 1 responses to our July 11, September 26, and October 17, 2017 inquiries regarding the Department of Justice's (DOJ or "the Department") involvement with the Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity ("the Commission"). We also appreciate your provision, under separate cover, of DOJ's 2000 letter to Rep. John Linder ("Linder Letter") setting forth the Department's position regarding responses to Congressional inquiries into issues relating to "open matters."¹ It is our understanding that the Linder Letter reflects "the Department's longstanding policy not to disclose information or documents related to active litigation, beyond what is publicly available." We note, however, that the Supreme Court has held that the pendency of litigation does not prevent Congress from investigating facts that have a bearing on that litigation. See *Hutcheson v. United States*, 369 U.S. 599, 613 (1962) ("[T]he authority of [Congress], directly or through its committees, to require pertinent disclosures in aid of its own constitutional power is not abridged because the information sought to be elicited may also be of use in [pending] suits.") (quoting *Sinclair v. United States*, 279 U.S. 263, 295 (1929)). We are concerned, moreover, that the Department is relying on this policy selectively to justify withholding information not reasonably related to any pending or open litigation matter.

To the Department's credit, your responses provide substantive answers to a number of our requests for information. For example, we were relieved by the representations in your December 1 letter that "[t]he Department did not coordinate the sending of its June 28th letter [requesting state voter data] with the Commission," and that "[t]o the best of our knowledge, the sending of the Division's letter and the Commission's letter on the same day was sheer coincidence." Still, in light of the Attorney General's recent acknowledgment that the Department has "been asked for assistance [by the Commission] on several issues," serious unanswered questions remain about the Department's involvement with the Commission.

Given the Department's willingness to confirm that it did not coordinate with the Commission about the June 28 state voter data requests – which directly concerns issues "related to active litigation" involving the Commission's requests for such data – we are perplexed by your refusal to answer a host of questions that have little, if any, relation to ongoing litigation. The

¹ Letter from Robert Raben to Rep. John Linder re: "Cooperation Comity, and Confrontation: Congressional Oversight of the Executive Branch," Jan. 27, 2000.

Department's position is particularly striking in light of its decision last week to disclose to the media and Congress hundreds of private text messages between two FBI Agents who worked on Special Counsel Mueller's ongoing – and extremely sensitive – law enforcement investigation into Russian election interference. If your concerns about disclosure of information related to open matters – which the Linder Letter describes as “especially significant with respect to ongoing law enforcement investigations” – do not apply to the Special Counsel's investigation, it is difficult to see how they apply here. Simply put, the Department cannot have it both ways.

February 2017 Emails Among Hans von Spakovsky, an Unidentified Intermediary, and the Attorney General

On page 3 of our September 26 letter, we raised questions about the Attorney General's receipt of a February 2017 email from the Heritage Foundation's Hans von Spakovsky decrying the potential inclusion of Democrats and “mainstream Republican officials and/or academics” on the Commission. As we explained, an unidentified intermediary – whose identity was redacted in the Department's production – forwarded the email to the Attorney General's assistant with instructions to “please give this to JBS.” Mr. von Spakovsky was himself named to the Commission months later.

As you note, “[t]he Commission is a part of the Executive Office of the President, rather than the Department,” and the Department is “not affiliated with the Commission's official activities.” It is the maintenance of exactly that separation which concerns us. If partisan forces successfully exerted their influence with the Attorney General to shape the composition of the President's Commission, the American people deserve to know about that breach of the Department's political independence.

To that end, our September 26 letter asked what communications Department officials had had with Mr. von Spakovsky and a number of his known associates; what role Department officials played in selecting the members of the Commission; what role Department officials played in recommending Mr. von Spakovsky's eventual appointment to the Commission, and other questions. None of these questions – which concern events predating the existence of the Commission – is at all related to the various pending cases against the Commission, which concern the Commission's compliance with federal transparency and privacy laws. The Linder Letter therefore provides no plausible basis for the Department's unwillingness to answer these questions. Likewise, neither the Linder Letter nor FOIA Exemption 6 supports the Department's continued withholding of the unredacted February 2017 email thread. Respectfully, we ask that you please promptly produce this unredacted document and respond to Questions #1-9 of our September 26 letter.

Further with respect to this email thread, we thank you for and are reassured by your representation that the emails sent to the Attorney General's private email account were appropriately captured in the Department's recordkeeping systems, consistent with Department policy and federal law. Your response, however, did not address one of our questions: “If Attorney General Sessions did in fact use a private email address to correspond regarding relevant government business, in responding to [the Campaign Legal Center's] FOIA request, did the Department search for and collect emails from that private email address?” Your

December 1 response appears to acknowledge that Attorney General Sessions did, in fact, use a private email address to correspond about the planned Commission. We therefore repeat the question: *did the Department search for and collect emails from that private email address in responding to CLC's FOIA request?*

Nine Documents Listed in the Department's *Vaughn* Index

In our October 17 letter we requested the production of nine documents, identified on a *Vaughn* Index in litigation brought against the Commission by the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law (LCCR), which appear to show direct coordination between the Commission and the Department around "voting issue[s]," "collecting data from non-state entities," and other issues. While some of these documents may concern the Department's ongoing representation of the Commission in litigation, on the face of their descriptions in the Department's *Vaughn* Index, others plainly do not.

Nevertheless, citing the same "open matters" policy articulated in the Linder Letter, and noting that these documents are subject to a pending motion to compel in the LCCR case, the Department declined to produce the requested documents. Without access to these documents, however, it is difficult to reconcile our view of the available facts with the Department's assurance that it is "not aware of Department resources currently being used to support the Commission."

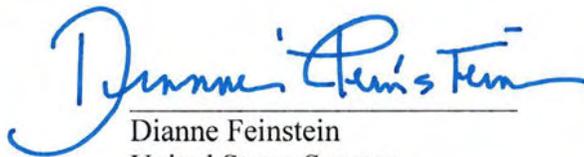
Here too, we have doubts about whether the concerns underlying the "open matters" policy pertain, or how disclosure of these documents "pose[s] an inherent threat to the integrity of the Department's law enforcement and litigation functions." In light of the pending motion to compel in the LCCR case, however, and in the spirit of the Linder Letter's recognition of the "obligations of Congress and the Executive Branch to seek to accommodate the legitimate needs of the other," we hope we can reach a mutually agreeable solution. To that end, please let us know if the Department will agree to make a representative available to review any non-privileged documents *in camera* with our staff.

Finally – and notwithstanding our disagreement over the scope of the Department's disclosure obligations discussed herein – we extend our appreciation for the Department's good faith efforts to address the concerns about responsiveness to Congressional inquiries outlined in our recent correspondence. We acknowledge the considerable volume of requests your office is handling, and thank you and your staff for your efforts in timely responding to our concerns.

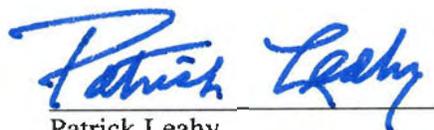
Sincerely,



Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator



Patrick Leahy
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Al Franken
United States Senator



Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator



Cory A. Booker
United States Senator

Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 2:01 PM
To: Patel, Kash; Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Cc: Nelson, Damon; Glabe, Scott; Stewart, Mark
Subject: RE: remaining text messages

Kash—good afternoon. In response to your questions below:

1. The Congressional Committees with jurisdiction of this matter received hand-delivered copies of the text messages last night. These messages were delivered prior to the Deputy Attorney General's testimony today before House Judiciary.
2. OLA cannot speak to OPA's briefing with the press. The messages reviewed by the press were the same messages delivered to the committees of jurisdiction.
3. DOJ acknowledges that there are many more text messages and, as stated previously, the Department will plan to deliver these to the committees of jurisdiction on a rolling basis to ensure the committees have these in as timely a manner as possible.
4. The text messages delivered last night are the ones most relevant to the committee's inquiries.

Thanks,
David

From: Patel, Kash (b) (6) Congressional Email
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:56 AM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6)
Cc: Nelson, Damon (b) (6) Congressional Email; Glabe, Scott (b) (6) Congressional Email; Stewart, Mark (b) (6) Congressional Email
Subject: RE: remaining text messages

Stephen and David,

Per the DAG's testimony before House Judiciary this morning, the DAG acknowledged that the press was invited to the DOJ yesterday evening to review all text messages in private, before they were given to Congressional Committees. The DAG has confirmed this happened, we now demand an answer as to how many text messages the press was able to review on the evening of December 13, 2017 at DOJ. If they were given access to more than those turned over to our Committee, then DOJ has until close of business today to produce all such messages to this Committee. We also require an explanation as to why the press was given access to text messages, and the justification for doing so prior to their production to this Committee, also do by COB today. Thanks very much.

Regards,
Kash

Kashyap P. Patel
Senior Counsel for Counterterrorism
House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

Desk: (b) (6)
Cell: (b) (6)
AIST: (b) (6)

NSTS: (b) (6)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) [<mailto:David.F.Lasseter@usdoj.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 9:59 AM
To: Patel, Kash (b) (6) Congressional Email
Cc: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Nelson, Damon
(b) (6) Congressional Email; Glabe, Scott (b) (6) Congressional Email; Stewart, Mark
(b) (6) Congressional Email
Subject: Re: remaining text messages

Kash—good morning. We continue to work on the additional requests. As we mentioned last week we wanted to get y'all these as soon as possible. The remainder will follow upon further review.

Confirming that y'all are on for tomorrow's review? What time will the Chairman and you/Scott arrive?

Thanks,
David

David F. Lasseter

On Dec 13, 2017, at 08:50, Patel, Kash (b) (6) Congressional Email wrote:

Stephen,

Thank you for your production last night of 375 text messages. At this time, we renew our request for the Committee to obtain the remaining approximately 9,500 messages and all other communications by the date outlined in our letter to DOJ last night (attached herein for quick reference). Thanks very much.

Regards,
Kash

Kashyap P. Patel
Senior Counsel for Counterterrorism
House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

Desk: (b) (6)
Cell: (b) (6)
NSTS: (b) (6)

<CHM ltr to DAG re Strzok & Page Communications - 12 Dec 17.pdf>

Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:21 AM
To: Foster, Jason (Judiciary-Rep)
Cc: Davis, Patrick (Judiciary-Rep); Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA); Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA); Parker, Daniel (Judiciary-Rep); Davis, Kolan (Judiciary-Rep)
Subject: RE: DOJ document review

Documents are on their way to you. They should be there in the next 30 minutes.

Thanks,
David

From: Foster, Jason (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 9:20 AM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Davis, Patrick (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6); Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Parker, Daniel (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6); Davis, Kolan (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6)
Subject: RE: DOJ document review

I just tried your number. No answer. We still don't have the production that you have apparently provided to everyone else. The Chairman deserves an explanation for the delay, and we need to see what you've provided everyone else ASAP. From press reports, it appears to be just a few hundred text messages. There should be no technical reason not to follow our normal protocol of electronic delivery. Why didn't you? If you are going to deviate from the normal electronic delivery protocol, OLA should be communicating that and the reason for doing so to the Chairman's designated O&I staff. Please call to discuss further. Thanks.

Cordially,

Jason Foster

Chief Investigative Counsel
Committee on the Judiciary

United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Direct: (b) (6)

From: Foster, Jason (Judiciary-Rep)
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 9:04 PM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <David.F.Lasseter@usdoj.gov>
Cc: Davis, Patrick (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6); Stephen E. Boyd (OLA) (b) (6); Mary.Blanche.Hankey2@usdoj.gov; Parker, Daniel (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: DOJ document review

Ok. Our front office got a call from a Ms. Hildebrand at [202-305-7851](tel:202-305-7851) trying to arrange for doc delivery

tonight.

We have press inquiries asking us to confirm the Strzok texts are being delivered to us tonight. That's the first I've heard of that potential timing. Unless delivery is via email, we cannot receive docs tonight. And we always request electronic delivery to our correspondence email address: CEG@judiciary-rep.senate.gov whenever technically possible.

Please make sure Dan, Patrick, and I are CC'd and contacted directly about document delivery arrangements. And please talk to the Committee directly first rather than previewing doc productions to the press, if that has happened for some reason. Thanks.

Cordially,
Jason

On Dec 12, 2017, at 6:47 PM, Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <David.F.Lasseter@usdoj.gov> wrote:

We can chat tomorrow. I just want to work out the details to get your Boss and yourselves a view of the docs next week.

From: Foster, Jason (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 6:19 PM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Davis, Patrick (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: DOJ document review

Sorry I missed your call. We can touch base in the morning if you are free then or tonight via my cell if it is urgent.

On Dec 12, 2017, at 3:55 PM, Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <David.F.Lasseter@usdoj.gov> wrote:

Just tried you...call when you are able.

David F. Lasseter
202-514-1260

From: Foster, Jason (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 12:24 PM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Flynn-Brown, Josh (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6);
(b) (6); Davis, Patrick (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6);
Parker, Daniel (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6); Sawyer, Heather (Judiciary-Dem) (b) (6); Breitenbach, Ryan (b) (6) Congressional Email;
Parmiter, Robert (b) (6) Congressional Email; Hiller, Aaron (b) (6) Congressional Email; Davis, Kolan (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6)
Cc: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Johnson, Joanne E. (OLA) <jojohnson@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: DOJ document review

Thanks. Wed would likely work better for SJC Majority staff.

When will you make them available on the Hill for the Chairman and Ranking Member to personally review? That was the procedure followed with previous documents such as the Comey memos and a subset of this set.

Cordially,

Jason Foster

Chief Investigative Counsel
Committee on the Judiciary

United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Direct: (b) (6)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) [<mailto:David.F.Lasseter@usdoj.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 12:10 PM

To: Flynn-Brown, Josh (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6); Foster, Jason (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6)

Davis, Patrick (Judiciary-Rep)

(b) (6) Parker, Daniel (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6)

(b) (6); Sawyer, Heather (Judiciary-Dem) (b) (6);

Breitenbach, Ryan (b) (6) Congressional Email; Parmiter, Robert

(b) (6) Congressional Email; Hiller, Aaron (b) (6) Congressional Email

Cc: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Johnson, Joanne E. (OLA)

<Joanne.E.Johnson@usdoj.gov>

Subject: RE: DOJ document review

All—good afternoon. To ensure clarity, this document review will occur at Main Justice during the below time slots. Please let me know who will attend.

Thanks,

David

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

Sent: Monday, December 11, 2017 5:49 PM

To: 'Flynn-Brown, Josh (Judiciary-Rep)' (b) (6); Foster, Jason (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6)

Davis, Patrick (Judiciary-Rep)

(b) (6); Parker, Daniel (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6)

(b) (6); Sawyer, Heather (Judiciary-Dem) (b) (6)

(b) (6); Breitenbach, Ryan (b) (6) Congressional Email; Parmiter, Robert'

(b) (6) Congressional Email; Hiller, Aaron (b) (6) Congressional Email

Cc: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6)

Subject: DOJ document review

All—good afternoon. The Department has agreed to accommodate a document review for the Chairman and Ranking Member, with two staffers each, of both SJC and HJC. These documents are related to previously received production requests and inquiries related to Mr. Steele. The times offered are listed below. Please let me know which times would work.

Monday 18 Dec 2-5pm

Wednesday 20 Dec 2-5pm

Thanks,

David

David F. Lasseter
Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
(202) 514-1260

Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:09 AM
To: Foster, Jason (Judiciary-Rep)
Cc: (b) (6) Senate Staffer Email
Subject: Re: DOJ document review

Jason—good morning. (b) (6)

We will fix this.

David F. Lasseter

On Dec 13, 2017, at 09:19, Foster, Jason (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6)
wrote:

Duplicative Material



Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:01 AM
To: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
Cc: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Subject: Re: DOJ document review

Gotcha. (b) (5)

David F. Lasseter

On Dec 13, 2017, at 09:54, Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

They refused to make a staffer available. (b) (5)

██████████ We were specifically directed to contact Dan who said they would not be available to receive delivery. Rich called us around 9:30 and also said that he was not available to receive the documents. (b) (5)

On Dec 13, 2017, at 9:47 AM, Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5)

David F. Lasseter

On Dec 13, 2017, at 09:28, Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6) wrote:

(b) (5)

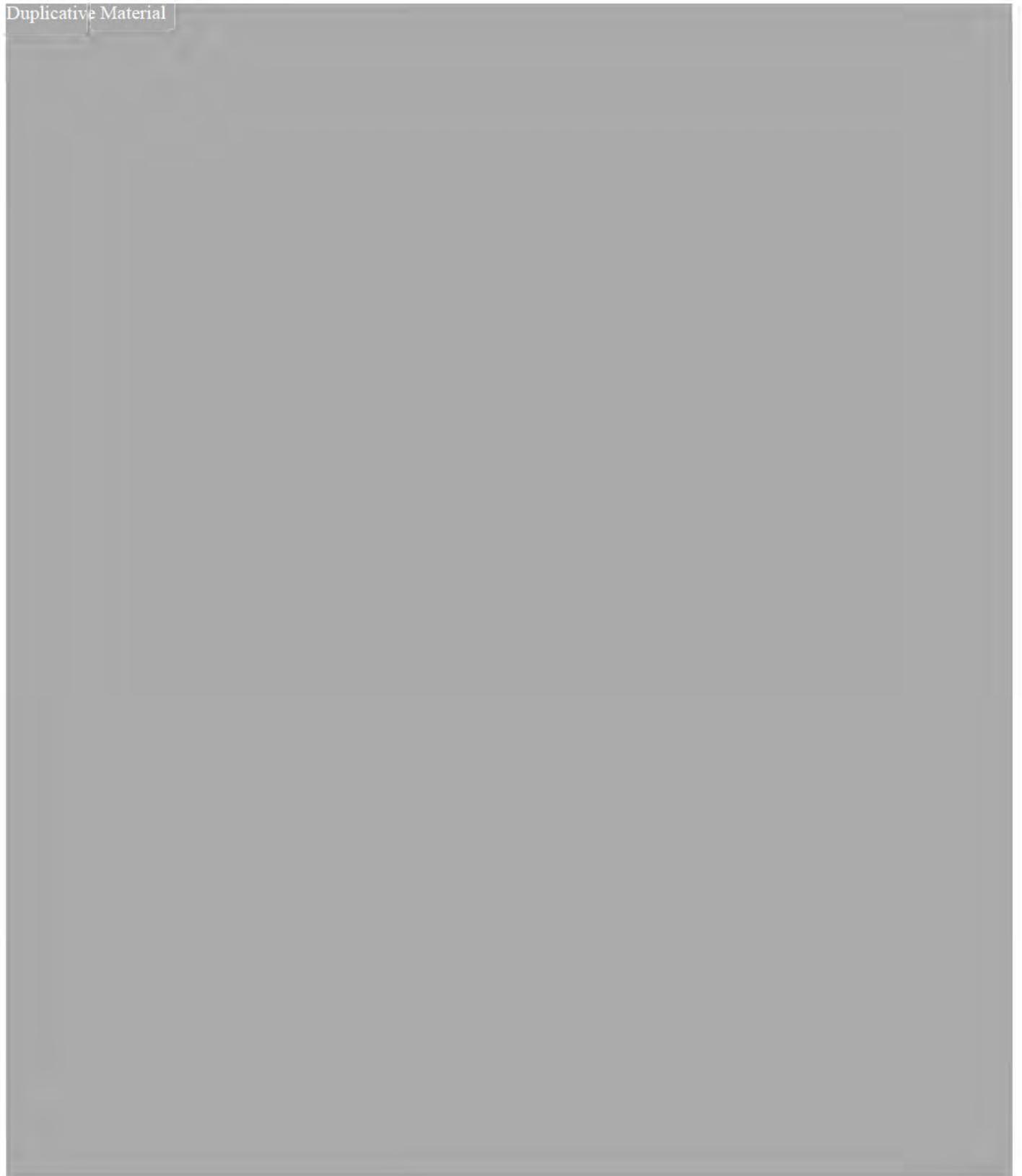
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Foster, Jason (Judiciary-Rep)"
(b) (6)
Date: December 13, 2017 at 9:19:44 AM EST
To: "Lasseter, David F. (OLA)"
<David.F.Lasseter@usdoj.gov>
Cc: "Davis, Patrick (Judiciary-Rep)"
(b) (6), "Stephen
E. Boyd (OLA)"
(b) (6)

(b) (6) "Mary.Blanche.Hankey
2@usdoj.gov"
<Mary.Blanche.Hankey2@usdoj.gov>, "Parker, Daniel
(Judiciary-Rep)" (b) (6)
, "Davis, Kolan (Judiciary-Rep)"
(b) (6)
Subject: RE: DOJ document review

Duplicative Material



Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 9:25 AM
To: Foster, Jason (Judiciary-Rep)
Cc: Davis, Patrick (Judiciary-Rep); Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA); Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA); Parker, Daniel (Judiciary-Rep)
Subject: Re: DOJ document review

Jason—good morning. I will give you a ring a bit later this morning.

Thanks,
David

David F. Lasseter

On Dec 12, 2017, at 21:04, Foster, Jason (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6) wrote:

Duplicative Material



Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 11:46 AM
To: Darren Samuelsohn
Cc: Josh Gerstein
Subject: RE: Sharing a POLITICO link: "DOJ fuels doubts about integrity of Mueller probe"

I meant to cc Josh since he knows that we waited until all congressional members had been provided their copies. Please check with your own reporters before writing something so false and easily disprovable in your own newsroom.

xxx

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 11:42 AM
To: 'Darren Samuelsohn' <dsamuelsohn@politico.com>
Subject: RE: Sharing a POLITICO link: "DOJ fuels doubts about integrity of Mueller probe"

I have said this repeatedly and your reporter who was here knows this. No reporter got anything from DOJ before congress. Every committee chairmand and ranking member of 5+ committees had the texts in advance of any reporter seeing it. Except the outlets that I understand already had the tweets weeks ago from another source.

PLEASE CORRECT IMMEDIATELY

Rosenstein also faced several questions from Democrats seeking an explanation about why reporters had gotten access to Strzok's text messages before the lawmakers.

xxx

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Darren Samuelsohn [<mailto:dsamuelsohn@politico.com>]
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 11:08 AM
To: Darren Samuelsohn <dsamuelsohn@politico.com>
Subject: Sharing a POLITICO link: "DOJ fuels doubts about integrity of Mueller probe"

Good morning,

Sharing my latest story published this AM in POLITICO: "**DOJ fuels doubts about integrity of Mueller probe**"

<https://www.politico.com/story/2017/12/14/justice-department-mueller-investigation-295483>

Please share on social media and with friends and colleagues. You can tag me @dsamuelsohn on Twitter.

Be in touch,

Darren Samuelsohn

Senior reporter, POLITICO

Desk: 703-842-1769

Cell: (b) (6)

Dsamuelsohn@politico.com

@dsamuelsohn

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 6:03 PM
To: New Byron York
Subject: RE: strzok texts

Here's my on the record response:

The Department ensures that its release of information from the Department to members of Congress or to the media is consistent with law, including the Privacy Act. As the Department's letter to Congress last night makes clear, this information was provided in response to requests from several Congressional committees for access to this information that was not subject to withholding exceptions. Notice and delivery of this information was made to the lawyers for the parties and the relevant congressional committees in advance of public release. Further, prior to release, career officials determined that the text messages could be released under both ethical and legal standards.

On background as a source familiar:

Around 375 texts were sent to the Hill last night. After those were delivered, some beat reporters over here were shown the packet that Congress received to ensure the reporting was accurate.

I'm confident the number is higher than that but I don't know the exact number.

I know this was only the first tranche. (Off the record: But my understanding is that members have not wanted all of the texts necessarily. And we would have redact texts that were of a purely personal nature --for example discussing children etc) I wouldn't know the context for these tweets. Strzok would have to speak to that during his hill testimony.

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

-----Original Message-----

From: New Byron York [(b) (6)]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 4:48 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: strzok texts

sarah...

on any basis you like...

how many of the strzok-page texts were shown to reporters last night?

and is the total number of strzok-page texts still thought to be 10,000?

is the department going to make *all* the texts available to the intelligence and judiciary committees of both house and senate? will there be some sort of arrangement for some of the texts, like staff can read them in a special room or something like that? but will the house and senate be able to see them

read them in a special room, or something like that: but will the house and senate be able to see them all?

and: what is the context for the 'insurance policy' tweet?

as always, thanks

byron

Press

From: Press
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 4:31 PM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Cc: Pettit, Mark T. (OPA)
Subject: FW: Harper's Magazine inquiry

Thank you - KS

From: Claire Bryan [mailto:west@harpers.org]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 4:25 PM
To: Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Harper's Magazine inquiry

Hi Kristen,

Thanks for speaking just now. I'm looking to gain access to text messages that were exchanged between FBI officials (Peter Strzok and Lisa Page) in March 2016 that the Department of Justice reviewed.

Can you connect me to someone who could provide these documents for me? You can reach me at 212-420-5741. My deadline is Friday.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Best,
Claire Bryan

Claire Bryan
Editorial Assistant
west@harpers.org
212.420.5741

Harper's Magazine
666 Broadway, 11th Floor
New York, NY 10012
<https://harpers.org>

Prior, Ian (OPA)

From: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 4:09 PM
To: Daniel Friedman
Subject: RE: Statement on release of Strzok texts?

Develin – another beat reporter, as is Paula Reid and Del Wilbur

<https://twitter.com/DevlinBarrett/status/941026249396375552>

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Daniel Friedman [mailto:DFriedman@motherjones.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 4:06 PM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Statement on release of Strzok texts?

Thanks.

From: Prior, Ian (OPA) <Ian.Prior@usdoj.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:43:29 PM
To: Daniel Friedman
Subject: RE: Statement on release of Strzok texts?

“The Department ensures that its release of information from the Department to members of Congress or to the media is consistent with law, including the Privacy Act. As the Department’s letter to Congress last night makes clear, this information was provided in response to requests from several Congressional committees for access to this information that was not subject to withholding exceptions. Notice and delivery of this information was made to the lawyers for the parties and the relevant congressional committees in advance of public release. Further, prior to release, career officials determined that the text messages could be released under both ethical and legal standards.”

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Daniel Friedman [<mailto:DFriedman@motherjones.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:40 PM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Statement on release of Strzok texts?

Thanks. If you get more in his I'd like to know, even if the record. That does seem to me like the part where this is perhaps unusual.

Thanks,
Dan

From: Prior, Ian (OPA) <Ian.Prior@usdoj.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:27:07 AM
To: Daniel Friedman
Subject: RE: Statement on release of Strzok texts?

Off the record, I honestly don't know the process. Will have to check

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Daniel Friedman [<mailto:DFriedman@motherjones.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:23 AM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Statement on release of Strzok texts?

Just recalled one question I should have asked: These texts were given/obtained by the IG and turned over to Congress as the result of members' request, I believe. Do they pass through the comms office as part of the process through which the leg. affairs people turn them over to the Hill?

From: Prior, Ian (OPA) <Ian.Prior@usdoj.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:14 AM
To: Daniel Friedman
Subject: RE: Statement on release of Strzok texts?

Just called you

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Daniel Friedman [<mailto:DFriedman@motherjones.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:11 AM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Statement on release of Strzok texts?

Do you have handy prior examples of instances in which DOJ provided information to the press that was also sent to Hill, to avoid confusion? I personally have never received something like that.

From: Prior, Ian (OPA) <Ian.Prior@usdoj.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:59:30 AM
To: Daniel Friedman
Subject: RE: Statement on release of Strzok texts?

yes

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Daniel Friedman [<mailto:DFriedman@motherjones.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:58 AM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Statement on release of Strzok texts?

Thanks. Are the texts shared the same as the ones the Hill got? I was under impression Fox saw more texts than were turned over to the Hill.

From: Prior, Ian (OPA) <Ian.Prior@usdoj.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:56:04 AM
To: Daniel Friedman
Subject: RE: Statement on release of Strzok texts?

From DOJ official:
We often provide information we give to Congressional committees to avoid any confusion.

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Daniel Friedman [<mailto:DFriedman@motherjones.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:55 AM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Statement on release of Strzok texts?

Ian,
Do you have a statement you can share on DOJ allowing some reporters to view Strzok/
Page texts? Saw reference to that on twitter.

Can I see them too?

Thanks,
Dan Friedman
202.290.5424

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 4:02 PM
To: Emma Loop
Subject: RE: texts

Yes. Sourcing rule stays the same as yall agreed to.

xxx

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Emma Loop [mailto:emma.loop@buzzfeed.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:59 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: texts

Hi Sarah,

I was just at the DOJ copying the text messages between Strzok and Page. Matt told me we aren't to attribute the texts to you but multiple lawmakers spoke about the DOJ allowing reporters to view the texts at the House Judiciary Committee hearing today, and DAG Rosenstein said he believed it was true. Do we still need to avoid attributing to DOJ?

Thanks,

Emma

Emma Loop | **BuzzFeed News** | Capitol Hill Reporter, Washington | c: (b) (6) (on Signal) | d: 202-602-1706
| PGP: <http://bit.ly/2pCPTjT> | Twitter: [@LoopEmma](https://twitter.com/LoopEmma) | buzzfeed.com/emmaloop

Got a confidential tip? Here's how to send it to us: tips.buzzfeed.com

Prior, Ian (OPA)

From: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:17 PM
To: Michael Isikoff
Cc: Pettit, Mark T. (OPA)
Subject: RE: fbi text messages

We haven't sent them to anyone and have been letting people come to view and report on in camera. Ccing Mark as you are welcome to do so as well

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Michael Isikoff [mailto:misikoff@oath.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:11 PM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: fbi text messages

Hi Ian-- can you forward me a complete copy of the text messages you released last nite?

Mike Isikoff
Yahoo News
c (b) (6)

Prior, Ian (OPA)

From: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:07 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA); Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com
Subject: RE: A couple of Strzok questions

There is someone from Reuters that came in to view

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs Department of Justice Office: 202.616.0911 Cell:
(b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click here.

-----Original Message-----

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:06 PM
To: Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com
Cc: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: A couple of Strzok questions

Yes, these are the pertinent texts as determined by the IG as our letter to congress addresses this. Ian can send you a copy.

We sent you a statement that career officials approved the release on legal and ethical grounds that included the release to both congress and the media.

> On Dec 13, 2017, at 2:53 PM, "Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com" <Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com> wrote:

>

> Colleagues tell me There are clearly SMSs omitted from the message chains in these documents. Who made the decision to omit them, the IG or DOJ? Secondly as I understand it career officials authorized release of messages to Congress but not to Media. Who explicitly authorized media release ? Tks mh

>

> Sent from my iPhone

Prior, Ian (OPA)

From: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 2:30 PM
To: Jurecic, Quinta
Subject: RE: Comment on Strzok/Page texts

On the record statement below. Off the record, in response to these criticisms that something unprecedented happened last night -> <https://twittercom/DevlinBarrett/status/941026249396375552>

"The Department ensures that its release of information from the Department to members of Congress or to the media is consistent with law, including the Privacy Act. As the Department's letter to Congress last night makes clear, this information was provided in response to requests from several Congressional committees for access to this information that was not subject to withholding exceptions. Notice and delivery of this information was made to the lawyers for the parties and the relevant congressional committees in advance of public release. Further, prior to release, career officials determined that the text messages could be released under both ethical and legal standards."

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Jurecic, Quinta [mailto:Quinta.Jurecic@washpost.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 2:26 PM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comment on Strzok/Page texts

Hi Ian,

I've seen numerous commenters express concern over the Justice Department's decision to provide the press and Congress with text messages between Lisa Page and Peter Strzok. How would the Justice Department address criticisms of the decision as unusual or potentially politicizing of an ongoing investigation? Can I ask how the Office of Legislative Affairs came to obtain the text messages? Were the documents provided to the office by the Office of the Inspector General?

Also, during this morning's hearing, DAG Rosenstein stated that the Inspector General had planned to release a report in November but had been delayed. Do you know if the November report would have concerned the entire IG investigation into the handling of the Clinton email probe, or was it only concerning Strzok and Page's relationship?

Thanks,
Quinta

Quinta Jurecic
The Washington Post
Office: 202 334 7330
Cell: (b) (6)

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 1:03 PM
To: Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com
Cc: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Subject: Re: Strzok emails

As the dag just testified, the IG approved the release.

On Dec 13, 2017, at 12:38 PM, "Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com" <Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com> wrote:

what kind of career officials approved release ? Did IG approve ? and if it is so non controversial why did you release material in what I hear was a somewhat sneaky way ?

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 13, 2017, at 12:20, Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov> wrote:

The Department ensures that its release of information from the Department to members of Congress or to the media is consistent with law, including the Privacy Act. As the Department's letter to Congress last night makes clear, this information was provided in response to requests from several Congressional committees for access to this information that was not subject to withholding exceptions. Notice and delivery of this information was made to the lawyers for the parties and the relevant congressional committees in advance of public release. Further, prior to release, career officials determined that the text messages could be released under both ethical and legal standards.

On Dec 13, 2017, at 12:16 PM, "Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com" <Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com> wrote:

cool tks

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) [<mailto:Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 12:12 PM
To: Hosenball, Mark J. (Reuters)
Cc: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Subject: Re: Strzok emails

Statement coming

On Dec 13, 2017, at 12:05 PM, "Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com" <Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com> wrote:

I gather DAG just told Congress the Strzok emails were somehow approved for public release. By whom ? under what legal authority ? Did IG sign off on that ? Please advise. tks mh

From: Hosenball, Mark J. (Reuters)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:28 AM
To: 'Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)'; Prior, Ian (OPA)
Subject: Strzok emails

<http://www.businessinsider.com/peter-strzok-page-texts-mueller-russia-trump-2017-12>

So this story says that DOJ invited reporters to your offices yesterday night to give them access to private text messages exchanged between Peter Strzok and Lisa Page. The story says that this material was originally obtained by DOJ as part of an investigation by Justice Department IG into how the FBI handled its inquiry into Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server while she was Secretary of State. Isn't it quite unorthodox, if not unethical or even illegal, for DOJ to deliberately make public or leak evidence collected in an IG investigation ? Who is it who ultimately authorized or instructed DOJ to allow journalists to see this evidence ? Was AG Sessions involved ? Was the White House involved or was anyone in the White House consulted ? We might be writing a story about this today so your quick response most welcome. Many thanks indeed. mh

Prior, Ian (OPA)

From: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 12:55 PM
To: (b) (6) Eli Lake Email
Subject: FW: This is Eli Lake from Bloomberg View. Deadline query on text messages

Yes. Off the record, I would note that we invited Chris Strohm who declined.

On the record statement:

The Department ensures that its release of information from the Department to members of Congress or to the media is consistent with law, including the Privacy Act. As the Department's letter to Congress last night makes clear, this information was provided in response to requests from several Congressional committees for access to this information that was not subject to withholding exceptions. Notice and delivery of this information was made to the lawyers for the parties and the relevant congressional committees in advance of public release. Further, prior to release, career officials determined that the text messages could be released under both ethical and legal standards.

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Press
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 12:51 PM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Pettit, Mark T. (OPA) <mtpettit@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: FW: This is Eli Lake from Bloomberg View. Deadline query on text messages

Thanks-KJ

From: Eli Lake (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 12:47 PM
To: Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: This is Eli Lake from Bloomberg View. Deadline query on text messages

Business Insider is reporting that DoJ invited reporters Tuesday evening to view text messages the department was going to send to Congress between Peter Strzok and Lisa Page.

Is this accurate? If so, why was this done? What about the due process rights of Page and Strzok? On deadline. My number is 917 213 0804

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 12:27 PM
To: Zoe Tillman
Subject: Re: Strzok texts

Yes.

On Dec 13, 2017, at 12:26 PM, Zoe Tillman <zoe.tillman@buzzfeed.com> wrote:

Can DOJ confirm that the texts were provided to Congress on Tuesday?

On Wed, Dec 13, 2017 at 10:33 AM, Zoe Tillman <zoe.tillman@buzzfeed.com> wrote:
Roger that, thanks.

On Wed, Dec 13, 2017 at 10:24 AM, Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
<Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov> wrote:

To the hill. Not to reporters. You'll notice when sourcing other outlets have said they "obtained" them. If that doesn't work for y'all, let me know.

On Dec 13, 2017, at 10:03 AM, Zoe Tillman <zoe.tillman@buzzfeed.com> wrote:

Thanks, can you explain what you mean in saying we couldn't source them to DOJ? Several reports said the texts were "released" by DOJ.

On Dec 13, 2017 9:56 AM, "Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)"
<Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov> wrote:

We have a hard copy you can review at the office. You can't take them with you, take pictures, or source them (to doj or otherwise).

Mark will be the one to work with on that.

On Dec 13, 2017, at 9:53 AM, Zoe Tillman <zoe.tillman@buzzfeed.com> wrote:

Good morning - are you providing the Strzok texts, or do I need to ask someone else?

Thanks,
Zoe

--

Zoe Tillman | **BuzzFeed News** | Reporter
O: 202-602-1705 | M: (b) (6) | @zoetillman
[1630 Connecticut Avenue NW, 7th Floor, Washington, DC 20009](https://www.buzzfeednews.com/)

--

Zoe Tillman | **BuzzFeed News** | Reporter

O: [202-602-1705](tel:202-602-1705) | M: (b) (6) | @zoetillman

1630 Connecticut Avenue NW, 7th Floor, Washington, DC 20009

--

Zoe Tillman | **BuzzFeed News** | Reporter

O: 202-602-1705 | M: (b) (6) | @zoetillman

1630 Connecticut Avenue NW, 7th Floor, Washington, DC 20009

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 12:12 PM
To: Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com
Cc: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Subject: Re: Strzok emails

Statement coming

On Dec 13, 2017, at 12:05 PM, "Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com" <Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com> wrote:

I gather DAG just told Congress the Strzok emails were somehow approved for public release. By whom ? under what legal authority ? Did IG sign off on that ? Please advise. tks mh

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Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:28 AM
To: 'Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)'; Prior, Ian (OPA)
Subject: Strzok emails

<http://www.businessinsider.com/peter-strzok-page-texts-mueller-russia-trump-2017-12>

So this story says that DoJ invited reporters to your offices yesterday night to give them access to private text messages exchanged between Peter Strzok and Lisa Page. The story says that this material was originally obtained by DoJ as part of an investigation by Justice Department IG into how the FBI handled its inquiry into Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server while she was Secretary of State. Isn't it quite unorthodox, if not unethical or even illegal, for DoJ to deliberately make public or leak evidence collected in an IG investigation ? Who is it who ultimately authorized or instructed DoJ to allow journalists to see this evidence ? Was AG Sessions involved ? Was the White House involved or was anyone in the White House consulted ? We might be writing a story about this today so your quick response most welcome. Many thanks indeed. mh

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 12:05 PM
To: Marisa Schultz
Subject: Re: text messages between Page/Strzok

If it's an electronic release then we will.

On Dec 13, 2017, at 12:04 PM, Marisa Schultz <marisa.schultz@nypost.com> wrote:

Any chance you can include me in potential future releases?

Marisa Schultz
New York Post
Washington Bureau
marisa.schultz@nypost.com
(b) (6) cell

On Wed, Dec 13, 2017 at 11:59 AM, Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
<Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov> wrote:

The invite went to outlets that have DOJ badges.

On Dec 13, 2017, at 11:54 AM, Marisa Schultz <marisa.schultz@nypost.com> wrote:

Hey Sarah,

Wanted to reach out to you regarding the text messages released last night to certain reporters. Our readers at the New York Post are very much interested in this story -- as you can probably tell by our past covers.

Any idea why we were excluded from an invite to see the messages?:

Best,
Marisa

Marisa Schultz
New York Post
Washington Bureau
marisa.schultz@nypost.com
(b) (6) cell

Prior, Ian (OPA)

From: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:59 AM
To: Daniel Friedman
Subject: RE: Statement on release of Strzok texts?

yes

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Daniel Friedman [mailto:DFriedman@motherjones.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:58 AM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Statement on release of Strzok texts?

Thanks. Are the texts shared the same as the ones the Hill got? I was under impression Fox saw more texts than were turned over to the Hill.

From: Prior, Ian (OPA) <Ian.Prior@usdoj.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:56:04 AM
To: Daniel Friedman
Subject: RE: Statement on release of Strzok texts?

From DOJ official:
We often provide information we give to Congressional committees to avoid any confusion.

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Daniel Friedman [mailto:DFriedman@motherjones.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:55 AM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Statement on release of Strzok texts?

Ian,

Re: Statement on release of Strzok texts - DOJ's response to the Hill

Do you have a statement you can share on DOJ allowing some reporters to view Strzok/
Page texts? Saw reference to that on twitter.

Can I see them too?

Thanks,
Dan Friedman
202.290.5424

Prior, Ian (OPA)

From: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:39 AM
To: Natasha Bertrand
Subject: RE: FW: DOJ invited reporters over to DOJ to view Strzok/Page texts

Statement stands

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Natasha Bertrand [mailto:nbertrand@businessinsider.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:38 AM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: FW: DOJ invited reporters over to DOJ to view Strzok/Page texts

Even amid an ongoing OIG investigation?

On Wed, Dec 13, 2017 at 10:35 AM, Prior, Ian (OPA) <Ian.Prior@usdoj.gov> wrote:

From DOJ official:

We often provide information we give to Congressional committees to avoid any confusion.

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: [202.616.0911](tel:202.616.0911)
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Press
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:34 AM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Pettit, Mark T. (OPA) <mtpettit@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: FW: DOJ invited reporters over to DOJ to view Strzok/Page texts

Thank you-KJ

From: Natasha Bertrand [mailto:nbertrand@businessinsider.com]

From: Natasha Bertrand (nbertrand@businessinsider.com)

Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:26 AM

To: Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>

Subject: DOJ invited reporters over to DOJ to view Strzok/Page texts

Hi there,

I'm wondering what the DOJ's rationale was for inviting reporters over to view Strzok/Page texts on Tuesday amid the ongoing OIG investigaton.

Thank you,

Natasha

--

Natasha Bertrand

Political Correspondent Business Insider

[631.317.8409](tel:631.317.8409)

[@NatashaBertrand](https://twitter.com/NatashaBertrand)

--

Natasha Bertrand

Political Correspondent Business Insider

[631.317.8409](tel:631.317.8409)

[@NatashaBertrand](https://twitter.com/NatashaBertrand)

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:25 AM
To: Zoe Tillman
Cc: Prior, Ian (OPA); Pettit, Mark T. (OPA)
Subject: Re: Strzok texts

To the hill. Not to reporters. You'll notice when sourcing other outlets have said they "obtained" them. If that doesn't work for y'all, let me know.

On Dec 13, 2017, at 10:03 AM, Zoe Tillman <zoe.tillman@buzzfeed.com> wrote:

Thanks, can you explain what you mean in saying we couldn't source them to DOJ? Several reports said the texts were "released" by DOJ.

On Dec 13, 2017 9:56 AM, "Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)" <Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov> wrote:

We have a hard copy you can review at the office. You can't take them with you, take pictures, or source them (to doj or otherwise).

Mark will be the one to work with on that.

On Dec 13, 2017, at 9:53 AM, Zoe Tillman <zoe.tillman@buzzfeed.com> wrote:

Good morning - are you providing the Strzok texts, or do I need to ask someone else?

Thanks,
Zoe

--

Zoe Tillman | **BuzzFeed News** | Reporter
O: [202-602-1705](tel:202-602-1705) | M: (b) (6) | @zoetillman
[1630 Connecticut Avenue NW, 7th Floor, Washington, DC 20009](https://www.buzzfeednews.com/author/zoe-tillman)

Prior, Ian (OPA)

From: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 9:54 AM
To: Zoe Tillman; Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Subject: RE: Strzok texts

You can come here to review

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Zoe Tillman [mailto:zoe.tillman@buzzfeed.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 9:53 AM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Strzok texts

Good morning - are you providing the Strzok texts, or do I need to ask someone else?

Thanks,
Zoe

--

Zoe Tillman | **BuzzFeed News** | Reporter
O: 202-602-1705 | M: (b) (6) | @zoetillman
1630 Connecticut Avenue NW, 7th Floor, Washington, DC 20009

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 10:00 PM
To: Chuck Ross
Subject: Re: Strzok texts

We provided to 5 committees on the hill. I don't have an electronic copy.

> On Dec 12, 2017, at 9:59 PM, Chuck Ross <chuck@dailycaller.com> wrote:

>

> Hi Sarah,

>

> I'm trying to track down the Strzok text messages. I guess we were about the only outlet not to receive the release. I'm seeing it was through Rosenstein's office but wasn't sure if this was a public release or a mass leak of some sort.

>

> Do you have any guidance?

>

> Thank you,

> Chuck Ross

> The Daily Caller



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

The Honorable Ron Johnson
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security
And Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

JAN 05 2018

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This further responds to your letter to the Deputy Attorney General dated December 6, 2017, pertaining to the public reports of text messages exchanged between Federal Bureau of Investigation employees Peter Strzok and Lisa Page. On December 12, 2017, the Department delivered to the Committee text messages responsive to your request. In the transmittal letter, the Department confirmed that review of the text messages is ongoing and committed to providing additional relevant text messages in the future.

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) informed the Office of the Deputy Attorney General (ODAG) and the Special Counsel of the existence of the previously provided text messages on or about July 27, 2017. Mr. Mueller immediately concluded that Mr. Strzok could no longer participate in the investigation, and he was removed from the team. The Department continues to review the text messages and will evaluate whether Mr. Strzok sent or received similar text messages pertaining to any other investigation during the relevant time period. The Department's OIG and Office of Professional Responsibility investigate non-frivolous allegations of misconduct, and neither of them has brought to the attention of the Department's leadership any allegations regarding similar conduct.

As the Inspector General noted to you in his letter of December 13, 2017, he has not made a referral to the Office of Special Counsel (OSC). In January 2017, the OIG initiated a "review of allegations regarding certain actions by the Department of Justice (Department) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in advance of the 2016 election."¹ As he noted in his letter to you, he will make a determination whether to refer the matter to OSC upon completion of that review. The Department will consider the OIG's findings in making its own determination about a possible referral to OSC. Consistent with statutory requirements, the

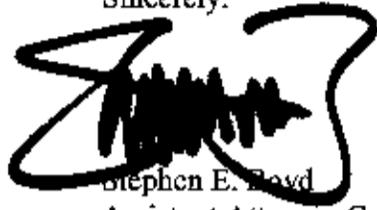
¹DOJ OIG Announces Initiation of Review, January 12, 2017, available at: <https://oig.justice.gov/press/2017/2017-01-12.pdf>

The Honorable Ron Johnson
Page Two

Department would certainly cooperate with any independent review undertaken by OSC with respect to this matter.

We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact this office if we may provide additional assistance regarding this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen E. Boyd", enclosed within a large, stylized, handwritten flourish or scribble.

Stephen E. Boyd
Assistant Attorney General

cc: The Honorable Claire McCaskill
Ranking Member



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

The Honorable Ron Johnson
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

DEC 12 2017

Dear Chairman Johnson,

This responds to the Committee's request that the Department of Justice (Department) provide the Committee with copies of text message communications between Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) employees Peter Strzok and Lisa Page. We are sending letters and identical enclosures to a number of Congressional Committees that have made similar requests.

As you may know, on January 12, 2016, the Department of Justice's Office of Inspector General (OIG) publicly announced that the OIG would review "allegations that Department or FBI policies or procedures were not followed in connection with, or in actions leading up to or related to, the FBI Director's public announcement on July 5, 2016,¹ and the Director's letters to Congress on October 28 and November 6, 2016, and that certain underlying investigative decisions were based on improper considerations."² As part of that review, the OIG obtained, among other things, text messages between Mr. Strzok and Ms. Page.

The Department expected the documents provided herein to be provided as part of a completed OIG report. However, public reporting about the existence of the text messages prompted Congressional Committee requests for the text messages. Please find enclosed an initial disclosure of approximately 375 text message communications, dated August 16, 2015 to December 1, 2016, that have been identified as pertinent to the OIG review referenced above. The enclosed documents contain minimal redactions that protect the privacy interests of third parties and sensitive law enforcement information, and remove irrelevant information. The Department continues to review documents and will provide pertinent documents as they become available.

¹ On that date, then-FBI Director James B. Comey announced that the FBI was recommending to the Department of Justice that no charges should be filed relating to former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server.

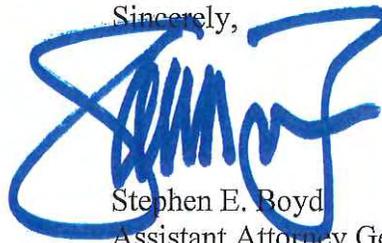
² DOJ OIG Announces Initiation of Review, January 12, 2017, available at: <https://oig.justice.gov/press/2017/2017-01-12.pdf>

The Honorable Ron Johnson
Page Two

As has been publicly reported, Mr. Strzok previously served on the investigative team led by Special Counsel Robert Mueller. The OIG informed the Special Counsel of the existence of the enclosed text messages on or about July 27, 2017. Mr. Mueller immediately concluded that Mr. Strzok could no longer participate in the investigation, and he was removed from the team.

This extraordinary accommodation of providing the enclosed documents is unique to the facts and circumstances of this particular matter. The Department appreciates the work of the OIG on this matter, looks forward to the findings and recommendations arising from that review, and will take appropriate action as warranted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. Boyd", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Stephen E. Boyd
Assistant Attorney General

cc: The Honorable Claire McCaskill
Ranking Member

Enclosures

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

December 6, 2017

The Honorable Rod J. Rosenstein
Acting Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Acting Attorney General Rosenstein:

I understand the Department of Justice (DOJ) is reviewing thousands of electronic text messages sent and received by Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) employees Peter Strzok and Lisa Page for production to Congress.¹ These text messages exchanged between Strzok and Page reportedly “expressed anti-Trump political views.”² I write to seek more information about your awareness of these text messages and what actions, if any, you took in response.

Strzok reportedly “helped lead” the FBI’s investigation into former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton’s handling of classified information through her use of a private email server.³ During the FBI’s investigation of Secretary Clinton, Strzok participated in interviews of Clinton, Huma Abedin, Cheryl Mills, Heather Samuelson, and Jake Sullivan.⁴ In addition, Strzok reportedly edited then-FBI Director James Comey’s statement about Secretary Clinton, changing the description of her actions from “grossly negligent” to “extremely careless.”⁵

After you tapped Robert Mueller as special counsel to examine potential Russian interference in the 2016 election,⁶ Strzok reportedly began “play[ing] a major role” in the investigation.⁷ Mueller removed Strzok from the investigation after becoming aware of the text message allegations.⁸

To understand your awareness of these text messages and the Department’s actions in response, I respectfully request the following information:

¹ See, e.g., Jake Gibson, ‘Over 10,000 texts’ between ex-Mueller officials found, after discovery of anti-Trump messages, Fox News, Dec. 6, 2017.

² Michael S. Schmidt, Matt Apuzzo & Adam Goldman, *Mueller removed top agent in Russia inquiry over possible anti-Trump texts*, N.Y. Times, Dec. 2, 2017.

³ *Id.*

⁴ Fed. Bureau of Investigation, 302s of Clinton Investigation (2015-16) (on file with Comm.).

⁵ Laura Jarrett & Evan Perez, *FBI agent dismissed from Mueller probe changed Comey’s description of Clinton to ‘extremely careless,’* CNN, Dec. 4, 2017.

⁶ Devlin Barrett, Sari Horowitz, & Matt Zapposky, *Deputy attorney general appoints special counsel to oversee probe of Russian interference in election*, Wash. Post, May 18, 2017.

⁷ Schmidt, Apuzzo & Goldman, *supra* note 2.

⁸ *Id.*

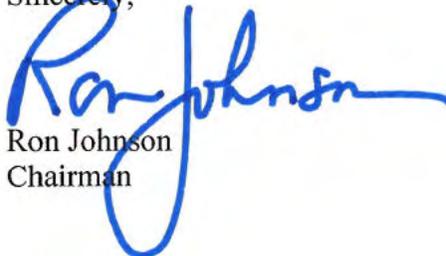
1. When and how did you become aware of the text messages allegedly exchanged between FBI employees Peter Strzok and Lisa Page?
2. When and how did the Special Counsel Robert Mueller notify you of the allegations and the decision to remove Peter Strzok?
3. Did you or the Special Counsel Robert Mueller refer these allegations to the U.S. Office of Special Counsel to pursue a potential Hatch Act inquiry? If not, why not?
4. Is the Department aware of any similar text messages sent or received by Peter Strzok during any other investigation?
5. Is the Department aware of any similar allegations involving other government officials?
6. Please produce all documents and communications sent or received by Peter Strzok and Lisa Page referring or relating to candidates for the 2016 presidential election or indicative of political bias.

Please respond as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on December 13, 2017, so that the Committee may begin to receive responsive information.

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized by Rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate to investigate “the efficiency, economy, and effectiveness of all agencies and departments of the Government.”⁹ Additionally, S. Res. 62 (115th Congress) authorizes the Committee to examine “the efficiency and economy of all branches and functions of Government with particular references to the operations and management of Federal regulatory policies and programs.”¹⁰

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Brian Downey of the Committee staff at (b) (6). Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Ron Johnson
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Claire McCaskill
Ranking Member

Enclosure

⁹ S. Rule XXV(k); *see also* S. Res. 445, 108th Cong. (2004).

¹⁰ S. Res. 62 § 12, 115th Cong. (2017).



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

The Honorable Robert W. Goodlatte
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

DEC 12 2017

Dear Chairman Goodlatte,

This responds to your December 5, 2017 request to the Department of Justice (Department) requesting that the Department provide the Committee with copies of text message communications between Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) employees Peter Strzok and Lisa Page. We are sending letters and identical enclosures to a number of Congressional Committees that have made similar requests.

As you may know, on January 12, 2016, the Department of Justice's Office of Inspector General (OIG) publicly announced that the OIG would review "allegations that Department or FBI policies or procedures were not followed in connection with, or in actions leading up to or related to, the FBI Director's public announcement on July 5, 2016,¹ and the Director's letters to Congress on October 28 and November 6, 2016, and that certain underlying investigative decisions were based on improper considerations."² As part of that review, the OIG obtained, among other things, text messages between Mr. Strzok and Ms. Page.

The Department expected the documents provided herein to be provided as part of a completed OIG report. However, public reporting about the existence of the text messages prompted Congressional Committee requests for the text messages. Please find enclosed an initial disclosure of approximately 375 text message communications, dated August 16, 2015 to December 1, 2016, that have been identified as pertinent to the OIG review referenced above. The enclosed documents contain minimal redactions that protect the privacy interests of third parties and sensitive law enforcement information, and remove irrelevant information. The Department continues to review documents and will provide pertinent documents as they become available.

¹ On that date, then-FBI Director James B. Comey announced that the FBI was recommending to the Department of Justice that no charges should be filed relating to former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server.

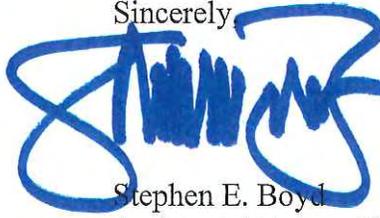
² DOJ OIG Announces Initiation of Review, January 12, 2017, available at: <https://oig.justice.gov/press/2017/2017-01-12.pdf>

The Honorable Robert Goodlatte
Page Two

As has been publicly reported, Mr. Strzok previously served on the investigative team led by Special Counsel Robert Mueller. The OIG informed the Special Counsel of the existence of the enclosed text messages on or about July 27, 2017. Mr. Mueller immediately concluded that Mr. Strzok could no longer participate in the investigation, and he was removed from the team.

This extraordinary accommodation of providing the enclosed documents is unique to the facts and circumstances of this particular matter. The Department appreciates the work of the OIG on this matter, looks forward to the findings and recommendations arising from that review, and will take appropriate action as warranted.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. Boyd", with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Stephen E. Boyd
Assistant Attorney General

cc: The Honorable Jerrold Nadler
Ranking Member

Enclosures

BOB GOODLATTE, Virginia
CHAIRMAN

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PRAMILA JAYAPAL, Washington

ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

(202) 225-3951

<http://www.house.gov/judiciary>

December 12, 2017

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
The Honorable Rod J. Rosenstein
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Sessions and Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein:

Over the past several weeks, there has been widespread media reporting about former FBI counterintelligence supervisor Peter Strzok, and his leadership role in both the Clinton email investigation and the investigation by Special Counsel Robert Mueller.

It has also been reported recently that Mr. Mueller removed Mr. Strzok from his team after learning that Mr. Strzok had exchanged text messages critical of then-candidate Donald Trump with Lisa Page, a FBI attorney who had similarly served on the Special Counsel team.

As you know, the Judiciary Committee, which is the principal Committee of jurisdiction over the FBI and DOJ, is currently conducting a joint investigation with the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform into the FBI and DOJ's activities during the 2016 election. It is therefore imperative that this Committee be provided with these text messages, which relate directly to that investigation. Please do so at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



BOB GOODLATTE
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Jerrold Nadler
Ranking Minority Member



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

DEC 12 2017

Dear Chairman Grassley:

This responds to your letter to Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Director Christopher Wray dated December 5, 2017, requesting that the Department of Justice (Department) provide the Committee with copies of text message communications between FBI employees Peter Strzok and Lisa Page. We are sending letters and identical enclosures to a number of Congressional Committees that have made similar requests.

As you may know, on January 12, 2016, the Department of Justice's Office of Inspector General (OIG) publicly announced that the OIG would review "allegations that Department or FBI policies or procedures were not followed in connection with, or in actions leading up to or related to, the FBI Director's public announcement on July 5, 2016,¹ and the Director's letters to Congress on October 28 and November 6, 2016, and that certain underlying investigative decisions were based on improper considerations."² As part of that review, the OIG obtained, among other things, text messages between Mr. Strzok and Ms. Page.

The Department expected the documents provided herein to be provided as part of a completed OIG report. However, public reporting about the existence of the text messages prompted Congressional Committee requests for the text messages. Please find enclosed an initial disclosure of approximately 375 text message communications, dated August 16, 2015 to December 1, 2016, that have been identified as pertinent to the OIG review referenced above. The enclosed documents contain minimal redactions that protect the privacy interests of third parties and sensitive law enforcement information, and remove irrelevant information. The Department continues to review documents and will provide pertinent documents as they become available.

¹ On that date, then-FBI Director James B. Comey announced that the FBI was recommending to the Department of Justice that no charges should be filed relating to former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server.

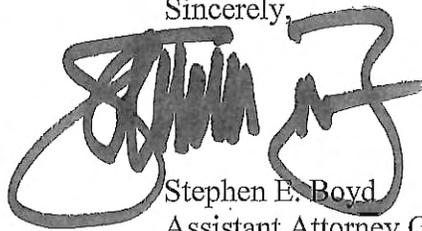
² DOJ OIG Announces Initiation of Review, January 12, 2017, available at: <https://oig.justice.gov/press/2017/2017-01-12.pdf>

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Page Two

As has been publicly reported, Mr. Strzok previously served on the investigative team led by Special Counsel Robert Mueller. The OIG informed the Special Counsel of the existence of the enclosed text messages on or about July 27, 2017. Mr. Mueller immediately concluded that Mr. Strzok could no longer participate in the investigation, and he was removed from the team.

This extraordinary accommodation of providing the enclosed documents is unique to the facts and circumstances of this particular matter. The Department appreciates the work of the OIG on this matter, looks forward to the findings and recommendations arising from that review, and will take appropriate action as warranted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Stephen E. Boyd", written in a cursive, stylized script.

Stephen E. Boyd
Assistant Attorney General

cc: The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member

Enclosures



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

DEC 11 2017

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Department of Justice (Department) is in receipt of your letter to FBI Director Christopher Wray, dated December 5, 2017, concerning the reassignment of Peter Strzok and requesting a significant number of communications concerning Mr. Strzok.

The Department fully appreciates the Committee's desire for information and takes seriously your request for documents. The Department is undertaking a review of its records to determine whether responsive documents exist. As always, the Department will respond in a manner consistent with our law enforcement, litigation, and national security responsibilities.

We look forward to working with the Committee on this request.

Please do not hesitate to contact this office if we may provide additional assistance regarding this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen F. Boyd".

Stephen F. Boyd
Assistant Attorney General

UNITED STATES SENATE
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
100 SENATE CHAMBERS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20540
TELEPHONE: 202-224-2000
FACSIMILE: 202-224-2000
WWW.SENATE.GOV

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
WASHINGTON, DC 20540-5215

December 5, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

The Honorable Christopher Wray
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Director Wray:

Over the summer, media outlets reported that Peter Strzok was removed from his position in the FBI's counterintelligence division and from Special Counsel Robert Mueller's team and had been reassigned to work in the FBI's human resources department. According to recent media reports, Mr. Mueller removed Mr. Strzok from the team after discovering that he and FBI lawyer Lisa Page, his alleged mistress, "had exchanged politically charged texts disparaging President Trump and supporting Hillary Clinton."¹ It appears the Special Counsel may have learned this information from the Office of Inspector General's ongoing review of the handling of controversial pre-election activities of the Justice Department and FBI related to the campaign.²

Reportedly, Mr. Strzok and Ms. Page exchanged these text messages while working on the Clinton investigation. Mr. Strzok has been described as "a key player in the investigation into [Hillary] Clinton's use of a private email server to do government work as secretary of state."³ Ms. Page reportedly "was a regular participant when Comey would hold 'skinny group' meetings on the case—a small collection of advisers who gathered to address sensitive cases."⁴ Additionally, Mr. Strzok reportedly was one of two FBI agents who interviewed former National

¹ Karoun Demirjian & Devlin Barrett, *Top FBI Official Assigned to Mueller's Russia Probe Said To Have Been Removed After Sending Anti-Trump Texts*, THE WASHINGTON POST (Dec. 2, 2017), https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/two-senior-fbi-officials-on-clinton-trump-probes-exchanged-politically-charged-texts-disparaging-trump/2017/12/02/9846421c-d707-11e7-a986-d0a9770d9a3e_story.html?utm_term=.5628b4762af1.

² Press Release, Office of Inspector General, Department of Justice (Dec. 2, 2017), *available at* <https://oig.justice.gov/press/2017/2017-12-02.pdf>.

³ Demirjian & Barrett, *Top FBI Official Assigned to Mueller's Russia Probe Said To Have Been Removed*.

⁴ *Id.*

Security Advisor Michael Flynn.⁵ The communications between members of the Clinton email investigation team raise questions about the integrity of that investigation, and about the objectivity of Mr. Strzok's work for the Special Counsel and in the FBI's investigation of Mr. Flynn.

The Committee has previously written to Mr. Strzok requesting an interview to discuss his knowledge of improper political influence or bias in Justice Department or FBI activities during either the previous or current administration, the removal of James Comey from his position as Director of the FBI, the DOJ's and FBI's activities related to Hillary Clinton, the DOJ's and FBI's activities related to Donald J. Trump and his associates, and the DOJ's and FBI's activities related to Russian interference in the 2016 election. To date, the Committee has received no letter in reply to that request. In advance of Mr. Strzok's interview, please provide the following communications, in the form of text messages or otherwise, to the Committee no later than December 11, 2017:

1. All communications sent to, received by, or copying Mr. Strzok related to then-Director Comey's draft or final statement closing the Clinton investigation, including all records related to the change in the portion of the draft language describing Secretary Clinton's and her associates' conduct regarding classified information from "grossly negligent" to "extremely careless";⁶
2. All communications sent to, received by, or copying Mr. Strzok regarding the decision to close the Clinton investigation without recommending any charges;
3. All communications sent to, received by, or copying Mr. Strzok related to opening the investigation into potential collusion by the Trump campaign with the Russian government, including any FBI electronic communication (EC) authored or authorized by Mr. Strzok and all records forming the basis for that EC;
4. All communications sent to, received by, or copying Mr. Strzok related to the FBI's interactions with Christopher Steele relating to the investigation into potential collusion by the Trump campaign with the Russian government, including any communications regarding potential or realized financial arrangements with Mr. Steele;
5. All communications sent to, received by, or copying Mr. Strzok related to any instance of the FBI relying on, or referring to, information in Mr. Steele's memoranda in the course of seeking any FISA warrants, other search warrants, or any other judicial process;

⁵ Nicole Darrah, *FBI Agent Fired From Russia Probe Oversaw Flynn Interviews, Softened Comey Language on Clinton Email Actions*, FOX NEWS (Dec. 4, 2017), <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2017/12/04/fbi-agent-fired-from-russia-probe-oversaw-flynn-interviews-changed-comey-memos-on-clinton-charges.html>.

⁶ Laura Jarrett & Evan Perez, *FBI Agent Dismissed from Mueller Probe Changed Comey's Description of Clinton to 'Extremely Careless'*, CNN (Dec. 4, 2017, 4:57 PM), <http://www.cnn.com/2017/12/04/politics/peter-strzok-james-comey/index.html>.

6. All FD-302s of FBI interviews of Lt. Gen. Flynn at which Mr. Strzok was present, as well as all related 1A documents (including any contemporaneous handwritten notes); and
7. All communications sent to, received by, or copying Mr. Strzok containing unfavorable statements about Donald J. Trump or favorable statements about Hillary Clinton.

If you have questions, please contact Patrick Davis of my committee staff at (b) (6)
Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary

cc: The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz
Inspector General
U.S. Department of Justice

The Honorable Rod J. Rosenstein
Deputy Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

DEC 12 2017

The Honorable Devin Nunes
Chairman
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Nunes,

This responds to the Committee's request that the Department of Justice (Department) provide the Committee with copies of text message communications between Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) employees Peter Strzok and Lisa Page. We are sending letters and identical enclosures to a number of Congressional Committees that have made similar requests.

As you may know, on January 12, 2016, the Department of Justice's Office of Inspector General (OIG) publicly announced that the OIG would review "allegations that Department or FBI policies or procedures were not followed in connection with, or in actions leading up to or related to, the FBI Director's public announcement on July 5, 2016,¹ and the Director's letters to Congress on October 28 and November 6, 2016, and that certain underlying investigative decisions were based on improper considerations."² As part of that review, the OIG obtained, among other things, text messages between Mr. Strzok and Ms. Page.

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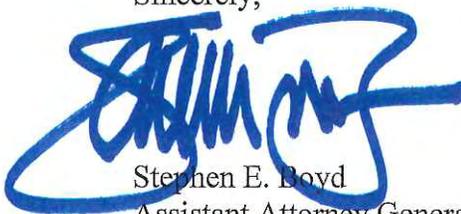
² DOJ OIG Announces Initiation of Review, January 12, 2017, available at: <https://oig.justice.gov/press/2017/2017-01-12.pdf>

The Honorable Devin Nunes
Page Two

As has been publicly reported, Mr. Strzok previously served on the investigative team led by Special Counsel Robert Mueller. The OIG informed the Special Counsel of the existence of the enclosed text messages on or about July 27, 2017. Mr. Mueller immediately concluded that Mr. Strzok could no longer participate in the investigation, and he was removed from the team.

This extraordinary accommodation of providing the enclosed documents is unique to the facts and circumstances of this particular matter. The Department appreciates the work of the OIG on this matter, looks forward to the findings and recommendations arising from that review, and will take appropriate action as warranted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. Boyd", is written over the typed name and title.

Stephen E. Boyd
Assistant Attorney General

cc: The Honorable Adam Schiff
Ranking Member

Enclosures

Devin Nunes, California, CHAIRMAN

K. Michael Conaway, Texas
Peter T. King, New York
Frank A. LoBiondo, New Jersey
Thomas J. Rooney, Florida
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Florida
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Adam B. Schiff, California,
RANKING MEMBER

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Paul D. Ryan, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
Nancy Pelosi, DEMOCRATIC LEADER

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE

HVC-304, THE CAPITOL
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4121

DAMON NELSON
STAFF DIRECTOR

TIMOTHY S. BERGREEN
MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

December 12, 2017

The Honorable Rod Rosenstein
Deputy Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
1201 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Rosenstein:

This letter shall serve as the Committee's formal request to the Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for copies of all communications (to include text messages, emails, and any other captured communications) between FBI Agent Peter Strzok and FBI Attorney Lisa Page. SSA Strzok and Ms. Page have been identified in media reporting as two senior-level FBI employees who both participated in the FBI's counterintelligence investigations concerning the Hillary Clinton e-mails and the 2016 presidential election.

SSA Strzok was the Deputy Director of the FBI's Counterintelligence Division which oversaw both investigations. Ms. Page is a FBI Office of General Counsel attorney, who at the time, was assigned to Deputy Director Andrew McCabe's office and provided legal support to both investigations. Both SSA Strzok and Ms. Page also worked for Special Counsel Robert Mueller earlier this year before being quietly dismissed upon the discovery of their extramarital affair and the exchange of numerous politically charged messages during the course of both investigations that were allegedly anti-Trump and pro-Clinton.

The Committee previously made a written request for these communications on December 2, 2017, and again on December 6, 2017. I also made a request for the communications during my meeting with you on December 6, 2017. The Committee expects to receive un-redacted copies of all requested communications, and will result to compulsory process if all such documents are not delivered to the Committee before 9:00 AM, December 15, 2017.

Sincerely,



Devin Nunes
Chairman

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 1:29 PM
To: Pustay, Melanie A (OIP); McGowan, Ashley L. (OPA)
Subject: RE: Watchdog sues DOJ over decision to show FBI texts to reporters | TheHill

Thanks--will be two more stories on this at least. Reuters and Business Insider.

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

-----Original Message-----

From: Pustay, Melanie A (OIP)
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 1:24 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <sflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>; McGowan, Ashley L. (OPA) <almcgowan@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: FW: Watchdog sues DOJ over decision to show FBI texts to reporters | TheHill

FYI

<http://thehill.com/policy/cybersecurity/367228-watchdog-sues-doj-over-decision-to-show-fbi-texts-to-reporters>

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 3:00 PM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Subject: Re: Question about Rosenstein Answer on IG consultation on Strzok texts

(b) (5)

On Dec 18, 2017, at 2:59 PM, Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5)

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 2:58 PM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Question about Rosenstein Answer on IG consultation on Strzok texts

(b) (5)

On Dec 18, 2017, at 2:48 PM, Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice

Office: 202.616.0911

Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Daniel Friedman [<mailto:DFriedman@motherjones.com>]

Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 2:43 PM

To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>

Subject: Question about Rosenstein Answer on IG consultation on Strzok texts

Ian,

I read the IG's letter, Flores statements and Rosenstein's answers on IG consultation. It seems like Rosenstein's statement to Raskin, in particular, while not clearly contradicted by Horowitz's letter, could have left the impression that he consulted with the IG about releasing the texts to the media.

Raskin's line of questioning was about release of texts to the media. Then he asked about IG rule that prohibits release of info that is part of an investigation.

Rosenstein: "When this inquiry came in from Congress, we did consult with the Inspector General and he determined that he had no objection to release of the material. If he had, I can assure you I would not have authorized the release."

So Rosenstein didn't say IG okayed release of messages to media, but it didn't exclude that.

I assume you guys will say Rosenstein didn't mean to imply IG approved release of texts to press. But is he considering sending any kind of clarification to the committee on that?

I don't know how significant this is, but I don't want to read any other stuff you guys out in Business Insider again.

I am coming around to the view that your guys knew Congress was gonna leak these anyway, so releasing them in whole could be as your first statement said, an attempt to avoid confusion/more selective leaking.

Thanks,

Dan

202.290.5424

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 9:10 AM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Redaction question

I actually don't know. Let me ask--I think we took the IG redactions and that's based on more or less foia rules. So I'll figure out what their policy was.

> On Dec 18, 2017, at 8:04 AM, (b) (6) wrote:

>

> Sarah,

> Regarding the FBI texts, can you help me understand why my name was included in the texts when others (including my wife's) were redacted? I don't mind the commentary — I've been called worse than schlubby — but I didnt understand the rationale given the others who were not included.

> Thanks,

> (b) (6)

Prior, Ian (OPA)

From: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 9:32 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Subject: Tweet by (((Rep. Nadler))) on Twitter

(((Rep. Nadler))) (@RepJerryNadler)

12/15/17, 9:24 PM

.@TheJusticeDept Inspector General sent a letter to @HouseJudDems saying DOJ did NOT consult the before releasing @FBI text messages between Peter Strzok and Lisa Page to the press. Here is our joint response, w/ @RepJeffries @RepRaskin: pic.twitter.com/mBTjGedUsi

[Download](#) the Twitter app

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 8:34 PM
To: Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal)
Subject: FW: OIG response to House
Attachments: Nadler Raskin Response Letter.pdf

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 8:33 PM
To: Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal)
Subject: RE: Hi

I can forward

xxxx

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal) [mailto:Matthew.Alexander@nbcuni.com]
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 8:30 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: Hi

Is the IG's letter to be found anywhere except on Natasha Bertrand's twitter feed??

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) [mailto:Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov]
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 8:27 PM
To: Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Hi

I'll forward it to you when they put it out. Call or text anytime: 202.305.5808 But the short version is that he's saying that the IG never objects when the records are preexisting like they are here and then he just leaves out the part where he should have said "and so, as with the pre-existing records here, we did not object to the release of these texts to congress after DOJ told us they had requests from Congress." And then the next part is saying "but that the IG isn't the one who signs off on legal or ethical concerns—DOJ officials do that." Which then I was saying if you look at my earlier statement—that's exactly what our career folks did.

<https://twitter.com/SarahFloresDOJ?lang=en>

Does that make sense?

xxxx

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal) [mailto:Matthew.Alexander@nbcuni.com]
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 8:24 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: Hi

- a) I have passed on your thanks. And she means it.
- b) Yeah I would love an explainer. Also a headsup of where I can find the IG statement when it comes. Where do I call??

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) [<mailto:Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov>]
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 8:19 PM
To: Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Hi

Hey...really appreciate that tweet from Rachel. Truly. She didn't need to do that and its especially kind when it would have been so easier/popular for her to pile on. My integrity has been questioned a lot this week on an issue I tried to handle as fairly as I could to all parties involved understanding the stakes and those are the times things like this really stand out.

Back to business: Call me if you want me to explain—the IG letter is super confusing, but he is actually agreeing with me. Talked to IG earlier and expect statement from them shortly that will be in line with mine:

The letter released by the IG tonight is entirely consistent w my earlier tweets & DAG's testimony. IG had no objection to release to Congress. We then consulted senior career legal/ethics experts to determine there were no issues w releasing texts to either Congress or press.

<https://twitter.com/SarahFloresDOJ/status/941833219871096832>

xxx

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal) [<mailto:Matthew.Alexander@nbcuni.com>]
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 3:16 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: Hi

The five cmtes were the 2 intels, the 2 judiciaries and...oversight?

For the rest – thank you!

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) [<mailto:Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov>]
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 2:46 PM
To: Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Hi

Below! (Sorry I totally missed them the first time)

On Dec 15, 2017, at 1:52 PM, Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal) <Matthew.Alexander@nbcuni.com> wrote:

Popular, in a good, cool, high-school kind of way, right? ☺

As for Q's first 3 – I'm looking for ON the record for #1-3, OFF the record, guidance only on #5-6, #4 more of a venting....

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) [<mailto:Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov>]
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 1:35 PM
To: Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal)

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Hi

Lol! So true☺

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal) [<mailto:Matthew.Alexander@nbcuni.com>]
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 1:34 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Hi

You're very popular today!
466 followers in one day? Not bad!

Ok- Sorry to be a bore here, but help me re: Strzok / Page

- 1) When you say they were released to the congressional committees – is that just Sen & House judiciary? Or also the intel cmtes? 5 committees total
- 2) The committees were provided copies of 375 texts, right? 375 texts that the IG approved for release out of 10,000 that the IG examined? Appx 375. We've never provided full number.
- 3) Were the anti-Hillary, anti-Obama admin, anti-Bernie texts among the 375 approved for release? I'm not aware of any news reports of texts that were not among the appx 375 we provided to congress.
- 4) If they're floating around all over the place, why can't we just have a link where we can see them? Congress was only provided hard copies. That being said, they can scan them or upload them if they choose.
- 5) OTR/guidance - Which news outlet (or outlets) reported that reporters got access to texts before the committees? Was that Biz Insider? Yes. It never happened.
- 6) OTR/guidance – when you say the reporters who got them “outside this process” – That's referring just to NYT and their first story? Or to Fox News? Decline comment bc of nature of how I learned (ie I protect yalls confidence/rules same as you protect mine.)

It's Friday!

Matthew

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 8:16 PM
To: jake.gibson@foxnews.com
Subject: FW: OIG response to House
Attachments: Nadler Raskin Response Letter.pdf

XXXX

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 7:53 PM
To: Chuck Ross
Subject: RE: DOJ IG letter on Strzok texts

<https://twitter.com/SarahFloresDOJ/status/941833219871096832>

off the record: I understand IG is putting out a statement soon too. But call me if you need me to walk you through this!

xxxx

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Chuck Ross [mailto:chuck@dailycaller.com]
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 6:50 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: DOJ IG letter on Strzok texts

Sarah,

Do you guys have a response to the DOJ IG's letter saying they weren't consulted ahead of the release of the Strzok texts?

Seeing some journos assert that your tweets from earlier were wrong, and I'm trying to figure out what's what.

Thanks for any help,
Chuck Ross
The Daily Caller
316-616-7326

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 7:53 PM
To: Max Greenwood
Subject: RE: DOJ OIG wasn't consulted before texts were released?

<https://twitter.com/SarahFloresDOJ/status/941833219871096832>

xxx

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Max Greenwood [mailto:mgreenwood@thehill.com]
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 7:10 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: DOJ OIG wasn't consulted before texts were released?

Hi Sarah -- Do you have any comment on the DOJ IG's letter to Reps. Nadler, Raskin and Jeffries saying that OIG wasn't consulted before releasing Peter Strzok's text messages to members of Congress and the media?

Thanks in advance,

--

Max Greenwood
Reporter | The Hill
mgreenwood@thehill.com
(321) 698-1135

Press

From: Press
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 5:23 PM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Subject: FW: Harper's Magazine inquiry

Harpers following up.

Thanks - Kristen

From: Claire Bryan [mailto:west@harpers.org]
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 10:56 AM
To: Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Harper's Magazine inquiry

Hi Kristen,

I'm following up on this request. Has there been any progress?

Thank you!
Claire

Claire Bryan
Editorial Assistant
west@harpers.org
212.420.5741

Harper's Magazine
666 Broadway, 11th Floor
New York, NY 10012
<https://harpers.org>

On Wed, Dec 13, 2017 at 4:25 PM, Claire Bryan <west@harpers.org> wrote:

Hi Kristen,

Thanks for speaking just now. I'm looking to gain access to text messages that were exchanged between FBI officials (Peter Strzok and Lisa Page) in March 2016 that the Department of Justice reviewed.

Can you connect me to someone who could provide these documents for me? You can reach me at [212-420-5741](tel:212-420-5741). My deadline is Friday.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Best,
Claire Bryan

Claire Bryan
Editorial Assistant
west@harpers.org
[212.420.5741](tel:212.420.5741)

Harper's Magazine
666 Broadway, 11th Floor
New York, NY 10012
<https://harpers.org>

Prior, Ian (OPA)

From: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 2:01 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Subject: RE: Flores statement

(b) (5)

[Redacted]

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 1:52 PM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Flores statement

(b) (5)

On Dec 15, 2017, at 1:50 PM, Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5)

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 1:16 PM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Flores statement

(b) (5)

On Dec 15, 2017, at 12:51 PM, Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

Begin forwarded message:

From: Natasha Bertrand <nbertrand@businessinsider.com>
Date: December 15, 2017 at 12:47:58 PM EST
To: "Prior, Ian (OPA)" <Ian.Prior@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Flores statement

Hi, circling back on these questions. Thanks.

On Fri, Dec 15, 2017 at 8:43 AM, Natasha Bertrand <nbertrand@businessinsider.com> wrote:

Following up on that, Rep. Matt Gaetz told CNN this morning that the DOJ was forced to release the Strzok/Page texts because Devin Nunes "was about to subpoena them."

Is that accurate?

Thanks,
Natasha

On Thu, Dec 14, 2017 at 9:53 PM, Natasha Bertrand <nbertrand@businessinsider.com> wrote:

Hi Ian,

This statement from Sarah seems to indicate that there were unauthorized disclosures of the Strzok texts to reporters.

"As we understand now, some members of the media had already

received copies of the texts before that — but those disclosures were not authorized by the department."

<https://www.politico.com/story/2017/12/14/fbi-agents-text-message-justice-department-congress-democrats-297737>

Does DOJ know who disclosed them / does it plan to find out?

Thanks,
Natasha

--

Natasha Bertrand
Political Correspondent Business Insider
[631.317.8409](tel:631.317.8409)
[@NatashaBertrand](https://twitter.com/NatashaBertrand)

--

Natasha Bertrand
Political Correspondent Business Insider
[631.317.8409](tel:631.317.8409)
[@NatashaBertrand](https://twitter.com/NatashaBertrand)

--

Natasha Bertrand
Political Correspondent Business Insider
[631.317.8409](tel:631.317.8409)
[@NatashaBertrand](https://twitter.com/NatashaBertrand)

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 1:35 PM
To: Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal)
Subject: RE: Hi

Lol! So true☺

xxx

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal) [mailto:Matthew.Alexander@nbcuni.com]
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 1:34 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Hi

You're very popular today!
466 followers in one day? Not bad!

Ok- Sorry to be a bore here, but help me re: Strzok / Page

- 1) When you say they were released to the congressional committees – is that just Sen & House judiciary? Or also the intel cmtes?
- 2) The committees were provided copies of 375 texts, right? 375 texts that the IG approved for release out of 10,000 that the IG examined?
- 3) Were the anti-Hillary, anti-Obama admin, anti-Bernie texts among the 375 approved for release?
- 4) If they're floating around all over the place, why can't we just have a link where we can see them?
- 5) OTR/guidance - Which news outlet (or outlets) reported that reporters got access to texts before the committees? Was that Biz Insider?
- 6) OTR/guidance – when you say the reporters who got them “outside this process” – That's referring just to NYT and their first story? Or to Fox News?

It's Friday!

Matthew

Press

From: Press
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 1:33 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Subject: FW: Letter from Reps. Nadler, Jeffries, and Raskin
Attachments: 1664_001.pdf

FYI

From: McElvein, Elizabeth (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 1:29 PM
To: Doj.correspondences@usdoj.gov; Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Hiller, Aaron <Aaron.Hiller@mail.house.gov>
Subject: Letter from Reps. Nadler, Jeffries, and Raskin

Attached, please find a letter from Reps. Nadler, Jeffries, and Raskin to Director Flores and Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein.

Regards,

Elizabeth H. McElvein
Professional Staff
Committee on the Judiciary
House of Representatives
(b) (6)

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

December 15, 2017

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director
Office of Public Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington DC 20530

Dear Director Flores,

We wrote to you yesterday regarding the Department's decision to invite a group of reporters to view text messages between FBI officials Peter Strzok and Lisa Page—in private, at Department headquarters, and before delivery to congressional offices was complete.¹

Shortly after we transmitted our letter to the Department, you released a statement to the press:

When the initial inquiries came from the committees and members of Congress, the deputy attorney general consulted with the inspector general, and the inspector general determined that he had no objection to the Department's providing the material to the Congressional committees After that consultation, senior career ethics advisers determined that there were no legal or ethical concerns, including under the Privacy Act, that prohibited the release of the information to the public either by members of Congress or by the Department.²

But later in the evening, your story appears to have changed. In an additional statement, you said: "As we understand now, some members of the media had already received copies of the texts before that—but those disclosures were not authorized by the department."³

We require clarification on this point. In addition to the questions we asked in yesterday's letter to you, please tell us:

¹ Natasha Bertrand, *In 'highly unusual' move, DOJ secretly invited reporters to view texts sent by ousted FBI agents*, BUSINESS INSIDER, Dec. 13, 2017.

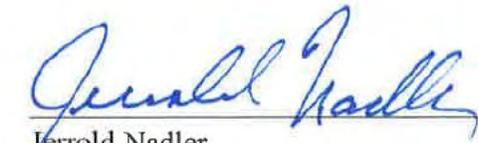
² David Shortell, *DOJ says no wrongdoing in release of FBI agent's texts*, CNN, Dec. 14, 2017.

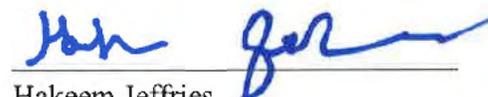
³ Darren Samuelsohn, *Democrats want to know why Justice Department released FBI texts*, POLITICO, Dec. 14, 2017.

- Did the media have access to these text messages prior to their delivery to Congress?
- Did the Department authorize this disclosure? If so, who in the Department authorized this disclosure? If not, who in the Department made or facilitated this disclosure?
- If indeed it happened, why did you omit this unauthorized disclosure from your initial statement to the press?
- You say that you relied on the advice of “career ethics advisers” who “determined there were no legal or ethical concerns” with your release of this material to the press. Please provide all documents and communications that form the basis of this advice.

We ask for your response to both our initial letter and these questions no later than December 19, 2017. We also ask that you communicate directly with our offices, rather than through the press, when providing your response.

Sincerely,


Jerrold Nadler
Ranking Member
House Committee on the Judiciary


Hakeem Jeffries
Member of Congress


Jamie Raskin
Vice Ranking Member
House Committee on the Judiciary

cc: Chairman Bob Goodlatte, House Committee on the Judiciary
Deputy Attorney General Rod J. Rosenstein, U.S. Department of Justice

Prior, Ian (OPA)

From: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 1:17 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Subject: Re: Flores statement

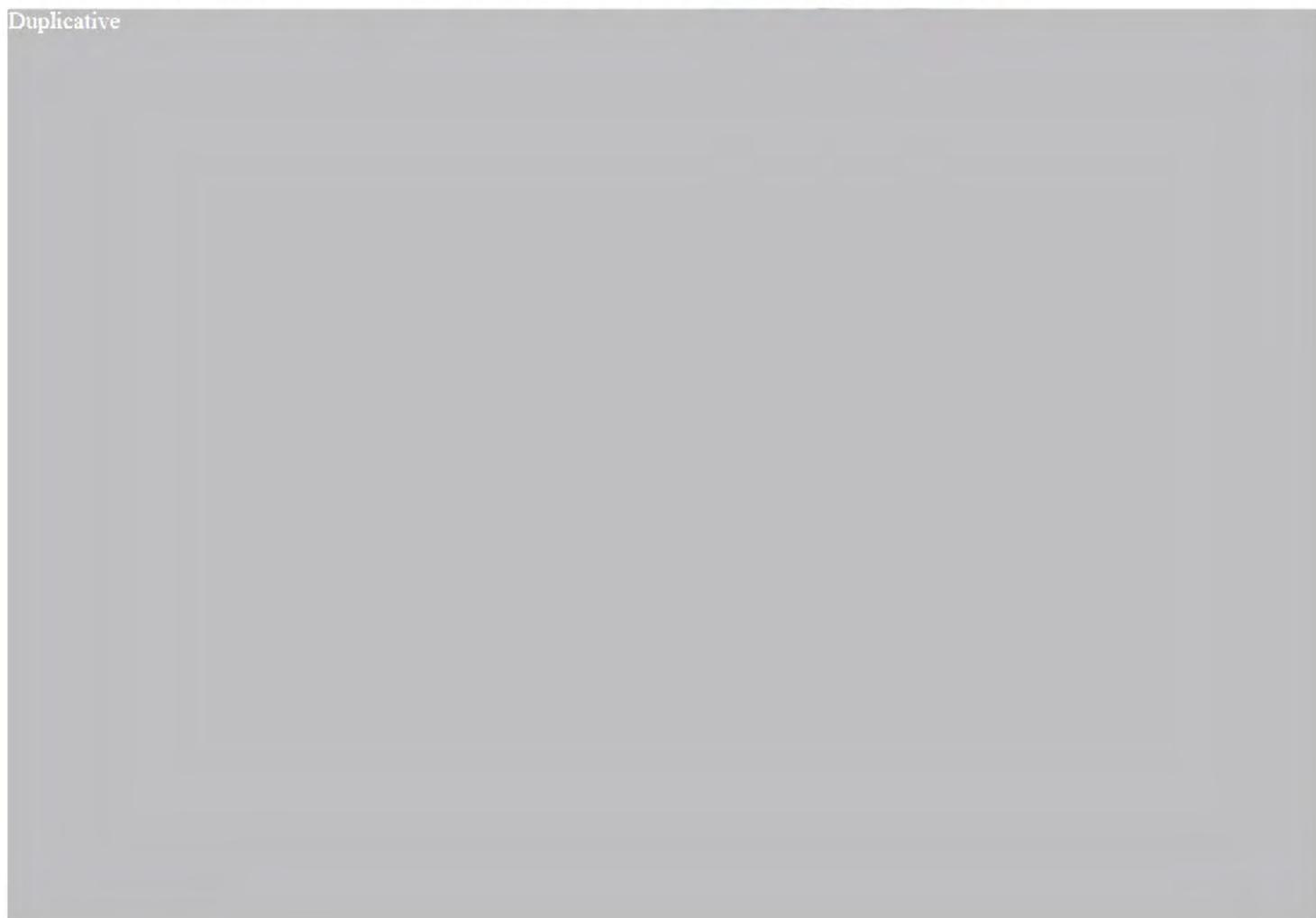
(b) (5)

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

On Dec 15, 2017, at 1:16 PM, Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

Duplicative



Prior, Ian (OPA)

From: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 9:46 AM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Subject: RE: Flores statement

(b) (5)

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 9:34 AM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Flores statement

(b) (5)

On Dec 15, 2017, at 9:33 AM, Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5)

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 9:08 AM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Flores statement

(b) (5)

On Dec 15, 2017, at 9:07 AM, Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5) For some reason it was in my deleted box.

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

On Dec 15, 2017, at 8:50 AM, Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5)
[Redacted]

On Dec 15, 2017, at 8:47 AM, Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5)
[Redacted]

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

Begin forwarded message:

From: Natasha Bertrand
<nbertrand@businessinsider.com>
Date: December 15, 2017 at 8:43:24 AM EST
To: "Prior, Ian (OPA)"
<Ian.Prior@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Flores statement

Duplicative
[Redacted]

Prior, Ian (OPA)

From: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 9:35 AM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Subject: RE: Flores statement

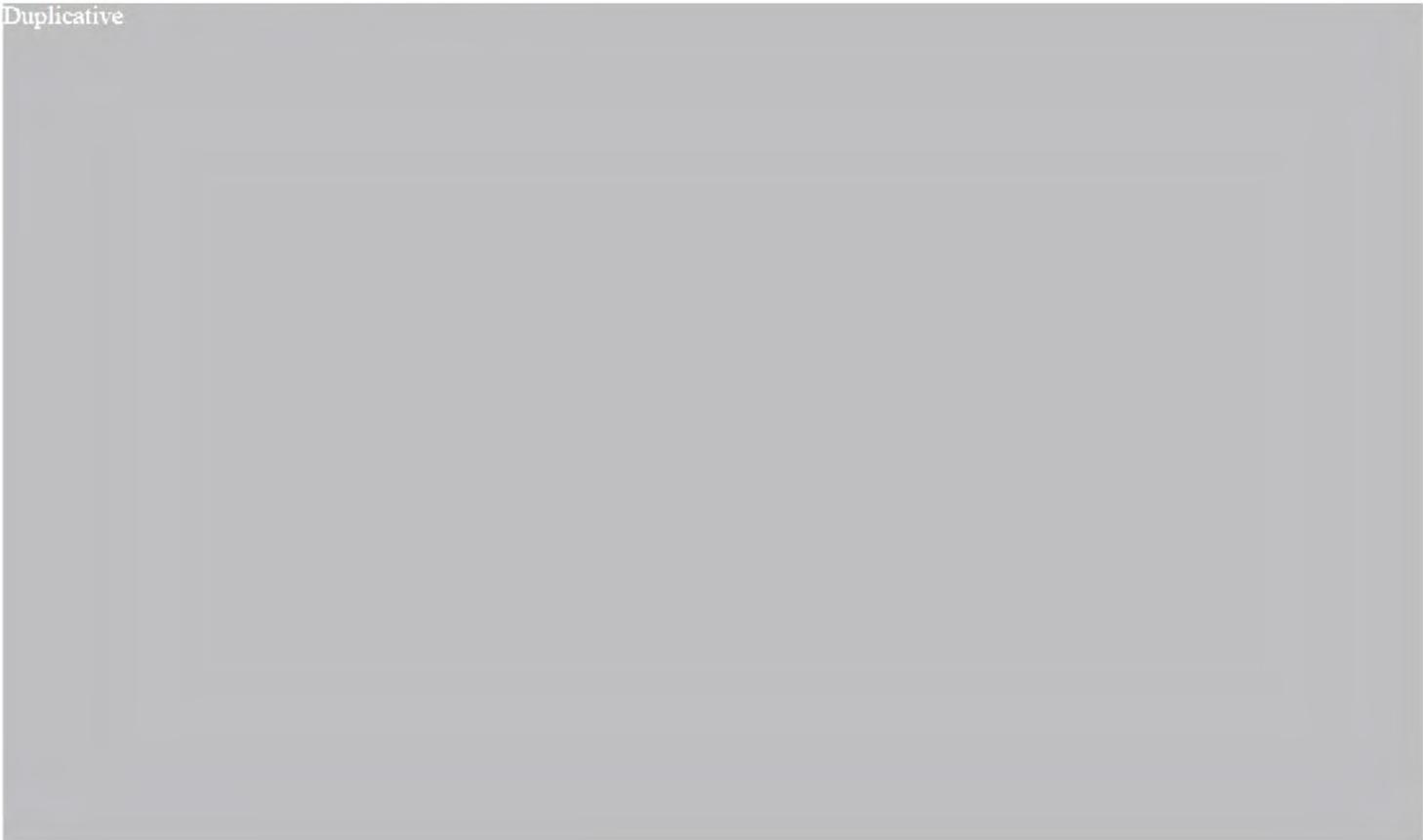
(b) (5)

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 9:34 AM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Flores statement

Duplicative



Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 7:25 AM
To: John.Walcott@thomsonreuters.com
Cc: Sarah.N.Lynch@thomsonreuters.com; Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com
Subject: Re: DOJ says early release of FBI agents' texts was 'not authorized'

And here's a more full statement. I didn't reach out bc mark said he had learned about the past admin's practice during F&f and was no longer pursuing.

The Chairman and Ranking Members of each of the congressional committees were provided the opportunity to have copies of the texts delivered to their offices. This was completed before any member of the media was given access to view the same copy of the texts by the Department's Office of Public Affairs.

As the Deputy Attorney General said in this testimony on Wednesday, when the initial inquiries came from committees and members of Congress, the Deputy Attorney General consulted with the Inspector General, and the Inspector General determined that he had no objection to the Department's providing the material to the Congressional committees that had requested it. After that consultation, senior career ethics advisors determined that there were no legal or ethical concerns, including under the Privacy Act, that prohibited the release of the information to the public either by members of congress or by the Department.

On Dec 15, 2017, at 7:11 AM, Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

BI has never reached out to me for comment or to discuss this story and her tweets have been discredited repeatedly during this process.

I learned that another news organization may have had the texts before I showed them to media at doj. Which means we didn't give it to them. Could mean congress did after we gave it to them. Confused why that reflects poorly on doj?

On Dec 15, 2017, at 12:59 AM, "John.Walcott@thomsonreuters.com" <John.Walcott@thomsonreuters.com> wrote:

Sarah,

1. Is this story accurate? Once more, was the early release to selected news organizations of email exchanges that are part of an ongoing IG investigation authorized?
2. If it was, by whom? If it was not Mr. Rosenstein, was it the Attorney General? If it was, did the President or any member of the Executive Office of the President direct him to do it?
3. If it was not authorized, who chose on his or her own to give the material

to selected reporters; is that person or persons a political appointee; and are they now subject to disciplinary action or dismissal?

4. If the story is accurate, did you inform Sarah Lynch or me this evening. If you did, I didn't receive your email or call, when you have my home number, as well as this email address.

5. If not, why not?

Given our discussion today, the climate in this town is only made worse by favors or favoritism, IF either is the case here.

Again, per our earlier discussion, now yesterday, please note that I did not call you at this hour, baffled though I am by this development— again, if the story is accurate.

Also as we discussed, if true, this development is bad for your department, reflects poorly on the Trump administration, further poisons relations between the administration and the legitimate news media, serves our democracy badly, or, worse, aids and abets the ongoing efforts to discredit it.

Thanks,

John

<http://www.businessinsider.com/doj-says-early-release-of-fbi-agents-texts-was-not-authorized-2017-12>

John Walcott
Editor-in-Charge, National Security and Foreign Affairs
Reuters News

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 7:14 AM
To: Katmer, Elvan
Cc: Gibson, Jake; 531-DCDeskOps; Press
Subject: Re: Statement on

I want to clarify something about my statement:

I learned that another news organization may have had the texts before I showed them to media at doj. Which means we didn't give it to them. Could mean congress did after we gave it to them for example. As I said in my statement, there was no limitation on congressional release to the public either legally or ethically.

On Dec 14, 2017, at 11:44 PM, Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

The Chairman and Ranking Members of each of the congressional committees were provided the opportunity to have copies of the texts delivered to their offices. This was completed before any member of the media was given access to view the same copy of the texts by the Department's Office of Public Affairs. As we understand now, some members of the media had already received copies of the texts before that—but those disclosures were not authorized by the Department.

As the Deputy Attorney General said in this testimony on Wednesday, when the initial inquiries came from committees and members of Congress, the Deputy Attorney General consulted with the Inspector General, and the Inspector General determined that he had no objection to the Department's providing the material to the Congressional committees that had requested it. After that consultation, senior career ethics advisors determined that there were no legal or ethical concerns, including under the Privacy Act, that prohibited the release of the information to the public either by members of congress or by the Department.

On Dec 14, 2017, at 11:43 PM, Katmer, Elvan <Elvan.Katmer@FOXNEWS.COM> wrote:

Good evening Ms. Flores,

I am a journalist with Fox News.

I am reading a [Business Insider report](#) that refers to a [POLITICO article](#) citing you saying a Justice Department "statement" acknowledges "copies of private text messages exchanged between two former special counsel investigators were disclosed to certain members of the media before they were given to Congress, even though those disclosures 'were not authorized.'"

Can you confirm if there is a DOJ statement on this, or was this in response to a question you have provided to POLITICO. Could you please confirm if the release of these texts were not authorized.

Sincerely,

Elvan Katmer
Fox News Channel
Assignment Desk
(202) 824 - 6369

This message and its attachments may contain legally privileged or confidential information. It is intended solely for the named addressee. If you are not the addressee indicated in this message (or responsible for delivery of the message to the addressee), you may not copy or deliver this message or its attachments to anyone. Rather, you should permanently delete this message and its attachments and kindly notify the sender by reply e-mail. Any content of this message and its attachments that does not relate to the official business of Fox News or Fox Business must not be taken to have been sent or endorsed by either of them. No representation is made that this email or its attachments are without defect.

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 9:38 PM
To: Laura Jarrett
Subject: Fwd: Letter to DOJ IG re: FBI Text Messages

The Chairman and Ranking Members of each of the congressional committees were provided the opportunity to have copies of the texts delivered to their offices. This was completed before any member of the media was given access to view the same copy of the texts by the Department's Office of Public Affairs. As we understand now, some members of the media had already received copies of the texts before that—but those disclosures were not authorized by the Department.

As the Deputy Attorney General said in this testimony on Wednesday, when the initial inquiries came from committees and members of Congress, the Deputy Attorney General consulted with the Inspector General, and the Inspector General determined that he had no objection to the Department's providing the material to the Congressional committees that had requested it. After that consultation, senior career ethics advisors determined that there were no legal or ethical concerns, including under the Privacy Act, that prohibited the release of the information to the public either by members of congress or by the Department.

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 8:21 PM
To: (b) (6) Sarah Flores Personal Email
Subject: FW: Letter to Director Flores***
Attachments: 12.14.17 Letter to Director Flores.pdf

XXXX

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Press
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 5:44 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: FW: Letter to Director Flores***

Thank you - Kristen

From: McElvein, Elizabeth (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 5:33 PM
To: Doj.correspondences@usdoj.gov; Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Letter to Director Flores

Attached, please find a letter from Reps. Nadler, Jeffries, and Raskin to Director Flores and Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein.

Regards,

Elizabeth H. McElvein
Professional Staff
Committee on the Judiciary
House of Representatives

(b) (6)

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

December 14, 2017

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director
Office of Public Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington DC 20530

Dear Director Flores,

On the evening of December 12, 2017, the Department of Justice delivered to us a set of private text messages between FBI officials Peter Strzok and Lisa Page. It has been reported that the Department also invited a group of reporters to view these text messages—in private, at Department headquarters, and before delivery to congressional offices was complete.¹

On December 13, 2017, Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein appeared as a witness before the House Judiciary Committee. When Representatives Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY) and Jamie Raskin (D-MD) questioned him about the Department's sharing these sensitive text messages with the press, Mr. Rosenstein responded:

[A]s you know, I am not the public affairs officer, so I wouldn't know what the precedent was, but generally speaking our goal is to be as forthcoming with the media as we can, when it is lawful and appropriate to do so. So I would not approve anybody disclosing something that was not appropriate to disclose.²

When pressed further about the relevance of the text messages to an ongoing investigation by the Office of the Inspector General, Mr. Rosenstein said:

¹ Natasha Bertrand, *In 'highly unusual' move, DOJ secretly invited reporters to view texts sent by ousted FBI agents*, BUSINESS INSIDER, Dec. 13, 2017.

² *Oversight Hearing with Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein*, before the H. Comm. on the Judiciary, Dec. 13, 2017 (statement of Deputy Attorney general Rod Rosenstein).

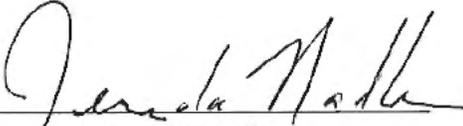
When this inquiry came in from the Congress, we did consult with the Inspector General to determine that he had no objection to the release of the material. If he had, I can assure you we would not have authorized the release.³

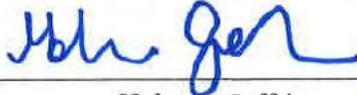
Mrs. Flores, you *are* the Department's public affairs officer, and we write to you for further clarification about this unusual move:

- A spokeswoman for the Department suggested that "career Justice officials evaluated the messages . . . to be sure they could be released 'under both ethical and legal standards.'"⁴ Who at the Department made this evaluation?
- Who at the Department of Justice approved your decision to invite the press to view these text messages? Please provide all documents and communications regarding the decision to invite the press the view these text messages.
- Did you consult with any official at the Office of the Inspector General about sharing these text messages with the press prior to the Department's doing so?
- Who attended this media briefing? Please provide us with the names of the attendees, their media outlets, and copies of any documents or materials you may have provided or shown to the press at that time.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. We ask for your response no later than December 19, 2017.

Sincerely,


Jarrold Nadler
Ranking Member
House Committee on the Judiciary


Hakeem Jeffries
Member of Congress

³ *Id.*

⁴ Darren Samuelsohn, *DOJ fuels doubt about integrity of Mueller probe*, POLITICO, Dec. 14, 2017.



Jamie Raskin
Vice Ranking Member
House Committee on the Judiciary

cc: Chairman Bob Goodlatte, House Committee on the Judiciary
Deputy Attorney General Rod J. Rosenstein, U.S. Department of Justice

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 8:06 PM
To: Darren Samuelsohn
Subject: RE: Letter to DOJ IG re: FBI Text Messages

The Chairman and Ranking Members of each of the congressional committees were provided the opportunity to have copies of the texts delivered to their offices. This was completed before any member of the media was given access to view the same copy of the texts by the Department's Office of Public Affairs. As we understand now, some members of the media had already received copies of the texts before that—but those disclosures were not authorized by the Department.

As the Deputy Attorney General said in this testimony on Wednesday, when the initial inquiries came from committees and members of Congress, the Deputy Attorney General consulted with the Inspector General, and the Inspector General determined that he had no objection to the Department's providing the material to the Congressional committees that had requested it. After that consultation, senior career ethics advisors determined that there were no legal or ethical concerns, including under the Privacy Act, that prohibited the release of the information to the public either by members of congress or by the Department.

XXXX

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Darren Samuelsohn [mailto:dsamuelsohn@politico.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 7:07 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: FW: Letter to DOJ IG re: FBI Text Messages

Hey Sarah,

Guessing you've seen the attached letters from House Dems to you and the IG asking about the media briefing. I'm going to write a short story on this. Do you want to comment or respond? Posting something short in about 30 or so minutes.

Thank you,

Darren Samuelsohn
Senior reporter, POLITICO
Desk: 703-842-1769
Cell: (b) (6)
Dsamuelsohn@politico.com
@dsamuelsohn

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 8:02 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA); Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
Subject: FW: Letter to Director Flores***
Attachments: 12.14.17 Letter to Director Flores.pdf

Welp---that happened.

xxxx

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Press
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 5:44 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: FW: Letter to Director Flores***

Duplicative



Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

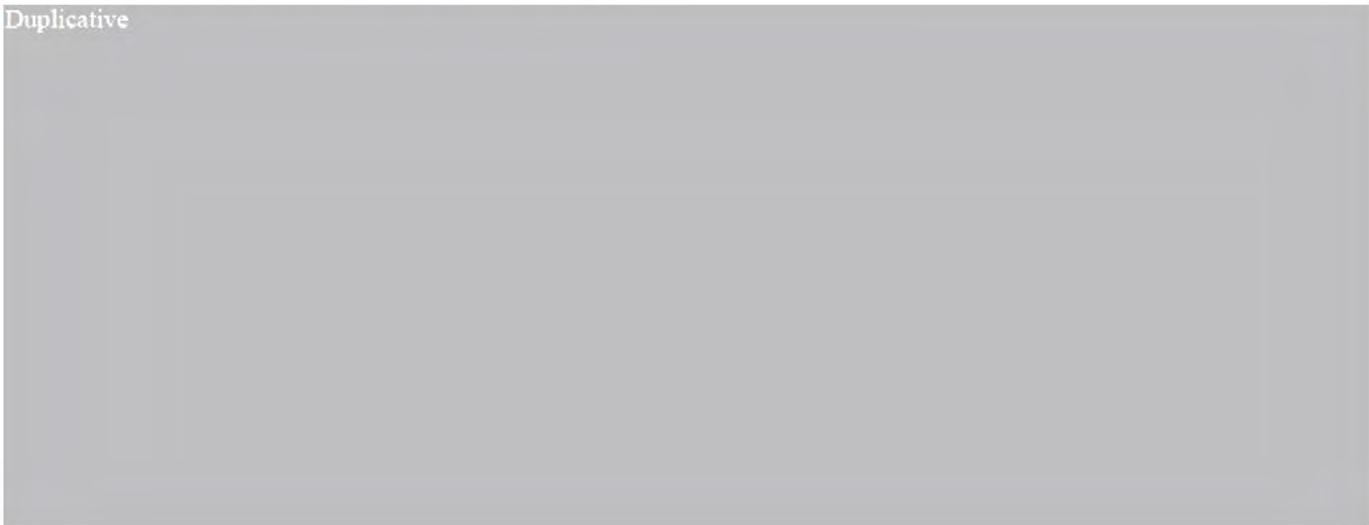
From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 7:59 PM
To: Darren Samuelsohn
Subject: RE: Letter to DOJ IG re: FBI Text Messages

Yes—coming momentarily

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Darren Samuelsohn [mailto:dsamuelsohn@politico.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 7:07 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: FW: Letter to DOJ IG re: FBI Text Messages

Duplicative



Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 3:58 PM
To: Tierney Sneed; Prior, Ian (OPA)
Subject: RE: Strzok/Page texts

We have not released any texts. 5 committees of congress have them though.

xxx

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Tierney Sneed [mailto:tierney@talkingpointsmemo.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 3:19 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Strzok/Page texts

Hi Sarah and Ian,

Has the DOJ released the ~375 Strzok/Page texts that it reportedly previewed for reporters earlier this week?
If so, can you make them available to me?

Thanks,
Tierney

--

Tierney Sneed
Talking Points Memo
202-758-3048 
[@tierney_megan](mailto:tierney_megan@talkingpointsmemo.com)

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 2:34 PM
To: Darren Samuelsohn; Josh Gerstein
Subject: RE: closing the loop

I'm ok with that being included. You've got it from me directly and not from Josh☺

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Darren Samuelsohn [mailto:dsamuelsohn@politico.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 2:25 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Josh Gerstein <jgerstein@politico.com>
Subject: Re: closing the loop

That is what the Dems were complaining about and what the sentence was previously talking about.

I can also add a line to say DOJ gave the messages to lawmakers before they were shared with the media. But I want to be sure I'm playing fair with respect to reporting something I've since learned through our OTR channels and not via Josh.

Are you OK with me saying some version of this at the end of the clarification?
DOJ also delivered the text messages to lawmakers before they were released to the press.

Thank you,

Darren Samuelsohn
Senior reporter, POLITICO
Desk: 703-842-1769
Cell: (b) (6)
Dsamuelsohn@politico.com
@dsamuelsohn

From: "Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)" <Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov>
Date: Thursday, December 14, 2017 at 2:19 PM
To: Darren Samuelsohn <dsamuelsohn@politico.com>, Josh Gerstein <jgerstein@politico.com>
Subject: RE: closing the loop

I still think its important for your readers to know that members of congress received them first—I guess im not sure why the hearing is a relevant time marker. Ie—there just as easily could have been no hearing the next day

but members of congress still had them.

xxx

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Darren Samuelsohn [<mailto:dsamuelsohn@politico.com>]
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 2:16 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Josh Gerstein <jgerstein@politico.com>
Subject: closing the loop

Hi Sarah,

We're going to change the last word in the sentence you flagged from 'lawmakers' to 'hearing.' This sentence is paraphrasing the complaint that the Democrats were making during the hearing, and that was what I was trying to capture.

The sentence is being changed to say: Rosenstein also faced several questions from Democrats seeking an explanation about why reporters had gotten access to Strzok's text messages before the **hearing**.

We also added a line at the end of the story to say the following:

Clarification: This story has been updated to clarify Democrats were questioning Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein about why reporters had gotten access to FBI agent Peter Strzok's text messages before Wednesday's House Judiciary Committee hearing.

I am sorry for the confusion. As Josh noted before, I was reporting on my own about the discussion on the Hill yesterday and knew it would be inappropriate to approach Gerstein since he was bound by your OTR/embargo ground rules.

Thank you,

Darren Samuelsohn
Senior reporter, POLITICO
Desk: 703-842-1769
Cell: (b) (6)
dsamuelsohn@politico.com
@dsamuelsohn

From: "Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)" <Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov>
Date: Thursday, December 14, 2017 at 1:26 PM
To: Josh Gerstein <jgerstein@politico.com>, Darren Samuelsohn <dsamuelsohn@politico.com>
Subject: RE: Sharing a POLITICO link: "DOJ fuels doubts about integrity of Mueller probe"

Thanks, Josh. All reasonable points. Hopefully Darren can take my word for it that no documents were shown to any member of the press before Congress. Although I understand the texts were in distribution to reporters from another source before I showed them to anyone and I don't know how that happened.

xxx

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs

Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Josh Gerstein [<mailto:jgerstein@politico.com>]
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 1:21 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Darren Samuelsohn <dsamuelsohn@politico.com>
Subject: RE: Sharing a POLITICO link: "DOJ fuels doubts about integrity of Mueller probe"

Hi Sarah:

So in order to respect the terms of the embargo and the sourcing from Tuesday night, I did my best to steer clear of this story entirely. Just seemed awkward for me to try to wade into the specifics of stuff that was supposed to be for guidance or unattributed and the timing of everything.

Now that some of that is, for better or worse, in the public domain maybe you can work out with Darren the timeline he can report. I think he was operating primarily off of what lawmakers were saying yesterday at the hearing and elsewhere on the Hill.

If there's something specific you need me to verify about what went down, I'm happy to do that, but I did not want to breach any confidences.

--Josh

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) [<mailto:Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 12:59 PM
To: Josh Gerstein <jgerstein@politico.com>; Darren Samuelsohn <dsamuelsohn@politico.com>
Subject: Fwd: Sharing a POLITICO link: "DOJ fuels doubts about integrity of Mueller probe"

I haven't seen a response to this. Need correction asap.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Darren Samuelsohn <dsamuelsohn@politico.com>
Date: December 14, 2017 at 11:08:11 AM EST
To: Darren Samuelsohn <dsamuelsohn@politico.com>
Subject: Sharing a POLITICO link: "DOJ fuels doubts about integrity of Mueller probe"

Good morning,

Sharing my latest story published this AM in POLITICO: "DOJ fuels doubts about integrity of Mueller probe"

<https://www.politico.com/story/2017/12/14/justice-department-mueller-investigation-295483>

Please share on social media and with friends and colleagues. You can tag me @dsamuelsohn on Twitter.

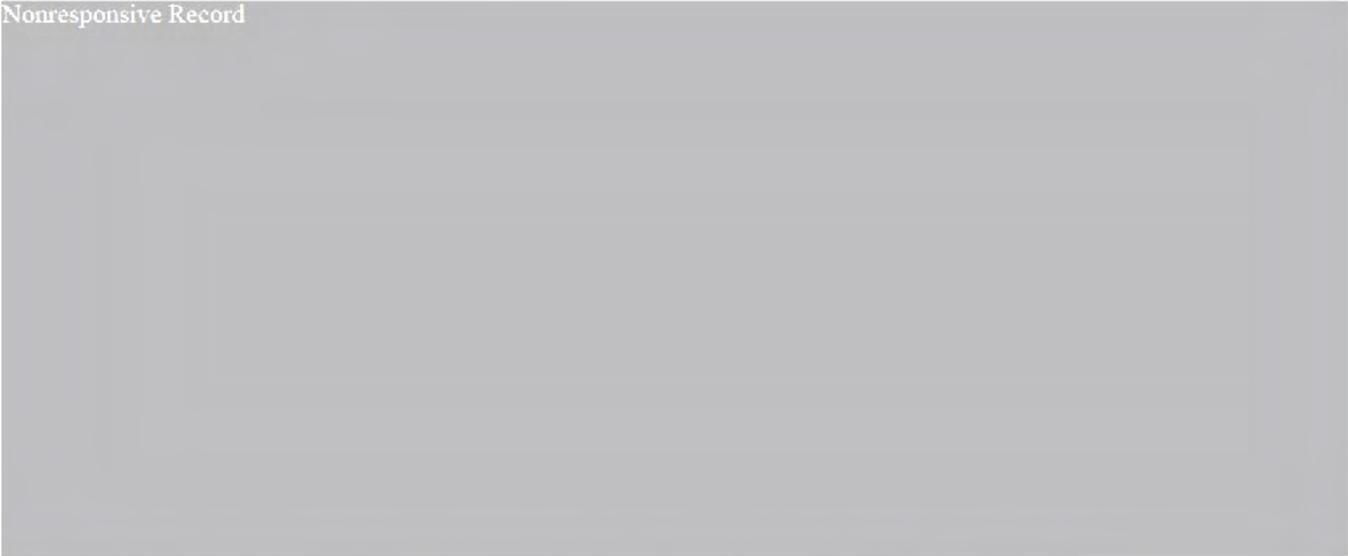
Be in touch,

Darren Samuelsohn

Senior reporter, POLITICO
Desk: 703-842-1769
Cell: (b) (6)
Dsamuelsohn@politico.com
@dsamuelsohn

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

Nonresponsive Record



From: John.Walcott@thomsonreuters.com [mailto:John.Walcott@thomsonreuters.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 12:03 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: Strzok texts

Thank you again, Sarah, and for last night's back-and-forth. While I'm still not clear about who authorized the release of texts that are part of an ongoing IG investigation (perhaps I'm dense, but former IGs I know have said they don't know of any precedent), but I can assure on two points:

1. We don't call people at 3 a.m. except in extremis (terrorist attacks, etc.) My mother's rule was never to call anyone after 9, and that still seems reasonable, although you should feel free to call me anytime (b) (6) H)
2. We always base our stories on our reporting from multiple credible sources, preferably supported by verifiable documents, and not on any preconceived notions, twisted facts, or fake news. Again, if you feel otherwise, just call or email me.
3. (b) (6)

All the best,
John

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) [mailto:Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov]
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 11:23 AM
To: Hosenball, Mark J. (Reuters); Prior, Ian (OPA)
Cc: Walcott, John (Reuters)
Subject: RE: Strzok texts

- 1) Please please look into these things before sending me questions like this based on a single tweet you found from over a day ago. It was answered by the DAG in the hearing when Jeffries asked about it and Shannon sent out this tweet just moments later clarifying that their producer saw the same thing that Congress saw and every other outlet:
<https://twitter.com/ShannonBream/status/940990591915130880>
- 2) On your point about historical practice, I don't know who you are talking to but I sent you the names of 3 national reporters yesterday who have all confirmed past practice publicly.

- 3) I have no clue why the time of day is relevant—I get calls from my reporters at 3am not infrequently. We all work long hours in these jobs over here at DOJ—as is evidenced by the fact that several of the DOJ reporters were still here when I left at 11pm last night.
- 4) I have confirmed that some outlets had the full set of tweets before we released them to Congress or showed them to reporters here after, which makes this all seem like a silly non story.

At this point, your emails feels like badgering and a waste of time for me to argue about something you've made your mind up on. No other reporter who actually works here seems to agree with your narrative. Throughout this conversation you have had the tone of an advocate and not a reporter. So I think we're done.

xxx

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com [<mailto:Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com>]
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 10:55 AM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Strzok texts

I have contacted one or two people with historical knowledge of such issues and they said they had never seen or heard of a previous case of DoJ late at night calling reporters in to look at private message-type evidence - EVIDENCE, not internal memoranda - which had been collected by DoJ or IG in what is still an active, open investigation. Also, assuming its accurate, the tweet below seems to raise a serious question as to how Fox News obtained a much larger cache of Strzok messages than was provided to Congress. So I am still seriously wondering who authorized such releases, what the legal rationale was for doing so, given the fact that the investigation is still open, and whether you can produce any valid evidence that similar such material has been released in this manner in the past by DoJ.

Natasha Bertrand [Verified account](#) @NatashaBertrand
Follow Follow @NatashaBertrand

Rep. Hakeem Jeffries now asking who authorized the DOJ to invite reporters to come view private texts between 2 DOJ employees who were subject of pending investigation. Also asked how it's possible that Fox News has 10k Strzok-Page texts when DOJ only gave Congress 375 texts.

8:50 AM - 13 Dec 2017

Many thanks for your attention to this inquiry. mh

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 4:12 PM
To: Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal)
Subject: RE: Sarah - Stupid Q

I don't have the real texts—so I doubt the rnc does either 😊

xxx
Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal) [mailto:Matthew.Alexander@nbcuni.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 4:09 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Sarah - Stupid Q

Sarah,

Help - I have a stupid Q but can you clarify for me –

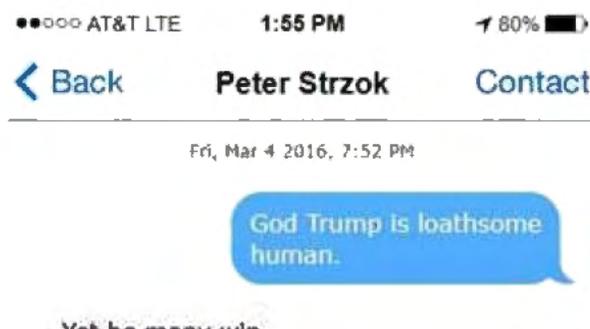
These screenshots of the Strzok texts that RNC is blasting out (below)... are those the real texts or are they the RNC marking up what they would like if sent on an iphone?

Don't judge me for being dumb!

From: Michael Ahrens - Communications/Research [mailto:Mahrens@gop.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:24 PM
To: Michael Ahrens - Communications/Research
Subject: [EXTERNAL] texts from last night

For several months we've been told that the special counsel's office is conducting an unbiased, independent investigation into the 2016 election. But newly-revealed text messages from at least two members of Robert Mueller's team, Peter Strzok and Lisa Page, raise questions about the impartiality of the investigation.

Here's just a sampling of the lovers' typo-ridden [anti-Trump texts](#):



rel the many win.

Good for Hillary.

It is.

Would he be a worse president than Cruz?

Trump?, yes I think so

I'm not sure.

Omg he's an idiot.

He's awful



iMessage

Send

During the Republican National Convention...

••••• AT&T LTE

2:11 PM

80%

[Back](#)

Peter Strzok

[Contact](#)

Tue, Jul 19 2016, 8:09 PM

Oooh, TURN IT ON, TURN IT ON!!! THE DO*CHEBAGS ARE ABOUT TO COME OUT. You can tell by the excitable clapping.

My god, I'm so embarrassed for them. These are like second-run stars. Nothing the B-list to relate to the kids these days.

And wow, Donald Trump is in an enormous do*che.

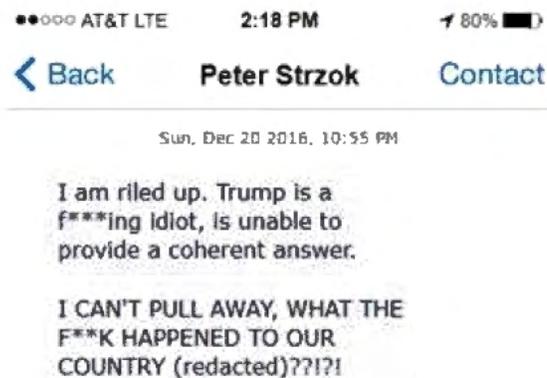
Hi. How was Trump, other than a do*che? Melania? And any luck with home purchases?

Trump barely spoke, but the first thing out of his mouth was "we're going to win soooo big." The whole thing is like living in a bad dream.

iMessage

Send

"...you're meant to protect the country from that menace" ...



I don't know. But we'll get it back. We're America. We rock.



iMessage

Send

Michael Ahrens
Rapid Response Director
Republican National Committee
mahrens@gop.com
[@michael_ahrens](https://twitter.com/michael_ahrens)

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:46 PM
To: Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com; Prior, Ian (OPA)
Subject: RE: texts from last night

I didn't know the RNC had them until you just said so. As I think I've now made pretty clear—these texts went to the hill. After that happened, a handful of reporters who have 24/7 hard passes to DOJ here could the hard copy of them in my offices. I have my hard copy stamped and it hasn't left this hallway. A lot of other people had these texts and I don't know what the dozen plus committees and members who had them last night did with them.

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com [mailto:Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:38 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Fwd: texts from last night

So who released these to RNC ? And then why the clandestine dealings with reporters ?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Michael Ahrens - Communications/Research <Mahrens@gop.com>
Date: December 13, 2017 at 15:24:11 EST
To: Michael Ahrens - Communications/Research <Mahrens@gop.com>
Subject: texts from last night

Duplicative



Prior, Ian (OPA)

From: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:43 PM
To: Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com; Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Subject: RE: texts from last night

By the looks of it they just took the info from the fox report and created graphics

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com [mailto:Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:38 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Fwd: texts from last night

Duplicative



Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 12:53 PM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Subject: Re: This is Eli Lake from Bloomberg View. Deadline query on text messages

Note Strohm was invited and declined

On Dec 13, 2017, at 12:52 PM, Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

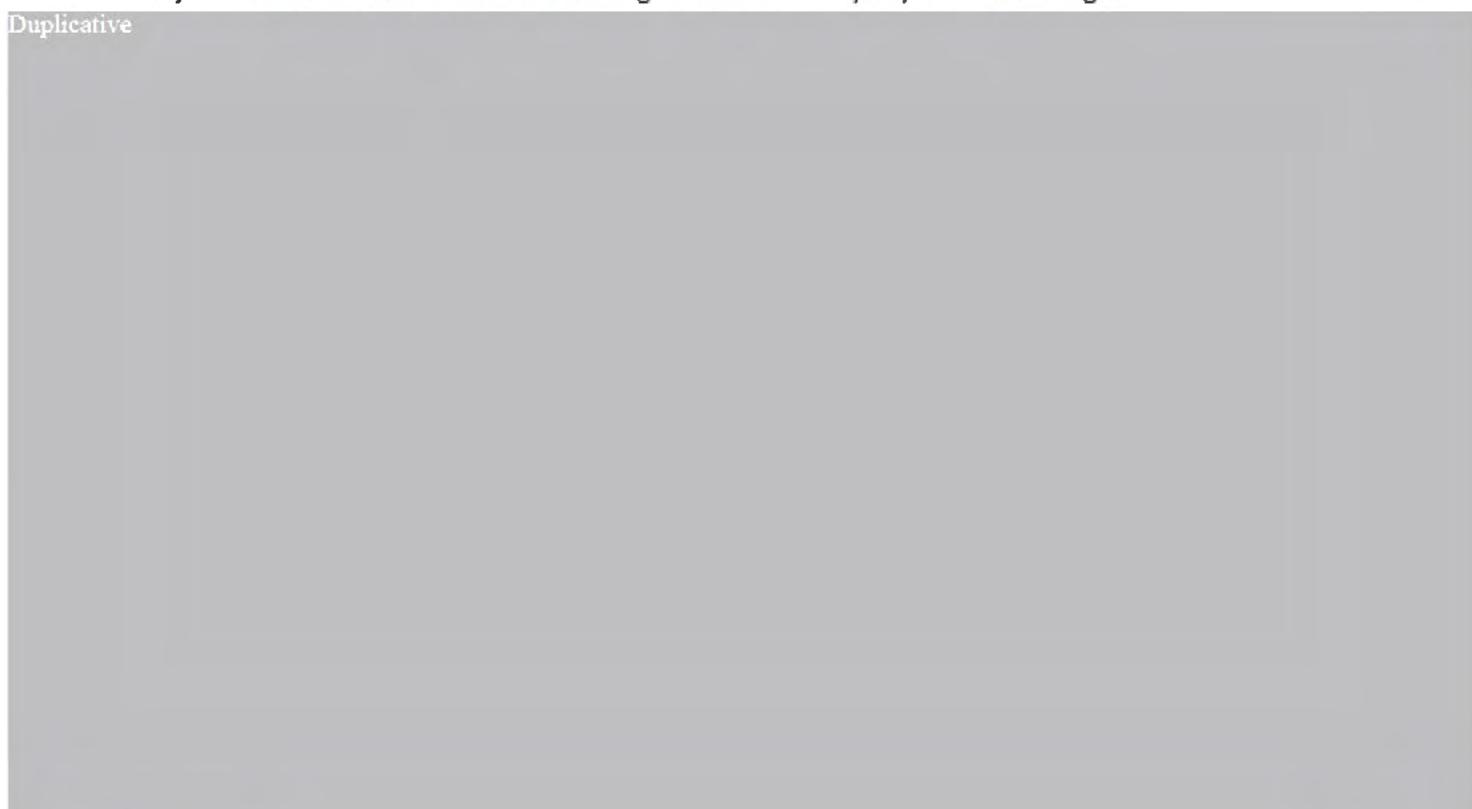
Going to give him approved statement

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: 202.532.3954

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Press
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 12:51 PM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Pettit, Mark T. (OPA) <mtpettit@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: FW: This is Eli Lake from Bloomberg View. Deadline query on text messages

Duplicative



Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 12:53 PM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Subject: Re: This is Eli Lake from Bloomberg View. Deadline query on text messages

Ok

On Dec 13, 2017, at 12:52 PM, Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

Duplicative



Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:24 AM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Subject: Re: Tweet forwarded by @iprior1177

(b) (5) We often provide information we give to the hill to avoid any confusion (on background (b) (5))

On Dec 13, 2017, at 9:59 AM, Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

Just confirmed that the Justice Department invited reporters over to DOJ last night to look at the Strzok/Page texts — and report them out — in case they did not leak in time for Rosenstein's hearing today. Story TK.

Original Tweet: <https://twitter.com/NatashaBertrand/status/940959111864340480>

Sent via TweetDeck

Date UTC	Date Correction	Internal Phone Number	Type of Message	From	To	RECIPIENTS_JSON	Body	Type	Attachment file type
2015-08-16 20:52:54, Sun		202-██████	OUTBOX		+1 202-██████		Love this line in the article: "the fbi and dhs are in charge of tracking the activities of foreign govt agents inside the US..." Uh, in what universe is that dhs's job?!	sms	
2015-08-16 20:53:26, Sun		202-██████	OUTBOX		+1 202-██████		You are wildly wrong.	sms	
2015-08-16 20:54:36, Sun		202-██████	INBOX	+1 202-██████			Well, I'm sure Jeh Johnson said it is...gotta assume it's some wildly liberal interpretation of immigration responsibilities..	sms	
2015-08-16 21:31:37, Sun		202-██████	OUTBOX		+1 202-██████		Finally, and related to nothing, but I just saw my first Bernie Sanders bumper sticker. Made me want to key the car.	sms	
2015-08-16 21:37:53, Sun		202-██████	INBOX	+1 202-██████			He's an an idiot like Trump. Figure they cancel each other out.	sms	
2015-08-30 18:18:49, Sun		202-██████	OUTBOX		+1 202-██████		Not related, but this is also outrageous. I mean, come on. The woman needed all this outside employment? \n\nAn article to share: How Huma Abedin operated at the center of the Clinton universe\nHow Huma Abedin operated at the center of the Clinton universe\nhttp://wapo.st/1JAqfVk	sms	
2015-10-14 01:11:52, Wed		202-██████	INBOX	+1 202-██████			And Martin OMalley's a douche	sms	
2015-10-14 01:14:29, Wed		202-██████	OUTBOX		+1 202-██████		I'm not watching. I can't tell you how little I care right now.	sms	
2015-10-14 01:17:12, Wed		202-██████	INBOX	+1 202-██████			Kind of a foregone conclusion but so much more substantive than the Rep debates	sms	
2015-10-14 02:22:05, Wed		202-██████	INBOX	+1 202-██████			Ooh hillary, Bernie throw down on 215	sms	
2015-11-01 23:19:31, Sun		202-██████	OUTBOX		+1 202-██████		Hey, I assume going forward that it's okay to send entirely innocuous news articles, right?	sms	

PS = inbox
LP = outbox

2015-11-01 23:21:36, Sun	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	+1 202- [REDACTED]		Anyway, I sent one. And I hope Paul Ryan fails and crashes in a blaze of glory.	sms	
2015-11-01 23:23:04, Sun	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	+1 202- [REDACTED]		Yes. And, me too. At some point the Rep party needs to pull their head out of their *ss. Shows no sign of occurring any time soon.	sms	
2015-12-13 01:36:54, Sun	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	202 [REDACTED]	202 [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	And funny re [REDACTED] husband, bc Kasich has long been suspected of being gay. Lived with his campaign manager for a loooooong time, until maybe 10+ years ago when he married a supermodel wife and immediately popped out kids, twins even, I think.	sms	[REDACTED]
2015-12-21 01:19:26, Mon	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	202 [REDACTED]	202 [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	What an utter idiot.\n\nAn article to share: Donald Trump on Putin: \u2018Nobody has proven that he\u2019s killed anyone\u2019\nDonald Trump on Putin: \u2018Nobody has proven that he\u2019s killed anyone\u2019\nhttp://wapo.st/1Pjfmkv	sms	[REDACTED]
2015-12-21 01:47:08, Mon	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	202 [REDACTED]	202 [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	No doubt. \u0001f612\n\nOk to gmail some pics?	sms	[REDACTED]
2015-12-28 18:26:22, Mon	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	202 [REDACTED]	202 [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	It's sick, but I really like policy issues. And having tight deadlines. Sigh...	sms	[REDACTED]

2015-12-28 19:18:11, Mon	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	202 [REDACTED] ;202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1451330292169,"uniqueid":299,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","202 [REDACTED]","emails":[" [REDACTED]"]}]	Is that what doj wanted?	sms	[REDACTED]
2015-12-28 19:18:32, Mon	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	202 [REDACTED] ;202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1451330314011,"uniqueid":299,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","202 [REDACTED]","emails":[" [REDACTED]"]}]	You get all our oconus [REDACTED] approved? ;)	sms	[REDACTED]
2015-12-28 19:19:41, Mon	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	202 [REDACTED] ;202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1451330382934,"uniqueid":299,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","202 [REDACTED]","emails":[" [REDACTED]"]}]	No, it's just implicated a much bigger policy issue. I'll explain later. Might even be able to use it as pretext for a call... ;)	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-01-18 03:13:35, Mon	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	202 [REDACTED] ;202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1453086817192,"uniqueid":299,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["f"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","202 [REDACTED]","emails":[" [REDACTED]"]}]	Martin O'Malley's a freakshow	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-01-18 03:14:59, Mon	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	202 [REDACTED] ;202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1453086901168,"uniqueid":299,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["f"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","202 [REDACTED]","emails":[" [REDACTED]"]}]	Yikes baby!\n\nYeah, that's what everyone says.\n\nOkay, really going to bed now [REDACTED]	sms	[REDACTED]

2016-01-22 17:50:34, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	202 [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1453485036202,"uniqueid":299,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","202 [REDACTED]"," [REDACTED]"," [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED]"]} </pre>	Yeah, some extremely offensive video screens set up in front of dist ct. Thank goodness D can't read and wasn't paying attention. Blood and guts and gore. I truly hate these people. No support for the woman who actually has to spend the rest of her life rearing this child, but we care about "life." Assholes.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-01-26 00:16:54, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	202 [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1453767415196,"uniqueid":299,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","202 [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED]"]} </pre>	And J*sus Martin O'Malley, just pack it in and go home!	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-02-19 02:17:26, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1455848246411,"uniqueid":109,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[" [REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED]"]} </pre>	NOW HOW THE F CAN HE BE A REPUBLICAN? !?!?	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-02-19 02:17:59, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1455848279516,"uniqueid":109,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[" [REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED]"]} </pre>	I have absolutely no idea. Still, he is so very interesting.	sms		[REDACTED]

2016-02-19 02:20:26, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1455848426170,"uniqueid":109,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	Gotta get that promotion party so you can meet him.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-02-19 02:20:55, Fri	20 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1455848455252,"uniqueid":109,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	And find the right moment to introduce you to N about the Apple pclub Lisa buckets stuff...	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-03-02 01:19:48, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1456881588769,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	He IS proud. And therefore me, too. \U0001f636\U0001f636\U0001f636\U0001f636\U0001f636 \U0001f636\n\nVoted for Bernie, of course. As young idealistic kids should.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-03-02 01:20:01, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1456881601603,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	He asked me who I'd vote for, guessed Kasich	sms	[REDACTED]

2016-03-02 01:20:11, Wed		202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1456881611411,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	Yes, they should.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-03-02 01:20:29, Wed		202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1456881629803,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	Seriously?! Would you not D?	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-03-02 01:20:39, Wed		202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1456881640024,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	I don't know. I suppose Hillary.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-03-02 01:20:46, Wed		202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1456881646521,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	I would D	sms		[REDACTED]

2016-03-02 01:21:00, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202 [REDACTED]	[[{"modified":1456881661132,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. I Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":[" [REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	He's doesn't think you're an R, does he?	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-03-02 01:21:04, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202 [REDACTED]	[[{"modified":1456881665043,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. I Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":[" [REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	VA's going to go to her anyway.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-03-02 01:21:17, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202 [REDACTED]	[[{"modified":1456881677261,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. I Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":[" [REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	He thinks i wouldn't vote for her right now	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-03-02 01:21:24, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202 [REDACTED]	[[{"modified":1456881684732,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. I Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":[" [REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	He's knows I'm a conservative Dem	sms	[REDACTED]

2016-03-04 02:11:35, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202	[{"modified":1457057495877,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]"(202) [REDACTED]"}]	Good for Hillary	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-03-04 02:11:51, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202	[{"modified":1457057511998,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]"(202) [REDACTED]"}]	It is.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-03-04 02:12:46, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202	[{"modified":1457057566651,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]"(202) [REDACTED]"}]	Would he be a worse president than cruz?	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-03-04 02:13:14, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202	[{"modified":1457057594254,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]"(202) [REDACTED]"}]	Trump? Yes, I think so.	sms		[REDACTED]

2016-03-04 02:13:37, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1457057618013,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]"(202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]} </pre>	I'm not sure	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-03-04 02:20:04, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1457058004250,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]"(202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]} </pre>	Omg he's an idiot	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-03-04 02:20:33, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1457058034165,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]"(202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]} </pre>	He's awful.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-03-04 02:21:02, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1457058063039,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]"(202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]} </pre>	America will get what the voting public deserves	sms	[REDACTED]

2016-03-04 02:21:36, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1457058097168,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]"(202) [REDACTED]","emails": [REDACTED]}	That's what I'm afraid of.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-03-04 02:22:11, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1457058131427,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]"(202) [REDACTED]","emails": [REDACTED]}	Department of Environmental Protection? !?	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-03-04 02:22:33, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1457058153325,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]"(202) [REDACTED]","emails": [REDACTED]}	Yep.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-03-04 02:24:25, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1457058265613,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]"(202) [REDACTED]","emails": [REDACTED]}	God Hillary should win 100,000,000 - 0.	sms	[REDACTED]

2016-03-04 02:25:16, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":14570583 17156,"uniqueid":211," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" ":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED] "emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED] </pre>	I know.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-03-04 02:34:56, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":14570588 97140,"uniqueid":211," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" ":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED] "emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED] </pre>	Also did you hear him make a comment about the size of his d*ck earlier? This man can not be president.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-03-04 02:37:06, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":14570590 27021,"uniqueid":211," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" ":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED] "emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED] </pre>	Yes I did. In relation to the size of his hands.\n\nAnd all the "Little Marco" blah blah blah	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-03-04 02:38:08, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":14570590 88809,"uniqueid":211," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" ":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED] "emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED] </pre>	And God, Detroit used to be SO beautiful and shining and elegant. \U0001f61e Sigh.	sms		[REDACTED]

2016-03-04 02:38:35, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1457059115246,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails": [REDACTED]"}]	I know. Detroit is really a beautiful city. Camden was too.	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-03-04 02:56:09, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1457060170175,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails": [REDACTED]"}]	Ok I may vote for Trump \n\n;	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-03-04 02:57:00, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1457060221215,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails": [REDACTED]"}]	"And look, I'M OLD"	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-03-04 02:58:39, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1457060319786,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails": [REDACTED]"}]	What?! \n\nPoor Kasich. He's the only sensible man up there.	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

2016-03-04 02:59:53, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1457060394063,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":{},"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	He was pretty much calling for death for Snowden. I'm a single issue voter. ;)\n\nEspionage Machine Party	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-03-04 03:00:23, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1457060423340,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":{},"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	Exactly re Kasich. And he has ZERO appeal	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-03-12 20:58:35, Sat	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1457816315583,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":{},"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	What the f is wrong with people?\n\nA Texas Candidate Pushes the Boundary of the Far Right http://nyti.ms/1QTgBqj	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-03-12 21:05:11, Sat	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1457816711329,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":{},"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	That Texas article is depressing as hell. But answers how we could end up with President trump	sms	[REDACTED]

2016-03-12 21:07:50, Sat	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1457816870461,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails" </pre>	Wasn't it? Seriously, how are people so incredibly ignorant?	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-03-12 21:12:46, Sat	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1457817166608,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails" </pre>	I have no idea, but it depresses me. Same people who drive more when they get extra daylight from daylight savings, I'm guessing.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-03-12 21:21:03, Sat	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1457817664195,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails" </pre>	U0001f621\nTrump Clarifies, and It\u2019s Worse - NYTimes.com\nhttp://mobile.nytimes.com/2016/03/12/opinion/trump-clarifies-and-its-worse.html?_r=0	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-03-14 11:53:08, Mon	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1457956388413,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails" </pre>	Don't listen to npr this morning - Richard Clarke is an uninformed douche. U0001f621U0001f621U0001f621	sms	[REDACTED]

<p>2016-03-14 11:53:43, Mon</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1457956423620,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["2024371838","(202)324-4552"],"emails":["Peter.Strzok@ic.fbi.gov"]}]</p>	<p>Yeah, I really don't like him, What did he say?</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-03-14 11:54:39, Mon</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1457956480005,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>Totally unnecessary. He's awful.</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-03-14 11:58:38, Mon</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1457956718953,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>You can tell me about [REDACTED] and we can get indignant together.</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-03-14 12:11:09, Mon</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1457957470357,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>It is not boring or weak. It is life, and I am happy to help. \n\nHe is a blowhard who doesn't know what he is talking about anymore, if he ever did. \n\nI will when I can. \n\nNot sure what his schedule is like this am.</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>

2016-03-16 04:11:51, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1458101511904,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	I can not believe Donald Trump is likely to be an actual, serious candidate for president.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-04-02 01:19:29, Sat	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1459559970236,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	So lock, you say we text on that phone when we talk about hillary because it can't be traced, you were just venting bc you feel bad that you're gone so much but it can't be helped right now.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-04-02 01:20:30, Sat	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1459560030794,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["202 [REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	Right. But did you say anything other than work? I did, but may have only gotten smiles or blushes back	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-04-09 01:18:28, Sat	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1460164708322,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["202 [REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	All this from N:\www.greenpeace.org/usa/campaign-updates/hillary-clintons-connections-oil-gas-industry\n\nEverything sanders said about Clinton is true. If you ready through their fact check they don't state a single thing of his is "false", however they argue that it is completely false because 1.4 million from fossil fuel lobbyists and 3.3 million directly from large donors connected to the fossil fuel industry, a total of 4.5 million alone in 2016 as "not much" compared to her total raising a	sms	[REDACTED]

<p>2016-04-09 01:18:35, Sat</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1460164716071,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]-(202) [REDACTED]"}]</p>	<p>This is clear and utter bias by the media specifically the NYTIMES, WAPO, and CNN who if you look at all of them have large donors for Clinton</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-04-09 01:18:45, Sat</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1460164725920,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]-(202) [REDACTED]"}]</p>	<p>The fact citing source they used is owned by a newspaper which publically endorsed Clinton</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-05-04 00:40:51, Wed</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1462322452120,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]-(202) [REDACTED]"}]</p>	<p>and holy shit Cruz just dropped out of the race. It's going to be a Clinton Trump race. Unbelievable.</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-05-04 00:41:24, Wed</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1462322484639,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]-(202) [REDACTED]"}]</p>	<p>What?!!??</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>

2016-05-04 00:41:37, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1462322497801,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	You heard that right my friend.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-05-04 00:41:37, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1462322497753,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	I saw trump won, figured it would be a bit	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-06-12 01:49:47, Sun	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1465695188957,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["[REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	They fully deserve to go, and demonstrate the absolute bigoted nonsense of Trump	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-06-12 01:49:47, Sun	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1465696188893,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":["[REDACTED]"],"organizations":["[REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	Truly	sms		[REDACTED]

2016-06-17 21:56:15, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1466200576312,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]"(202) [REDACTED] "emails": [REDACTED]	Now we're talking about Clinton, and how a lot of people are holding their breath, hoping.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-06-22 16:39:25, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1466613565908,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]"(202) [REDACTED] "emails": [REDACTED]	Hi. Just leaving my meeting now. How we make law in this country is offensive and irresponsible. \U0001f621	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-06-22 16:41:56, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1466613717529,"uniqueid":211,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]"(202) [REDACTED] "emails": [REDACTED]	I know it is. Its why I LOATHE congress. Can't wait to hear the story.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-07-07 10:36:34, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1467887796027,"uniqueid":497,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]"(202) [REDACTED] "emails": [REDACTED]	Thought this was spot on.\n\nHillary Clinton: Ma\u2019m Survivor http://nyfi.ms/29z00ku	sms		[REDACTED]

<p>2016-07-08 22:45:38, Fri</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1468017939983,"uniqueid":497,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":"[REDACTED]"}]</p>	<p>And meanwhile, we have Black Lives Matter protesters, right now, chanting "no justice no peace" around DoJ and the White House...</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-07-08 23:15:13, Fri</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1468019714390,"uniqueid":497,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["20 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":"[REDACTED]"}]</p>	<p>That's awful.</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-07-10 01:22:24, Sun</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1468113745048,"uniqueid":497,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":"[REDACTED]"}]</p>	<p>I didn't get the chance to ask about the B8s. But I did sit and stare at the portrait of Elliot Richardson staring at me.</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-07-10 01:22:44, Sun</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1468113765919,"uniqueid":497,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":"[REDACTED]"}]</p>	<p>It's next to the portrait of Eric Holder, which is wildly offensive.</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>

2016-07-14 01:33:53, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":14684600 34702,"uniqueid":672," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II (202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["202 [REDACTED] "(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] "emails": [REDACTED] </pre>	Have you read this? It's really frightening. \n\nFor Whites Sensing Decline, Donald Trump Unleashes Words of Resistance http://nyl.ms/29WCu5l	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-07-14 01:35:35, Thu	20 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":14684601 36245,"uniqueid":672," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II (202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["202 [REDACTED] "(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] "emails": [REDACTED] </pre>	I have not. But I think it's clear he's capturing all the white, poor voters who the mainstream Republicans abandoned in all but name in the quest for the almighty \$\$\$\$	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-07-14 01:36:32, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":14684601 93390,"uniqueid":672," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II (202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["202 [REDACTED] "(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] "emails": [REDACTED] </pre>	Yeah, it's not good.\n\nAnyway, [REDACTED]	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-07-14 11:04:45, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":14684942 86367,"uniqueid":672," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II (202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["202 [REDACTED] "(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] "emails": [REDACTED] </pre>	Poll Finds Emails Weighing on Hillary Clinton, Now Tied With Donald Trump http://ny6.ms/29RV5ef	sms		[REDACTED]

2016-07-14 11:05:15, Thu		202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre>[{"modified":1468494316437,"uniqueid":672,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"}]</pre>	It is.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-07-19 00:12:19, Tue		202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre>[{"modified":1468887140729,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"}]</pre>	And are you kidding me? Duck Dynasty now Scott Baio? Ridiculous.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-07-19 00:27:05, Tue		202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre>[{"modified":1468888026599,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"}]</pre>	Wait, is that who is speaking at the convention?!	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-07-19 00:27:24, Tue		202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre>[{"modified":1468888045751,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"}]</pre>	Yes!!!!!!	sms	[REDACTED]

<p>2016-07-19 00:27:27, Tue</p>	<p>202-██████████</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) ██████████ ██████████ 202 ██████████ ██████████ ██████████</p>	<pre>{["modified":14688880 48697,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" ":["202-██████████"(202) ██████████,"emails":██████████</pre>	<p>Charles in Charge?! That's the best they can do?! Lmfao</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>██████████</p>
<p>2016-07-19 00:27:37, Tue</p>	<p>202-██████████</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) ██████████ ██████████ 202 ██████████ ██████████ ██████████</p>	<pre>{["modified":14688880 58539,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" ":["202-██████████(202) ██████████,"emails":██████████</pre>	<p>[It's PATHETIC]</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>██████████</p>
<p>2016-07-19 00:27:59, Tue</p>	<p>202-██████████</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) ██████████ ██████████ 202 ██████████ ██████████ ██████████</p>	<pre>{["modified":14688880 80131,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" ":["202-██████████*(202) ██████████,"emails":██████████</pre>	<p>That unbelievable. My god. Thank god it's not on.</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>██████████</p>
<p>2016-07-19 00:28:44, Tue</p>	<p>202-██████████</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) ██████████ ██████████ 202 ██████████ ██████████ ██████████</p>	<pre>{["modified":14688881 24979,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" ":["202-██████████(202) ██████████,"emails":██████████</pre>	<p>[It's on! PBS]</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>██████████</p>

<p>2016-07-19 00:29:56, Tue</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202</p>	<p>[{"modified":1468888197543,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. H Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":"[REDACTED]"}]</p>	<p>What did you do? Republican snark. \U0001f636</p>	<p>sms</p>		
<p>2016-07-19 00:36:18, Tue</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202</p>	<p>[{"modified":1468888579696,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. H Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":"[REDACTED]"}]</p>	<p>AND COME ON!!!! TURN ON THE CONVENTION!!!!</p>	<p>sms</p>		
<p>2016-07-19 00:37:52, Tue</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202</p>	<p>[{"modified":1468888673925,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. H Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":"[REDACTED]"}]</p>	<p>NO! I WILL NOT BE SUCKED IN!</p>	<p>sms</p>		
<p>2016-07-19 00:43:55, Tue</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202</p>	<p>[{"modified":1468889036511,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. H Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":"[REDACTED]"}]</p>	<p>TURN IT ON. PBS. [REDACTED]</p>	<p>sms</p>		

2016-07-19 00:44:39, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1468889080677,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	[REDACTED]	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-07-19 00:45:03, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1468889104289,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	Well Christ. YOU got me there. :D	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-07-19 00:45:25, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1468889126065,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["[REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	[REDACTED] kely to come down shortly so we can bust through more of this sh*t. Just fyi.	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-07-19 00:57:55, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1468889876249,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["[REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	Oooh, TURN IT ON, TURN IT ON!!! THE DOUCHERAGS ARE ABOUT TO COME OUT. \n\nYou can tell by the excitable clapping.	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

2016-07-19 01:04:46, Tue	20	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1468890287450,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]"]}]	My god, I'm so embarrassed for them. These are like second-run stars. Nothing the B-list to relate to the kids these days...	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-07-19 02:23:29, Tue	202	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1468895010321,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]"]}]	And wow, Donald Trump is an enormous d*uche.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-07-19 10:16:23, Tue	202	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1468923984188,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]"]}]	Hi. How was Trump, other than a douche? Melania? And any luck with home purchases? \n\nI have [REDACTED] this morning.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-07-19 16:18:31, Tue	20	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1468923512571,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]"]}]	Trump barely spoke, but the first thing out of his mouth was "we're going to win soooo big." The whole thing is like living in a bad dream.	sms	[REDACTED]

2016-07-19 10:19:41, Tue		202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1468923582708,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. H Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"}], "emails": [REDACTED]	Jesus	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-07-19 10:20:06, Tue		202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1468923607407,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. H Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"}], "emails": [REDACTED]	Melania was perfectly fine, except the whole point of the spouse talking is to reveal those personal stories, what a kind human the candidate is. There was none of that.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-07-19 10:21:20, Tue		202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1468923681261,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. H Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"}], "emails": [REDACTED]	That was her job! What the hell did she talk about? Winning yuuuge?	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-07-19 10:22:12, Tue		202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 02	[{"modified":1468923733422,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. H Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"}], "emails": [REDACTED]	I don't know. Lots of my husband is great, but no description to back it up.	sms		[REDACTED]

<p>2016-07-19 11:18:46, Tue</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202</p>	<p>[{"modified":1468927127581,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"]}</p>	<p>"emails" [REDACTED] Omg. You listening to npr? Apparently Melania's speech had passages lifted from Michele Obama's....unbelievable</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-07-19 11:19:25, Tue</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202</p>	<p>[{"modified":1468927166021,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"]}</p>	<p>"emails" [REDACTED] NO WAY!</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-07-19 11:20:06, Tue</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202</p>	<p>[{"modified":1468927207666,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"]}</p>	<p>"emails" [REDACTED] God, it's just a two-bit organization. I do so hope his dsorganization comes to bite him hard in November.</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-07-19 11:21:13, Tue</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202</p>	<p>[{"modified":1468927274701,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"]}</p>	<p>"emails" [REDACTED] It HAS to, right? Right?!? Panicked \U0001f628</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>

2016-07-20 00:14:02, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1468973644056,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]-(202) [REDACTED]","emails": [REDACTED]}	Hopefully you get home in time for crazy - ass grain storage pyramid Ben Carson tonight.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-07-20 00:14:10, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1468973651767,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]-(202) [REDACTED]","emails": [REDACTED]}	Pence being introduced	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-07-20 01:12:03, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1468977124001,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]-(202) [REDACTED]","emails": [REDACTED]}	Mitch McConnell always reminds me of a turtle.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-07-20 01:14:54, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1468977295503,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]-(202) [REDACTED]","emails": [REDACTED]}	My god, the crowd looks soooooo bored.	sms		[REDACTED]

2016-07-20 01:15:04, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	{["modified":14689773 05381,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. I Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"] "emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	Droopy dog	mms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
2016-07-20 01:22:23, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	{["modified":14689777 44340,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. I Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"] "emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	Amd Paul Ryan's a jerky	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
2016-07-21 08:52:19, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	{["modified":14690911 40788,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. I Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"] "emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	This is really shocking.\n\nDonald Trump Sets Conditions for Defending NATO Allies Against Attack http://nyti.ms/2ai4u3g	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
2016-07-21 09:09:58, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	{["modified":14690921 99358,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. I Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"] "emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	This campaign is like watching a train wreck happen over and over and over again.\n\nHow Donald Trump Picked His Running Mate http://nyti.ms/2a8aCJ9	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

2016-07-26 23:54:42, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1469577284264,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].[REDACTED]"}]]	And hey. Congrats on a woman nominated for President in a major party!\n\nAbout damn time! Many many more returns of the day! \U0001f60a	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
2016-07-26 23:56:57, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1469577418480,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].[REDACTED]"}]]	\U0001f60a That's cute. Thanks. \U0001f636	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
2016-07-26 23:57:51, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1469577472858,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].[REDACTED]"}]]	\U0001f60a That's cute. Thanks. \U0001f636	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
2016-07-26 23:58:20, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1469577501197,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].[REDACTED]"}]]	I had to hold [REDACTED] hand when Bernie just now moved for her nomination. \U0001f636\U0001f636\U0001f636	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

2016-07-26 23:58:48, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1469577529824,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	I'm not watching. What happened?	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
2016-07-27 00:02:08, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1469577729469,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	They went thru roll call, she got enough votes about an hour ago. Vermont went last, they cast their votes. Then introduced Bernie, who called for some procedural things then moved for HRC to become the Democratic Nominee.	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
2016-07-27 00:02:41, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1469577762238,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	Chills, just because I'm a homer for American democracy that way. \U0001f636\U0001f636\U0001f636\U0001f636	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
2016-07-27 00:03:06, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1469577787947,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	If they played patriotic music or did something with the flag and an honor guard, I probably would have teared up.....	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

2016-07-27 00:21:39, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1469578900402,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]]	Yeah, it is pretty cool. She just has to win now. I'm not going to lie, I got a flash of nervousness yesterday about trump. The sandernistas have the potential to make a vary big mistake here...	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
2016-07-27 00:32:09, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1469579530708,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]]	I'm not worried about them. I'm worried about the anarchist Assanges who will take fed information and disclose it to disrupt [REDACTED]	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
2016-07-27 02:54:17, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1469588058703,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]]	So sad, the comment about more yesterdays than tomorrows. \U0001f622\n\nAnd i don't like Chelsea Her husband even less... \U0001f612	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
2016-07-27 02:57:07, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1469588228690,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]]	I like Chelsea fine. Why not?	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

2016-07-27 03:00:18, Wed	2024 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1469588419329,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]","4 [REDACTED]"}]	Self entitled. Feels she deserves something she hasn't earned	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
2016-07-28 00:59:03, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1469667543952,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]","4 [REDACTED]"}]	Stupid*ss Bernie supporters shouting no more war so that he couldn't be heard hardly at all. I'm sorry, they're idiots.	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
2016-07-28 01:01:27, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1469667688232,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"," [REDACTED]"}]	They really are.	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
2016-07-28 01:18:01, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1469668682102,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"," [REDACTED]"}]	I really really like Joe Biden.	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

<p>2016-07-28 01:24:09, Thu</p>		<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1469669050983,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>Was literally grabbing phone to say Joe's doing great!</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED] f [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-07-28 01:26:14, Thu</p>		<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1469669175210,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>He's just a really sincere guy.</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-07-28 01:29:15, Thu</p>		<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1469669356281,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>[REDACTED] said he was absolutely beloved by Delaware State Police. And funny story about him and gtwn basketball team in China a few years ago. Too long for here.</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-07-28 01:51:10, Thu</p>		<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1469670675744,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>Opened on Trump? If Hillary did, you know 5 field offices would...</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>

2016-07-28 01:54:20, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1469670861681,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"}], [{"email": "[REDACTED]"}]]	This article highlights the thing I mentioned to you earlier, asking if Bill had noted it to 7th floor. I'm going to send it to him	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
2016-08-01 01:38:23, Mon	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1470015504253,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"}], [{"email": "[REDACTED]"}]]	I mean seriously. What in the hell is this guy talking about? \n\nDonald Trump Gives Questionable Explanation of Events in Ukraine http://nyti.ms/2arMCyV	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
2016-08-06 14:38:09, Sat	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1470494290616,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"}], [{"email": "[REDACTED]"}]]	Jesus. You should read this. And Trump should go f himself. \n\nMoment in Convention Glare Shakes Up Khans\u2019 American Life http://nyti.ms/2aHuLE0	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
2016-08-06 14:53:36, Sat	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1470495217938,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["2024 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"}], [{"email": "[REDACTED]"}]]	God that's a great article. \U0001f621\uU0001f61e\uU0001f61e\u2764\n\nThanks for sharing. \n\nAnd F Trump.	sms	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

2016-08-06 14:55:00, Sat	202-██████████	OUTBOX	(202) ██████████ ██████████ 202 ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████	[[{"modified":1470495301312,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-██████████","(202) ██████████"],"emails":["██████████@██████████.com"]}]]	And maybe you're meant to stay where you are because you're meant to protect the country from that menace. To that end, read this:	sms	██████████ ██████████ ██████████
2016-08-06 14:55:19, Sat	202-██████████	OUTBOX	(202) ██████████ ██████████ 202 ██████████ ██████████ ██████████	[[{"modified":1470495320283,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-██████████","(202) ██████████"],"emails":["██████████@██████████.com"]}]]	Trump\u2019s Enablers Will Finally Have to Take a Stand http://nyti.ms/2aFakry	sms	██████████ ██████████ ██████████
2016-08-06 15:04:43, Sat	202-██████████	INBOX	(202) ██████████ ██████████ 202 ██████████ ██████████ ██████████	[[{"modified":1470495884167,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-██████████","(202) ██████████"],"emails":["██████████@██████████.com"]}]]	Thanks. It's absolutely true that we're both very fortunate. \n\nAnd of course I'll try and approach it that way. I just know it will be tough at times.\n\nI can protect our country at many levels, not sure if that helps...	sms	██████████ ██████████ ██████████
2016-08-06 15:05:51, Sat	202-██████████	OUTBOX	(202) ██████████ ██████████ 202 ██████████ ██████████ ██████████	[[{"modified":1470495952221,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-██████████","(202) ██████████"],"emails":["██████████@██████████.com"]}]]	I know it will too. But it's just a job. It's not a reflection of your worth or quality or smarts.	sms	██████████ ██████████ ██████████

2016-08-06 15:28:50, Sat	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1470497332107,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. Il Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["(202) [REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com"]}]	I really like this:\nHe appears to have no ability to experience reverence, which is the foundation for any capacity to admire or serve anything bigger than self, to want to learn about anything beyond self, to want to know and deeply honor the people around you.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-08-06 15:30:59, Sat	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1470497460415,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. Il Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["(202) [REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com"]}]	Sigh. That's the paragraph, upon reading, that caused me to want to send it to you. \U0001f636	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-08-09 03:26:25, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1470713187285,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. Il Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["(202) [REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com"]}]	He's not ever going to become president, right? Right?!	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-08-09 21:56:09, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1470779771230,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. Il Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["(202) [REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com"]}]	OMG did you hear what Trump just said?	sms	[REDACTED]

<p>2016-08-11 00:53:46, Thu</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1470876827378,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. I Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]"}]</p>	<p>Why Latitude? (other than it sounds badass, and you came up with it \U0001f636)</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-08-11 00:54:24, Thu</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1470876865859,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. I Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]"}]</p>	<p>Trying to think of something loosely military, without being obvious.</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-08-11 00:56:56, Thu</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1470877018143,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. I Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]"}]</p>	<p>YUUUUGE.\n\nThough we may save that for the man, if we ever open on him ;)</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-08-11 00:57:27, Thu</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1470877048774,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. I Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]"}]</p>	<p>OMG I CANNOT BELIEVE WE ARE SERIOUSLY LOOKING AT THESE ALLEGATIONS AND THE PERSVASIVE CONNECTIONS</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>

<p>2016-08-17 11:02:31, Wed</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1471431752558,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-08-26 16:42:40, Fri</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1472229762697,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>Just went to a southern Virginia Walmart. I could SMELL the Trump support....</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-08-26 16:54:18, Fri</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1472230461303,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>Yup. Out to lunch with [REDACTED] We both hate everyone and everything.</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-08-26 17:02:52, Fri</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1472230973957,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>I want to be there and hate with you, or charm you back to happy \n\nLooked for the two trump yard signs I saw on the way out to take a picture, but couldn't see them</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>

2016-08-30 09:45:44, Tue		202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1472550345614,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	[REDACTED] called him and told him he would be sending a letter.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-08-30 09:46:15, Tue		202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1472550377291,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	Trying isn't enough! \n\nOr rather, it may be, but I'm not content with trying. \n\nSeriously, I'm walking over and paying for it today. You need to tell me a time.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-08-30 09:46:29, Tue		202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1472550390383,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	Bill didn't mention it \u0001f612	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-08-30 09:51:55, Tue		202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1472550717103,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	And holy cow, let me send you the Reid letter!	sms		[REDACTED]

2016-08-31 03:27:14, Wed	202-██████████	OUTBOX	(202) ██████████ ██████████ ██████████	<pre> [{"modified":14726140 37482,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["202-██████████"(202) ██████████,"emails":██████████ </pre>	Did you ever look at this? It's incredibly powerful. And really, really depressing. \n\nAt Least 110 Republican Leaders Won\u2019t Vote for Donald Trump. Here\u2019s When They Reached Their Breaking Point. http://nyti.ms/2bTNAbb	sms		
2016-08-31 11:37:05, Wed	202-██████████	OUTBOX	(202) ██████████ ██████████ ██████████	<pre> [{"modified":14720934 27118,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["202-██████████"(202) ██████████,"emails":██████████ </pre>	Re the case, Jim Baker honks you should have it. But I'm sure Andy would defer to Bill. I won't mention.	sms		
2016-08-31 11:39:54, Wed	202-██████████	INBOX	(202) ██████████ ██████████ ██████████	<pre> [{"modified":14720935 95655,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["202-██████████"(202) ██████████,"emails":██████████ </pre>	██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████	sms		
2016-09-03 14:28:55, Sat	202-██████████	INBOX	(202) ██████████ ██████████ ██████████	<pre> [{"modified":14729129 36384,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["202-██████████"(202) ██████████,"emails":██████████ </pre>	I've been busy distracting myself, waiting on N to get up, not wanting to spin, reading the Federalist Papers looking for a great foreign influence quote. Yeah, I'm a nerd.	sms		
2016-09-12 11:25:13, Mon	202-██████████	INBOX	(202) ██████████ ██████████ ██████████	<pre> [{"modified":14736795 14885,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["202-██████████"(202) ██████████,"emails":██████████ </pre>	Npr says Trump hotel opens today. It doesn't look ready...	sms		

2016-09-12 11:26:16, Mon	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":14736795 77884,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II (202) [REDACTED] Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :{"202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED] "emails":[REDACTED] </pre>	That's one place I hope I never stay in.	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-09-12 11:29:23, Mon	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":14736797 64099,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II (202) [REDACTED] Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :{"202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED] "emails":[REDACTED] </pre>	Agreed. Hope it falls horribly. It wont, but still.	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-09-27 00:40:23, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":14749368 25368,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II (202) [REDACTED] Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :{"202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED] "emails":[REDACTED] </pre>	Did you read this? It's scathing. And I'm scared.\n\nWhy Donald Trump Should Not Be President http://nyti.ms/2dbQPuR	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-09-27 00:40:43, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":14749368 44910,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II (202) [REDACTED] Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :{"202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED] "emails":[REDACTED] </pre>	Man, I should have started drinking earlier. I'm genuinely stressed about the debate.	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

2016-09-27 10:37:52, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1474972675375,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	Can I ask you a question about yesterday's discussion? Why rule out a job at DoJ. Not NSD or ODAG?	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-09-27 10:38:13, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1474972694689,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	Too political?	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-09-27 10:39:43, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1474972785351,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["[REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	No way. I don't see what I get out of that, and I'd have to deal with all the political BS.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-09-27 10:40:32, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1474972834476,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["[REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	Political connections. Better entree into other jobs? Maybe not the latter.	sms		[REDACTED]

2016-09-29 01:10:28, Thu	202-██████████	OUTBOX	(202) ██████████ 202-██████████	<pre> [{"modified":14751114 30732,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["202-██████████","(202) ██████████"],"emails":["██████████ ██████████"]} </pre>	And suddenly I'm realizing, they're like Trump demographic people, just democrats. \U0001f612	sms	
2016-09-29 01:10:29, Thu	202-██████████	INBOX	(202) ██████████ 202-██████████	<pre> [{"modified":14751114 30837,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["202-██████████","(202) ██████████"],"emails":["██████████ ██████████"]} </pre>	Like ██████████!!!!!!!!!!!!\n\nOh sweet jes*s I need to send you what ██████████ has been sending. The liberal media is all in the tank for Hillary. Because, you know, Trump isn't batsh*t crazy for our country...	sms	
2016-09-29 01:11:38, Thu	202-██████████	OUTBOX	(202) ██████████ 202-██████████	<pre> [{"modified":14751115 00556,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["202-██████████","(202) ██████████"],"emails":["██████████ ██████████"]} </pre>	Please don't. I really don't want to know what is out there.	sms	
2016-09-29 01:13:46, Thu	202-██████████	INBOX	(202) ██████████ 202-██████████	<pre> [{"modified":14751116 27478,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["202-██████████","(202) ██████████"],"emails":["██████████ ██████████"]} </pre>	██████████ is crazy, btw	sms	

2016-09-29 01:14:28, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1475111670034,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]	EVERYTHING about him is a dem. Except maybe string national defense (except Hillary is that but she can't be, because, you know, CLINTON!).	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-09-29 01:17:46, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1475111868092,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]	I know. His political affiliation is truly baffling. He's a HUGE D.	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-09-29 01:18:16, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1475111897651,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]	I know!	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-09-29 01:18:29, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1475111910415,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]	I WANT YOU TO MEET HIM AND CONVINCHE HIM!	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

<p>2016-09-29 01:19:06, Thu</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1475111948073,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>You're very persuasive. \n\nWe'll have to stay here as my iPhone is apparently syncing and downloading for the rest of the night \U0001f612</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-09-29 01:53:27, Thu</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1475114009697,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["(202) [REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>"Found it hard to focus"? \n\n"Found it hard to focus"?!!?!?!\n\nAre you f*cking kidding me?!?!?!\n\nDonald Trump got too much debate advice, so he took none of it.\nhttp://www.slate.com/blogs/the_slatest/2016/09/28/donald_trump_get_too_much_debate_advice_so_he_took_none_of_it.html</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-10-06 23:11:14, Thu</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1475795476385,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["(202) [REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>So, I think [REDACTED] \U0001f628</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-10-06 23:18:44, Thu</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1475795927018,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["(202) [REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>What?!?! Why?\n\nInvite [REDACTED] and Giacalone to your housewarming! That'll be fun!</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>

<p>2016-10-06 23:20:17, Thu</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1475796019053,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>We got a list of kids with their parents' names. How many (b) (6)s could there be in DC? Showed J a picture, he said he thinks he has seen a guy who kinda looks like that, but always really schlubby. I said that sounds like every reporter I have ever seen.</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-10-06 23:21:08, Thu</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1475796069964,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>Found what I think might be their address too.</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-10-06 23:21:37, Thu</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1475796098778,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["[REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>He's TOTALLY schlubby! Dont you remember?</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-10-06 23:22:31, Thu</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1475796152840,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["[REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>Wife is [REDACTED] Found address looking for her. Lawyer.</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>

2016-10-06 23:24:01, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1475796243928,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]} </pre>	Address?	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-06 23:24:34, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1475796276810,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]} </pre>	They met at [REDACTED] Good on him, he started writing at the school paper.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-06 23:24:58, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1475796299437,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]} </pre>	[REDACTED] I think.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-06 23:26:39, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1475796402856,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]} </pre>	Just have to look up if it is inbounds for [REDACTED]	sms	[REDACTED]

2016-10-06 23:26:41, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1475796402938,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]	I wouldn't search on your work phone...no idea what that might trigger in [REDACTED] shop....:]	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-06 23:27:31, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1475796452727,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]	Oops. Too late.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-07 10:02:33, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1475834554849,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]	Yeah and I made the mistake of reading some stupid NY Post article about how agents are ready to revolt against D because of MY...now I'm really angry....	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-07 10:03:33, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1475834614778,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]	There are a bunch of really ignorant people out there blinded by their politics	sms	[REDACTED]

2016-10-07 10:03:56, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED]	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1475834637703,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. Il Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	You can't read that sh*t. And honestly, let them. The bu would be better off without them.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-10-07 10:04:02, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED]	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1475834644319,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. Il Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	There are.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-10-07 10:04:37, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED]	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1475834680120,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. Il Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["[REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	Sadly reminds me how deeply politics, like religion, can sometimes blind objectivity.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-10-07 10:04:38, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED]	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1475834680207,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. Il Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["[REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	I can't help it. It's click bait. I emailed it to you.	sms		[REDACTED]

2016-10-08 12:35:47, Sat	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1475930149130,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	Currently reading about Trump. Wondering if he stepped down if Pence could actually get elected.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-08 12:36:20, Sat	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1475930182229,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	That's probably more likely than Trump getting elected.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-08 12:37:10, Sat	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1475930232123,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	I agree. I think it would actually energize the Republican vote.\n\nAnd no, not really re path forward.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-09 21:07:51, Sun	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1476047273354,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	And funny quote from my cousin-in-law: "No way Trump will drop out. Hey Republicans: how does it feel to carry something to term?"	sms	[REDACTED]

<p>2016-10-10 01:23:55, Mon</p>	<p>202</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 02 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1476062637553,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"}]</p>	<p>Trump saying agents at FBI are furious at the MYE outcome and he's getting a special prosecutor.</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-10-12 03:04:57, Wed</p>	<p>202</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1476241499223,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"}]</p>	<p>Hot damn. Big news day.\n\nBuffett Calls Trump\u2019s Bluff and Releases His Tax Data http://nyti.ms/2dSIQm5</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-10-12 03:16:35, Wed</p>	<p>202</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1476242197719,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"}]</p>	<p>Wow, more forceful than I have seen him. Wonder what [REDACTED] would say about it. \n\nDonald Trump\u2019s Sad, Lonely Life http://nyti.ms/2dTCZxP</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-10-14 00:40:26, Fri</p>	<p>202</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1476405629904,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"}]</p>	<p>Not sure why I thought this was so neat. Suppose it's just the law nerd in me.\n\nThe Times\u2019s Lawyer Responds to Donald Trump http://nyti.ms/2e0WNza</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>

2016-10-14 00:40:28, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX		(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1476405630136,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com"]} </pre>	God, she's an incredibly impressive woman. The Obamas in general, really. While he has certainly made mistakes, I'm proud to have had him as my president. \n\nVoice Shaking, Michelle Obama Calls Trump Comments on Women \u2018Intolerable\u2019 http://nytl.ms/2e0MtqY	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-10-14 00:48:08, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX		(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1476406089208,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com"]} [{"modified":1476406089432,"uniqueid":892,"firstName":"Jon","lastName":"Moffa","notes":[],"organizations":["(202) [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com"]} </pre>	Ugh. More of the same. \n\nDonald Trump, Slipping in Polls, Warns of \u2018Stolen Election\u2019 http://nytl.ms/2e07imx	mms		[REDACTED]
2016-10-14 00:51:26, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX		(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1476406286385,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["(202) [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com"]} [{"modified":1476406286442,"uniqueid":892,"firstName":"Jon","lastName":"Moffa","notes":[],"organizations":["(202) [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com"]} </pre>	Nope. Full of dog whistles too: "We do not want this election stolen from us. Everybody knows what I'm talking about." The racism is barely even veiled anymore.	mms		[REDACTED]

2016-10-14 00:53:52, Fri	202	OUTBOX	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 2) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 2) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]</p>	<pre>[{"modified":1476406432962,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]} {"modified":1476406433020,"uniqueid":892,"firstName":"Jon","lastName":"Moffa","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["(202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]} </pre>	The Roger Stone comments are scary as sh*t.	mms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-14 01:00:59, Fri	202	INBOX	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 2) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 2) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 02 [REDACTED]</p>	<pre>[{"modified":1476406860248,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]} {"modified":1476406860298,"uniqueid":892,"firstName":"Jon","lastName":"Moffa","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["(202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]} </pre>	Roger Stone is horrible.	mms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-15 01:26:22, Sat	202	INBOX	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]</p>	<pre>[{"modified":1476494784621,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]} </pre>	Stone \u2018happy to cooperate\u2019 with FBI on WikiLeaks, Russian hacking probes - POLITICO\nhttp://www.politico.com/story/2016/10/roger-stone-fbi-wikileaks-russia-229821	sms	[REDACTED]

2016-10-15 21:25:48, Sat	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	{["modified":1476565751121,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. I Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails": [REDACTED]]}	[REDACTED] That didn't take long \U0001f621	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-15 21:28:10, Sat	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	{["modified":1476566892312,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. I Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails": [REDACTED]]}	[REDACTED] At least we made the f-ers work on the weekend...	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-15 21:30:09, Sat	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	{["modified":1476567011583,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. I Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails": [REDACTED]]}	[REDACTED] Uh, and, yeah - like they're doing to us.\n\nI HATE this case.\n\nAnd a LOT to tell you about my convo with JG...	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-15 22:04:26, Sat	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	{["modified":1476569067977,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. I Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails": [REDACTED]]}	[REDACTED] Very nice work on that initial statement. Maybe we can talk tomorrow re JG..	sms	[REDACTED]

<p>2016-10-18 00:02:35, Tue</p>		<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (20 [REDACTED]) [REDACTED] (20 [REDACTED]) [REDACTED] (20 [REDACTED])</p>	<pre>[{"modified":1476748955524,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] (20 [REDACTED]) [REDACTED]","[REDACTED] (20 [REDACTED]) [REDACTED]"}]</pre> <pre>[{"modified":147674895589,"uniqueid":892,"firstName":"Jon","lastName":"Moffa","notes":[],"organizations":["(202) [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"numbers":["(202) [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] (20 [REDACTED]) [REDACTED]"]}]</pre>	<p>I'll probably have to write talking points (likely for CyD) so I won't be able to make it.</p>	<p>mms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-10-18 00:05:39, Tue</p>		<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (20 [REDACTED]) [REDACTED] (20 [REDACTED]) [REDACTED] (20 [REDACTED])</p>	<pre>[{"modified":1476749139291,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["(202) [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"numbers":["(202) [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] (20 [REDACTED]) [REDACTED]","[REDACTED] (20 [REDACTED]) [REDACTED]"}]</pre> <pre>[{"modified":1476749139382,"uniqueid":892,"firstName":"Jon","lastName":"Moffa","notes":[],"organizations":["(202) [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"numbers":["(202) [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] (20 [REDACTED]) [REDACTED]"]}]</pre>	<p>You don't have to write talking points for Cyber if they don't tell you about the tasking!</p>	<p>mms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>

2016-10-18 00:28:47, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 20 [REDACTED] 20 [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1476750527678,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com","[REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com","[REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com"]}]	CyD prepping for election day on November 35th....	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-10-19 09:55:26, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1476870928349,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com"]}]	You see Tim Cook made the list of potential HRC running mates?	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-10-19 09:57:48, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1476871070223,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["[REDACTED]","numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com"]}]	It was a big list, but still, he was on there. From Podesta email.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-10-19 13:04:19, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1476882261564,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["[REDACTED]","numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com"]}]	Came up with election night plan - we should all hit HH somewhere. Figure this damn thing better be called early. \U0001f612\n\nYou watching the debate tonight?	sms		[REDACTED]

2016-10-20 01:15:44, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1476926146064,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED]"]}]	I am riled up. Trump is a fucking idiot, is unable to provide a coherent answer.	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-10-20 01:22:36, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1476926558535,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[" [REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED]"]}]	I CAN'T PULL AWAY. WHAT THE FUCK HAPPENED TO OUR COUNTRY [REDACTED] ????	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-10-20 01:24:19, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1476926661270,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[" [REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED]"]}]	I don't know. But we'll get it back. We're America. We rock.	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-10-20 01:28:22, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1476926920673,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[" [REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED]"]}]	Donald just said "bad hombres" \n\n\U0001f612	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

2016-10-20 01:30:00, Thu		202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1476927009539,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED]"]}	Chris Wallace is a turd	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-10-20 01:30:02, Thu		202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1476927009658,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED]"]}	Hillary: Russia and WikiLeaks and highest levels of Russian Government and Putin!!!\n\nDrink!!!!	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-10-20 01:32:40, Thu		202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1476927161622,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED]"]}	Oh hot damn. HRC is throwing down saying Trump in bed with russia	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-10-20 01:50:50, Thu		202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1476928251695,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED]"]}	She could do SO MUCH BETTER \n\nBut she's just not getting traction. \n\nJesus. \\U0001f621\\U0001f621\\U0001f621\\U0001f621	sms		[REDACTED]

<p>2016-10-20 02:02:43, Thu</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1476928965079,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails" [REDACTED]</p>	<p>Maybe. I have to watch this. \n\nAnd I'm so damn mad \n\nAnd disgusted. And disappointed.</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-10-20 02:12:37, Thu</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1476929558602,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails" [REDACTED]</p>	<p>Trump just said what the fbi did is disgraceful</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-10-20 09:56:27, Thu</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1476957389790,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails" [REDACTED]</p>	<p>Hi. Watching the post-debate commentary. Vaguely satisfying to see Megyn Kelley (who had botox and looks HORRIBLE) utterly going after Trump.</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-10-24 00:00:15, Mon</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1477267217767,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails" [REDACTED]</p>	<p>Article is out, but hidden behind paywall so can't read it.</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>

2016-10-24 00:02:22, Mon	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]-202	[{"modified":1477267344520,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"}]	Wsj? Boy, that was fast.\n\nNo word from [REDACTED] Should I "find" it and tell the team?	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-10-24 00:03:38, Mon	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]-202	[{"modified":1477267420072,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"}]	No, I think not. Maybe he didn't get a chance, or [REDACTED] decided not to say anything until tomorrow.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-10-24 00:04:04, Mon	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]-202	[{"modified":1477267446757,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"}]	Not behind a pay wall. I need to send	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-10-24 00:04:32, Mon	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]-202	[{"modified":1477267474615,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"}]	Huh?	sms		[REDACTED]

<p>2016-10-24 00:04:59, Mon</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202</p>	<p>{["modified":14772675 01133,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"] "emails":["[REDACTED]"]</p>	<p>The article is not behind a paywall We get several hours of warning about every other email, but not this, arguably more important than most...</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-10-24 00:06:30, Mon</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202</p>	<p>{["modified":14772675 91729,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":["[REDACTED]"],"numbers" :["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"] "emails":["[REDACTED]"]</p>	<p>Jesus [REDACTED] then fine. Send it to everyone you know. Or I can not tell you about it at all and you can just come across it given all the time you spend reading the Journal. U0001f621</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-10-24 00:06:50, Mon</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202</p>	<p>{["modified":14772676 13378,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":["[REDACTED]"],"numbers" :["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"] "emails":["[REDACTED]"]</p>	<p>What difference does it make to send it to the team Sunday night vs monday morning?</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-10-24 00:07:37, Mon</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202</p>	<p>{["modified":14772676 59418,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":["[REDACTED]"],"numbers" :["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"] "emails":["[REDACTED]"]</p>	<p>Thanks dude. Appreciate it. U0001f621</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>

2016-10-24 00:08:15, Mon		202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1477267697679,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	Or I can get it like I do every other article that hits my Google news alert. Seriously.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-10-24 00:09:00, Mon		202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1477267742065,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	Send me the Google alert.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-10-24 00:10:31, Mon		202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1477267833336,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["[REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	Give me a break. Go look at EVERY article I've sent the team. \n\nCount them.\n\nThen count every Godd*mn heads up I get from [REDACTED] but NOT this one.\n\nThen tell me i should sit on THIS one and let them hear from someone else. You're not being fair about this.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-10-24 00:12:17, Mon		202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1477267939206,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["[REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	I really cannot believe you're taking this position and it angers me. I'm going to hope your anger about [REDACTED] getting dragged into this is clouding things.	sms		[REDACTED]

2016-10-24 00:12:28, Mon	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX		(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1477267949525,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. Il Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED]"]}]	I AM being fair about this. I asked you not to. I don't care that [REDACTED] sucks. 1) This is about trust, and 2) WHAT THE F DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE TO ANYONE ON THE TEAM? Is there some investigative step to take? Some mitigation measure?	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-10-25 00:46:57, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX		(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1477356419838,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. Il Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED]"]}]	I hate this case. \U0001f621	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-10-25 00:52:31, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]		[{"modified":1477356753464,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. Il Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED]"]}]	Why? What happened?	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-10-25 00:54:08, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX		(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1477356849764,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. Il Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED]"]}]	Nothing more. Just all of it.	sms		[REDACTED]

2016-10-25 00:55:02, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [{"modified":1477356904370,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":[" [REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com"}]	I asked [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to meet tomorrow morning. Please let me just meet with them alone. Please.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-25 00:59:55, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [{"modified":1477357197782,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":[" [REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com"}]	Sure	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-25 10:11:46, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [{"modified":1477390308623,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":[" [REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com"}]	Christ. Make sure you scroll down and read that guy's comment about the polls.\n\nDonald Trump Dismisses Latest Accuser: \u2018Oh, \u2019m Sure She\u2019s Never Been Grabbed Before\u2019 http://nyti.ms/2eyZhVL	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-26 11:39:00, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [{"modified":1477481942626,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails":[" [REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com"}]	Let's talk about this later.\n\n\u2018We Need to Clean This Up\u2019: Clinton Aide\u2019s Newly Public Email Shows Concern http://nyti.ms/2dG6zal	sms	[REDACTED]

2016-10-26 12:58:14, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1477486695907,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	And yup, me and [REDACTED] at drop-off today...	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-26 13:05:37, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1477487199140,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	Nice!!!	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-26 13:06:46, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1477487208331,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	Hit piece on Andy from VA GOP in Hampton newspaper	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-26 13:13:47, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1477487629511,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	That sucks. I can talk btw.	sms	[REDACTED]

2016-10-27 00:06:05, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1477526767600,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	Interesting - one of the Podesta emails talks about him hosting Peter Kadzik at his house for dinner in Oct, 2015. And in May, 2015, (b) (6) asked Podesta for a job on the campaign.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-27 00:29:59, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1477528201330,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	Not announced, but they all know. Calls actually happened yesterday.\n\nAnd I feel (hopefully don't look as old) like Keith Richards. [REDACTED] oining via call? There's nothing classified....	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-27 21:08:58, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	[{"modified":1477602540672,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	On with [REDACTED] still.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-10-27 21:09:48, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 02	[{"modified":1477602590638,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["[REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	Hope it's going well...	sms	[REDACTED]

2016-10-27 21:21:08, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1477603270110,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails": </pre>	I'm done.	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-10-28 17:19:06, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1477675148408,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails": </pre>	Still on with [REDACTED] phone is ON FIRE.	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-10-28 17:19:38, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1477675179843,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails": </pre>	It's on news	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-10-28 17:29:58, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":1477675799869,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED]","emails": </pre>	You may wanna tell [REDACTED] he should turn on CNN , there's news going on ; (sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

2016-10-28 17:30:17, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1477675818932,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]","(202)-[REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]]	He knows. He just got handed a note.	sms
2016-10-28 17:33:54, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1477676036676,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]","(202)-[REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]]	Ha. He asking about it now?	sms
2016-10-30 13:50:53, Sun	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1477835455458,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["(202)-[REDACTED]","(202)-324-[REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]]	This is all Matt\n\nJustice officials warned FBI that Comey\u2019s decision to update Congress was not consistent with department policy - The Washington Post\n\n https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/justice-officials-warned-fbi-that-comes-decision-to-update-congress-was-not-consistent-with-department-policy/2016/10/29/cb179254-9de7-11e6-b3c9-f662adaa0048_story.html?hpid=hp_hp-top-table-main_campaignprint-810pm%3Ahomepage%2Fstory	sms
2016-10-30 13:56:06, Sun	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1477835769535,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["(202)-[REDACTED]","(202)-[REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]]	Yeah, I saw it. Makes me feel WAY less bad about throwing him under the bus in the forthcoming CF article.	sms

<p>2016-10-30 13:57:24, Sun</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202</p>	<p>{["modified":1477835847944,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>Yep the whole tone is anti Bu. Just a tiny bit from us. And serves him right. He's gonna be pissed....</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-10-30 17:27:31, Sun</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202</p>	<p>{["modified":1477848454009,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>An article to share: FBI agents knew of Clinton-related emails weeks before director was briefed\FBI agents knew of Clinton-related emails weeks before director was briefed\nhttp://wapo.st/2f2EhEO</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-10-30 18:32:07, Sun</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202</p>	<p>{["modified":1477852329933,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>Okay now I'm getting angry.</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-10-30 19:06:48, Sun</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202</p>	<p>{["modified":1477854413603,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>What - [REDACTED] opening comments?</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>

2016-10-30 19:30:47, Sun	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":14778558 49188,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["2024 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED] </pre>	Sorry, utterly terrible day. I'm not sure I can identify one single redeeming thing about it.	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-11-03 00:50:57, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":14781342 60864,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED] </pre>	Sorry. Rybicki called. Time line article in the post is super specific and not good. Doesn't make sense because I didn't have specific information to give.	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-11-03 00:55:50, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202	<pre> [{"modified":14781345 55136,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED] </pre>	What post article!?	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-11-03 00:56:28, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre> [{"modified":14781345 91208,"uniqueid":804," firstName":"Peter","las tName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"orga nizations":[],"numbers" :["2024 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED] </pre>	Just went up. WaPo.	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

2016-11-03 00:57:08, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1478134630188,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]"(202) [REDACTED]","emails":[" [REDACTED]"]}]	Goddamn bills opaque comments.....	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-11-03 00:57:45, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1478134667507,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]"(202) [REDACTED]","emails":[" [REDACTED]"]}]	Can I send to team?	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-11-03 00:57:54, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1478134676874,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["202 [REDACTED]"(202) [REDACTED]","emails":[" [REDACTED]"]}]	Yes	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-11-03 11:29:46, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1478172593910,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["202 [REDACTED]"(202) [REDACTED]","emails":[" [REDACTED]"]}]	The nyt probability numbers are dropping every day. I'm scared for our organization.	sms		[REDACTED]

2016-11-04 03:19:04, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre>[{"modified":1478229547468,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]</pre>	Dude. On inauguration Day, in addition to our kegger we should also have a screening of the Weiner documentary! \U0001f60a	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-11-06 20:33:54, Sun	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre>[{"modified":1478464437353,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]</pre>	Trump about to get off his plane	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-11-06 20:52:54, Sun	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre>[{"modified":1478465576928,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]</pre>	I'm on fox. Trump is talking about her.	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2016-11-06 20:53:42, Sun	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre>[{"modified":1478465627785,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED] (202 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]","emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]</pre>	He's talking about cartwright and Petraeus and how they're not protected. She's protected by a rigged system.	sms	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

2016-11-07 01:43:03, Mon	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre>[{"modified":1478482986168,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]</pre>	Good lord... \n\ninside Donald Trump\u2019s Last Stand: An Anxious Nominee Seeks Assurance http://nytl.ms/2esuTs3	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-11-08 01:56:33, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre>[{"modified":1478570196912,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) 324-[REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]</pre>	OMG THIS IS F*CKING TERRIFYING:\nA victory by Mr. Trump remains possible: Mrs. Clinton\u2019s chance of losing is about the same as the probability that an N.F.L. kicker misses a 38-yard field goal.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-11-08 02:05:51, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre>[{"modified":1478570755112,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["202 [REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]</pre>	Yeah, that's not good.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-11-08 02:42:33, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED]	<pre>[{"modified":1478572955529,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["202 [REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]</pre>	Oh god [REDACTED]	sms		[REDACTED]

<p>2016-11-08 02:42:40, Tue</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[[{"modified":1478572963173,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]","(202)-[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"}]]</p>	<p>What is she saying?</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-11-08 02:43:40, Tue</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[[{"modified":1478573023453,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["202-[REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]","(202)-[REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"}]]</p>	<p>She does realize you've been in EVERY conversation that has been had about this case, right?</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-11-08 02:44:54, Tue</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[[{"modified":1478573096222,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["202-[REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]","(202)-[REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"}]]</p>	<p>That we should have gone on the record saying Kallstrom and others are not credible (which may be valid), but then saying we could pull his tolls if we wanted to. Because she knows all about our policy regarding investigations of members of the media. \U0001f621</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-11-08 02:45:31, Tue</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[[{"modified":1478573135026,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["202-[REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202-[REDACTED]","(202)-[REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"}]]</p>	<p>Yes. But she's an expert who knows everything. \n\nI'm telling you, it's wildly infuriating. She has good points but then assumes wildly impossible understanding of things to make groundless assertions.</p>	<p>sms</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>

2016-11-08 02:45:59, Tue		202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1478573163985,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	Told her twice she was either calling me stupid or a liar. \U0001f621\U0001f621\U0001f621\U0001f621	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-11-08 02:46:06, Tue		202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1478573169391,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	Uh, what crime are we investigating? And I'm sorry, that's a terrible idea. Go to war with the formers?	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-11-08 02:47:14, Tue		202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1478573238072,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	Jesus, [REDACTED]. I'm sorry. That would make me blind with rage.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-11-08 02:47:53, Tue		202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1478573276586,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED] [REDACTED]"]}]	Leaking information about ongoing investigations. Which is incorrect information. By agents who don't know about things talking to him. See? That's the thing. Her initial point, that we should have gone after the agents talking harder and sooner, is not unreasonable. But the subsequent discussion falls into uninformed assertions.	sms		[REDACTED]

2016-11-09 01:06:45, Wed		202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1478653609293,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]"}], "emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]	\U0001f60a\n\nHsppy Election geekdom here.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-11-09 04:06:58, Wed		202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1478664421088,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]"}], "emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]	Trump won NC	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-11-09 04:20:14, Wed		202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1478665217060,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]"}], "emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]	PBS is projecting Florida as well.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-11-09 09:34:14, Wed		202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1478684056364,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]","[REDACTED]"}], "emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]	And there it is.	sms		[REDACTED]

2016-11-09 09:58:18, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1478685501504,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]	Analogous to the public editor article Bill handed out. \n\nNews Media Yet Again Misreads America\u2019s Complex Pulse http://nyti.ms/2eCqXVM	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-11-09 12:11:02, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1478693465045,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]	Just woke up. We fought on and off all night.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-11-09 12:13:37, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1478693620024,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["[REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]	Too hard to explain here. Election related. Which is also godawful bad. \n\nSure	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-11-09 12:43:13, Wed	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1478695395236,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["[REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com"]}]	Are you even going to give out your calendars? Seems kind of depressing. Maybe it should just be the first meeting of the secret society.	sms		[REDACTED]

2016-11-13 19:11:15, Sun		202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX		<pre> [{"modified":1479054277728,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com"]} </pre>	bought all the president's men. Figure I needed to brush up on watergate. \U0001f615	sms	
2016-11-14 13:51:27, Mon		202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX		<pre> [{"modified":1479131504565,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com"]} </pre>	God, being here makes me angry. Lots of high fallutin' national security talk. Meanwhile, we have OUR task ahead of us...	sms	
2016-11-14 20:08:18, Mon		202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX		<pre> [{"modified":1479154100955,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com"]} </pre>	It's making me very angry.	sms	
2016-11-14 20:08:40, Mon		202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX		<pre> [{"modified":1479154123935,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com"]} </pre>	BBC News: Trump and Putin hold telephone talks\nTrump and Putin hold telephone talks - http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-37981770	sms	

<p>2016-11-15 01:43:02, Tue</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1479174184541,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@ [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>"CNN: Source says naming a Trump national security team a 'knife fight'"</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-11-15 01:43:43, Tue</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1479174226236,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@ [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>Christ. What does that mean?!</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-11-15 01:46:21, Tue</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>INBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1479174383921,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@ [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>I can only guess difference of opinion between Trump and Republican establishment?</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>2016-11-15 01:47:05, Tue</p>	<p>202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>OUTBOX</p>	<p>(202) [REDACTED] [REDACTED];202 [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[{"modified":1479174430262,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":[" [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@ [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]"]}]</p>	<p>I get it. I'm just exclaiming how f-ed it all is.</p>	<p>sms</p>		<p>[REDACTED]</p>

2016-11-15 01:50:30, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED] 02 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1479174633444,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	My god, Sessions for DoD or AG.	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-11-15 01:51:43, Tue	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1479174705703,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	Which is the f-ed uppedness of it	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-11-18 12:40:45, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	[REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1479472848812,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	Sessions for AG	sms		[REDACTED]
2016-11-18 12:49:19, Fri	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	[REDACTED] (202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1479473361848,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	Good god.	sms		[REDACTED]

2016-11-21 01:14:10, Mon	202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1479690854537,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	This is really disgusting. \n\nNYTimes: White Nationalists Celebrate \u2018an Awakening\u2019 After Donald Trump\u2019s Victory\nWhite Nationalists Celebrate \u2018an Awakening\u2019 After Donald Trump\u2019s Victory http://nyti.ms/2fc6vve	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-11-21 01:19:38, Mon	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1479691183147,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	I'm worried racial tension is going to get really bad...	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-11-26 12:45:01, Sat	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1480164304831,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["[REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	You see Trump chose a Fox News analyst as his Dep Ntl Security advisor?	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-12-01 01:52:01, Thu	202 [REDACTED]	INBOX	(202) [REDACTED] 202 [REDACTED]	[{"modified":1480557123895,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":["[REDACTED]"],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}]	And I keep thinking about what the D said, what was it, sick to one's stomach? Want to talk with you about it more. And in would like to talk to Jim and Andy too. Jim may be too much a true believer though.	sms	[REDACTED]

2016-12-01 01:52:23, Thu		202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	<pre>[{"modified":1480557146601,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}</pre>	Mildly nauseous, he said.	sms	[REDACTED]
2016-12-01 01:52:48, Thu		202 [REDACTED]	OUTBOX	<pre>[{"modified":1480557171109,"uniqueid":804,"firstName":"Peter","lastName":"P. II Strzok","notes":[],"organizations":[],"numbers":["202 [REDACTED]","(202) [REDACTED]"],"emails":["[REDACTED]"]}</pre>	Technically not sure you can talk to andy about it. \U0001f621	sms	[REDACTED]

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

January 3, 2017

The Honorable Rod J. Rosenstein
Deputy Attorney General
United States Department of Justice

Dear Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein,

The Committee on the Judiciary held a hearing on "Oversight Hearing with Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein" on Wednesday, December 13, 2017 in room 2141 of the Rayburn House Office Building. Thank you for your testimony.

Questions for the record have been submitted to the Committee within five legislative days of the hearing. The questions addressed to you are attached. We will appreciate a full and complete response as they will be included in the official hearing record.

Please submit your written answers to the Committee by Thursday, February 22, 2018 via email or postal mail to the Committee on the Judiciary, Attention: Alley Adcock, 2138 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC, 20515. If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact Alley Adcock on my staff at (b) (6) or by email:

(b) (6)

Thank you again for your participation in the hearing.

Sincerely,



Bob Goodlatte
Chairman

Enclosure

**Questions for the Record
Submitted by Rep. Jamie Raskin**

1. As you know, the Constitution in Article, I, Section 8, Clause 9 provides that: no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under the [United States], shall, without the Consent of the Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State.

During the December 13, 2017 oversight hearing at which you testified, we had a colloquy about the lawsuit filed last year by over 200 Members of Congress against President Trump alleging violations of the Emoluments clause, Richard Blumenthal, et al. v. Donald J. Trump. The DOJ has argued that the Plaintiffs (of whom I am one) cannot bring an action to stop personal receipt by the President of foreign government payments without receiving Congressional permission because this is a nonjusticiable “political question.” What then is the proper remedy for a President who is collecting foreign government Emoluments but refusing to seek Congressional authorization? What must Congress do to enforce this Constitutional prohibition?

2. During the December 13, 2017 oversight hearing at which you testified, I asked about the DOJ’s highly unusual distribution of text messages between agents Peter Strzok and Lisa Page in advance of the hearing. Subsequently, Ranking Member Nadler, Representative Jeffries, and I sent a letter to the Department of Justice and the Office of the Inspector General seeking clarification of your answer, to which a timely response was received. In follow-up to these inquiries, it remains unclear to me who within the Department of Justice released the texts to a select group of news reporters prior to Congress having the opportunity to review same. Accordingly, please identify the person or persons within the Department of Justice who invited reporters to review the subject text messages on the evening of December 12, 2017 in advance of the hearing before the Committee on the Judiciary.

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 10:17 AM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Subject: Fwd: Redaction question

(b) (5)

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6)
Date: December 18, 2017 at 8:02:29 AM CST
To: "Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)" <Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Redaction question

Sarah,

Regarding the FBI texts, can you help me understand why my name was included in the texts when others (including my wife's) were redacted? I don't mind the commentary — I've been called worse than schlubby — but I didnt understand the rationale given the others who were not included.

Thanks,

(b) (6)

Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)

From: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 10:02 AM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA); Escalona, Prim F. (OLA); Tyson, Jill C. (OLA); Lasseter, David F. (OLA); Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
Subject: FW: OIG Response to December 14, 2017 Letter from Ranking Member Nadler, Vice Ranking Member Raskin, and Congressman Jeffries
Attachments: Nadler Raskin Response Letter.pdf

OIG letter to RM Nader and two HJC Minority members concerning the FBI employee text messages.

From: Lee, Rene R. (OIG)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 6:01 PM
To: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA) <kkellner@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Sheehan, Matthew (ODAG) <mshiehan@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: (b) (6) (OIG) (b) (6); Garcia, Yvonne (OIG) <ygarcia@OIG.USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: OIG Response to December 14, 2017 Letter from Ranking Member Nadler, Vice Ranking Member Raskin, and Congressman Jeffries

Attached please find the Inspector General's response to December 14, 2017 letter from Ranking Member Nadler, Vice Ranking Member Raskin, and Congressman Jeffries. The Deputy Attorney General is copied on the letter.

Thank you,
René

RENE ROCQUE LEE
Senior Counsel to the Inspector General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 4706
Washington, D.C. 20530-0001
Office: 202-616-0643
Cell: (b) (6)
Rene.r.lee@usdoj.gov



December 15, 2017

The Honorable Jarrold Nadler
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
2109 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jamie Raskin
Vice Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
431 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
U.S. House of Representatives
1607 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ranking Member Nadler, Vice Ranking Member Raskin, and Congressman Jeffries:

Thank you for your letter dated December 14, 2017, requesting information regarding whether the Department of Justice (the Department) consulted with the Office of Inspector General (OIG) before sharing text messages between FBI employees Peter Strzok and Lisa Page with Congress and the media. Our responses to the questions presented in your letter are set forth below.

1. A spokeswoman for the Department suggested that “career Justice officials evaluated the messages...to be sure that they could be released ‘under both ethical and legal standards.’” Did the Department consult with your office prior to producing these text messages to Congress?

At a hearing on November 15, 2017, before the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I testified that the OIG had no objection to the Department providing to Congress pre-existing Department records in its custody in response to a Congressional oversight request. I noted that the Department would need to determine whether there were any restrictions, such as those affecting grand jury information, that limited its ability to produce certain

records to Congress. I conveyed this position to the Department as well. The Department did not consult with the OIG in order to determine whether releasing the text messages met applicable ethical and legal standards before providing them to Congress.

2. Did the Department consult with your office prior to sharing these text messages with the press?

The Department did not consult with the OIG before sharing the text messages with the press.

If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Greg Sabina, my Advisor for Legislative Affairs, at (202) 514-3435.

Sincerely,



Michael E. Horowitz
Inspector General

cc: The Honorable Robert Goodlatte
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary

The Honorable Trey Gowdy
Chairman, House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

The Honorable Elijah Cummings
Ranking Member, House Committee on Oversight and
Government Reform

The Honorable John Culberson
Chairman, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related
Agencies, House Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Jose Serrano
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and
Related Agencies, House Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Chairman, Senate Committee on the Judiciary

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on the Judiciary

The Honorable Ron Johnson
Chairman, Senate Committee on Homeland Security and
Governmental Affairs

The Honorable Claire McCaskill
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Homeland Security and
Governmental Affairs

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Chairman, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related
Agencies, Senate Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and
Related Agencies, Senate Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Rod J. Rosenstein
Deputy Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice

Schools, Scott (ODAG)

From: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 7:47 PM
To: Hur, Robert (ODAG)
Subject: FW: OIG response to House
Attachments: Nadler Raskin Response Letter.pdf

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 7:41 PM
To: Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG) <zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hur, Robert (ODAG) <rhur@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Bolitho, Zachary (ODAG) <zbolitho@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: FW: OIG response to House

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 7:40 PM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Subject: FW: OIG response to House
Attachments: Nadler Raskin Response Letter.pdf

Schools, Scott (ODAG)

From: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 8:05 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Subject: RE: Letter to DOJ IG re: FBI Text Messages

That's fine.

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 7:56 PM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: Letter to DOJ IG re: FBI Text Messages

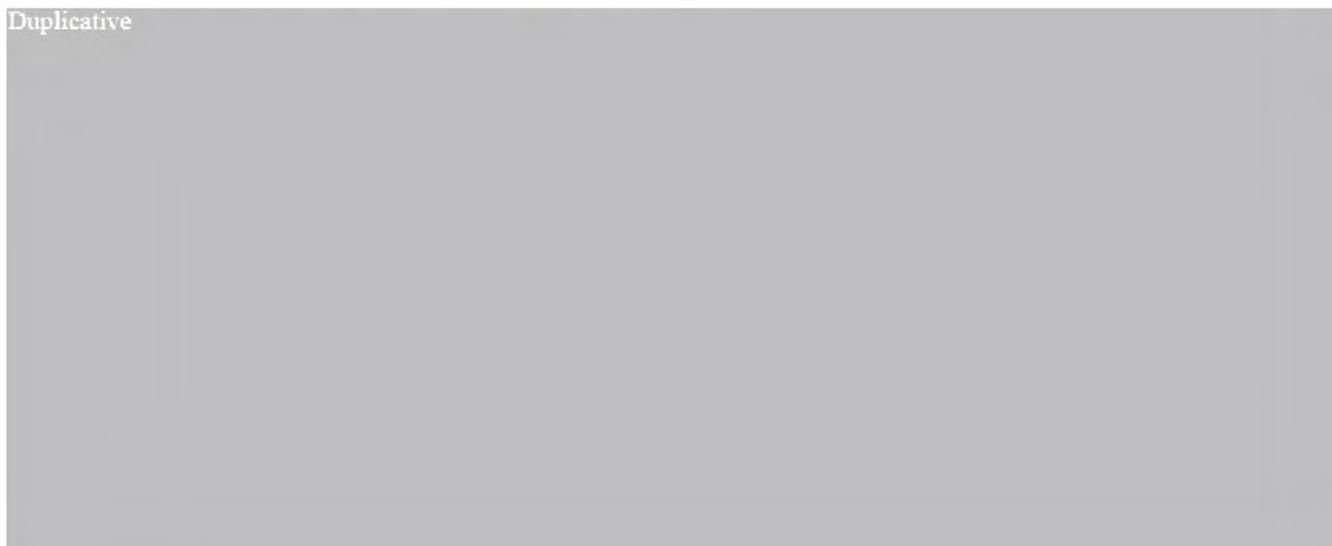
The Chairman and Ranking Members of each of the congressional committees were provided the opportunity to have copies of the texts delivered to their offices. This was completed before any member of the media was given access to view the same copy of the texts by the Department's Office of Public Affairs. As we understand now, some members of the media had already received copies of the texts before that—but those disclosures were not authorized by the Department.

As the Deputy Attorney General said in this testimony on Wednesday, when the initial inquiries came from committees and members of Congress, the Deputy Attorney General consulted with the Inspector General, and the Inspector General determined that he had no objection to the Department's providing the material to the Congressional committees that had requested it. After that consultation, senior career ethics advisors determined that there were no legal or ethical concerns, including under the Privacy Act, that prohibited the release of the information to the public either by members of congress or by the Department.

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Darren Samuelsohn [<mailto:dsamuelsohn@politico.com>]
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 7:07 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: FW: Letter to DOJ IG re: FBI Text Messages

Duplicative



Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 4:06 PM
To: Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG); Hur, Robert (ODAG); Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Subject: text release—we're working on it

Several of our beat reporters have been pushing back now—this is ABC:

<https://twitter.com/MLevineReports/status/941025818691751936>

Mike Levine Verified account @MLevineReports 2h2 hours ago

Deputy Atty General says reporters last night were shown anti-Trump text messages between FBI colleagues. Some are trying to paint this as "extraordinary" or extremely unusual move. Just for record, Obama DOJ did it too. I know 'cause I was there.

Mike Levine Verified account @MLevineReports 2h2 hours ago

~~Obama~~ DOJ also invited reporters to DOJ to show them documents being sent to Congress.

Natasha Bertrand Verified account @NatashaBertrand 1h1 hour ago

Were those documents the subject of an ongoing OIG investigation?

Mike Levine Verified account @MLevineReports

Related to an ongoing OIG investigation? Yep.

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

Hur, Robert (ODAG)

From: Hur, Robert (ODAG)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 12:18 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA); Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Cc: Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG); Prior, Ian (OPA)
Subject: RE: Proposed statement on release of texts to congress and media

(b) (5)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 12:17 PM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG) <zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hur, Robert (ODAG) <rhur@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Proposed statement on release of texts to congress and media

(b) (5)

On Dec 13, 2017, at 12:14 PM, Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5)

From: Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 12:03 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hur, Robert (ODAG) <rhur@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Proposed statement on release of texts to congress and media

(b) (5)

[REDACTED]

On Dec 13, 2017, at 11:57 AM, Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5)

On Dec 13, 2017, at 11:49 AM, Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:42 AM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG) <zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Proposed statement on release of texts to congress and

media

(b) (5)

[REDACTED]

Begin forwarded message:

From: <Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com>

Date: December 13, 2017 at 11:27:46 AM EST

To: <Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov>, <Ian.Prior@usdoj.gov>

Subject: Strzok emails

<http://www.businessinsider.com/peter-strzok-page-texts-mueller-russia-trump-2017-12>

So this story says that DoJ invited reporters to your offices yesterday night to give them access to private text messages exchanged between Peter Strzok and Lisa Page. The story says that this material was originally obtained by DoJ as part of an investigation by Justice Department IG into how the FBI handled its inquiry into Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server while she was Secretary of State. Isn't it quite unorthodox, if not unethical or even illegal, for DoJ to deliberately make public or leak evidence collected in an IG investigation? Who is it who ultimately authorized or instructed DoJ to allow journalists to see this evidence? Was AG Sessions involved? Was the White House involved or was anyone in the White House consulted? We might be writing a story about this today so your quick response most welcome. Many thanks indeed. mh

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:57 AM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Cc: Prior, Ian (OPA); Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG)
Subject: Re: Proposed statement on release of texts to congress and media

(b) (5)

On Dec 13, 2017, at 11:49 AM, Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:42 AM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG) <zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Proposed statement on release of texts to congress and media

(b) (5)

[Redacted content]

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make public or leak evidence collected in an IG investigation ? Who is it who ultimately authorized or instructed DOJ to allow journalists to see this evidence ? Was AG Sessions involved ? Was the White House involved or was anyone in the White House consulted ? We might be writing a story about this today so your quick response most welcome. Many thanks indeed. mh

Schools, Scott (ODAG)

From: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:49 AM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Cc: Prior, Ian (OPA); Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG)
Subject: RE: Proposed statement on release of texts to congress and media

(b) (5)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:42 AM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG) <zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Proposed statement on release of texts to congress and media

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From: <Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com>
Date: December 13, 2017 at 11:27:46 AM EST
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Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:42 AM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Cc: Prior, Ian (OPA); Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG)
Subject: Proposed statement on release of texts to congress and media

(b) (5)

[REDACTED]

Begin forwarded message:

From: <Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com>
Date: December 13, 2017 at 11:27:46 AM EST
To: <Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov>, <Ian.Prior@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Strzok emails

<http://www.businessinsider.com/peter-strzok-page-texts-mueller-russia-trump-2017-12>

So this story says that DoJ invited reporters to your offices yesterday night to give them access to private text messages exchanged between Peter Strzok and Lisa Page. The story says that this material was originally obtained by DoJ as part of an investigation by Justice Department IG into how the FBI handled its inquiry into Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server while she was Secretary of State. Isn't it quite unorthodox, if not unethical or even illegal, for DoJ to deliberately make public or leak evidence collected in an IG investigation ? Who is it who ultimately authorized or instructed DoJ to allow journalists to see this evidence ? Was AG Sessions involved ? Was the White House involved or was anyone in the White House consulted ? We might be writing a story about this today so your quick response most welcome. Many thanks indeed. mh

Winn, Peter A. (OPCL)

From: Winn, Peter A. (OPCL)
Sent: Thursday, January 4, 2018 12:41 PM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Subject: RE: FBI Text Messages - Memo to File
Attachments: 2017-12-12 - Privacy Act Assessment FINAL.docx

Hi Scott,

Here is the final for your records.

Peter

Peter A. Winn
Acting Chief Privacy and Civil Liberties Officer
Director, Office of Privacy and Civil Liberties
United States Department of Justice
National Place Building, Suite 1000
1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington DC 20530
Office (b) (6)
Cell (b) (6)
Fax (202) 307-0693

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

<https://www.justice.gov/opcl>

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From: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2017 8:22 PM
To: Winn, Peter A. (OPCL) (b) (6)
Subject: RE: FBI Text Messages - Draft Memo to File

(b) (5)

From: Winn, Peter A. (OPCL)
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2017 7:00 PM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>

Subject: FBI Text Messages - Draft Memo to File

Hi Scott,

(b) (5) [REDACTED]

Peter

Harman-Stokes, Katherine M. (OPCL)

From: Harman-Stokes, Katherine M. (OPCL)
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2017 6:21 PM
To: (b) (6) (OPCL); Winn, Peter A. (OPCL)
Subject: RE: Final Draft
Attachments: 2017-12-20 - Privacy Act Assessment Draft (b) (5), (b) (6).docx

Peter, (b) (5)

Kathy

From: (b) (6) (OPCL)
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2017 6:04 PM
To: Winn, Peter A. (OPCL) (b) (6); Harman-Stokes, Katherine M. (OPCL) <kmharman-stokes@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: Final Draft

(b) (5)

From: Winn, Peter A. (OPCL)
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2017 4:06 PM
To: (b) (6) (OPCL) (b) (6); Harman-Stokes, Katherine M. (OPCL) <kmharman-stokes@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Final Draft

(b) (5)

Peter A. Winn
Acting Chief Privacy and Civil Liberties Officer
Director, Office of Privacy and Civil Liberties
United States Department of Justice
National Place Building, Suite 1000
1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington DC 20530
Office (b) (6)
Cell (b) (6)
Fax (202) 307-0693
(b) (6)
(b) (6)
<https://www.justice.gov/opcl>

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Harman-Stokes, Katherine M. (OPCL)

From: Harman-Stokes, Katherine M. (OPCL)
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 5:44 PM
To: Winn, Peter A. (OPCL)
Cc: (b) (6) (OPCL)
Subject: RE: Privacy Act assessment - OIG context
Attachments: 2017-12-19 - Privacy Act Assessment - OIG Records (b) (5), (b) (6) .docx
Importance: High

Peter, (b) (5) Happy to discuss further tomorrow.
Kathy

From: Harman-Stokes, Katherine M. (OPCL)
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 4:43 PM
To: Winn, Peter A. (OPCL) (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) (OPCL) (b) (6)
Subject: Privacy Act assessment - OIG context
Importance: High

Peter, (b) (5)
Kathy

(b) (6) (OPCL)

From: (b) (6) (OPCL)
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 1:02 PM
To: Harman-Stokes, Katherine M. (OPCL)
Subject: RE: PA assessment - text messages
Attachments: 2017-12-19 - Privacy Act Assessment - OIG Records (b) (5), (b) (6) .docx

Kathy,

(b) (5)

(b) (6)

From: Harman-Stokes, Katherine M. (OPCL)
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 12:15 PM
To: (b) (6) (OPCL) (b) (6)
Subject: PA assessment - text messages

(b) (5)

Kathy

(b) (6) (OPCL)

From: (b) (6) (OPCL)
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 9:25 AM
To: Winn, Peter A. (OPCL); Harman-Stokes, Katherine M. (OPCL)
Subject: RE: FOUO: Privacy Act Assessment--OIG Records & Public Disclosure (12-15-2017)
Attachments: Privacy Act Assessment--OIG Records Public Disclosure FINAL Review (b) (5), (b) (6).docx

Peter & Kathy,

(b) (5)

(b) (6)

From: Winn, Peter A. (OPCL)
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 6:17 PM
To: Harman-Stokes, Katherine M. (OPCL) <kmharman-stokes@jmd.usdoj.gov>; (b) (6) (OPCL)
(b) (6)
Subject: RE: FOUO: Privacy Act Assessment--OIG Records & Public Disclosure (12-15-2017)

Kathy and (b) (6),

(b) (5)

Peter

From: (b) (6) (OPCL)
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 4:58 PM
To: Winn, Peter A. (OPCL) (b) (6)
Subject: RE: FOUO: Privacy Act Assessment--OIG Records & Public Disclosure (12-15-2017)

Peter,

(b) (5)

(b) (6)

From: Winn, Peter A. (OPCL)
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 4:40 PM
To: (b) (6) (OPCL) (b) (6)
Subject: RE: FOUO: Privacy Act Assessment--OIG Records & Public Disclosure (12-15-2017)

(b) (5)

From: (b) (6) (OPCL)

Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 2:49 PM

To: Winn, Peter A. (OPCL) (b) (6)

Subject: RE: FOUO: Privacy Act Assessment--OIG Records & Public Disclosure (12-15-2017)

(b) (5)

From: (b) (6) (OPCL)

Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 2:03 PM

To: Winn, Peter A. (OPCL) (b) (6)

Subject: RE: FOUO: Privacy Act Assessment--OIG Records & Public Disclosure (12-15-2017)

UNCLASSIFIED//FOUO
DELIBERATIVE PROCESS // ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGED DOCUMENT

Peter,

(b) (5)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Attorney Advisor
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Privacy and Civil Liberties (OPCL)
National Place Building, Suite 1000
1331 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530

(b) (6) (office)

(b) (6) (mobile)

(202) 307-0693 (fax)

(b) (6)

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ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT/ATTORNEY-CLIENT/DELIBERATIVE PROCESS PRIVILEGED

From: Winn, Peter A. (OPCL)

Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 12:56 PM

To: (b) (6) (OPCL) (b) (6)

Subject: RE: FOUO: Privacy Act Assessment--OIG Records & Public Disclosure (12-15-2017)

(b) (5)

Peter

From: Winn, Peter A. (OPCL)

Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 12:39 PM

To: (b) (6) (OPCL) (b) (6)

Subject: RE: FOUO: Privacy Act Assessment--OIG Records & Public Disclosure (12-15-2017)

(b) (5)

Peter

From: (b) (6) (OPCL)

Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 5:07 PM

To: Winn, Peter A. (OPCL) (b) (6)

Subject: FOUO: Privacy Act Assessment--OIG Records & Public Disclosure (12-15-2017)

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Peter,

(b) (5)

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

(b) (6)

Attorney Advisor
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Privacy and Civil Liberties (OPCL)
National Place Building, Suite 1000
1331 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530

(b) (6) (office)

(b) (6) (mobile)

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(b) (6)

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Winn, Peter A. (OPCL)

From: Winn, Peter A. (OPCL)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 10:46 PM
To: (b) (6) (OPCL)
Subject: Re: OPA Revised Statement

Thanks. I saw this earlier today. Not 100 percent sure what prompted this statement, but it looks like later statements corrected it. We can follow up on Monday.

On Dec 15, 2017, at 7:05 PM, (b) (6) (OPCL) (b) (6) wrote:

?

<http://www.businessinsider.com/doj-says-early-release-of-fbi-agents-texts-was-not-authorized-2017-12>

- **According to a DOJ statement, those text messages "were not authorized" for release.**

(b) (6)
Attorney Advisor
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Privacy and Civil Liberties (OPCL)
National Place Building, Suite 1000
1331 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530
(b) (6) (office)
(b) (6) (mobile)
[\[202\] 307-0693](tel:2023070693) (fax)
(b) (6)

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Schools, Scott (ODAG)

From: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 4:47 PM
To: Winn, Peter A. (OPCL)
Subject: FW: Texts Messages
Attachments: Strzok Texts Redacted.pdf

Per our conversation.

-----Original Message-----

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI (INSD) (FBI) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 2:22 PM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: McNamara, Nancy (INSD) (FBI) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI (DO) (FBI) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI
Subject: Texts Messages

Mr. Schools,

(b) (5)
[Redacted]

Let me know if you have any concerns or questions.

Thank you,
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI
[Redacted]

Unit Chief
External Audit Management Unit
Inspection Division
Federal Bureau of Investigation
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI

Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Friday, December 29, 2017 3:58 PM
To: Hur, Robert (ODAG); Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA); Schools, Scott (ODAG); Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI); Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (DO) (FBI); Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG)
Subject: RE: Letter for Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein
Attachments: Response to 28 December letter_dfl adds.docx

Scott—OLA adds attached. (b) (5)

S/F,
dfl

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Friday, December 29, 2017 11:28 AM
To: Hur, Robert (ODAG) <rhur@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI) <gbrower@fbi.gov>; Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (DO) (FBI) Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG) <zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: Letter for Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein

Gentlemen—(b) (5)

Thanks,
David

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Thursday, December 28, 2017 5:14 PM
To: Hur, Robert (ODAG) <rhur@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI) <gbrower@fbi.gov>; Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (DO) (FBI) Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG) <zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: FW: Letter for Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein

Gentlemen—good afternoon. Attached is a new HPSCI production request. The letter states that the Department and Bureau have been unresponsive since its 24 August subpoena. Further, it is requesting "All

outstanding records identified as responsive to the August 24 subpoenas” and also requests all 1023s, all 302s, and certain analytical and reference documents relative to Steele dossier and all that are responsive that have not previously been provided.

Additionally, the letter requests interviews with the below individuals in January:

- Former DOJ Associate Deputy Attorney General Bruce Ohr;
- FBI Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) Peter Strzok;
- FBI Attorney James Baker;
- FBI Attorney Lisa Page;
- FBI Attorney Sally Moyer; and
- FBI Assistant Director for Congressional Affairs Greg Brower.

Lastly, letter requests details from “an apparent April 2017 meeting with the media involving DOJ/FBI personnel, including DOJ Attorney Andrew Weissman” and remaining text messages between Strzok and Page.

(b) (5)

Thanks,
David

David F. Lasseter
202-514-1260

From: Ciarlante, Nick (b) (6) House Email
Sent: Thursday, December 28, 2017 3:52 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Ciarlante, Nick (b) (6) House Email; Stewart, Mark (b) (6) House Email; Glabe, Scott (b) (6) House Email
Subject: Letter for Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein

Good afternoon,

Attached please find a letter from Chairman Nunes for Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein.

Best,
Nick

Nicholas A. Ciarlante
Chief Clerk
United States House of Representatives
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
Capitol Visitor Center, HVC-304
Washington, DC 20515
O: (b) (6)
C: (b) (6)

Our Mission: To serve the American people by providing oversight, direction and resources to enable effective, efficient and constitutional intelligence activities.

Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

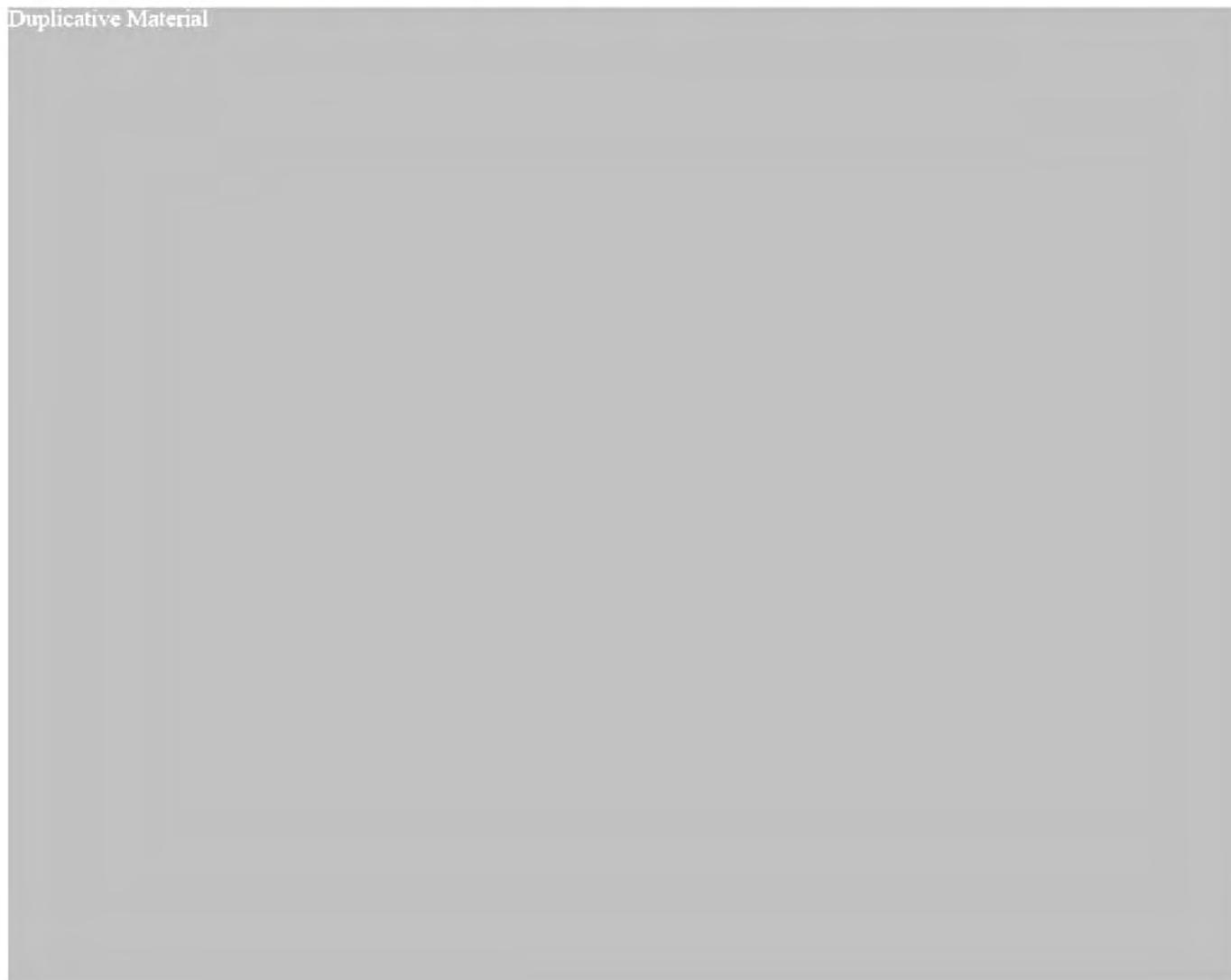
From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Friday, December 29, 2017 11:32 AM
To: Johnson, Joanne E. (OLA)
Subject: FW: Letter for Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein
Attachments: CHM Itr to DAG re Subpoena Compliance - 28 Dec 17 FINAL.PDF

(b) (5)

dfi

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Friday, December 29, 2017 11:28 AM
To: Hur, Robert (ODAG) <rhur@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI) <gbrower@fbi.gov>; Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (DO) (FBI) Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG) <zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: Letter for Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein

Duplicative Material



Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Thursday, December 28, 2017 7:55 PM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Cc: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA); Prior, Ian (OPA); Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA); Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Subject: Re: Letter for Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein

(b) (5)

SB

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 28, 2017, at 7:52 PM, Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

Scott—(b) (5)

dfl

David F. Lasseter

On Dec 28, 2017, at 19:49, Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

Yes. (b) (5)

On Dec 28, 2017, at 6:44 PM, Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

Sarah—just making sure you have seen this. We received it at 4pm today and it was the lead on FNC Special Report this evening.

David

David F. Lasseter

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Lasseter, David F. (OLA)"

[<dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>](mailto:dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov)

Date: December 28, 2017 at 17:14:13 EST

To: "Hur, Robert (ODAG)"

[<rhur@jmd.usdoj.gov>](mailto:rhur@jmd.usdoj.gov), "Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)"

(b) (6), "Schools, Scott (ODAG)"

[<sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>](mailto:sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov), "Brower, Gregory (DO
(FBI)" [<gbrower@fbi.gov>](mailto:gbrower@fbi.gov), Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (DO)

(FBI)" Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "Terwilliger, Zachary
(ODAG)" [<zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov>](mailto:zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov)

**Subject: FW: Letter for Deputy Attorney General
Rosenstein**

Duplicative Material



Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)

From: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)
Sent: Thursday, December 21, 2017 3:53 PM
To: Herbert, Jenelle R. (OLA); Brooks, Roshelle (OLA)
Subject: Response to Chairman Johnson
Attachments: Draft Response to Chairman Johnson 12-21-2017 clean.docx; 2012-12-13 Draft response to Johnson 12--6-2017 - KEK.docx; 2017-12-06 RHJ to DOJ Rosenstein re PETER STRZOK - Johnson.pdf

Roshelle or Jenelle:

(b) (5)

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the majority of the text in this section. The text "(b) (5)" is visible at the top left of the redacted area.

Thanks!

Ken

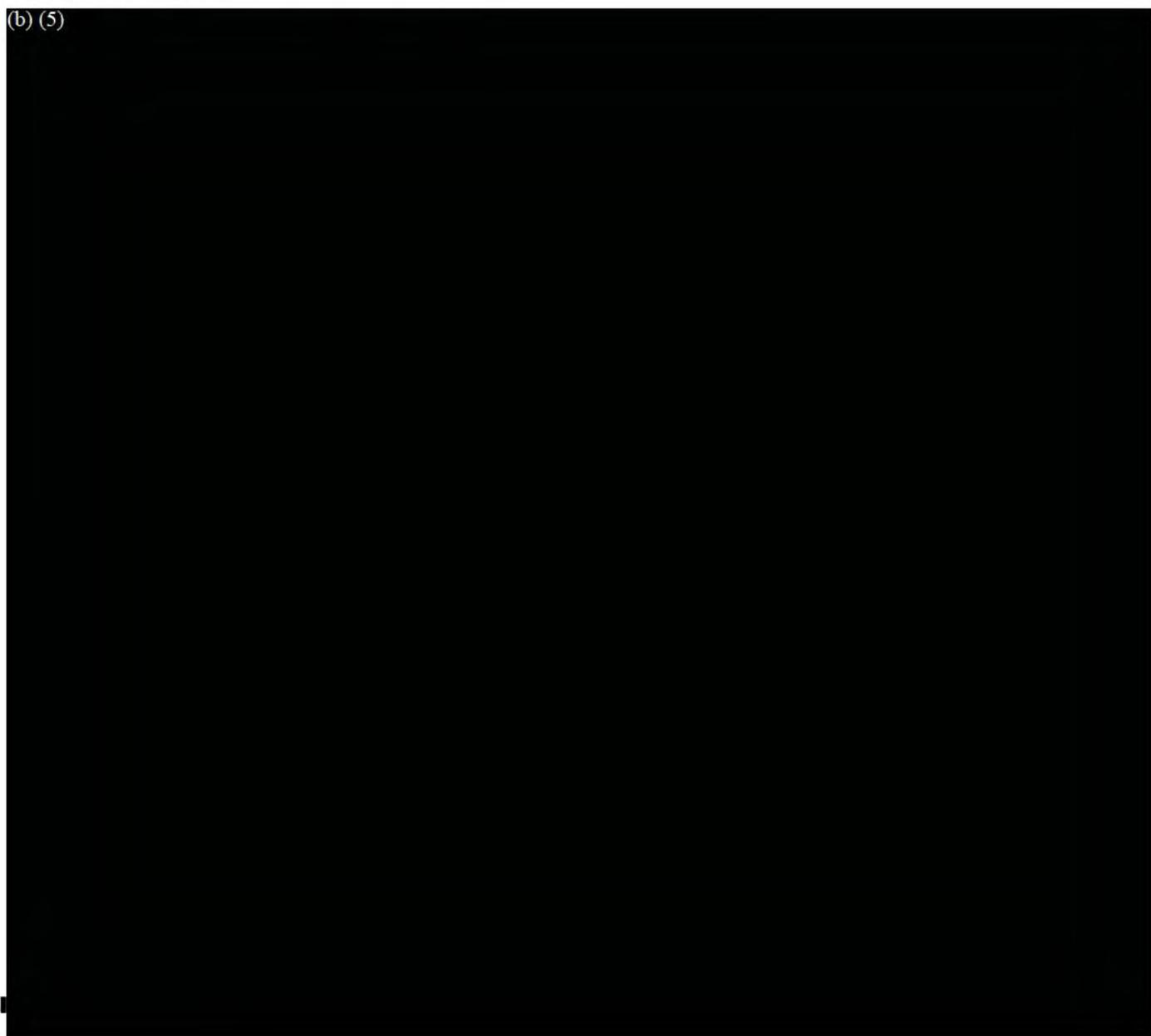
Hur, Robert (ODAG)

From: Hur, Robert (ODAG)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 1:50 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Subject: RE: current
Importance: High

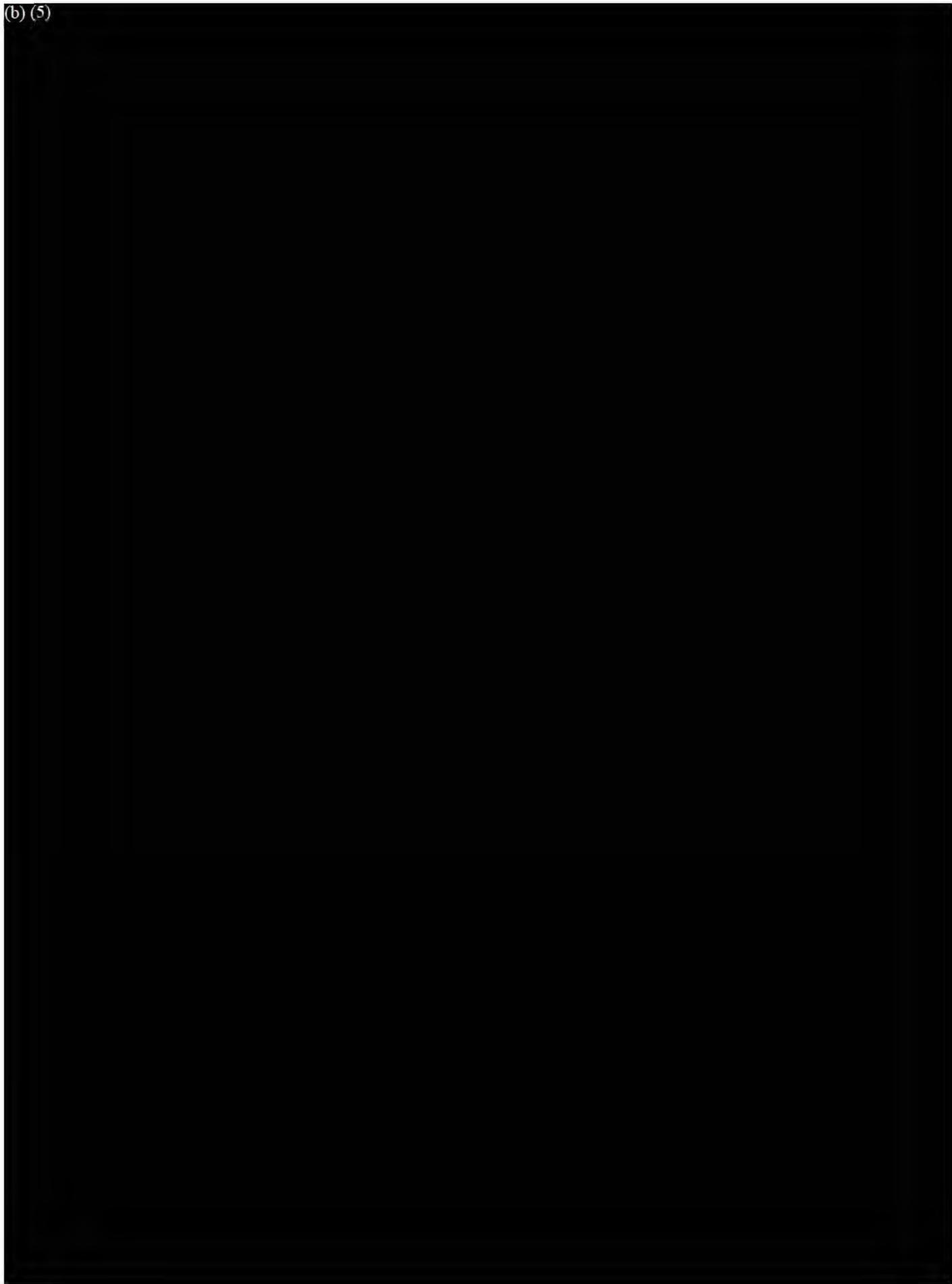
Suggested tweaks in red below.

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 1:39 PM
To: Hur, Robert (ODAG) <rhur@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: current

(b) (5)



(b) (5)





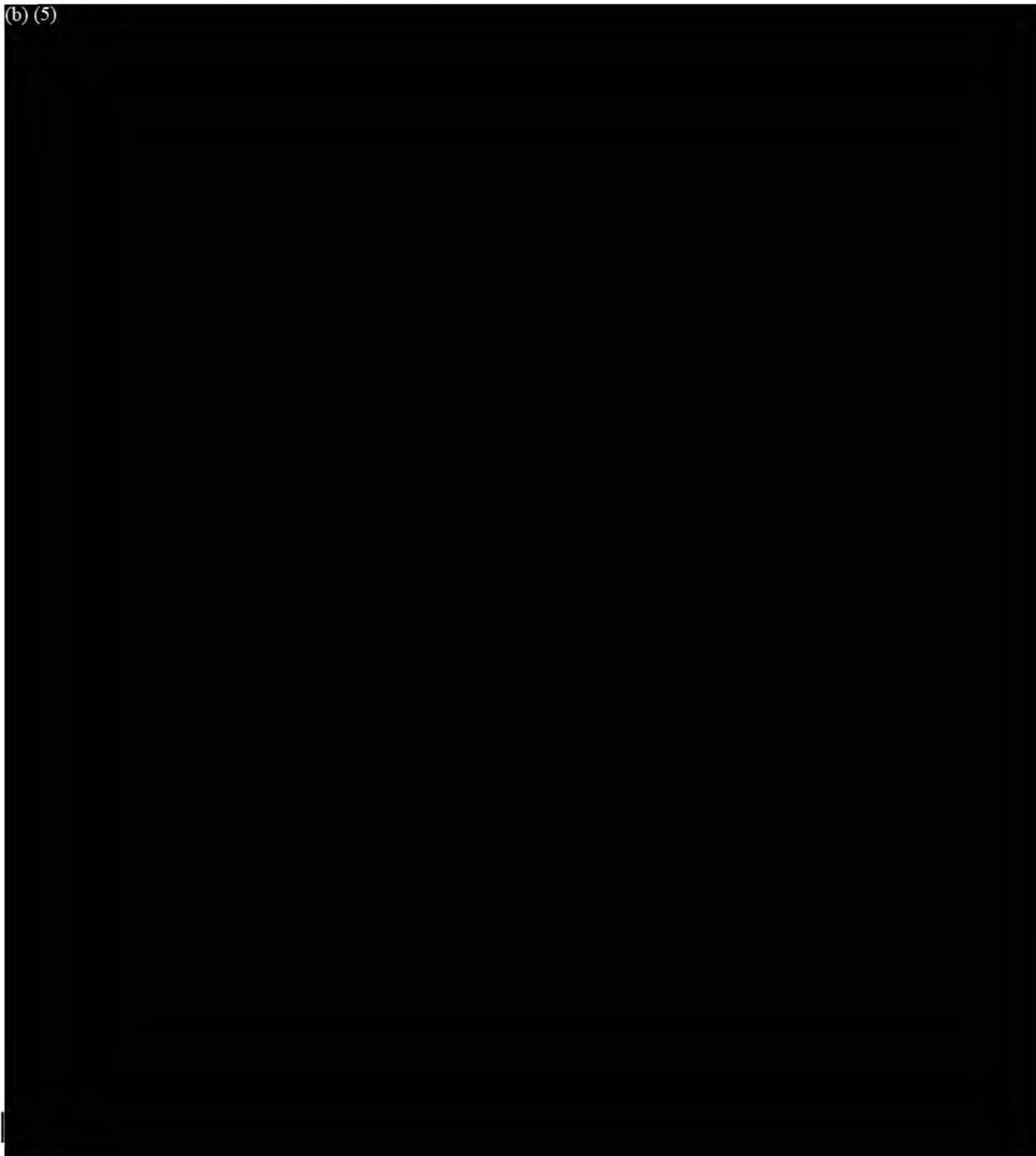
xxx

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

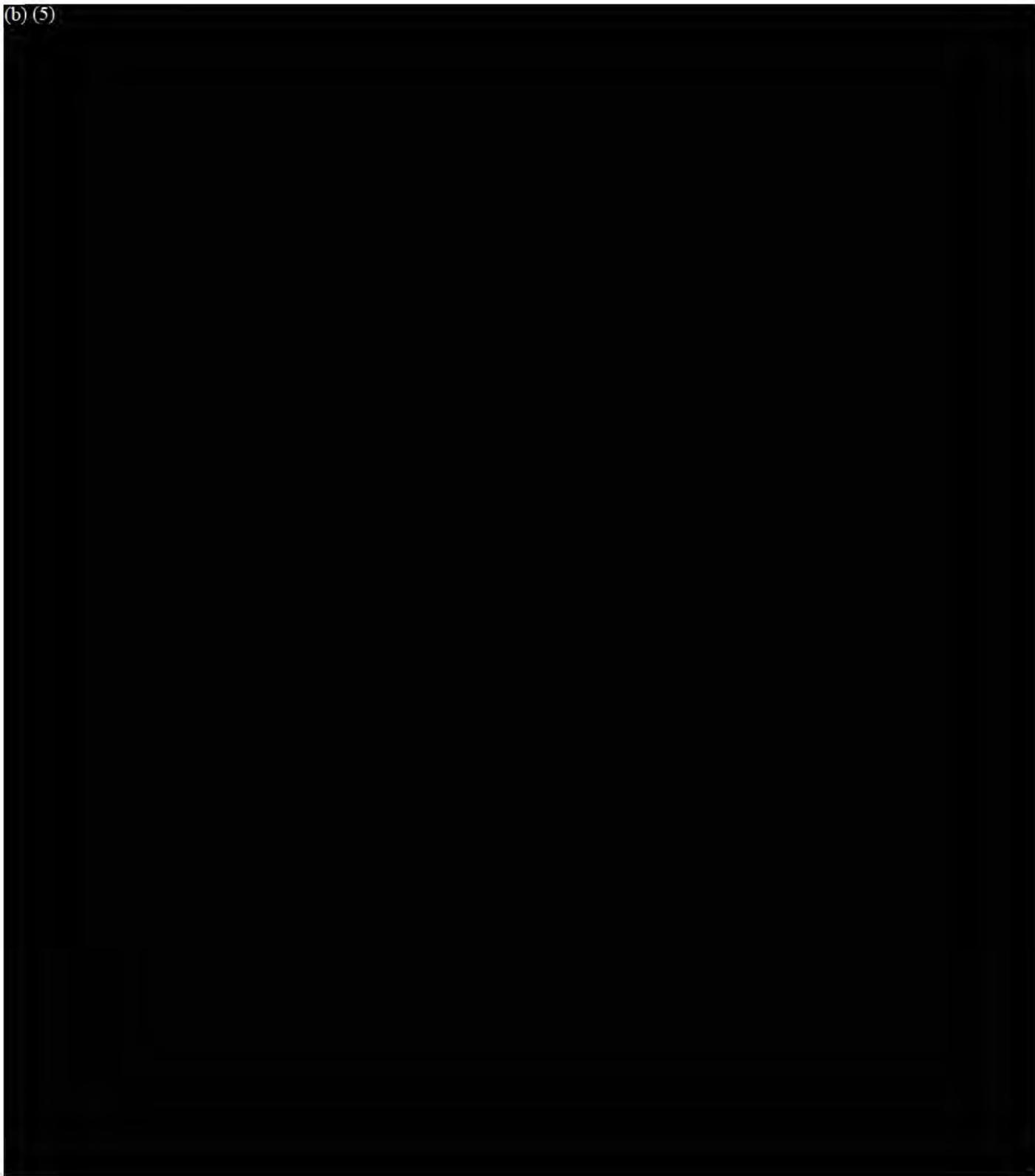
Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 1:39 PM
To: Hur, Robert (ODAG)
Subject: current

(b) (5)



(b) (5)



Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808



December 13, 2017

The Honorable Ron Johnson
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Johnson and Grassley:

Thank you for your letter of December 6, 2017, requesting information regarding the Office of the Inspector General's discovery of certain electronic text messages in connection with its review of the actions of the Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in advance of the 2016 presidential election. Our responses to the questions presented in your letter are set forth below.

1. When and how did OIG become aware of the text messages between Peter Strzok and Lisa Page?

In gathering evidence for the OIG's ongoing 2016 election review, we requested, consistent with standard practice, that the FBI produce text messages from the FBI-issued phones of certain FBI employees involved in the Clinton e-mail investigation based on search terms we provided. After finding a number of politically-oriented text messages between Page and Strzok, the OIG sought from the FBI all text messages between Strzok and Page from their FBI-issued phones through November 30, 2016, which covered the entire period of the Clinton e-mail server investigation. The FBI produced these text messages on July 20, 2017. Following our review of those text messages, the OIG expanded our request to the FBI to include all text messages between Strzok and Page from

November 30, 2016, through the date of the document request, which was July 28, 2017. The OIG received these additional messages on August 10, 2017.

2. When and how did OIG notify the Special Counsel Robert Mueller of the text messages?

On July 27, 2017, upon our identification of many of the political text messages, the Inspector General met with the Deputy Attorney General and the Special Counsel to inform them of the texts that we had discovered, and provided them with a significant number of the texts, so that they could take any management action they deemed appropriate.

3. Did OIG refer these allegations to the U.S. Office of Special Counsel to pursue a potential Hatch Act inquiry? If not, why not?

The Hatch Act, and its associated regulations, identify authorized and prohibited political activities for most executive department employees, including FBI employees. The Hatch Act permits expressions of personal opinions about candidates and issues. In contrast, political activity, which is defined as “activity directed toward the success or failure of a political party, candidate for partisan political office, or partisan political group” is prohibited in certain contexts. We are cognizant of these issues and will determine whether there is a basis to refer the allegations, along with relevant evidence we have gathered, regarding Page’s and Strzok’s text messages to the Office of Special Counsel upon completion of our review.

4. In connection with the OIG’s review of the actions of DOJ and the FBI in advance of the 2016 presidential election, has the OIG received any similar allegations involving other government officials?

The OIG’s review is ongoing, and we currently are in the process of completing our witness interviews and document review. Thereafter, we intend to issue a public report with our findings on these and the other issues we are reviewing, and we would be pleased to discuss them with you at that time.

Thank you for your continued support for the work of my Office. If you

have any questions, please do not hesitate contact me or (b) (6) - Per OIG, my
Advisor for Legislative Affairs, at (202) 514-3435.

Sincerely,



Michael E. Horowitz
Inspector General

cc: The Honorable Claire McCaskill
Ranking Member, Committee on Homeland Security and
Governmental Affairs
United States Senate

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate

Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)

From: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 11:17 AM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Cc: Lasseter, David F. (OLA); Escalona, Prim F. (OLA); Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
Subject: Response to HSGAC Chairman Johnson (Text messages)
Attachments: 2017-12-06 RHJ to DOJ Rosenstein re PETER STRZOK - Johnson.pdf; Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson - Text Messages.pdf; Johnson 12-6-2017 response - OLA.docx

Good morning Scott:

(b) (5)

I made some proposed edits for your review.

Thanks,

Ken

House Judiciary Committee Holds Hearing on the Justice Department's Investigation of Russia's Interference in the 2016 Presidential Election

GOODLATTE:

Good morning. The Judiciary Committee will come to order, and Without objection, the chair is authorized to declare recesses of the committee at any time.

We welcome everyone to this morning's hearing on -- oversight hearing with Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein. And I'll begin by recognizing myself for an opening statement.

Thank you, Deputy General -- Attorney General Rosenstein, for appearing for the first time in front of this committee. There is much to discuss today, and we look forward to your testimony and answers to your questions.

As chairman of the committee with primary oversight of the Department of Justice and the FBI, I've always supported the department and the FBI in performing their valuable missions to keep our nation safe and to hold individuals accountable for criminal conduct. Yet I and many on this committee now find ourselves in the very difficult position of questioning the actions of both prior and current department and FBI leadership.

You have a unique role at the Department of Justice in that you appointed Special Counsel Mueller and have a supervisory role over his investigation. It is therefore very appropriate for you to appear before this committee to answer questions related to the scope of the special counsel's investigation, as well as its current efficacy in light of various events calling into question its impartiality.

Reports on the political predisposition and potential bias of certain career agents and department lawyers on Special Counsel Mueller's team are deeply troubling to all citizens who expect a system of blind and equal justice. The Department of Justice investigations must not be tainted by individuals imposing their own political prejudices.

We are now beginning to better understand the magnitude of this insider bias on Mr. Mueller's team. First, we have FBI agent Peter Strzok and FBI lawyer Lisa Page, exchanging communications showing extreme bias against President Trump, a fact that would be bad enough if it weren't for the fact that these two individuals were employed as part of the Mueller dream team, investigating the very person for whom they were showing disdain.

And calling it mere disdain is generous. According to the documents produced last night to this committee, Mr. Strzok and Ms. Page referred to the president as an utter idiot, a loathsome human, and awful, while continually praising Hillary Clinton and the Obamas.

These text messages prove what we all suspected: high-ranking FBI officials involved in the Clinton investigation were personally invested in the outcome of the election and clearly let their

strong political opinions cloud their professional judgment. And this was only an initial disclosure containing heavy redactions.

Second, former embattled FBI General Counsel and current Mueller prosecutor Andrew Weissmann expressed his awe of a former DOJ official for shunning the president and failing to faithfully execute the law. However, we are the ones now in awe that someone like Mr. Weissmann remains on an investigative team that looks more and more partisan.

Third, we have learned that a top Mueller prosecutor, Jeannie Rhee, in addition to the other actions that would normally justify recusal, served as an attorney for the Clinton Foundation. Aren't Department of Justice attorneys advised to avoid even the appearance of impropriety? A former Clinton employee is now investigating President Trump. This seems to be the very definition of "appearance of impropriety."

Fourth, we have just recently learned that another top Department of Justice official, Bruce Ohr, has been reassigned because of his wife and his connections with the infamous dossier and the company from whom the opposition research document originated.

We hope to hear your assessment of the foregoing conflicts, whether individuals are being held accountable and whether you still have confidence in the judgment of the special counsel you named and supervise.

Regarding the Clinton e-mail scandal, you, along with Attorney General Sessions, have to date declined to appoint a second special counsel to investigate the improprieties that continue to surface related to the handling of the Clinton e-mail investigation and other events surrounding the 2016 election.

These are some of the important issues on which we will focus our energy and questions today. We want to understand your participation and the department's involvement in addressing both investigations.

Mr. Deputy Attorney General, the Department of Justice's reputation as an impartial arbiter of justice has been called into question. This taint of politicization should concern all Americans who have pride in the fairness of our nation's justice system.

While we continue to call on you to appoint a second special counsel, as you are aware, we have also opened our own joint investigation with the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee to review FBI and the Department of Justice's handling of the Clinton e-mail investigation.

I want to thank you and Attorney General Sessions for recently committing to provide us relevant documents to enable robust congressional oversight of this matter. I implore you to continue to work with us on these and other important matters facing our nation.

One of these matters involves a critical program for our national security, FISA Section 702. This committee passed, on an overwhelming, bipartisan basis, the USA Liberty Act, which maintains the integrity of the program while protecting cherished civil liberties.

This overwhelming vote occurred despite the department's lobbying efforts against our bill. The USA Liberty Act was characterized as bad for the program, highly problematic, unworkable and a proposal that would effectively dismantle Section 702. However, the reality is that this committee's legislation struck a balance that promotes national security and civil liberties.

I hope to hear from you why the Department of Justice felt it necessary to oppose a bill that would reauthorize 702 and instill confidence in the American people that their privacy and civil liberties are respected by a government whose duty it is to protect them.

The Department of Justice must reacquire the trust of the American people. I know there are thousands of Department of Justice employees and line agents in the department -- in the bureau of -- in Federal Bureau of Investigation that are dedicated individuals that are dedicated to upholding the rule of law and protecting the American people, and I hope that we can come to a conclusion about those people who have not met that standard in this hearing today.

Thank you, Mr. Deputy Attorney General, for appearing today. I now yield to the gentleman from New York, the ranking member of the committee, Mr. Nadler, for his comments.

Nonresponsive Record



NADLER:

And let me be clear, I unequivocally endorse this letter. We should convene this hearing as soon as possible. This is an opportunity for us to lead and to show the country that this kind of behavior is unacceptable at any level of government.

Mr. Chairman, let me start by saying welcome to the House Judiciary Committee, Mr. Rosenstein. For the better part of a year, my colleagues and I have employed this committee to conduct real oversight of the Department of Justice.

On January 24th, 2017, we wrote to Chairman Goodlatte, insisting that the committee hold hearings on President Trump's conflicts of interest at home and abroad. Citing to experts across the political spectrum, we showed that, quote, "The administration's attempts to address its ongoing topics of interest are so far wholly inadequate," close quote.

Six weeks later, Attorney General Sessions was forced to recuse himself from the Russia investigation, but we have not held a single hearing on the question of conflicts of interest.

On March 8th, we wrote again to the chairman, encouraging him to call -- encouraging him to call hearings on, quote, "Russia's alleged interference in the U.S. election." Again, no such hearings were ever held.

In fact, this committee, which, during the Obama administration, held half a dozen hearings around Operation Fast and Furious, received testimony from FBI Director Comey three times in 13 months and detailed staff and resources to a Benghazi investigation across the public almost \$8 million -- this committee, from Inauguration Day until four weeks ago, was largely silent in terms of oversight.

We haven't lifted a finger on election security. Attorney General Sessions told us on November 14th that he has done nothing to secure the next election from threats from at home and abroad.

We have not once discussed the president's abuse of the pardon power. While the hurricane bore down on Houston, President Trump sidelined the Office of the Pardon Attorney to pardon a serial human rights abuser who bragged about running a concentration camp in Arizona.

And we have not held a single hearing on allegations of obstruction of justice at the White House, not for lack of evidence, but because of the chairman's words: Quote, "There is a special counsel in place examining the issue," unquote, and, quote, "Several other Congressional committees are looking into the matter," and the committee, quote, "does not have the time to conduct this critical oversight." I ask my colleagues to keep those excuses in mind.

Now, with the year coming to a close, with the leadership of the Department of Justice finally before us, what do my Republican colleagues want to discuss? Hillary Clinton's e-mails. Let me repeat that. With all of these unresolved issues left on our docket a week before we adjourn for the calendar year, the majority's highest oversight priority is Hillary's e-mail -- Hillary Clinton's e-mails and a few related text messages.

As we saw in our recent hearings with the Department of Justice and the FBI, my Republican colleagues seem singularly focused on the call for second special counsel, and failing that, on the need to investigate the investigators themselves -- ourselves.

The White House has now joined the call by House Republicans for a new special counsel to investigate the FBI. The president's private lawyers have done the same. I understand -- I understand the instinct to want to change the subject after the Flynn and Manafort indictments, but this request is grossly misguided for a number of reasons.

First, it shows a fundamental misunderstanding of how the special counsel regulations work. Some criminal investigations pose a conflict of interest of the Department of Justice; the Russia investigation is such a case, because of the Attorney General's ongoing recusal and because department leadership assisted in the removal of Director Comey, among other reasons. In cases like these, the attorney general may use a special counsel to manage the investigation outside of the ordinary chain of command.

But the key here is the criminal investigation. That's what special counsel does. The department cannot simply assign a special counsel to look at things that bother the White House; there has to be enough evidence to have predicated a criminal investigation in the first place. Then, and only then, if the facts warrant, can a special counsel be assigned to the case.

So far, there's been no credible, factual legal claim that anybody at the Department of Justice violated any law by deciding not to bring charges against Hillary Clinton or by attempting to meet with Fusion GPS. In other words, there is no investigation to which the department could even assign a new special counsel.

Second, the list of grievances raised by the majority for review by a new special counsel also seems wildly off the mark. For example, there is nothing unlawful about Director Comey's sitting down to draft an early statement about the Clinton investigation, nor would it have been unethical to outline his conclusions before the investigation was over, if the clear weight of the evidence pointed in one direction.

Nor is there anything wrong with FBI agents expressing their private political views via private text message, as Peter Strzok and Lisa Page appear to have done in the 375 text messages we received last night. In fact, department regulations expressly permit that sort of private communication.

I have reviewed those text messages, and I am left with two thoughts. First Peter Strzok did not say anything about Donald Trump that the majority of Americans weren't also thinking at the same time. And second, in a testament to his integrity and situational awareness, when the Office of the Inspector General made Mr. Mueller aware of these exchanges, he immediately removed Mr. Strzok from his team.

To the extent that we are now engaged in oversight of political bias at the FBI, this committee should examine evidence of a coordinated effort by some agents involved in the Clinton investigation to change the course of the campaign in favor of President Trump by leaking

sensitive information to the public and by threatening to leak additional information about new e-mails after the investigation was closed.

On Monday, Ranking Member Cummings and I sent a letter to the department asking for additional materials related to these leaks, as well as to the claims that these efforts may have been coordinated with former Mayor Rudy Giuliani, former National Security Adviser Michael Flynn and other senior figures in the Trump campaign.

Third, the president's call for an investigation of the investigation is at best wildly dangerous to our democratic institutions. On the one hand, the president -- the president's old "Lock her up" cheer seems quaint after a couple of guilty pleas by Trump Associates. On the other, as former Attorney General Michael Mukasey, no fan of Hillary Clinton, has said, the president's continued threats to prosecute his political opponents is, quote, "something we don't do here." If the present were to carry out his threat, quote, again from Attorney General Mukasey, "It would be like a banana republic."

Finally, and most important, this investigation into the investigation cannot credibly be a priority for this committee at this time. I understand the instinct want to give cover to the president. I am fearful that the majority's effort to turn the tables on the special counsel will get louder and more frantic as the walls continue to close in around the president. But this committee has a job to do.

President Trump has engaged in a persistent and dangerous effort to discredit both the free press and the Department of Justice. These are the agencies and institutions under our jurisdiction. Every minute that our majority wastes on covering for President Trump is a minute lost on finding a solution for the Dreamers, or curbing a vicious spike in hate crimes, or preventing dangerous individuals from purchasing firearms, or stopping the president from further damaging the constitutional order.

I hope my colleagues will use today's hearing as an opportunity to find their way back to the true work of the House Judiciary Committee. I thank the chairman and I yield back the balance of my time.

GOODLATTE:

We welcome our distinguished witness. If you would please rise, I'll begin by swearing you in.

Do you solemnly swear that the testimony that you are about to give shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Thank you. Let the record show that the witness answered in the affirmative.

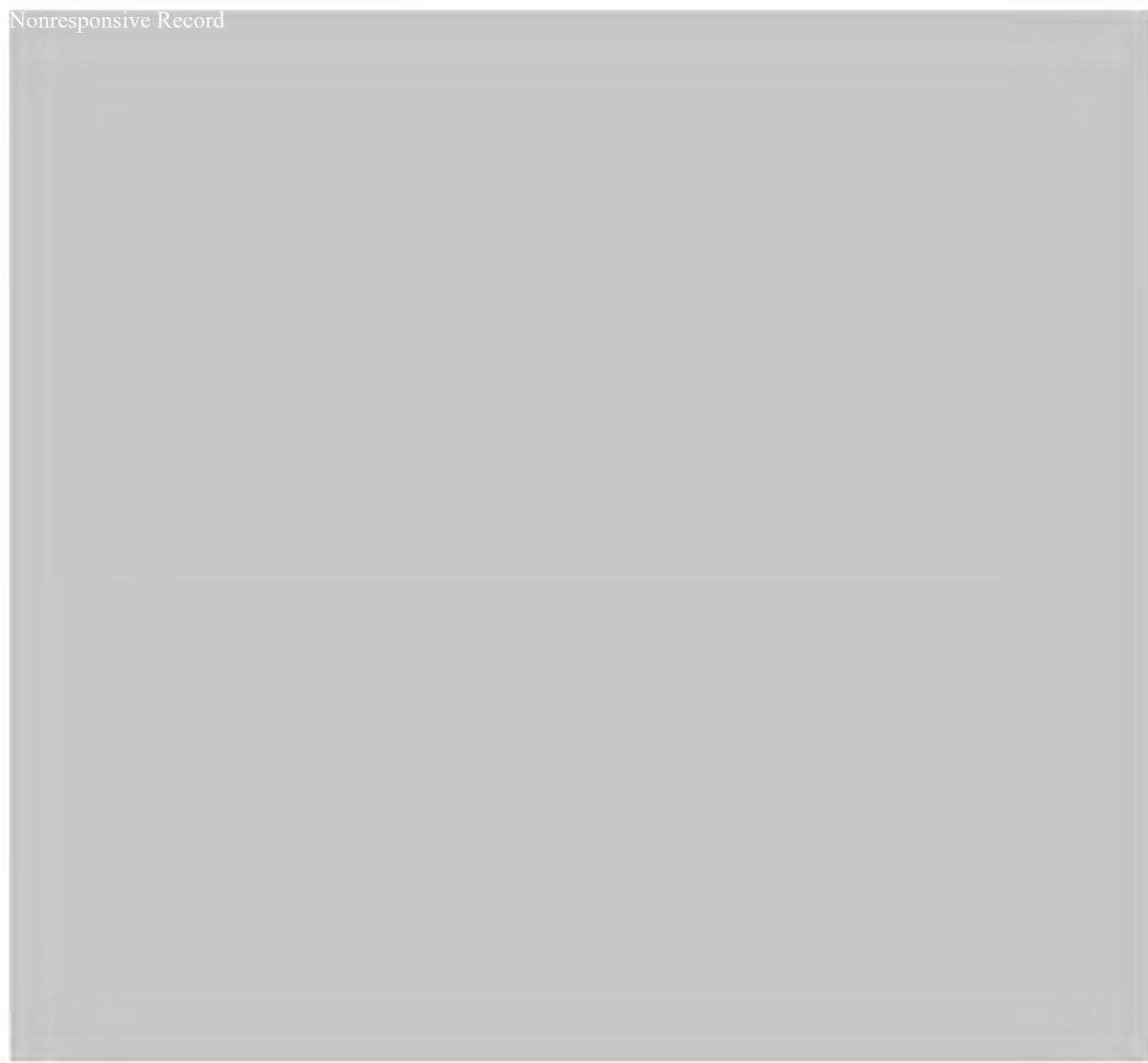
Mr. Rod Rosenstein was sworn in as the 37th deputy attorney general of the United States on April 26th, 2017, by Attorney General Jeff Sessions. Mr. Rosenstein has had a distinguished career in public service.

He began his legal career in the public integrity section of the Department of Justice's criminal division, and later served as counsel to the deputy attorney general and principal deputy assistant attorney general for the tax division.

Until his appointment by President Trump, Mr. Rosenstein served for 12 years as the United States attorney for the district of Maryland. He holds a Bachelor's degree in economics from the Wharton School and a J.D. from the -- from Harvard Law School.

General Rosenstein, your written statement will be entered into the record in its entirety, and we ask that you summarize your testimony in five minutes. Welcome. We're pleased to have you here.

Nonresponsive Record



Nonresponsive Record



NADLER:

Thank you.

According to the department, the Office of the Inspector General informed Special Counsel Mueller of the existence of these text messages between Peter Strzok and Lisa Page on July 27th, 2017 -- the texts you sent us last night.

Mr. Mueller immediately concluded the Mr. Strzok could no longer participate in the investigation, and he was removed from the team the same day. Did Mr. Mueller take appropriate action in this case?

ROSENSTEIN:

Yes, he did.

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 10:34 AM
To: Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG); Hur, Robert (ODAG); Bolitho, Zachary (ODAG);
Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Subject: FW:
Attachments: Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson - Text Messages.pdf

See attached Horowitz letter. Also this tweet:

Manu Raju

@mkraju

Grassley sends letter to Rosenstein asking for more information about the FBI's Peter Strzok, calling on Justice Department to detail when it learned about the anti-Trump messages. Feinstein did NOT sign the letter.

<https://twitter.com/mkraju/status/941320378424676352>

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Jarrett, Laura [mailto:Laura.Jarrett@cnn.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 7:31 AM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject:

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 8:51 AM
To: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG)
Subject: Fwd:
Attachments: Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson - Text Messages.pdf;
ATT00001.htm

Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 6:56 PM
To: Flynn-Brown, Josh (Judiciary-Rep)
Cc: CEG (Judiciary-Rep); Foster, Jason (Judiciary-Rep); Lay, DeLisa (Judiciary-Rep); Davis, Patrick (Judiciary-Rep); Sawyer, Heather (Judiciary-Dem)
Subject: RE: 2017-12-13 CEG to DOJ (Strzok Page McCabe Insurance Policy)

Received Josh

From: Flynn-Brown, Josh (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6) Senate Email
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:33 PM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: CEG (Judiciary-Rep) <CEG@judiciary-rep.senate.gov>; Foster, Jason (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6) Senate Email; Lay, DeLisa (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6) Senate Email; Davis, Patrick (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6) Senate Email; Sawyer, Heather (Judiciary-Dem) (b) (6) Senate Email
Subject: 2017-12-13 CEG to DOJ (Strzok Page McCabe Insurance Policy)

David,

Please find attached a letter from Chairman Grassley. Please confirm receipt and send all formal follow-up correspondence to the email addresses copied above. Thanks.

Very Respectfully,

Josh Flynn-Brown
Investigative Counsel
Chairman Charles E. Grassley
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary
(b) (6)

Prior, Ian (OPA)

From: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 9:11 AM
To: Geoffrey Guray
Subject: RE: PBS NewsHour inquiries
Attachments: Letter Requesting Senate Fetal Tissue Report Unredacted Records (12-7-17).pdf

- (1) Me
- (2) Attached
- (3) Yes, sent to SJC, HJC, HPSCI, SSI, and Senate Governmental Affairs Committee

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

From: Geoffrey Guray [mailto:GGuray@newshour.org]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 8:25 AM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: PBS NewsHour inquiries

Hi again, Ian --

I have three quick inquiries for OPA today -- one about OPA itself, and two about letters members of Congress have sent to DOJ.

(1) Is there someone at OPA who specifically deals with inquiries about the Office of Legislative Affairs and/or AAG Stephen Boyd? (I'm just asking for the future, given the fact that both of my questions today happen to probably involve that office.)

(2) Has DOJ or FBI responded in any way to [this December 2016 letter](#) from Senate Judiciary Chairman Grassley -- a referral on matters related to "paid fetal tissue practices"?

(3) Has FBI or DOJ responded in any way to [this letter last week](#), also from Grassley, asking for copies of certain texts or other communications involving Peter Strzok?

Thanks, as always, for fielding this,
Geoffrey

=====

Geoffrey Guray
PBS NewsHour Politics Reporter/Producer
(b) (6) cell/signal
703-998-2192 office
@glguray

Tyson, Jill C. (OLA)

From: Tyson, Jill C. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 9:01 AM
To: Mangum, Anela M. (OLA)
Subject: FW: letter re: texts
Attachments: 0365_001.pdf

Please have Shirley log this in and also send her last night's letter to Goodlatte so she can close it in IQ. Thanks.

From: Parmiter, Robert (b) (6) House Email
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 11:01 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Tyson, Jill C. (OLA) <jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Husband, Shelley (b) (6) House Email; Ritchie, Branden
(b) (6) House Email; Breitenbach, Ryan (b) (6) House Email
Subject: letter re: texts

Stephen, Jill: attached is an e-copy of HJC's letter requesting the text messages. Please confirm receipt. Thanks.

ROBERT B. PARMITER • CHIEF COUNSEL
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CRIME, TERRORISM, HOMELAND SECURITY, AND INVESTIGATIONS
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY • U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. • 202-225-5727

Tyson, Jill C. (OLA)

From: Tyson, Jill C. (OLA)
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 8:24 PM
To: Mangum, Anela M. (OLA)
Subject: Fwd: Text Msg Docs production - clean 12.12.17
Attachments: Text Msg Docs production - clean 12.12.17.docx; ATT00001.htm

Jill C. Tyson
Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
202-514-3597

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Schools, Scott (ODAG)" <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Date: December 12, 2017 at 8:21:48 PM EST
To: "Tyson, Jill C. (OLA)" <jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: **Text Msg Docs production - clean 12.12.17**

Tyson, Jill C. (OLA)

From: Tyson, Jill C. (OLA)
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 8:23 PM
To: Escalona, Prim F. (OLA)
Subject: Fwd: Text Msg Docs production - clean 12.12.17
Attachments: Text Msg Docs production - clean 12.12.17.docx; ATT00001.htm

Jill C. Tyson
Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
202-514-3597

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Schools, Scott (ODAG)" <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Date: December 12, 2017 at 8:21:48 PM EST
To: "Tyson, Jill C. (OLA)" <jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: **Text Msg Docs production - clean 12.12.17**

Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 8:19 PM
To: Tyson, Jill C. (OLA)
Cc: Mangum, Anela M. (OLA); Escalona, Prim F. (OLA); Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA); Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Subject: Re: Letters

(b) (5)

David F. Lasseter

On Dec 12, 2017, at 20:01, Tyson, Jill C. (OLA) <jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

HSGAC SJC to Horowitz Dec 6:

<https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/download/chairmen-johnson-and-grassley-letter-to-doj-ig-regarding-mr-strzok>

Grassley to Wray Dec 5 (?):

[https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/2017-12-05%20CEG%20to%20FBI%20\(Strzok%20Communications\).pdf](https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/2017-12-05%20CEG%20to%20FBI%20(Strzok%20Communications).pdf)

(b) (5)

Jill C. Tyson
Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
202-514-3597

On Dec 12, 2017, at 7:48 PM, Tyson, Jill C. (OLA) <jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5)

Jill C. Tyson
Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
202-514-3597

Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 6:28 PM
To: Patel, Kash
Cc: Lasseter, David F. (OLA); Glabe, Scott
Subject: Re: Letter from Chairman

Roger that, thanks. SB

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 12, 2017, at 6:06 PM, Patel, Kash (b) (6) House Email wrote:

Yes, I informed Dorothy, Scott Glabe will be in the office for receipt. I also provided an email sync up between Dorothy and Scott. If there are any issues, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thanks very much.

Kashyap P. Patel
Senior Counsel for Counterterrorism
House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

Desk: (b) (6)
Cell: (b) (6)

On Dec 12, 2017, at 17:54, Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6) wrote:

Thank you.

Can you or a representative be available at 8:15 PM to received the first set of text messages?

SB

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 12, 2017, at 5:52 PM, Patel, Kash (b) (6) House Email wrote:

Gents,

Please see the attached letter, per the request of DOJ so that you may provide the agreed upon production. Thanks very much.

Regards,
Kash

Kashyap P. Patel
Senior Counsel for Counterterrorism

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

Desk: (b) (6)

Cell: (b) (6)

NSTS: (b) (6)

<CHM ltr to DAG re Strzok & Page Communications - 12 Dec
17.pdf>

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 6, 2017

The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz
Inspector General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Inspector General Horowitz:

We understand that the Department of Justice Office of Inspector General (DOJ OIG) continues its review of the actions of DOJ and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in advance of the 2016 presidential election.¹ As part of this review, your office discovered that a senior FBI agent allegedly exchanged electronic text messages “that expressed anti-Trump political views” with an FBI colleague.² We write to seek more information about the OIG’s discovery of these electronic text messages and the actions you took in response.

According to reports, FBI employees Peter Strzok and Lisa Page were involved in the exchange of text messages that exhibited political bias.³ Mr. Strzok was involved in the FBI’s investigation into former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton’s handling of classified information through her use of a private email server. Mr. Strzok personally participated in the FBI’s interviews of Secretary Clinton, Huma Abedin, Cheryl Mills, Heather Samuelson, and Jake Sullivan.⁴ Mr. Strzok most recently worked for Special Counsel Robert Mueller.⁵ Mr. Mueller’s office announced that it removed Mr. Strzok from the investigation after learning of the allegations.⁶

To understand OIG’s discovery of these text exchanges, we respectfully request the following information:

1. When and how did OIG become aware of the text messages between Peter Strzok and Lisa Page?

¹ The Department of Justice Office of Inspector General released the following statement in response to inquiries today, (2017), <https://oig.justice.gov/press/2017/2017-12-02.pdf> (last visited Dec 5, 2017).

² Michael S. Schmidt, Matt Apuzzo and Adam Goldman, *Mueller Removed Top Agent in Russia Inquiry Over Possible Anti-Trump Texts*, N.Y. TIMES, Dec. 2, 2017, <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/02/us/politics/mueller-removed-top-fbi-agent-over-possible-anti-trump-texts.html>.

³ Karoun Demirjian and Devlin Barret, *Top FBI official assigned to Mueller’s Russia probe said to have been removed after sending anti-Trump texts*, WASH. POST, Dec. 2, 2017, https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/two-senior-fbi-officials-on-clinton-trump-probes-exchanged-politically-charged-texts-disparaging-trump/2017/12/02/9846421c-d707-11e7-a986-d0a9770d9a3e_story.html?utm_term=.93899dad030d

⁴ Fed. Bureau of Investigation, 302s of Clinton Investigation (2015-16) (on file with Comm.).

⁵ Michael S. Schmidt, Matt Apuzzo and Adam Goldman, *Mueller Removed Top Agent in Russia Inquiry Over Possible Anti-Trump Texts*, N.Y. TIMES, Dec. 2, 2017 <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/02/us/politics/mueller-removed-top-fbi-agent-over-possible-anti-trump-texts.html>.

⁶ *Id.*

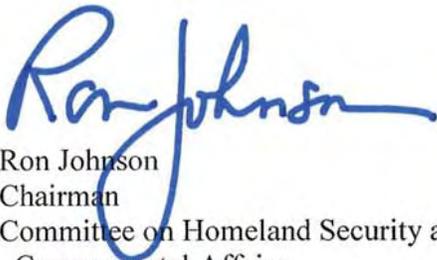
2. When and how did OIG notify the Special Counsel Robert Mueller of the text messages?
3. Did OIG refer these allegations to the U.S. Office of Special Counsel to pursue a potential Hatch Act inquiry? If not, why not?
4. In connection with the OIG's review of the actions of DOJ and the FBI in advance of the 2016 presidential election, has the OIG received any similar allegations involving other government officials?

Please respond as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on December, 13, 2017, so that the Committees may begin to receive responsive information.

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized by Rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate to investigate "the efficiency, economy, and effectiveness of all agencies and departments of the Government."⁷ Additionally, S. Res. 62 (115th Congress) authorizes the Committee to examine "the efficiency and economy of all branches and functions of Government with particular references to the operations and management of Federal regulatory policies and programs."⁸

If you have any questions about this request, please ask your staff to contact Brian Downey of Chairman Johnson's staff at (202) 224-4751 or Josh Flynn-Brown of Chairman Grassley's staff at (202) 224-5225. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Ron Johnson
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security and
Governmental Affairs



Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary

cc: The Honorable Claire McCaskill
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary

⁷ S. Rule XXV(k); *see also* S. Res. 445, 108th Cong. (2004).

⁸ S. Res. 62 § 12, 115th Cong. (2017).

Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 4:08 PM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Cc: Tyson, Jill C. (OLA)
Subject: FW: draft letter
Attachments: Text Msg Docs production - clean 12.12.17.docx

(b) (5)

SB

From: Tyson, Jill C. (OLA)
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 3:57 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6)
Subject: draft letter

Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 2:08 PM
To: Tyson, Jill C. (OLA)
Subject: Text Messages Letter
Attachments: Text Messgaes Letter.docx

(b) (5)

Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 1:14 PM
To: Patel, Kash
Cc: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA); Nelson, Damon; Glabe, Scott; Stewart, Mark
Subject: RE: remaining text messages

Thanks Kash. What time do you plan to arrive?

Joanne—please be prepared for this arrival and provide any clearance coordination.

David

From: Patel, Kash (b) (6) House Email
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:59 AM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Nelson, Damon (b) (6) House Email
Glabe, Scott (b) (6) House Email; Stewart, Mark (b) (6) House Email
Subject: RE: remaining text messages

David,

Scott and myself will be over some time tomorrow afternoon. Since are clearances have been previously sent over to DOJ, let us know if we need to repeat. Thanks very much.

Regards,
kash

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) [mailto:David.F.Lasseter@usdoj.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 9:59 AM
To: Patel, Kash (b) (6) House Email
Cc: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Nelson, Damon
(b) (6) House Email; Glabe, Scott (b) (6) House Email; Stewart, Mark
(b) (6) House Email
Subject: Re: remaining text messages

Duplicative Material



Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)

From: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 8:17 AM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Subject: RE: DOJ document review

I should add that Rich from Grassley's office called Jill last night around 9:30 when we had just returned from delivering the other packets.

From: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 8:15 AM
To: David Lasseter (dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: FW: DOJ document review

(b) (5)

From: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 9:39 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: DOJ document review

(b) (5)

On Dec 12, 2017, at 9:35 PM, Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6) wrote:

(b) (5)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Lasseter, David F. (OLA)" <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Date: December 12, 2017 at 9:24:36 PM EST
To: "Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)" (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: DOJ document review

(b) (5)

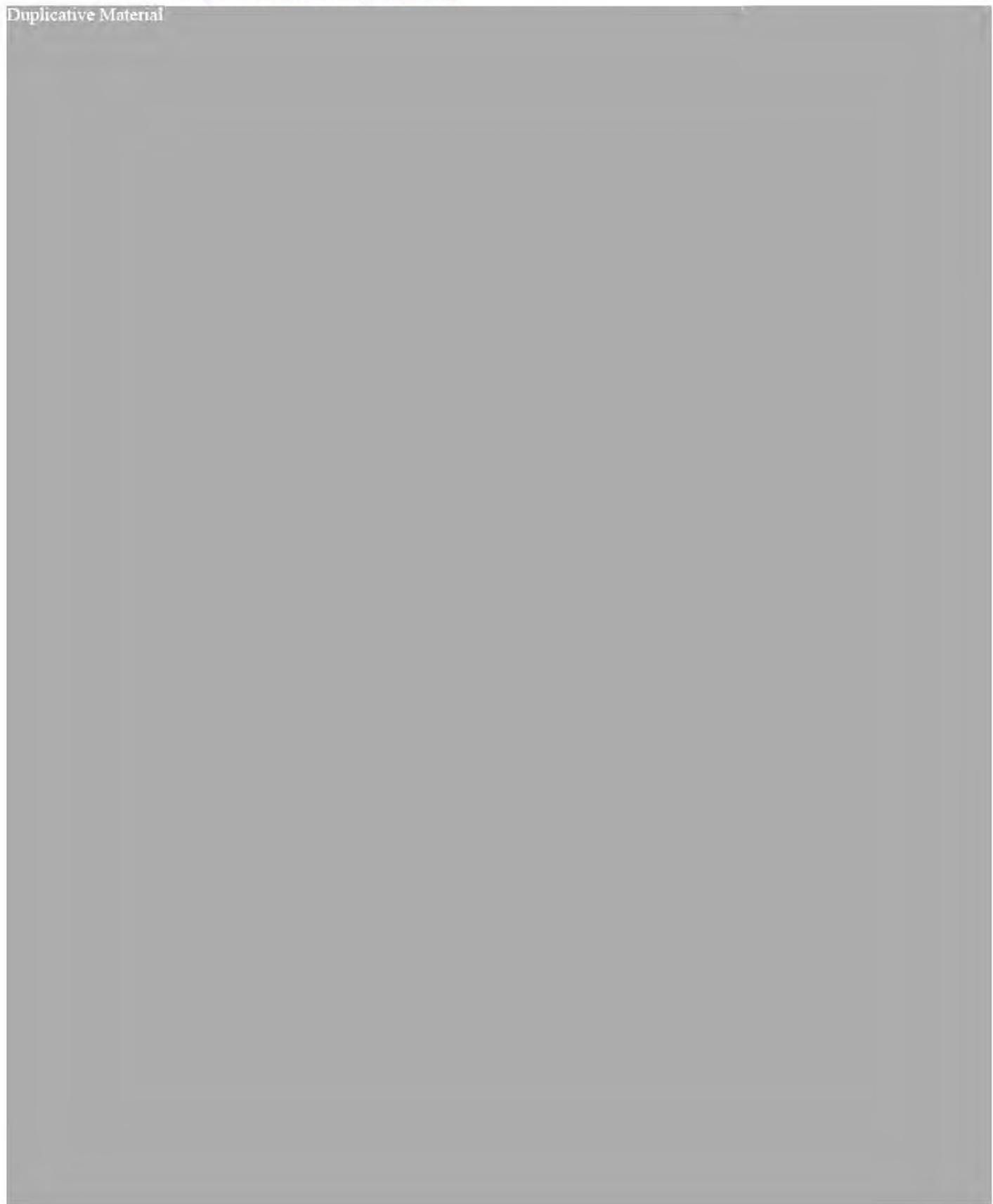
David F. Lasseter

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Foster, Jason (Judiciary-Rep)" (b) (6) Senate Email
Date: December 12, 2017 at 21:04:15 EST
To: "Lasseter, David F. (OLA)" <David.F.Lasseter@usdoj.gov>
Cc: "Davis, Patrick (Judiciary-Rep)" (b) (6) Senate Email
, "Stephen E. Boyd (OLA)"

(b) (6), "Mary.Blanche.Hankey2@usdoj.gov"
<Mary.Blanche.Hankey2@usdoj.gov>, "Parker, Daniel (Judiciary-
Rep)" (b) (6) Senate Email
Subject: Re: DOJ document review

Duplicative Material



Press

From: Press
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:13 AM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Cc: Pettit, Mark T. (OPA)
Subject: FW: Media inquiry about FBI text messages against candidate Trump

Thank you-KJ

From: Kevin Mooney (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:10 AM
To: Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Media inquiry about FBI text messages against candidate Trump

Dear Sir or Madam,

I'm a reporter with The Daily Signal doing a report about the ramifications attached to revelations that FBI agents sent text messages expressing hostility toward then candidate Trump during the 2016 election

See below for one of the reports.

Two questions

- 1) Is the DOJ concerned that the FBI's investigation into allegations the Trump campaign colluded with Russia undermined and compromised as result of agents operating with a political bias?
- 2) Does the FBI and/or DOJ have any kind of policy governing the use of text messages and other types of mobile messaging used as part of official business?

Thanks so much

Will also call.

Kevin Mooney,
The Daily Signal

Report on [FBI text messages](#) taking aim against Candidate Trump

--
Kevin J. Mooney

[Homepage](#)
[Daily Caller](#)
[Daily Signal](#)
[National Review](#)
[Forbes Magazine](#)

Schools, Scott (ODAG)

From: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 9:38 PM
To: Stephen Grafman
Subject: RE: Pete Strzok

They have been delivered to the Hill.

From: Stephen Grafman [mailto:sgrafman@sharp-assoc.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 9:11 PM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Pete Strzok

Yes

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 12, 2017, at 8:29 PM, Schools, Scott (ODAG) <Scott.Schools@usdoj.gov> wrote:

Steve:

I am prepared to send you the production, but the IG has requested that you agree not to disclose it prior to its release to the Hill, which should occur within the next half hour or so. Are you okay with that?

Scott Schools

Slawson, Guice Chip (OLA)

From: Slawson, Guice Chip (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 27, 2017 4:56 PM
To: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
Subject: Re: Text review

Sure thing. Sorry to be gone right in the midst of it.

Also, I'm assuming the answer is "no" since Stephen didn't name them, but are Prim and Jill in the loop on this one (in case they wonder why I'm off the grid for a while?)

Thanks
CS

Sent from my iPhone

> On Dec 27, 2017, at 3:06 PM, Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

>

> Chip—We think it would be best for Dorothy to stand down on this project. Will you please jump right in on Tuesday when you return?

>

> From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)

> Sent: Wednesday, December 27, 2017 2:55 PM

> To: Hildabrand, Dorothy W. (OLA) <dwhildabrand@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Slawson, Guice Chip (OLA) <gcslawson@jmd.usdoj.gov>

> Cc: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>

> Subject: FW: Text review

>

> Dorothy and Chip:

>

> Please see below and attached, as we discussed the week prior to Christmas. (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I know Chip is out for a few days, but Dorothy can go ahead and get started.

>

> Thanks for your help & please let me or the others know if you have any questions.

>

> SB

>

> From: Schooler, Scott (OLA)

> FROM: SCHOOLS, SCOTT (OLA)

> Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2017 11:06 PM

> To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6)

> Subject: Text review

>

> Stephen:

>

> The 2015-2016 texts are in the attached spreadsheet broken out into three 6 month time frames for your folks to take initial cut and mark for content per the attached memo. I am happy to sit down with them as they get started or otherwise assist.

>

> Scott

> <Copy of Strzok_Page_SMS_formatted_dedup by content for review.xlsx> > <Memo on review.docx>

Hur, Robert (ODAG)

From: Hur, Robert (ODAG)
Sent: Thursday, January 04, 2018 6:20 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA); Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Cc: Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG); Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Subject: RE: House intelligence committee letter
Attachments: CHM ltr to DAG re Memorialization of Call and Subpoena Compliance - 4 Ja....pdf

Yep.

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, January 4, 2018 5:54 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) <seboyd@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG) <zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hur, Robert (ODAG) <rhur@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: FW: House intelligence committee letter

Do we have this?

xxxx

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Herridge, Catherine [<mailto:Catherine.Herridge@FOXNEWS.COM>]
Sent: Thursday, January 4, 2018 5:50 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov> Per FBI (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(DO) (FBI) Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: Gibson, Jake <Jake.Gibson@FOXNEWS.COM>
Subject: House intelligence committee letter

Good evening -

We understand the house intelligence committee chairman Devin Nunes has sent a letter to DAG Rosenstein later today, memorializing the agreement, to provide access to all outstanding records by Friday this week, and outstanding witnesses later this month.

If there is additional comment or context to provide from the Justice Department or FWI, we will add it to our reporting.

Many thanks,
Catherine

This message and its attachments may contain legally privileged or confidential information. It is intended solely for the named addressee. If you are not the addressee indicated in this message (or responsible for delivery of the message to the addressee), you may not copy or deliver this message or its attachments to anyone. Rather, you should permanently delete this message and its attachments and kindly notify the sender by reply e-mail. Any content of this message and its attachments that does not relate to the official business of Fox News or Fox Business must not be taken to have been sent or endorsed by either of them. No representation is made that this email or its attachments are without defect.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE

HVC 304, THE CAPITOL
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225 4121

January 4, 2018

The Honorable Rod Rosenstein
Deputy Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
1201 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Rosenstein:

Pursuant to our phone call yesterday evening, I write to memorialize the agreement we reached regarding compliance with the subpoenas issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (the Committee) on August 24, 2017, to the Department of Justice (DOJ) and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), as well as several other outstanding requests by the Committee for information and interviews. It is my hope that this agreement will provide the Committee with all outstanding documents and witnesses necessary to complete its investigations into matters involving DOJ and FBI.

As agreed, designated Committee investigators and staff will be provided access to all remaining investigative documents, in unredacted form, for review at DOJ on Friday, January 5, 2018. The documents to be reviewed will include all FBI Form FD-1023s and all remaining FBI Form FD-302s responsive to the Committee's August 24, 2017 subpoenas. The only agreed-upon exception pertains to a single FD-302, which, due to national security interests, will be shown separately by Director Wray to myself and my senior investigators during the week of January 8, 2018.

You further confirmed that there are no other extant investigative documents that relate to the Committee's investigations into (a) Russian involvement in the 2016 Presidential election or (b) DOJ/FBI's related actions during this time period. This includes FD-302s, FD-1023s, and any other investigatory documents germane to the Committee's investigations, regardless of form and/or title. If, somehow, "new" or "other" responsive documents are discovered, as discussed, you will notify me immediately and allow my senior investigators to review them shortly thereafter.

With respect to the witness interviews requested by the Committee, you have agreed that all such witnesses – namely, former DOJ Associate Deputy Attorney General Bruce Ohr; FBI Supervisory Special Agent Peter Strzok; former FBI General Counsel James Baker; FBI Attorney Lisa Page; FBI Attorney Sally Moyer; FBI Assistant Director Greg Brower; FBI Assistant Director Bill Priestap; and FBI Special Agent James Rybicki – will be made available for interviews to be conducted in January.

Lastly, as to the remaining approximately 9,500 text messages between FBI Supervisory Special Agent Peter Strzok and his mistress, FBI Attorney Lisa Page, it is my understanding based on your representations that another search is being conducted and all relevant messages will be provided. Accordingly, the Committee requests production of these messages by no later than close of business, Thursday, January 11, 2018. Similarly, I understand that your office is researching records related to the details of an April 2017 meeting between DOJ Attorney Andrew Weissman (now the senior attorney for Special Counsel Robert Mueller) and the media, which will also be provided to this Committee by close of business on Thursday, January 11, 2018.

It was further agreed that all documents made available to the Committee will also be available for review by the minority Ranking Member and designated staff.

The materials we are requesting are vital to the Committee's investigation of potential abuses into intelligence and law enforcement agencies' handling of the Christopher Steele dossier. The Committee is extremely concerned by indications that top U.S. Government officials who were investigating a presidential campaign relied on unverified information that was funded by the opposing political campaign and was based on Russian sources. Going forward, it's crucial that we memorialize our conversations on this issue, and that we're as transparent as possible with the American people, who deserve answers to the questions the Committee is investigating.

The subpoenas issued August 24, 2017, remain in effect.

Sincerely,



Devin Nunes
Chairman

Copies to:

The Honorable Jeff Sessions, Attorney General

The Honorable Christopher Wray, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Thursday, January 4, 2018 5:06 PM
To: Hur, Robert (ODAG); Schools, Scott (ODAG); Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Letter for Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein
Attachments: CHM ltr to DAG re Memorialization of Call and Subpoena Compliance - 4 Jan 18.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Ciarlante, Nick" (b) (6) - House Email Address
Date: January 4, 2018 at 4:58:48 PM EST
To: "Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)" (b) (6), "Lasseter, David F. (OLA)" <David.F.Lasseter@usdoj.gov>
Cc: "Ciarlante, Nick" (b) (6) - House Email Address "Glabe, Scott" (b) (6) - House Email Address, "Stewart, Mark" (b) (6) - House Email Address, "Patel, Kash" (b) (6) - House Email Address
Subject: Letter for Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein

Good evening,

Attached please find a letter from Chairman Nunes for Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein.

Best,
Nick

Nicholas A. Ciarlante
Chief Clerk
United States House of Representatives
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
Capitol Visitor Center, HVC-304
Washington, DC 20515
O: (b) (6)
C: (b) (6)

Our Mission: To serve the American people by providing oversight, direction and resources to enable effective, efficient and constitutional intelligence activities.

Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, January 03, 2018 8:12 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Subject: Re: Text message Review

Ah. I dropped by your office.

(b) (5)

David F. Lasseter

On Jan 3, 2018, at 19:51, Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6) wrote:

(b) (5)

FYI - I'm in ODAG.

SB

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 3, 2018, at 7:38 PM, Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5)

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Tuesday, January 2, 2018 2:52 PM
To: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Text message Review

MBH:

(b) (5)

(b) (5) [REDACTED]

Thanks,

SB

Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, January 03, 2018 5:58 PM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Cc: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Subject: FW: Questions regarding recent document production
Attachments: 2017-12-06 RHJ to DOJ Rosestein.pdf

Scott—good evening. (b) (5)

Thanks,
David

From: Downey, Brian (HSGAC) (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 9:33 AM
To: Johnson, Joanne E. (OLA) <jojohnson@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA) <kkelner@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: (b) (6) Stephen Boyd Email; Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: Questions regarding recent document production

Good morning, I am following-up on this request. Chairman Johnson sent the attached request to DAG Rosestein, he is still seeking responses to questions one through five (letter attached).

Thank you,
Brian

From: Downey, Brian (HSGAC)
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 10:26 AM
To: Johnson, Joanne E. (OLA); Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)
Cc: (b) (6) Stephen Boyd Email; Lasseter, David F. (OLA) (David.F.Lasseter@usdoj.gov)
Subject: Questions regarding recent document production
Importance: High

Hello,

Chairman Johnson sent the attached request to DAG Rosestein, he is still seeking responses to questions one through five (letter attached). Further, we have a question regarding the redactions to the 375 text messages the Department produced to the Committee. The column listing the phone numbers connected to the text messages has many redactions. Is there other individuals phone numbers part of these text messages? If so, who are these individuals? Example below:

Table with 8 columns and 2 rows. The first row shows a date '2016-10-17 23:36:22, Mon' and a redacted phone number '202-...', with a snippet of a text message starting with 'I'm seriously thinking one of us needs to have dinner right party.' The second row shows a date '2016-10-20 03:00:22, Thu' and a redacted phone number '202-...', with a snippet of a text message starting with 'I nominate...'. Both rows have redacted names and other details.

Thanks,

Sincerely,

Brian M. Downey
Senior Investigator
Chairman Ron H. Johnson (WI)
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Washington, DC
(P) (b) (6)

Hur, Robert (ODAG)

From: Hur, Robert (ODAG)
Sent: Wednesday, January 03, 2018 3:39 PM
To: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)
Cc: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA); Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Subject: Draft letter to Nunes
Attachments: DAG Letter - Draft - Boyd Preferences_v3 (RKH EDITS).docx
Importance: High

DAG,

(b) (5)

Thanks,
Rob

Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, January 03, 2018 2:49 PM
To: Hur, Robert (ODAG)
Subject: RE: Call w/ DAG and FBI/D
Attachments: DOJ PRODUCTION LINE BY LINE V2.docx

From: Hur, Robert (ODAG)
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 2:47 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6)
Cc: Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG) <zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Call w/ DAG and FBI/D

Happening now.

SB - could you please send along the separate category-by-category document too?

Thanks,
Rob

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 3, 2018, at 2:41 PM, Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6) wrote:

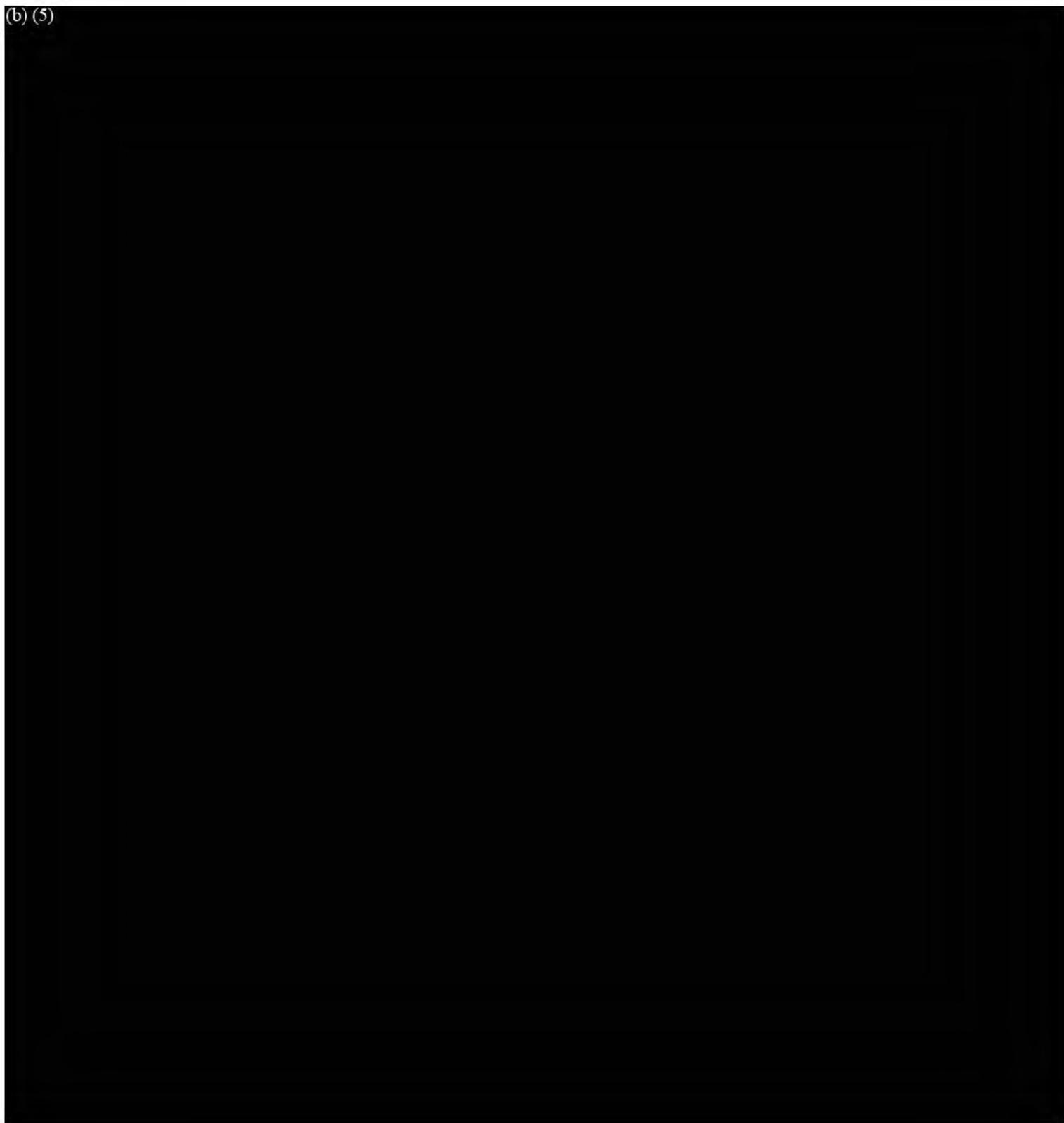
(b) (6) - Per OIG

SB

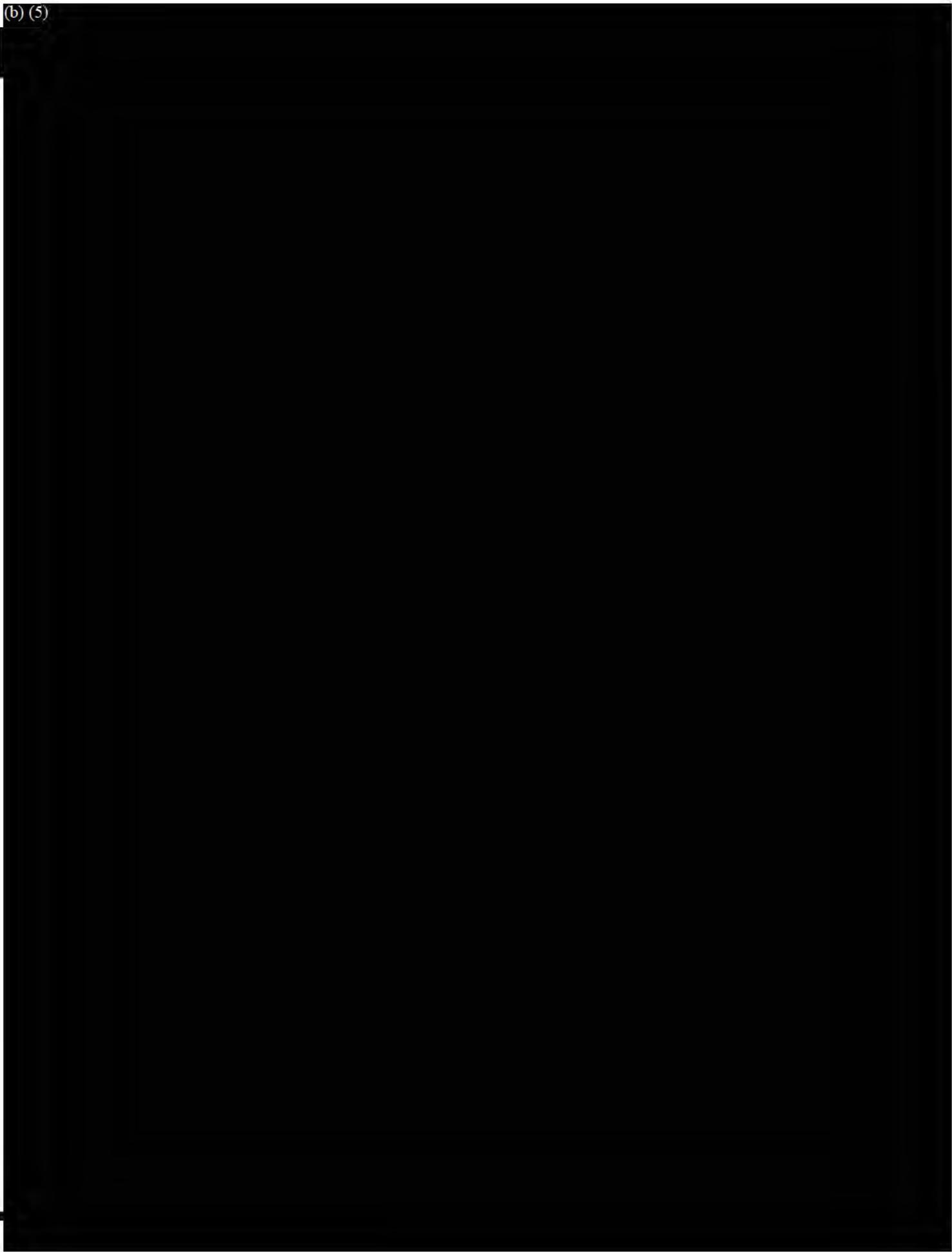
Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, January 03, 2018 2:39 PM
To: Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI)
Subject: Draft

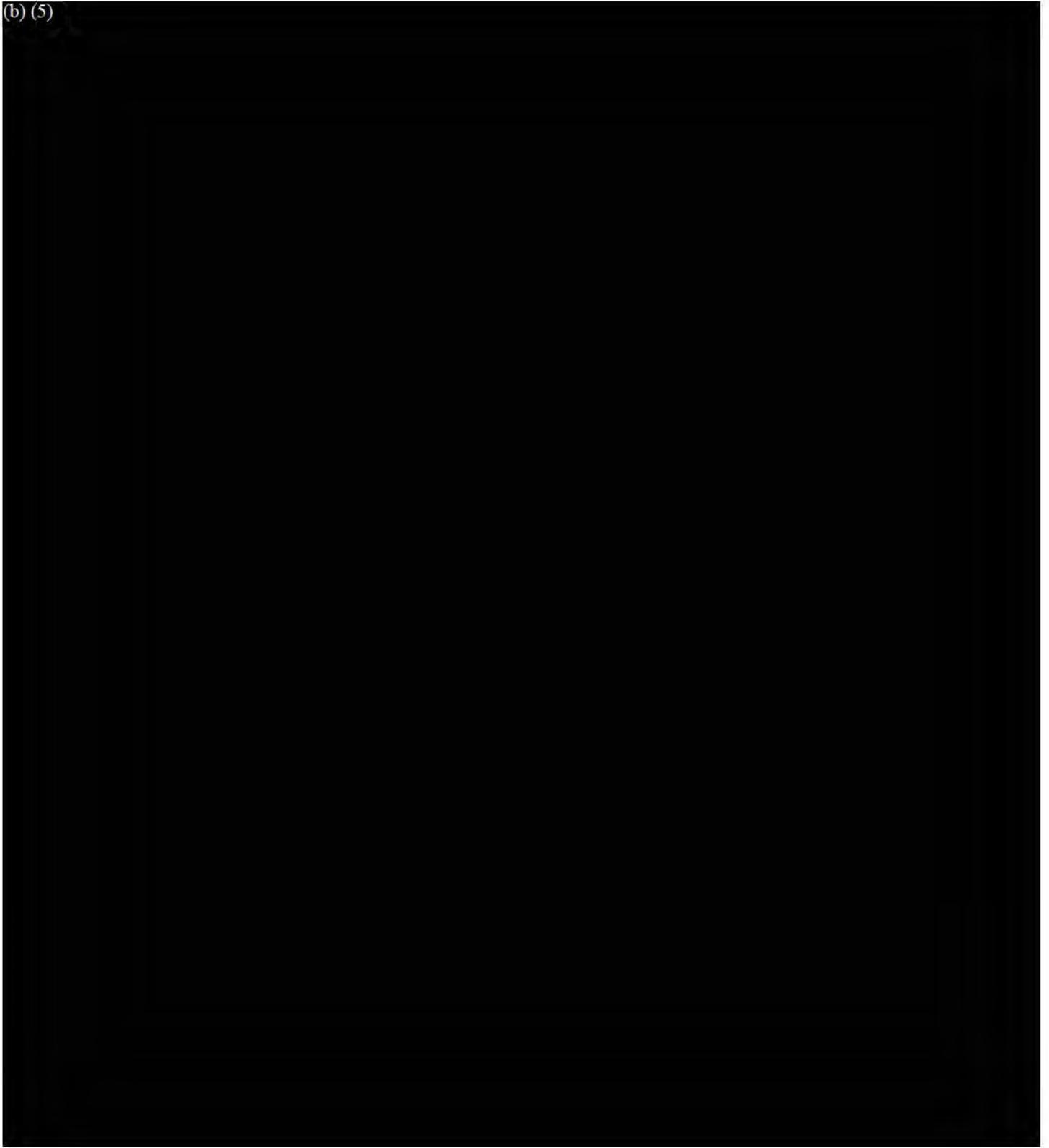
(b) (5)



(b) (5)



(b) (5)



Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)

From: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 8:18 AM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Cc: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Subject: Re: Draft letter

(b) (5) [Redacted]

[Redacted]

On Jan 3, 2018, at 7:17 AM, Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5) [Redacted]

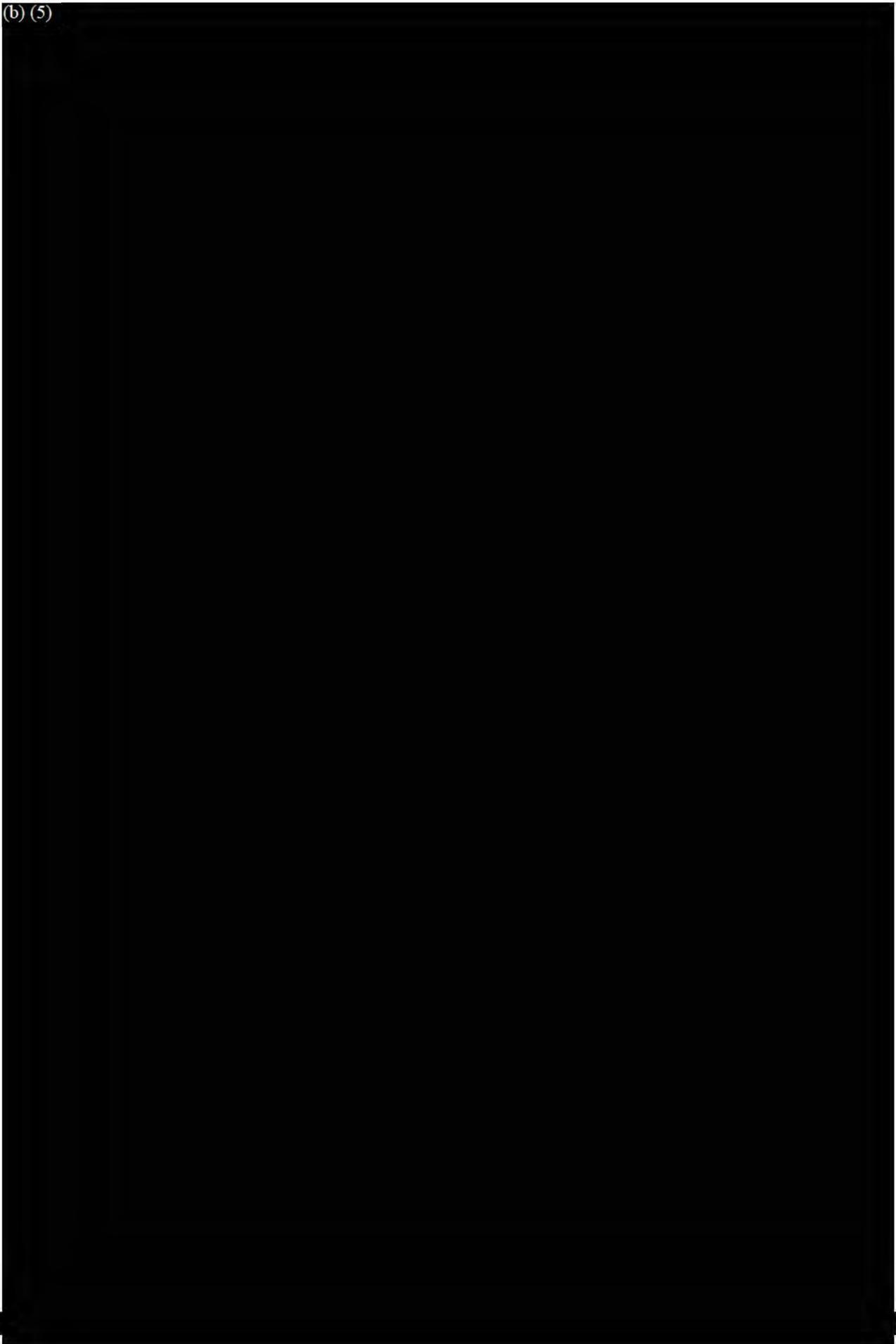
SS

From: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 3:25 AM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6) [Redacted]; Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Draft letter

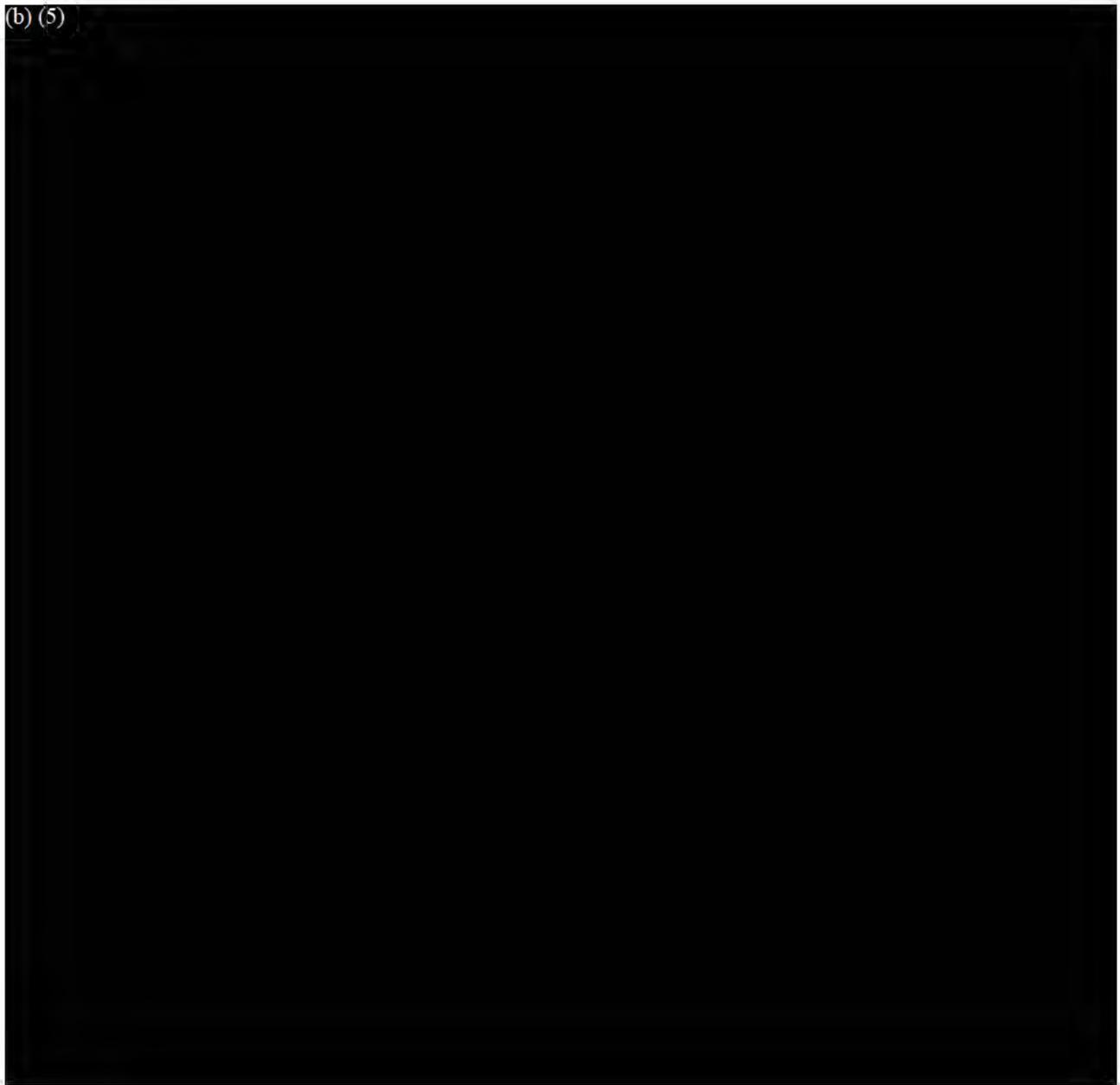
(b) (5) [Redacted]

(b) (5) [Redacted]

(b) (5)



(b) (5)



Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 2:08 PM
To: Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal)
Subject: FW: Letter for Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein
Attachments: CHM ltr to DAG re Subpoena Compliance - 28 Dec 17 FINAL.pdf; ATT00001.htm

No finger prints por favor

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE

HVC-304, THE CAPITOL
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225 4121

December 28, 2017

The Honorable Rod Rosenstein
Deputy Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
1201 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Rosenstein:

The House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (the Committee) writes in response to the Department of Justice's (DOJ) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) failure to fully produce responsive documents and provide the requested witnesses in compliance with the subpoenas issued over *four months ago*, on August 24, 2017.

Several weeks ago, DOJ informed the Committee that the basic investigatory documents demanded by the subpoenas, FBI Form FD-302 interview summaries, did not exist. However, shortly before my meeting with you in early December, DOJ subsequently located and produced numerous FD-302s pertaining to the Steele dossier, thereby rendering the initial response disingenuous at best. As it turns out, not only did documents exist that were directly responsive to the Committee's subpoenas, but they involved senior DOJ and FBI officials who were swiftly reassigned when their roles in matters under the Committee's investigation were brought to light. Given the content and impact of these supposedly newly-discovered FD-302s, the Committee is no longer able to accept your purported basis for DOJ's blanket refusal to provide responsive FBI Form FD-1023s—documenting meetings between FBI officials and FBI confidential human sources—or anything less than full and complete compliance with its subpoenas.

As a result of the numerous delays and discrepancies that have hampered the process of subpoena compliance, the Committee no longer credits the representations made by DOJ and/or the FBI regarding these matters. Accordingly, DOJ and the FBI are instructed to promptly produce to the Committee no later than January 3, 2018 **ALL** outstanding records identified as responsive to the August 24 subpoenas, including but not limited to:

- All responsive FD-1023s, including all reports that summarize meetings between FBI confidential human sources and FBI officials pertaining to the Steele dossier;
- All responsive FD-302s not previously provided to the Committee; and
- In addition to the FD-302s and FD-1023s, certain responsive analytical and reference documents that were specifically identified and requested by the Committee, and supposedly subject to imminent production, as of December 15.

Should DOJ decide to withhold any responsive records, or portions thereof, from the Committee, it must, consistent with the subpoena instructions, provide a written response, under your signature, detailing the legal justification for failing to comply with valid congressional subpoenas.

Additionally, by the same deadline, please provide—in writing—available dates in January 2018 for interviews with the following officials:

- Former DOJ Associate Deputy Attorney General Bruce Ohr;
- FBI Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) Peter Strzok;
- FBI Attorney James Baker;
- FBI Attorney Lisa Page;
- FBI Attorney Sally Moyer; and
- FBI Assistant Director for Congressional Affairs Greg Brower.

The Committee further reminds you of these other outstanding requests for information:

- Details concerning an apparent April 2017 meeting with the media involving DOJ/FBI personnel, including DOJ Attorney Andrew Weissman (due December 13) and
- The remaining text messages between SSA Strzok and Ms. Page (due December 15).

Unfortunately, DOJ/FBI's intransigence with respect to the August 24 subpoenas is part of a broader pattern of behavior that can no longer be tolerated. As I said in a public statement several weeks ago, when the reason for SSA Strzok's removal from the Special Counsel investigation was leaked to the *Washington Post* before that reason was provided to this Committee, **at this point it seems the DOJ and FBI need to be investigating themselves.**

I look forward to your timely written response.

Sincerely,



Devin Nunes
Chairman

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 1:02 PM
To: Tanfani, Joseph
Subject: FW: Letter for Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein
Attachments: CHM ltr to DAG re Subpoena Compliance - 28 Dec 17 FINAL.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Colborn, Paul P (OLC)

From: Colborn, Paul P (OLC)
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 11:43 AM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Subject: FW: Draft letter
Attachments: Dear Chairman Nunes olc (clean).docx; Dear Chairman Nunes olc (redline).docx

fyi

From: Engel, Steven A. (OLC)
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 11:35 AM
To: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG) (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Draft letter

Duplicative Material



Engel, Steven A. (OLC)

From: Engel, Steven A. (OLC)
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 11:35 AM
To: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)
Subject: RE: Draft letter
Attachments: Dear Chairman Nunes olc (clean).docx; Dear Chairman Nunes olc (redline).docx

Rod:

(b) (5)
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted] (b) (6)
[Redacted] (b) (5)
[Redacted]

Best,

Steve

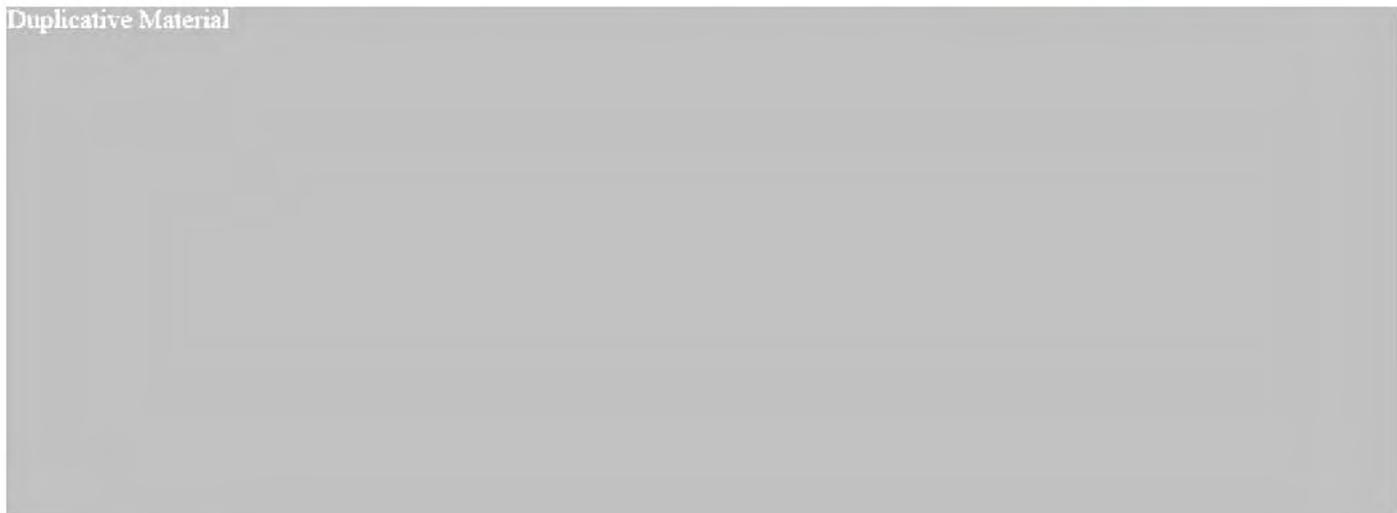
From: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 3:39 AM
To: Engel, Steven A. (OLC) (b) (6)
Subject: FW: Draft letter

Steve –

(b) (5)
[Redacted]

From: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 3:24 AM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Draft letter

Duplicative Material



Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI)

From: Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 10:41 AM
To: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG) (JMD)
Subject: RE: Draft letter

(b) (5)
[Redacted]

Gregory A. Brower
Assistant Director
FBI Congressional Affairs
(Direct) Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(Mobile) Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG) (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, January 03, 2018 10:34 AM
To: Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI) <gbrower@fbi.gov>
Subject: RE: Draft letter

Thanks.

(b) (5)
[Redacted]

From: Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI) [mailto:gbrower@fbi.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 9:56 AM
To: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG) (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Draft letter

A few comments:

(b) (5)
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

(b) (5)

Please let me know if you would like to discuss.

Thank you.

GB

Gregory A. Brower
Assistant Director
FBI Congressional Affairs
(Direct) Per FBI (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(Mobile) Per FBI (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG) (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, January 03, 2018 3:32 AM
To: Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI) <gbrower@fbi.gov>
Subject: FW: Draft letter

Greg –

(b) (5) Please call my cell
anytime with comments. (b) (6)

From: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 3:24 AM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Draft letter

Duplicative Material

Schools, Scott (ODAG)

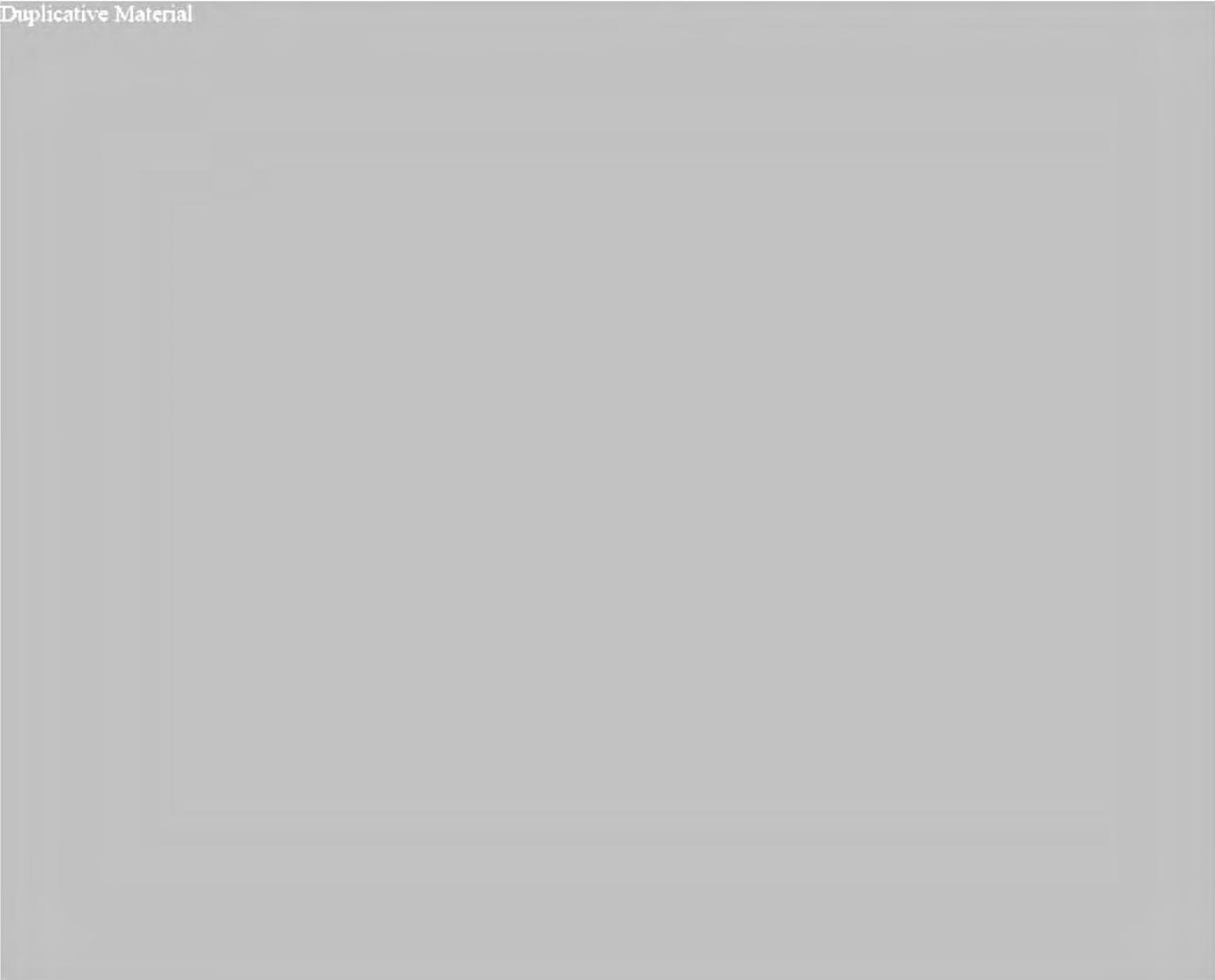
From: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 7:12 AM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Subject: RE: Draft letter
Attachments: 2018-01-03 DAG to Nunes.sns.docx

(b) (5)

(b) (5), (b) (6)

From: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 3:25 AM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Draft letter

Duplicative Material



Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)

From: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 3:27 AM
To: Raman, Sujit (ODAG)
Subject: FW: Draft letter
Attachments: CHM ltr to DAG re Subpoena Compliance - 28 Dec 17 FINAL.pdf; LinderLetter.pdf; FederalInvestigationofSchedulingError.pdf

(b) (5)

From: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 3:24 AM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Draft letter

Duplicative Material



Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)

From: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)
Sent: Wednesday, January 03, 2018 3:27 AM
To: Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG); Bolitho, Zachary (ODAG)
Subject: FW: Draft letter
Attachments: CHM Itr to DAG re Subpoena Compliance - 28 Dec 17 FINAL.pdf; LinderLetter.pdf; FederalInvestigationofSchedulingError.pdf

(b) (5)

From: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 3:24 AM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Draft letter

Duplicative Material



Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Tuesday, January 02, 2018 7:47 PM
To: Schneider, Jessica
Subject: RE: Question re tomorrow deadline from Nunes

Let's touch base tomorrow night when the deadline actually is.

xxxx

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Schneider, Jessica [mailto:Jessica.Schneider@turner.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 2, 2018 4:52 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Question re tomorrow deadline from Nunes

Hi Sarah –

I hope you had some time off and got to relax a bit over the holidays!

I wanted to check in about the deadline set for tomorrow by House Intel Committee Chairman Devin Nunes – he's asking for the DOJ to turn over documents related to the Steele dossier.

Will the DOJ be handing over these documents tomorrow? Any other information you can give?

Also – I wanted to loop back in on the Dec 27 deadline set by Chuck Grassley for DAG Rosenstein to hand over materials related to the Strzok texts and other issues. Last I checked with you, you said that DOJ was working with the Committee. Has any material been handed over yet? Any info you can give me on this is appreciated too.

Thanks so much!

Jessica Schneider
CNN Justice Correspondent
(m) (b) (6)
Jessica.Schneider@turner.com
@SchneiderCNN

Prior, Ian (OPA)

From: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Sent: Tuesday, January 02, 2018 4:49 PM
To: Schneider, Jessica
Subject: Re: Question re tomorrow deadline from Nunes

You should reach out to Sarah. I'm in the process of flying back right now

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

On Jan 2, 2018, at 4:41 PM, Schneider, Jessica <Jessica.Schneider@turner.com> wrote:

Hey Ian –

Hope the rest of your time off was QUIET! Happy 2018.

I wanted to check in about the deadline set for tomorrow on the request from House Intel Committee Chairman Devin Nunes – he's asking for the DOJ to turn over documents related to the Steele dossier.

Will the DOJ be handing over these documents tomorrow? Any other information you can give?

Also – I wanted to loop back in on the Dec 27 deadline set by Chuck Grassley for Rosenstein to hand over materials related to the Strzok texts and other issues. Last I checked with Sarah, she said that DOJ was working with the Committee. Has any material been handed over yet? Any info you can give me on this is appreciated too.

Thanks so much Ian.

Jessica Schneider
CNN Justice Correspondent
(m)(b) (6)
Jessica.Schneider@turner.com
@SchneiderCNN

Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)

From: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
Sent: Tuesday, January 02, 2018 2:59 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Cc: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Subject: RE: Text message Review

Roger. (b) (5)

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Tuesday, January 2, 2018 2:52 PM
To: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Text message Review

MBH:

(b) (5)

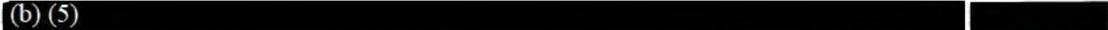
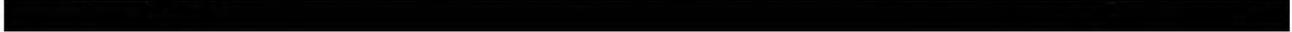
Thanks,

SB

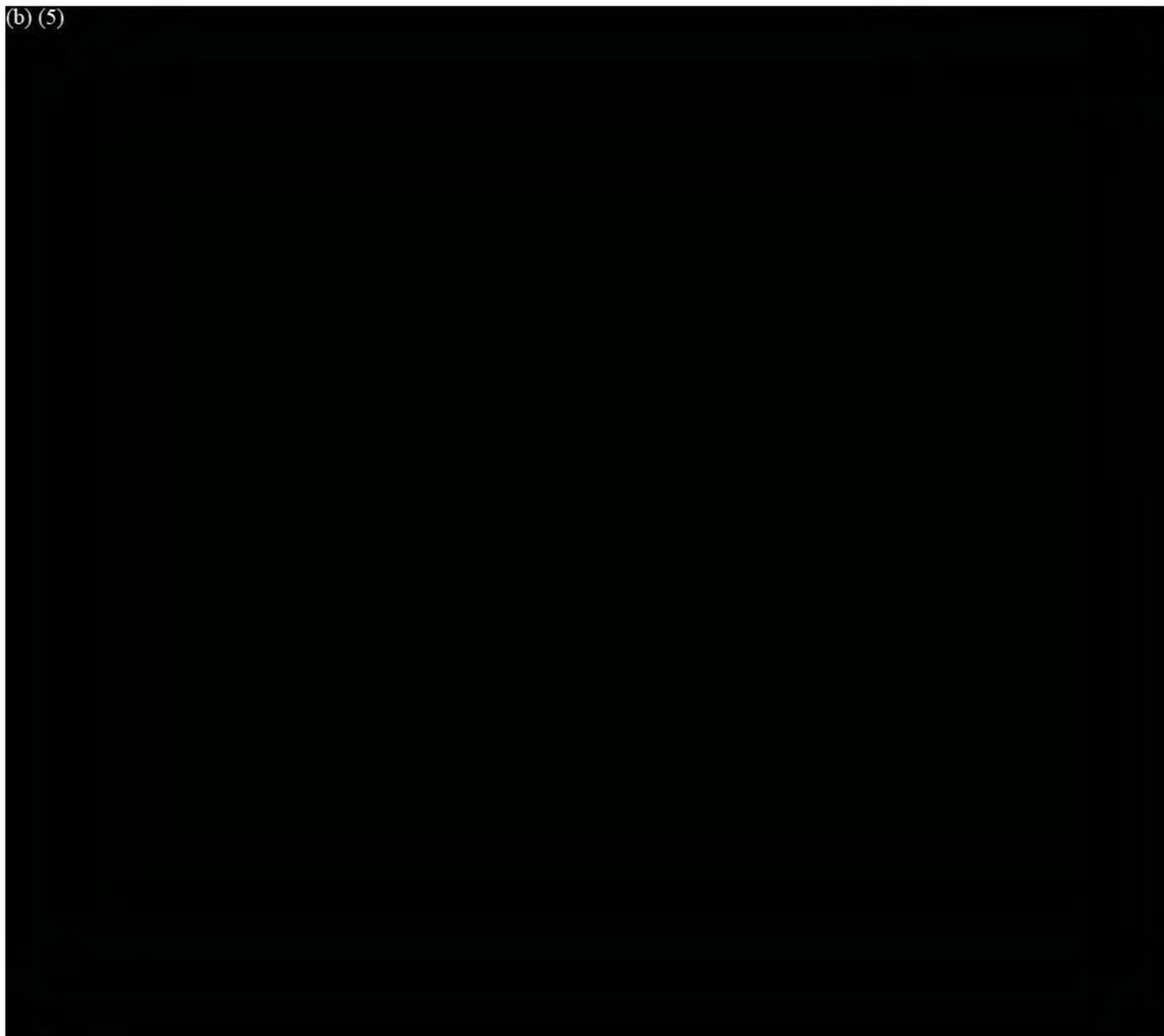
Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)

From: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG)
Sent: Tuesday, January 02, 2018 11:51 AM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG); Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Cc: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA); Hur, Robert (ODAG)
Subject: RE: FW:
Attachments: LinderLetter.pdf; FederalInvestigationofSchedulingError.pdf

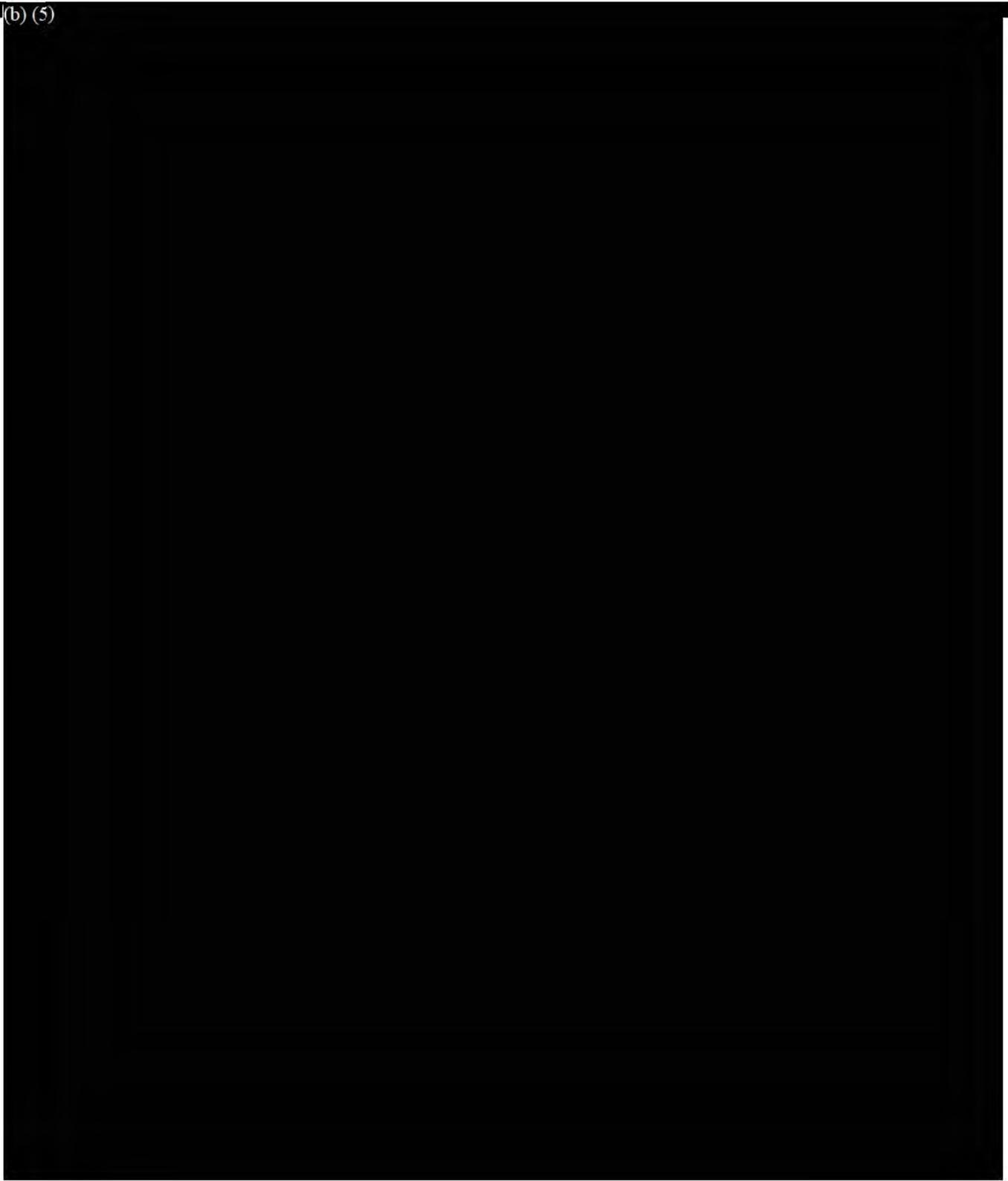
Thank you. (b) (5)


(b) (5)



(b) (5)



From: Schools, Scott (ODAG)

Sent: Tuesday, January 2, 2018 10:50 AM

To: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG) (b) (6); Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

<dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>

Cc: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Hur, Robert (ODAG) <rhur@jmd.usdoj.gov>

Subject: RE: FW:

(b) (5) [Redacted]

Scott

Schools, Scott (ODAG)

From: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Sent: Tuesday, January 2, 2018 10:52 AM
To: Colborn, Paul P (OLC)
Subject: Help wanted
Attachments: 2017-12-28 CHM ltr to DAG re Subpoena Compliance - 28 Dec 17 FINAL.pdf;
Nunes letter.v2.docx

Paul:

We received the attached letter from Nunes on Thursday. (b) (5)

Thanks.

Scott

Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Sunday, December 31, 2017 3:45 PM
To: Rosenstein, Rod (ODAG); Schools, Scott (ODAG); Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA); Hur, Robert (ODAG); Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Subject: Fwd: Letter for Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein
Attachments: CHM ltr to DAG re Subpoena Compliance - 28 Dec 17 FINAL.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Original incoming email below (w/ attachment).

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Ciarlante, Nick" (b) (6) House Email
Date: December 28, 2017 at 3:52:17 PM EST
To: "Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)" (b) (6), "Lasseter, David F. (OLA)" <David.F.Lasseter@usdoj.gov>
Cc: "Ciarlante, Nick" (b) (6) House Email, "Stewart, Mark" (b) (6) House Email, "Glabe, Scott" (b) (6) House Email
Subject: Letter for Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein

Good afternoon,

Attached please find a letter from Chairman Nunes for Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein.

Best,
Nick

Nicholas A. Ciarlante
Chief Clerk
United States House of Representatives
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
Capitol Visitor Center, HVC-304
Washington, DC 20515
O: (b) (6)
C: (b) (6)

Our Mission: To serve the American people by providing oversight, direction and resources to enable effective, efficient and constitutional intelligence activities.

Gibson, Jake

From: Gibson, Jake
Sent: Thursday, December 28, 2017 5:00 PM
To: Sarah Isgur Flores (OPA)
Subject: Fwd: ****URGENT**** Exclusive - HPSCI Chairman Nunes Letter to DOJ and FBI re Subpoena Compliance
Attachments: CHM ltr to DAG re Subpoena Compliance - 28 Dec 17 FINAL.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Subject: **URGENT**** Exclusive - HPSCI Chairman Nunes Letter to DOJ and FBI re Subpoena Compliance**

House Intelligence Chairman Rep. Devin Nunes has sent a letter to the DOJ addressing their response and requesting more documents in relation to the Russia 'dossier'. Nunes says that due to "numerous delays and discrepancies that have hampered the process of subpoena compliance" the committee can no longer credit representations made by the agency. Nunes said that the DOJ and FBI have until January 3 to produce "ALL outstanding records identified as responsive to the August 24 subpoenas". The chairman closed his letter by saying "at this point it seems the DOJ and FBI need to be investigating themselves."

#####

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE December 28, 2017 HVC-304, THE
CAPITOL WASHINGTON, DC 20515 (202) 225-4121

The Honorable Rod Rosenstein
Deputy Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
1201 Pennsylvania Ave, NW Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Rosenstein:

The House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (the Committee) writes in response to the Department of Justice's (DOJ) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) failure to fully produce responsive documents and provide the requested witnesses in compliance with the subpoenas issued over four months ago, on August 24, 2017.

Several weeks ago, DOJ informed the Committee that the basic investigatory documents demanded by the subpoenas, FBI Form FD-302 interview summaries, did not exist. However, shortly before my meeting with you in early December, DOJ subsequently

located and produced numerous FD-302s pertaining to the Steele dossier, thereby rendering the initial response disingenuous at best. As it turns out, not only did documents exist that were directly responsive to the Committee's subpoenas, but they involved senior DOJ and FBI officials who were swiftly reassigned when their roles in matters under the Committee's investigation were brought to light. Given the content and impact of these supposedly newly-discovered FD-302s, the Committee is no longer able to accept your purported basis for DOJ's blanket refusal to provide responsive FBI Form FD-1023s-- documenting meetings between FBI officials and FBI confidential human sources--or anything less than full and complete compliance with its subpoenas.

As a result of the numerous delays and discrepancies that have hampered the process of subpoena compliance, the Committee no longer credits the representations made by DOJ and/or the FBI regarding these matters. Accordingly, DOJ and the FBI are instructed to promptly produce to the Committee--no later than January 3, 2018--ALL outstanding records identified as responsive to the August 24 subpoenas, including but not limited to:

- All responsive FD-1023s, including all reports that summarize meetings between FBI confidential human sources and FBI officials pertaining to the Steele dossier;
- All responsive FD-302s not previously provided to the Committee; and
- In addition to the FD-302s and FD-1023s, certain responsive analytical and reference documents that were specifically identified and requested by the Committee, and supposedly subject to imminent production, as of December 15.

Should DOJ decide to withhold any responsive records, or portions thereof, from the Committee, it must, consistent with the subpoena instructions, provide a written response, under your signature, detailing the legal justification for failing to comply with valid congressional subpoenas.

Additionally, by the same deadline, please provide--in writing--available dates in January 2018 for interviews with the following officials:

- Former DOJ Associate Deputy Attorney General Bruce Ohr;
- FBI Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) Peter Strzok;
- FBI Attorney James Baker; • FBI Attorney Lisa Page;
- FBI Attorney Sally Moyer; and
- FBI Assistant Director for Congressional Affairs Greg Brower.

The Committee further reminds you of these other outstanding requests for information:

- Details concerning an apparent April 2017 meeting with the media involving DOJ/FBI personnel, including DOJ Attorney Andrew Weissman (due December 13) and
- The remaining text messages between SSA Strzok and Ms. Page (due December 15).

Unfortunately, DOJ/FBI's intransigence with respect to the August 24 subpoenas is part of a broader pattern of behavior that can no longer be tolerated. As I said in a public statement several weeks ago, when the reason for SSA Strzok's removal from the Special Counsel investigation was leaked to the Washington Post before that reason was provided to this Committee, **at this point it seems the DOJ and FBI need to be investigating themselves.**

I look forward to your timely written response.

Sincerely,

Devin Nunes
Chairman

This message and its attachments may contain legally privileged or confidential information. It is intended solely for the named addressee. If you are not the addressee indicated in this message (or responsible for delivery of the message to the addressee), you may not copy or deliver this message or its attachments to anyone. Rather, you should permanently delete this message and its attachments and kindly notify the sender by reply e-mail. Any content of this message and its attachments that does not relate to the official business of Fox News or Fox Business must not be taken to have been sent or endorsed by either of them. No representation is made that this email or its attachments are without defect.

John Roberts
Chief White House Correspondent
Fox News Channel
+1 202-365-2550
john.roberts@foxnews.com
[@johnrobertsfox](#)

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

December 6, 2017

CHRISTOPHER R. HIXON, STAFF DIRECTOR
MARGARET E. DAUM, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

The Honorable Rod J. Rosenstein
Acting Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Acting Attorney General Rosenstein:

I understand the Department of Justice (DOJ) is reviewing thousands of electronic text messages sent and received by Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) employees Peter Strzok and Lisa Page for production to Congress.¹ These text messages exchanged between Strzok and Page reportedly “expressed anti-Trump political views.”² I write to seek more information about your awareness of these text messages and what actions, if any, you took in response.

Strzok reportedly “helped lead” the FBI’s investigation into former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton’s handling of classified information through her use of a private email server.³ During the FBI’s investigation of Secretary Clinton, Strzok participated in interviews of Clinton, Huma Abedin, Cheryl Mills, Heather Samuelson, and Jake Sullivan.⁴ In addition, Strzok reportedly edited then-FBI Director James Comey’s statement about Secretary Clinton, changing the description of her actions from “grossly negligent” to “extremely careless.”⁵

After you tapped Robert Mueller as special counsel to examine potential Russian interference in the 2016 election,⁶ Strzok reportedly began “play[ing] a major role” in the investigation.⁷ Mueller removed Strzok from the investigation after becoming aware of the text message allegations.⁸

To understand your awareness of these text messages and the Department’s actions in response, I respectfully request the following information:

¹ See, e.g., Jake Gibson, ‘Over 10,000 texts’ between ex-Mueller officials found, after discovery of anti-Trump messages, Fox News, Dec. 6, 2017.

² Michael S. Schmidt, Matt Apuzzo & Adam Goldman, *Mueller removed top agent in Russia inquiry over possible anti-Trump texts*, N.Y. Times, Dec. 2, 2017.

³ *Id.*

⁴ Fed. Bureau of Investigation, 302s of Clinton Investigation (2015-16) (on file with Comm.).

⁵ Laura Jarrett & Evan Perez, *FBI agent dismissed from Mueller probe changed Comey’s description of Clinton to ‘extremely careless,’* CNN, Dec. 4, 2017.

⁶ Devlin Barrett, Sari Horowitz, & Matt Zapposky, *Deputy attorney general appoints special counsel to oversee probe of Russian interference in election*, Wash. Post, May 18, 2017.

⁷ Schmidt, Apuzzo & Goldman, *supra* note 2.

⁸ *Id.*

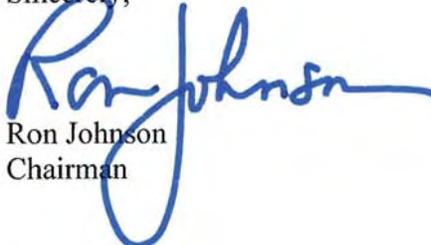
1. When and how did you become aware of the text messages allegedly exchanged between FBI employees Peter Strzok and Lisa Page?
2. When and how did the Special Counsel Robert Mueller notify you of the allegations and the decision to remove Peter Strzok?
3. Did you or the Special Counsel Robert Mueller refer these allegations to the U.S. Office of Special Counsel to pursue a potential Hatch Act inquiry? If not, why not?
4. Is the Department aware of any similar text messages sent or received by Peter Strzok during any other investigation?
5. Is the Department aware of any similar allegations involving other government officials?
6. Please produce all documents and communications sent or received by Peter Strzok and Lisa Page referring or relating to candidates for the 2016 presidential election or indicative of political bias.

Please respond as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on December 13, 2017, so that the Committee may begin to receive responsive information.

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized by Rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate to investigate “the efficiency, economy, and effectiveness of all agencies and departments of the Government.”⁹ Additionally, S. Res. 62 (115th Congress) authorizes the Committee to examine “the efficiency and economy of all branches and functions of Government with particular references to the operations and management of Federal regulatory policies and programs.”¹⁰

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Brian Downey of the Committee staff at (202) 224-4751. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


Ron Johnson
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Claire McCaskill
Ranking Member

Enclosure

⁹ S. Rule XXV(k); *see also* S. Res. 445, 108th Cong. (2004).

¹⁰ S. Res. 62 § 12, 115th Cong. (2017).

Instructions for Responding to a Committee Request
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
115th Congress

A. Responding to a Request for Documents

1. In complying with the Committee's request, produce all responsive documents that are in your possession, custody, or control, whether held by you or your past or present agents, employees, and representatives acting on your behalf. You should also produce documents that you have a legal right to obtain, that you have a right to copy or to which you have access, as well as documents that you have placed in the temporary possession, custody, or control of any third party. Requested records, documents, data, or information should not be destroyed, modified, removed, transferred, or otherwise made inaccessible to the Committee.
2. In the event that any entity, organization, or person denoted in the request has been or is also known by any other name or alias than herein denoted, the request should be read also to include the alternative identification.
3. The Committee's preference is to receive documents in electronic form (i.e. CD, memory stick, or thumb drive) in lieu of paper productions.
4. Documents produced in electronic form should be organized, identified, and indexed electronically.
5. Electronic document productions should be prepared according to the following standards:
 - a. The production should consist of single page Tagged Image Files (".tif"), files accompanied by a Concordance-format load file, an Opticon reference file, and a file defining the fields and character lengths of the load file.
 - b. Document numbers in the load file should match document Bates numbers and .tif file names.
 - c. If the production is completed through a series of multiple partial productions, field names and file order in all load files should match.
 - d. All electronic documents produced should include the following fields of metadata specific to each document:

BEGDOC, ENDDOC, TEXT, BEGATTACH, ENDATTACH, PAGECOUNT, CUSTODIAN, RECORDTYPE, DATE, TIME, SENTDATE, SENTTIME, BEGINDATE, BEGINTIME, ENDDATE, ENDTIME, AUTHOR, FROM, CC, TO, BCC, SUBJECT, TITLE, FILENAME, FILEEXT, FILESIZE, DATECREATED, TIMECREATED, DATELASTMOD, TIMELASTMOD, INTMSGID, INTMSGHEADER, NATIVELINK, INTFILPATH, EXCEPTION, BEGATTACH.

Instructions for Responding to a Committee Request

- e. Alternatively, if the production cannot be made in .tif format, all documents derived from word processing programs, email applications, instant message logs, spreadsheets, and wherever else practicable should be produced in text searchable Portable Document Format (“.pdf”) format. Spreadsheets should also be provided in their native form. Audio and video files should be produced in their native format, although picture files associated with email or word processing programs should be produced in .pdf format along with the document it is contained in or to which it is attached. In such circumstances, consult with Committee staff prior to production of the requested documents.
 - f. If any of the requested information is only reasonably available in machine-readable form (such as on a computer server, hard drive, or computer backup tape), consult with the Committee staff to determine the appropriate format in which to produce the information.
6. Documents produced to the Committee should include an index describing the contents of the production. To the extent more than one CD, hard drive, memory stick, thumb drive, box or folder is produced, each CD, hard drive, memory stick, thumb drive, box or folder should contain an index describing its contents.
 7. Documents produced in response to the request should be produced together with copies of file labels, dividers or identifying markers with which they were associated when the request was served.
 8. When producing documents, identify the paragraph in the Committee’s schedule to which the documents respond.
 9. Do not refuse to produce documents on the basis that any other person or entity also possesses non-identical or identical copies of the same documents.
 10. This request is continuing in nature and applies to any newly discovered information. Any record, document, compilation of data or information not produced because it has not been located or discovered by the return date, should be produced immediately upon subsequent location or discovery.
 11. All documents should be Bates-stamped sequentially and produced sequentially. Each page should bear a unique Bates number.
 12. Two sets of documents should be delivered, one set to the Majority Staff and one set to the Minority Staff. When documents are produced to the Committee, production sets should be delivered to the Majority Staff in Room 340 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building and the Minority Staff in Room 346 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.
 13. If compliance with the request cannot be made in full by the date specified in the request, compliance should be made to the extent possible by that date. Notify Committee staff as

Instructions for Responding to a Committee Request

soon as possible if full compliance cannot be made by the date specified in the request, and provide an explanation for why full compliance is not possible by that date.

14. In the event that a document is withheld on the basis of privilege, provide a privilege log containing the following information concerning any such document: (a) the privilege asserted; (b) the type of document; (c) the general subject matter; (d) the date, author, and addressee; and (e) the relationship of the author and addressee to each other.
15. In the event that a portion of a document is redacted on the basis of privilege, provide a privilege log containing the following information concerning any such redaction: (a) the privilege asserted; (b) the location of the redaction in the document; (c) the general subject matter of the redacted material; (d) the date, author, and addressee of the document, if not readily apparent; and (e) the relationship of the author and addressee to each other.
16. If any document responsive to this request was, but no longer is, in your possession, custody, or control, identify the document (stating its date, author, subject and recipients) and explain the circumstances under which the document ceased to be in your possession, custody, or control.
17. If a date, name, title, or other descriptive detail set forth in this request referring to a document is inaccurate, but the actual date, name, title, or other descriptive detail is known to you or is otherwise apparent from the context of the request, produce all documents which would be responsive as if the date, name, title, or other descriptive detail was correct.
18. In the event a complete response requires the production of classified information, provide as much information in unclassified form as possible in your response and send all classified information under separate cover via the Office of Senate Security.
19. Unless otherwise specified, the period covered by this request is from January 1, 2009 to the present.
20. Upon completion of the document production, you should submit a written certification, signed by you or your counsel, stating that: (1) a diligent search has been completed of all documents in your possession, custody, or control which reasonably could contain responsive documents; and (2) all documents located during the search that are responsive have been produced to the Committee.

B. Responding to Interrogatories or a Request for Information

1. In complying with the Committee's request, answer truthfully and completely. Persons that knowingly provide false testimony could be subject to criminal prosecution for perjury (when under oath) or for making false statements. Persons that knowingly withhold subpoenaed information could be subject to proceedings for contempt of Congress. If you are unable to answer an interrogatory or information request fully, provide as much information as possible and explain why your answer is incomplete.

Instructions for Responding to a Committee Request

2. In the event that any entity, organization, or person denoted in the request has been or is also known by any other name or alias than herein denoted, the request should also be read to include the alternative identification.
3. Your response to the Committee's interrogatories or information requests should be made in writing and should be signed by you, your counsel, or a duly authorized designee.
4. When responding to interrogatories or information requests, respond to each paragraph in the Committee's schedule separately. Clearly identify the paragraph in the Committee's schedule to which the information responds.
5. Where knowledge, information, or facts are requested, the request encompasses knowledge, information or facts in your possession, custody, or control, or in the possession, custody, or control of your staff, agents, employees, representatives, and any other person who has possession, custody, or control of your proprietary knowledge, information, or facts.
6. Do not refuse to provide knowledge, information, or facts on the basis that any other person or entity also possesses the same knowledge, information, or facts.
7. The request is continuing in nature and applies to any newly discovered knowledge, information, or facts. Any knowledge, information, or facts not provided because it was not known by the return date, should be provided immediately upon subsequent discovery.
8. Two sets of responses should be delivered, one set to the Majority Staff and one set to the Minority Staff. When responses are provided to the Committee, copies should be delivered to the Majority Staff in Room 340 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building and the Minority Staff in Room 346 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.
9. If compliance with the request cannot be made in full by the date specified in the request, compliance should be made to the extent possible by that date. Notify Committee staff as soon as possible if full compliance cannot be made by the date specified in the request, and provide an explanation for why full compliance is not possible by that date.
10. In the event that knowledge, information, or facts are withheld on the basis of privilege, provide a privilege log containing the following information: (a) the privilege asserted; (b) the general subject matter of the knowledge, information, or facts withheld; (c) the source of the knowledge, information, or facts withheld; (d) the paragraph in the Committee's request to which the knowledge, information, or facts are responsive; and (e) each individual to whom the knowledge, information, or facts have been disclosed.
11. If a date, name, title, or other descriptive detail set forth in this request is inaccurate, but the actual date, name, title, or other descriptive detail is known to you or is otherwise apparent from the context of the request, provide the information that would be responsive as if the date, name, title, or other descriptive detail was correct.

Instructions for Responding to a Committee Request

12. In the event a complete response requires the transmission of classified information, provide as much information in unclassified form as possible in your response directly to the Committee offices and send only the classified information under separate cover via the Office of Senate Security.
13. Unless otherwise specified, the period covered by this request is from January 1, 2009 to the present.

C. Definitions

1. The term “document” in the request or the instructions means any written, recorded, or graphic matter of any nature whatsoever, regardless of how recorded, and whether original or copy, including, but not limited to, the following: memoranda, reports, expense reports, books, manuals, instructions, financial reports, working papers, records, notes, letters, notices, confirmations, telegrams, receipts, appraisals, pamphlets, magazines, newspapers, prospectuses, inter-office and intra-office communications, electronic mail (e-mail), contracts, cables, notations of any type of conversation, telephone call, meeting or other communication, bulletins, printed matter, computer printouts, teletypes, invoices, transcripts, diaries, analyses, returns, summaries, minutes, bills, accounts, estimates, projections, comparisons, messages, correspondence, press releases, circulars, financial statements, reviews, opinions, offers, studies and investigations, questionnaires and surveys, and work sheets (and all drafts, preliminary versions, alterations, modifications, revisions, changes, and amendments of any of the foregoing, as well as any attachments or appendices thereto), and graphic or oral records or representations of any kind (including without limitation, photographs, charts, graphs, microfiche, microfilm, videotape, recordings and motion pictures), and electronic, mechanical, and electric records or representations of any kind (including, without limitation, tapes, cassettes, disks, and recordings) and other written, printed, typed, or other graphic or recorded matter of any kind or nature, however produced or reproduced, and whether preserved in writing, film, tape, disk, videotape, or otherwise. A document bearing any notation not a part of the original text is to be considered a separate document. A draft or non-identical copy is a separate document within the meaning of this term.
2. The term “communication” in the request or the instructions means each manner or means of disclosure or exchange of information, regardless of means utilized, whether oral, electronic, by document or otherwise, and whether face to face, in meetings, by telephone, mail, telex, facsimile, email (desktop or mobile device), computer, text message, instant message, MMS or SMS message, regular mail, discussions, releases, delivery, or otherwise.
3. The terms “and” and “or” in the request or the instructions should be construed broadly and either conjunctively or disjunctively to bring within the scope of this request any information which might otherwise be construed to be outside its scope. The singular includes plural number, and vice versa. The masculine includes the feminine and neuter genders.

Instructions for Responding to a Committee Request

4. The terms “person” or “persons” in the request or the instructions mean natural persons, firms, partnerships, associations, corporations, subsidiaries, divisions, departments, joint ventures, proprietorships, syndicates, or other legal, businesses or government entities, and all subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, departments, branches, or other units thereof.
5. The term “identify” in the request or the instructions, when used in a question about individuals, means to provide the following information: (a) the individual’s complete name and title; and (b) the individual’s business address, email address, and phone number.
6. The terms “referring” or “relating” in the request or the instructions, when used separately or collectively, with respect to any given subject, mean anything that constitutes, contains, embodies, reflects, identifies, states, refers to, deals with or is pertinent to that subject in any manner whatsoever.
7. The term “employee” in the request or the instructions means agent, borrowed employee, casual employee, consultant, contractor, de facto employee, independent contractor, joint venturer, loaned employee, part-time employee, permanent employee, provisional employee, or subcontractor.
8. The terms “you” and “your” in the request or the instructions refer to yourself; your firm, corporation, partnership, association, department, or other legal or government entity, including all subsidiaries, divisions, branches, or other units thereof; and all members, officers, employees, agents, contractors, and all other individuals acting or purporting to act on your behalf, including all present and former members, officers, employees, agents, contractors, and all other individuals exercising or purporting to exercise discretion, make policy, and/or decisions.

#

Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)

From: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
Sent: Thursday, December 28, 2017 8:44 AM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Subject: Re: Grassley 12/13 Letter

Thanks David.

On Dec 28, 2017, at 8:33 AM, Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5)

David F. Lasseter

On Dec 28, 2017, at 08:05, Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5)

On Dec 28, 2017, at 7:19 AM, Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

Good morning MBH. (b) (5)

Thoughts?

David F. Lasseter

On Dec 27, 2017, at 22:12, Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5)

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Schools, Scott (ODAG)"
<sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Date: December 27, 2017 at 6:34:32 PM
CST

L31

To: "Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)"
<mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: "Lasseter, David F. (OLA)"
<dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: Grassley 12/13 Letter

Yes. (b) (5)

From: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 27, 2017 11:57 AM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
<sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
<dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Grassley 12/13 Letter

Hi Scott,

Grassley sent a letter to the DAG (see link below) regarding Strzok and Page's text messages and requesting a response by today. (b) (5)

Thanks!

[https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/2017-12-13%20CEG%20to%20DOJ%20\(Strzok%20Page%20McCabe%20Insurance%20Policy\).pdf](https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/2017-12-13%20CEG%20to%20DOJ%20(Strzok%20Page%20McCabe%20Insurance%20Policy).pdf)

Mary Blanche Hankey
Chief of Staff and Counsel
Office of Legislative Affairs
Office: 202-305-0149
Cell: (b) (6)

CHARLES E. GRASSLEY, IOWA, CHAIRMAN

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6275

KOLAN L. DAVIS, *Chief Counsel and Staff Director*
JENNIFER DUCK, *Democratic Staff Director*

December 13, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

The Honorable Rod J. Rosenstein
Deputy Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein:

Yesterday, the Justice Department released a subset of text messages requested by the Committee. The limited release of 375 text messages between Mr. Peter Strzok and Ms. Lisa Page indicate a highly politicized FBI environment during both the Clinton and Russia investigations. For example, one text message from Ms. Page proclaims to Mr. Strzok, “God(,) Trump is a loathsome human.”¹

Some of these texts appear to go beyond merely expressing a private political opinion, and appear to cross the line into taking some official action to create an “insurance policy” against a Trump presidency. Mr. Strzok writes the following to Ms. Page:

I want to believe the path you threw out for consideration in Andy’s office that there’s no way he gets elected but I’m afraid we can’t take that risk. It’s like an *insurance policy* in the unlikely event you die before you’re 40...²

Presumably, “Andy” refers to Deputy FBI Director Andrew McCabe. So whatever was being discussed extended beyond just Page and Strzok at least to Mr. McCabe, who was involved in supervising both investigations.³

¹ Laura Jarrett, *Months worth of FBI employees’ texts dreading Trump victory released to Congress*, CNN (Dec. 13, 2017)

² *Id.*

³ Recently, I have written to the Justice Department several times regarding my concerns about Mr. McCabe’s potential conflicts of interest. Letter from Hon. Charles E. Grassley, Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee, to Hon. James B. Comey, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation (October 28, 2016); Letter from Hon. Charles E. Grassley, Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee, to Hon. James B. Comey, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation (March 28, 2017); Letter from Hon. Charles E. Grassley, Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee, to Hon. Rod J. Rosenstein, Deputy Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice (May 2, 2017); Letter from Hon. Charles E. Grassley, Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee, to Hon. Rod J. Rosenstein, Deputy Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice (June 28, 2017); Letter from Hon. Charles E. Grassley, Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee, to Hon. Michael E. Horowitz, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Justice (June 29, 2017); Letter from Hon. Charles E. Grassley, Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee, to Hon. Rod J. Rosenstein, Deputy Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice (December 1, 2017)

Another text from Ms. Page to Mr. Strzok on April 2, 2016, says the following:

So look, you say we text on that phone when we talk about hillary because it can't be traced, you were just venting bc you feel bad that you're gone so much but it can't be helped right now.

That text message occurred during Mr. Strzok's involvement in the Clinton investigation and days before he interviewed Huma Abedin and Cheryl Mills on April 5, 2016 and April 9, 2016, respectively. Thus, the mention of "hillary" may refer to Secretary Clinton and therefore could indicate that Mr. Strzok and Ms. Page engaged in other communications about an ongoing investigation on a different phone in an effort to prevent it from being traced.

Any improper political influence or motives in the course of any FBI investigation must be brought to light and fully addressed. Former Director Comey's claims that the FBI "doesn't give a rip about politics" certainly are not consistent with the evidence of discussions occurring in the Deputy Director's office around August 15, 2016.

Accordingly, please answer the following no later than December 27, 2017:

1. On what date did you become aware of the text messages between Mr. Strzok and Ms. Page and on what date were they each removed from the Special Counsel's office?
2. Are there any other records relating to the conversation in Andrew McCabe's office shortly before the text described above on August 15, 2016? If so please produce them to the Committee.
3. Please provide all records relating to Andrew McCabe's communications with Peter Strzok or Lisa Page between August 7, 2016 and August 23, 2016.
4. What steps have you taken to determine whether Mr. Strzok, Mr. Page, and Mr. McCabe should face disciplinary action for their conduct?
5. My understanding is that the Inspector General's current investigation is limited to the handling of the Clinton email matter only. What steps have you taken to determine whether steps taken during the campaign to escalate the Russia investigation might have been a result of the political animus evidenced by these text messages rather than on the merits?
6. Has the Department identified the referenced "that phone" Mr. Strzok and Ms. Page used to discuss Secretary Clinton? What steps has the Department taken to review the records on this other phone that allegedly "can't be traced." If none, please explain why not? If steps have been taken, please detail them and provide all records reviewed.

I anticipate that your written reply and any responsive documents will be unclassified. Please send all unclassified material directly to the Committee. In keeping with the requirements of Executive Order 13526, if any of the responsive documents do contain classified information, please segregate all unclassified material within the classified documents, provide all unclassified information directly to the Committee, and provide a classified addendum to the Office of Senate Security. Although the Committee complies with all laws and regulations governing the handling of classified information, it is not bound, absent its prior agreement, by any handling restrictions.

Should you have any questions, please contact Josh Flynn-Brown of my Judiciary Committee staff a (b) (6).

Sincerely,



Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary

cc: The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz
Inspector General
U.S. Department of Justice

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 27, 2017 7:33 PM
To: Gibson, Jake
Cc: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Subject: Re: Question

Yep:)

On Dec 27, 2017, at 5:57 PM, Gibson, Jake <Jake.Gibson@FOXNEWS.COM> wrote:

So.... what do I tell Tucker?

That you're in touch with SJC but that's it?

On Dec 27, 2017, at 6:45 PM, Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov> wrote:

We're in touch w sjc. But nothing to share w the group;)

On Dec 27, 2017, at 4:27 PM, Gibson, Jake <Jake.Gibson@FOXNEWS.COM> wrote:

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Couger, Charles"
<Charles.couger@FOXNEWS.COM>
Date: December 27, 2017 at 3:57:05 PM EST
To: "Herridge, Catherine"
<Catherine.Herridge@FOXNEWS.COM>, "Gibson, Jake" <Jake.Gibson@FOXNEWS.COM>
Subject: Question

Catherine or Jake –

Earlier this month, Senator Grassley sent the DOJ a list of questions regarding the Strzok anti-Trump text messages (see below). Today was the deadline for answers – do either you know if the DOJ responded in time?

Thanks,

Charles Couger
Producer, Tucker Carlson Tonight

From: Chairman Grassley (Judiciary-Rep)

(b) (6)

Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 9:46 AM

To: Foy, Taylor (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6)

(b) (6); Hartmann, George (Judiciary-Rep)

(b) (6)

Subject: Grassley Seeks Clarity on Justice Dept.'s
Response to Political Texts

<image005.png>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, December 14, 2017

Grassley Seeks Clarity on Justice Dept.'s Response to Political Texts

*Senior FBI staffs' "insurance policy"
and "Hillary" texts raise specter of political
Influence*

WASHINGTON – Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley sought additional background on text messages exchanged between two senior FBI employees and records of their communications with the current FBI Deputy Director. One of the employees, Peter Strzok, played a critical role in the FBI's investigation into former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server for official business and mishandling of classified information. He also appears to be involved in helping to launch the FBI's investigation into potential collusion between the Trump campaign and the Kremlin during the 2016 presidential election.

The text messages provided to Congressional investigators on the eve of testimony by Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein, who is overseeing the special counsel's investigation, appear to indicate

that some officials took actions beyond expressing their political opinions. One message by Strzok apparently referenced a discussion in the current deputy director's office about the chances that candidate Donald Trump could be elected, saying "I'm afraid we can't take that risk" and making a comparison to the need for an insurance policy. Another missive referenced a second phone used to "talk about hillary because it can't be traced."

In a letter Wednesday to Rosenstein, Grassley is seeking additional information, including when and how the department became aware of the politically-charged messages, and what steps are being taken to fully review the activities referenced in the messages and take any necessary disciplinary measures.

In October, Grassley [sought an interview](#) with Strzok as a part of his ongoing investigation into improper political influence or bias in the Justice Department or FBI. Grassley [called on the FBI](#) to turn over any documents related to Strzok's work and communications following reports of the political messages.

Full text of [Grassley's letter to Rosenstein](#) follows:

December 13, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

The Honorable Rod J. Rosenstein
Deputy Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein:

Yesterday, the Justice Department released a subset of text messages requested by the Committee. The limited release of 375 text messages between Mr. Peter Strzok and Ms. Lisa Page indicate a highly politicized FBI environment during both the Clinton and Russia investigations. For example, one text message from Ms. Page proclaims to Mr. Strzok, "God (,) Trump is a loathsome human."^[1]

Some of these texts appear to go beyond merely expressing a private political opinion, and appear to

cross the line into taking some official action to create an "insurance policy" against a Trump presidency. Mr. Strzok writes the following to Ms. Page:

I want to believe the path you threw out for consideration in Andy's office – that there's no way he gets elected – but I'm afraid we can't take that risk. It's like an *insurance policy* in the unlikely event you die before you're 40...
[\[2\]](#)

Presumably, "Andy" refers to Deputy FBI Director Andrew McCabe. So whatever was being discussed extended beyond just Page and Strzok at least to Mr. McCabe, who was involved in supervising both investigations.
[\[3\]](#)

Another text from Ms. Page to Mr. Strzok on April 2, 2016, says the following:

So look, you say we text on that phone when we talk about hillary because it can't be traced, you were just venting bc you feel bad that you're gone so much but it can't be helped right now.

That text message occurred during Mr. Strzok's involvement in the Clinton investigation and days before he interviewed Huma Abedin and Cheryl Mills on April 5, 2016 and April 9, 2016, respectively. Thus, the mention of "hillary" may refer to Secretary Clinton and therefore could indicate that Mr. Strzok and Ms. Page engaged in other communications about an ongoing investigation on a different phone in an effort to prevent it from being traced.

Any improper political influence or motives in the course of any FBI investigation must be brought to light and fully addressed. Former Director Comey's claims that the FBI "doesn't give a rip about politics" certainly are not consistent with the evidence of discussions occurring in the Deputy Director's office around August 15, 2016.

Accordingly, please answer the following no later than December 27, 2017:

1. On what date did you become aware of the text messages between Mr. Strzok and Ms. Page and on what date were they each removed from the Special Counsel's office?

- removed from the special Counsel's office:
2. Are there any other records relating to the conversation in Andrew McCabe's office shortly before the text described above on August 15, 2016? If so please produce them to the Committee.
 3. Please provide all records relating to Andrew McCabe's communications with Peter Strzok or Lisa Page between August 7, 2016 and August 23, 2016.
 4. What steps have you taken to determine whether Mr. Strzok, Mr. Page, and Mr. McCabe should face disciplinary action for their conduct?
 5. My understanding is that the Inspector General's current investigation is limited to the handling of the Clinton email matter only. What steps have you taken to determine whether steps taken during the campaign to escalate the Russia investigation might have been a result of the political animus evidenced by these text messages rather than on the merits?
 6. Has the Department identified the referenced "that phone" Mr. Strzok and Ms. Page used to discuss Secretary Clinton? What steps has the Department taken to review the records on this other phone that allegedly "can't be traced." If none, please explain why not? If steps have been taken, please detail them and provide all records reviewed.

I anticipate that your written reply and any responsive documents will be unclassified.

Please send all unclassified material directly to the Committee. In keeping with the requirements of Executive Order 13526, if any of the responsive documents do contain classified information, please segregate all unclassified material within the classified documents, provide all unclassified information directly to the Committee, and provide a classified addendum to the Office of Senate Security. Although the Committee complies with all laws and regulations governing the handling of classified information, it is not bound, absent its prior agreement, by any handling restrictions.

Should you have any questions, please contact Josh Flynn-Brown of my Judiciary Committee staff at (b) (6)

Sincerely,

Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary

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United States Senate

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WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6475

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KELSEY STROUD BAILEY, CHIEF CLERK

December 19, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

The Honorable Rod Rosenstein
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Room 1145
Washington, DC 20530

Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein:

We write to you today concerning FBI Special Agent Peter Stzrok and his recent reassignment after exchanging inappropriate messages with a colleague. We request all messages in the Department's possession that he sent or received concerning Christopher Steele, Michael Flynn, Russian counterintelligence activities, and matters relating to the 2016 U.S. elections. We are not requesting nor are we interested in receiving communications or materials that might be considered personal or salacious, unless they are related to the four topics noted in this letter.

Please respond in writing upon receipt of this letter. If you have any questions about this letter, please contact Committee counsel Vanessa Le at 202-228-6117 or April Doss at 202-224-1737.

Sincerely,



Richard Burr
Chairman



Mark R. Warner
Vice Chairman

COMMITTEE SENSITIVE

Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)

From: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 27, 2017 11:49 AM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Subject: RE: Question re Grassley deadline tomorrow

[https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/2017-12-13%20CEG%20to%20DOJ%20\(Strzok%20Page%20McCabe%20Insurance%20Policy\).pdf](https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/2017-12-13%20CEG%20to%20DOJ%20(Strzok%20Page%20McCabe%20Insurance%20Policy).pdf)

From: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 27, 2017 11:46 AM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: FW: Question re Grassley deadline tomorrow

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Tuesday, December 26, 2017 11:55 PM
To: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Escalona, Prim F. (OLA) <pfescalona@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Question re Grassley deadline tomorrow

(b) (5)

On Dec 26, 2017, at 6:57 PM, Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5)

On Dec 26, 2017, at 7:50 PM, Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6) wrote:

(b) (5)

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 26, 2017, at 6:33 PM, Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

On Dec 26, 2017, at 5:31 PM, Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)

(b) (6) wrote:

Don't have the letter in front of me but...

(b) (5)

Grassley is just one of many who have requested. SB

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 26, 2017, at 6:24 PM, Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov wrote:

(b) (5)

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Schneider, Jessica"
<Jessica.Schneider@turner.com>
Date: December 26, 2017 at 5:18:50 PM CST
To: "Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)" <Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov>, "Prior, Ian (OPA)" <Ian.Prior@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Question re Grassley deadline tomorrow

Hi Sarah and Ian –

(b) (6)

Does Deputy AG Rosenstein plan to respond to Senator Grassley's letter dated December 13th requesting various information about Mr. Strzok and Ms. Page's text messages by the deadline of tomorrow, December 27th?

Is there any information you can give us ahead of time, if so?

If not, have you talked with Grassley's office about an extension?

I know this request comes late in the day – I am likely going to be on air with this tomorrow by 9am, so hopefully I'll hear from you before then.

Thanks again.

Jessica Schneider
CNN Justice Correspondent
(m) (b) (6)
Jessica.Schneider@turner.com
@SchneiderCNN

Schneider, Jessica

From: Schneider, Jessica
Sent: Wednesday, December 27, 2017 6:10 AM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Cc: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Subject: Re: Question re Grassley deadline tomorrow

Thank you!

Jessica Schneider
CNN Justice Correspondent
Cell: (b) (6)

Twitter: @SchneiderCNN

On Dec 26, 2017, at 11:56 PM, Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov> wrote:

We've been in touch w sjc but not going to comment further.

On Dec 26, 2017, at 5:20 PM, Schneider, Jessica <Jessica.Schneider@turner.com> wrote:

Duplicative Material



O'Malley, Devin (OPA)

From: O'Malley, Devin (OPA)
Sent: Tuesday, December 26, 2017 6:27 PM
To: Jessica.Schneider@turner.com
Subject: Fwd: Question re Grassley deadline WEDNESDAY

Hey Jessica-

Have you reached out to Lauren from our team?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Date: December 26, 2017 at 6:26:08 PM EST
To: "O'Malley, Devin (OPA)" <domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: "Prior, Ian (OPA)" <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: FW: Question re Grassley deadline WEDNESDAY

Thank you - Kristen

From: Schneider, Jessica [<mailto:Jessica.Schneider@turner.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, December 26, 2017 6:24 PM
To: Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Question re Grassley deadline WEDNESDAY

Hi -

I'm hoping to get some information on this prior to 9am tomorrow.

Does Deputy AG Rosenstein plan to respond to Senator Grassley's letter dated December 13th requesting various information about Mr. Strzok and Ms. Page's text messages by the deadline of tomorrow, December 27th?

Is there any information you can give us ahead of time, if so?

If not, have you talked with Grassley's office about an extension?

I know this request comes late in the day - I am likely going to be on air with this tomorrow by 9am, so hopefully I'll hear from you before then.

Thanks again.

Jessica Schneider
CNN Justice Correspondent
· · · (b) (6)

(m)(b)(6) [REDACTED]

Jessica.Schneider@turner.com

@SchneiderCNN

Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)

From: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
Sent: Friday, December 22, 2017 1:43 PM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Subject: RE: Congressional Priority - 12/21/2017

Ok, thanks. Stand by.

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Friday, December 22, 2017 1:14 PM
To: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Congressional Priority - 12/21/2017

(b) (5)

David F. Lasseter

On Dec 22, 2017, at 1:03, Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

Perfect. Thank you! (b) (5)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Friday, December 22, 2017 1:02 PM
To: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Brooks, Roshelle (OLA) <rbrooks@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Herbert, Jenelle R. (OLA) <jherbert2@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: Congressional Priority - 12/21/2017

(b) (5)

From: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
Sent: Friday, December 22, 2017 1:00 PM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Brooks, Roshelle (OLA) <rbrooks@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Herbert, Jenelle R. (OLA) <jherbert2@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: Congressional Priority - 12/21/2017

Thanks David! (b) (5)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Friday, December 22, 2017 12:50 PM
To: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Brooks, Roshelle (OLA) <rbrooks@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Herbert, Jenelle R. (OLA) <jherbert2@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: Congressional Priority - 12/21/2017

<< File: 2017-12-06 RHJ to DOJ Rosenstein.pdf >> << File: 2017-12-14 RHJ to FBI re Comey July 5 Statement.pdf >>

(b) (5)

From: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
Sent: Friday, December 22, 2017 12:39 PM
To: Brooks, Roshelle (OLA) <rbrooks@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Herbert, Jenelle R. (OLA) <jherbert2@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: Congressional Priority - 12/21/2017

(b) (5)

Nonresponsive Record

Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Friday, December 22, 2017 1:01 PM
To: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA); Brooks, Roshelle (OLA); Herbert, Jenelle R. (OLA)
Subject: RE: Congressional Priority - 12/21/2017
Attachments: 2017-12-12 FBI Strzok Text - Johnson.pdf

Attached is the response that we sent to each committee that has questions about the texts. As mentioned, we also have a response specific to Chairman Johnson's 6 december letter.

From: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
Sent: Friday, December 22, 2017 12:39 PM
To: Brooks, Roshelle (OLA) <rbrooks@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Herbert, Jenelle R. (OLA) <jherbert2@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: Congressional Priority - 12/21/2017

Duplicative Material

Nonresponsive Record



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

The Honorable Ron Johnson
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

DEC 12 2017

Dear Chairman Johnson,

This responds to the Committee's request that the Department of Justice (Department) provide the Committee with copies of text message communications between Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) employees Peter Strzok and Lisa Page. We are sending letters and identical enclosures to a number of Congressional Committees that have made similar requests.

As you may know, on January 12, 2016, the Department of Justice's Office of Inspector General (OIG) publicly announced that the OIG would review "allegations that Department or FBI policies or procedures were not followed in connection with, or in actions leading up to or related to, the FBI Director's public announcement on July 5, 2016,¹ and the Director's letters to Congress on October 28 and November 6, 2016, and that certain underlying investigative decisions were based on improper considerations."² As part of that review, the OIG obtained, among other things, text messages between Mr. Strzok and Ms. Page.

The Department expected the documents provided herein to be provided as part of a completed OIG report. However, public reporting about the existence of the text messages prompted Congressional Committee requests for the text messages. Please find enclosed an initial disclosure of approximately 375 text message communications, dated August 16, 2015 to December 1, 2016, that have been identified as pertinent to the OIG review referenced above. The enclosed documents contain minimal redactions that protect the privacy interests of third parties and sensitive law enforcement information, and remove irrelevant information. The Department continues to review documents and will provide pertinent documents as they become available.

¹ On that date, then-FBI Director James B. Comey announced that the FBI was recommending to the Department of Justice that no charges should be filed relating to former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server.

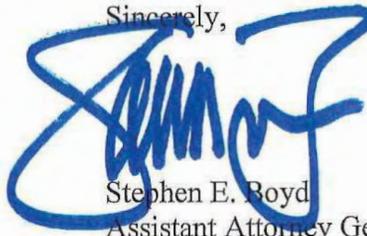
² DOJ OIG Announces Initiation of Review, January 12, 2017, available at: <https://oig.justice.gov/press/2017/2017-01-12.pdf>

The Honorable Ron Johnson
Page Two

As has been publicly reported, Mr. Strzok previously served on the investigative team led by Special Counsel Robert Mueller. The OIG informed the Special Counsel of the existence of the enclosed text messages on or about July 27, 2017. Mr. Mueller immediately concluded that Mr. Strzok could no longer participate in the investigation, and he was removed from the team.

This extraordinary accommodation of providing the enclosed documents is unique to the facts and circumstances of this particular matter. The Department appreciates the work of the OIG on this matter, looks forward to the findings and recommendations arising from that review, and will take appropriate action as warranted.

Sincerely,



Stephen E. Boyd
Assistant Attorney General

cc: The Honorable Claire McCaskill
Ranking Member

Enclosures

RON JOHNSON, WISCONSIN, CHAIRMAN

JOHN McCAIN, ARIZONA
ROB PORTMAN, OHIO
RAND PAUL, KENTUCKY
JAMES LANKFORD, OKLAHOMA
MICHAEL B. ENZI, WYOMING
JOHN HOEVEN, NORTH DAKOTA
STEVE DAINES, MONTANA

CLAIRE McCASKILL, MISSOURI
THOMAS R. CARPER, DELAWARE
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

CHRISTOPHER R. HIXON, STAFF DIRECTOR
MARGARET E. DAUM, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

December 14, 2017

The Honorable Christopher Wray
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Director Wray:

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is continuing its oversight of the Office of Special Counsel's (OSC) Hatch Act investigation of former Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Director James Comey. I write to request additional material concerning the public statements made by Director Comey in reference to the FBI's investigation of former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server. I appreciate your cooperation with this request.

On November 17, 2017, the FBI produced documents that it had previously transmitted to OSC as part of OSC's Hatch Act investigation of Director Comey.¹ These documents help to inform the Committee's understanding of both OSC's and the FBI's investigations. However, these documents raise additional questions about both investigations.

The FBI's production included early drafts of Director Comey's public statement, ultimately delivered on July 5, 2016, clearing Secretary Clinton of criminal wrongdoing in her use of a private email server.² On May 2, 2016, Director Comey emailed a draft statement to FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe, FBI General Counsel James Baker, and FBI Chief of Staff James Rybicki—a full two months before the FBI had completed over a dozen interviews, including its interview with Secretary Clinton.³ The drafting of this statement began before the FBI immunized key witnesses to the investigation, including Cheryl Mills and Heather Samuelson.⁴ The immunity agreements with Ms. Mills and Ms. Samuelson, executed on June

¹ Letter from Gregory A. Brower to Sen. Ron Johnson, Chairman, S. Comm. on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs (Nov. 17, 2017).

² Documents FBI produced to the Committee on Nov. 17, 2017 marked SJC 000028-000271 [herein after "FBI documents"]. For clarity, I have attached the entire document containing track-changed edits to Director Comey's original draft July 5 statement. This document is marked SJC 000031-000037.

³ FBI documents, *supra* note 2 at SJC 000140.; Letter from Sen. Charles Grassley, Chairman, S. Comm. on Judiciary, to Christopher Wray, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Aug. 30, 2017. The FBI conducted an interview of Secretary Clinton on July 2, 2016.

⁴ Comm. review of Justice Dep't immunity agreements with Cheryl Mills & Heather Samuelson, (Sept. 27, 2016).

10, 2016, also included side agreements requiring the FBI to destroy evidence on devices turned over to the FBI.⁵

According to documents produced by the FBI, FBI employees exchanged proposed edits to the draft statement. On May 6, Deputy Director McCabe forwarded the draft statement to other senior FBI employees, including Peter Strzok, E.W. Priestap, Jonathan Moffa, and an employee in the Office of General Counsel whose name has been redacted.⁶ While the precise dates of the edits and identities of the editors are not apparent from the documents, the edits appear to change the tone and substance of Director Comey's statement in at least three respects.⁷

1. Repeated edits to reduce Secretary Clinton's culpability in mishandling classified information

The original draft of Director Comey's remarks included a statement that could be read as a finding of criminality in Secretary Clinton's handling of classified material:

*There is evidence to support a conclusion that Secretary Clinton, and others, used the private email server in a manner that was grossly negligent with respect to the handling of classified information.*⁸

The edited statement deleted the reference to gross negligence—a legal threshold for mishandling classified material⁹—and instead replaced it with an exculpatory sentence:

*Although we did not find clear evidence that Secretary Clinton or her colleagues intended to violate laws governing the handling of classified information, there is evidence that they were extremely careless in their handling of very sensitive, highly classified information.*¹⁰

This change appeared in the statement as Director Comey delivered it on July 5, 2016.¹¹

Further, the original draft of Director Comey's statement connected the volume of classified material on Secretary Clinton's private server with a finding of criminality. It read:

⁵ *Id.*; see also *FBI agreed to destroy laptops of Clinton aides with immunity deal, lawmaker says*, Fox News, Oct. 3, 2016.

⁶ FBI documents, *supra* note 2 at SJC 000028-29.

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ FBI documents, *supra* note 2 at SJC 0000142.

⁹ See 18 U.S.C. § 793.

¹⁰ FBI documents, *supra* note 2 at SJC 000034

¹¹ *Statement by FBI Director James B. Comey on the Investigation of Secretary Hillary Clinton's Use of a Personal E-Mail System*, July 5, 2016, available at <https://www.fbi.gov/news/pressrel/press-releases/statement-by-fbi-director-james-b-comey-on-the-investigation-of-secretary-hillary-clinton2019s-use-of-a-personal-e-mail-system> [hereinafter Comey July 5 statement].

*Similarly, the sheer volume of information that was properly classified as Secret at the time it was discussed on email (that is, excluding the “up classified” emails) supports an inference that the participants were grossly negligent in their handling of that information.*¹²

This statement was edited to deemphasize the amount of classified information and, again, to remove a reference to gross negligence. The edited version read:

*In addition to this highly sensitive information, we also found information that was properly classified as Secret by the U.S Intelligence Community at the time it was discussed on email (that is, excluding the ‘up classified emails).*¹³

The edited version also contained a sentence that read, “This is especially concerning because all of these emails were housed on servers not supported by full-time security staff, like those found at the Departments and Agencies of the U.S. Government.”¹⁴ This sentence was not included in the statement as delivered by Director Comey on July 5.¹⁵

¹² FBI documents, *supra* note 2 at SJC 0000142

¹³ FBI documents, *supra* note 2 at SJC 000035

¹⁴ FBI documents, *supra* note 2 at SJC 000035.

¹⁵ Comey July 5 statement, *supra* note 11.

Figure 1: Edits to “extremely careless” in Director Comey’s statement

That’s what we have done. Now let me tell you what we found.

~~Although we did not find clear evidence that Secretary Clinton or her colleagues intended to violate laws governing the handling of classified information, there is evidence that they were extremely careless in their handling of very sensitive, highly classified information. There is evidence to support a conclusion that Secretary Clinton, and others, used the private email server in a manner that was grossly negligent with respect to the handling of classified information. For example, seven email chains concern matters that were classified at the TS SAP level when they were sent and received. These chains involved Secretary Clinton both sending emails about those matters and receiving emails from others about the same matters. There is evidence to support a conclusion that any reasonable~~

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SJC000034

person in Secretary Clinton’s position, or in the position of those government employees with whom she was corresponding about these matters, should have known that an unclassified system was no place for such an email conversation.

~~Although we did not find clear evidence that Secretary Clinton or her colleagues intended to violate laws governing the handling of classified information, there is evidence that they were extremely careless in their handling of very sensitive, highly classified information.~~

~~Similarly, in addition to this highly sensitive information, we also found the sheer volume of information that was properly classified as Secret by the U.S. Intelligence Community at the time it was discussed on email (that is, excluding the “up classified” emails). This is especially concerning because all of these emails were housed on servers not supported by full-time security staff, like those found at Departments and Agencies of the U.S. Government. ~~support an inference that the participants were grossly negligent in their handling of that information.~~~~

In addition, the original draft of Director Comey’s statement stated that the FBI had found evidence of potential violations of the gross negligence statute and of the statute governing misdemeanor mishandling of classified information:

Although there is evidence of potential violations of the statute proscribing gross negligence in the handling of classified information and of the statute proscribing misdemeanor mishandling, my judgment is that no reasonable prosecutor would bring such a case. At the outset, we are not aware of a case where anyone has been charged solely based on the “gross negligence” prohibition in the statute.

*In looking back at our investigations in similar circumstances, we cannot find a case that would support bringing criminal charges on these facts. All the cases prosecuted involved some combination of: (1) clearly intentional misconduct; (2) vast quantities of materials exposed in such a way as to support an inference of intentional misconduct; (3) indications of disloyalty to the United States; or (4) efforts to obstruct justice. We see none of that here.*¹⁶

The edited version removed Director Comey's specific reference to potential violations of the gross negligence and misdemeanor mishandling statutes. The edits changed the first sentence of the quoted text to read:

*Although there is evidence of potential violations of the statutes regarding the handling of classified information, my judgment is that no reasonable prosecutor would bring such a case.*¹⁷

A comment bubble accompanying the edit, in which the editor wrote, "we changed none of this text, we simply reordered it. The original text is below, struck out."¹⁸ The editor did not address the deletion of references in the original draft to evidence of potential violations of the gross negligence or misdemeanor statutes.

Director Comey's public remarks on July 5 lacked any specific reference to the FBI finding of evidence potential violations of the "gross negligence" and "misdemeanor mishandling" statutes. Instead, Director Comey stated:

*Although there is evidence of potential violations of the statutes regarding the handling of classified information, our judgment is that no reasonable prosecutor would bring such a case. . . .*¹⁹

¹⁶ FBI documents, *supra* note 2 at SJC 000036.

¹⁷ FBI documents, *supra* note 2 at SJC 000036.

¹⁸ FBI documents, *supra* note 2 at SJC 000036.

¹⁹ Comey July 5 statement, *supra* note 11.

Figure 2: Edits removing references to evidence of violations of statutes about the use of classified information

In looking back at our investigations in similar circumstances, we cannot find a case that would support bringing criminal charges on these facts. All the cases prosecuted involved some combination of: (1) clearly intentional mishandling of classified information; (2) vast quantities of materials exposed in such a way as to support an inference of intentional misconduct; (3) indications of disloyalty to the United States; or (4) efforts to obstruct justice. All charged cases of which we are aware have involved the accusation that a government employee intentionally mishandled classified information. We see none of that here.

Commented [p6]: We changed none of this text, we simply re-rendered it. The original text is below, struck-out.

Although there is evidence of potential violations of the statutes regarding the handling of classified information, my judgment is that no reasonable prosecutor would bring such a case. Prosecutors necessarily weigh a number of factors before bringing charges. There are obvious considerations, like the strength of the evidence. But they must be balanced against things like the intent and context of the person's actions. To be clear, this is not to suggest that in similar circumstances, an individual who engaged in this activity would face NO consequences. To the contrary, such individuals are often subject to security or administrative sanctions. But that decision is not what is before me now.

~~Although there is evidence of potential violations of the statute proscribing gross negligence in the handling of classified information and of the statute proscribing misdemeanor mishandling, my judgment is that no reasonable prosecutor would bring such a case. At the outset, we are not aware of a case where anyone has been charged solely based on the "gross negligence" prohibition in the statute. In looking back at our investigations in similar circumstances, we cannot find a case that would support bringing criminal charges on these facts. All the cases prosecuted involved some combination of: (1) clearly intentional misconduct; (2) vast quantities of materials exposed in such a way as to support an inference of intentional misconduct; (3) indications of disloyalty to the United States; or (4) efforts to obstruct justice. We see none of that here.~~

Commented [p7]:

Accordingly, although the Department of Justice makes final decisions on matters such as this, I am completing the investigation by expressing to Justice my view that no charges are appropriate in this case.

SJC000036

2. Edits to remove reference to the Intelligence Community's role in identifying vulnerabilities related to Secretary Clinton's private email server

Director Comey's original statement acknowledged the FBI had worked with its partners in the Intelligence Community to assess potential damage from Secretary Clinton's use of a private email server. The original statement read:

[W]e have done extensive work with the assistance of our colleagues elsewhere in the Intelligence Community to understand what indications there might be of compromise by hostile actors in connection with the private email operation.²⁰

The edited version removed the reference to the intelligence community:

²⁰ FBI documents, *supra* note 2 at SJC 000142.

*[W]e have done extensive work to understand what indications there might be of compromise by hostile actors in connection with the personal e-mail operation.*²¹

Director Comey delivered this edited statement in his July 5 remarks.²² It is unclear why FBI staff removed the reference to working with the Intelligence Community during the editing process for Director Comey's statement.

3. Edits to downgrade the likelihood that hostile actors had penetrated Secretary Clinton's private server

Finally, the original draft of Director Comey's statement included a conclusion that it was "reasonably likely" that hostile actors had penetrated Secretary Clinton's private server. Director Comey's original statement read:

*With respect to potential computer intrusion by hostile actors, we did not find direct evidence that Secretary Clinton's personal email system, in its various configurations since 2009, was successfully hacked. But, given the nature of the system and of the actors potentially involved, we assess that we would be unlikely to see such direct evidence. We do assess that hostile actors gained access to the private email accounts of individuals with whom Secretary Clinton was in regular contact from her private account. We also assess that Secretary Clinton's use of a private email domain was both known by a large number of people and readily apparent. Given the combination of factors, we assess it is reasonably likely that hostile actors gained access to Secretary Clinton's private email account.*²³

This statement was edited to downgrade the assessment that it was "reasonably likely" that hostile actors had gained access to Secretary Clinton's private email account. Instead, the edited statement simply read it was "possible" that those events occurred—the formulation Director Comey ultimately used in his public statement on July 5.²⁴ Director Comey's July 5 statement ultimately read:

With respect to potential computer intrusion by hostile actors, we did not find direct evidence that Secretary Clinton's personal e-mail domain, in its various configurations since 2009, was successfully hacked. But, given the nature of the system and of the actors potentially involved, we assess that we would be unlikely to see such direct evidence. We do assess that hostile actors gained access to the private commercial e-mail accounts of people with whom Secretary Clinton was in regular contact from her personal account. We also assess that Secretary Clinton's use of a personal e-mail domain was both known by a large number of people and readily apparent. She also used her personal e-mail extensively while outside the United States, including sending and receiving work-related e-mails in

²¹ FBI documents, *supra* note 2 at SJC 000034.

²² Comey July 5 statement, *supra* note 11.

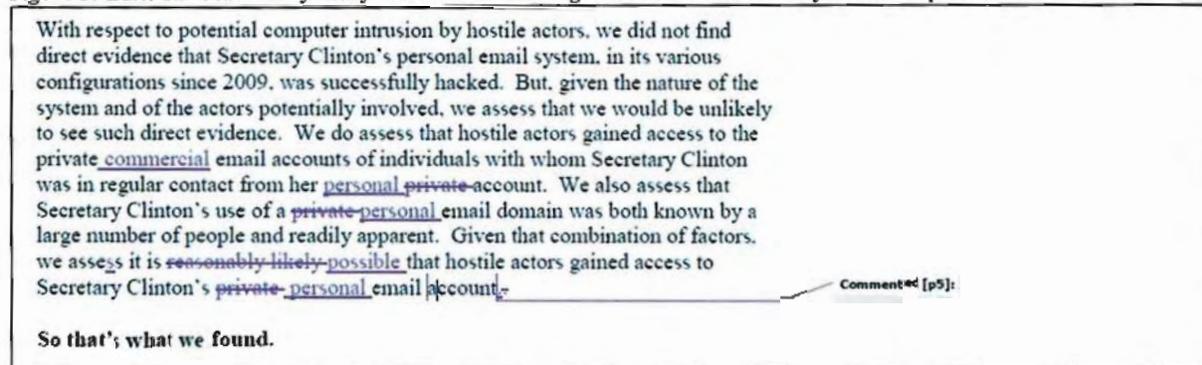
²³ FBI documents, *supra* note 2 at SJC 0000143.

²⁴ FBI documents, *supra* note 2 at SJC 000035.

*the territory of sophisticated adversaries. Given that combination of factors, we assess it is possible that hostile actors gained access to Secretary Clinton's personal e-mail account.*²⁵

The edited statement contains a comment bubble at the conclusion of the changed paragraph; however the FBI redacted the comment.²⁶

Figure 3: Edits on “reasonably likely” that hostile actors gained access to Secretary Clinton’s personal email account



Although it is not readily apparent from the draft statement, media reports suggest that Mr. Strzok changed the language from “grossly negligent” to “extremely careless” in the draft statement.²⁷ Mr. Strzok also participated in the FBI’s interview of Secretary Clinton on July 2, 2016.²⁸ Other documents produced by the Justice Department show during the FBI’s investigation of Secretary Clinton, Mr. Strzok described then-candidate Trump as an “idiot” and that his candidacy would be “good for Hillary.”²⁹ On March 4, 2016, he wrote that “Hillary should win 100,000,000-0” in a hypothetical election with Trump.³⁰ In addition, while exchanging text messages with Lisa Page in August 2016, Mr. Strzok wrote: “I want to believe the path you threw out to consideration in Andy’s office—*that there’s no way he gets elected—but I’m afraid we can’t take that risk.* It’s like an insurance policy in the unlikely event you die before you’re 40”³¹

²⁵ Comey July 5 statement, *supra* note 11.

²⁶ FBI documents, *supra* note 2 at SJC 000035.

²⁷ Laura Jarrett and Evan Perez, *FBI agent dismissed from Mueller probe changed Comey's description of Clinton to 'extremely careless'*, CNN, Dec. 4, 2017, <http://www.cnn.com/2017/12/04/politics/peter-strzok-james-comey/index.html>.

²⁸ Fed. Bureau of Investigation, 302 of FBI interview with Hillary Clinton, July 2, 2016, *available at* <https://vault.fbi.gov/hillary-r.-clinton/Hillary%20R.%20Clinton%20Part%2002%20of%2016/view>.

²⁹ Letter from Stephen E. Boyd, Ass’t Attn’y Gen. for the Office of Legislative Affairs, U.S. Dep’t of Justice, to Sen. Ron Johnson, Chairman, S. Comm. on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, Dec. 12, 2017. Mr. Boyd’s letter was accompanied by a production of 375 text message communications between Mr. Strzok and Lisa Paige, another FBI employee dated August 16, 2015 to December 1, 2016 [herein after referred to as “text messages.” Text messages at 8-9; text messages at 10.

³⁰ Text messages at 11

³¹ Text messages at 43 (emphasis added).

In summary, the edits to Director Comey's public statement, made months prior to the conclusion of the FBI's investigation of Secretary Clinton's conduct, had a significant impact on the FBI's public evaluation of the implications of her actions. This effort, seen in light of the personal animus toward then-candidate Trump by senior FBI agents leading the Clinton investigation and their apparent desire to create an "insurance policy" against Mr. Trump's election, raise profound questions about the FBI's role and possible interference in the 2016 presidential election and the role of the same agents in Special Counsel Mueller's investigation of President Trump. Given these circumstances, the Committee has additional questions about the process by which the FBI edited Director Comey's public statement of July 5, 2016. I respectfully request the following information and material:

1. Please provide the names of the Department of Justice (DOJ) employees who comprised the "mid-year review team" during the FBI's investigation of Secretary Clinton's use of a private email server?
2. Please identify all FBI, DOJ, or other federal employees who edited or reviewed Director Comey's July 5, 2016 statement. Please identify which individual made the marked changes in the documents produced to the Committee.
3. Please identify which FBI employee repeatedly changed the language in the draft statement that described Secretary Clinton's behavior as "grossly negligent" to "extremely careless." What evidence supported these changes?
4. Please identify which FBI employee edited the draft statement to remove the reference to the Intelligence Community. On what basis was this change made?
5. Please identify which FBI employee edited the draft statement to downgrade the FBI's assessment that it was "reasonably likely" that hostile actors had gained access to Secretary Clinton's private email account to merely that an intrusion was "possible." What evidence supported these changes?
6. Please provide unredacted copies of the drafts of Director Comey's statement, including comment bubbles, and explain the basis for the redactions in the material produced to date.

Please provide this information as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on December 28, 2017. Any classified information provided in response to this letter should be provided under separate cover through the Office of Senate Security.

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized by Rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate to investigate "the efficiency, economy, and effectiveness of all agencies and departments of the Government,"³² Additionally, S. Res. 62 (115th Congress) authorizes the Committee to examine "the efficiency and economy of all

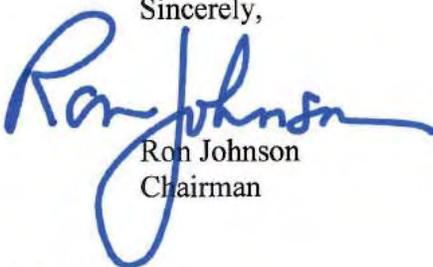
³² S. Rule XXV(k); *see also* S. Res. 445, 108th Cong. (2004).

The Honorable Christopher Wray
December 14, 2017
Page 10

branches of the Government including the possible existence of fraud, misfeasance, malfeasance, collusion, mismanagement, incompetence, corruption, or unethical practices”³³

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions about this request, please contact Kyle Brosnan or Brian Downey of the Committee staff at (b) (6) .

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ron Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "R" and "J".

Ron Johnson
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Claire McCaskill
Ranking Member

Enclosure

³³ S. Res. 62 § 12, 115th Cong. (2017).

Tyson, Jill C. (OLA)

From: Tyson, Jill C. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2017 1:57 PM
To: (b) (6) House Email
Subject: FW: Joint Committee investigation follow up
Attachments: DOJ response to Chmn Goodlatte and Gowdy re FBI interview requests.pdf

Hi, Perry.

Stephen is tied up and asked me to respond to your e-mail. At 1:20pm we transmitted our response to the December 19th letter from Chairmen Goodlatte and Gowdy. I am attaching it here to make sure you have it. We believe the minority has all of the same documents and text messages we have provided to the majority in recent weeks. I am looking into the status of the response to your December 11th letter and I will get back to you.

Thank you,
-JCT

Jill C. Tyson
Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
(202) 514-3597
Jill.C.Tyson@USDOJ.gov

From: Apelbaum, Perry (b) (6) House Email
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2017 11:52 AM
To: Mangum, Anela M. (OLA) <amangum@jmd.usdoj.gov <mailto:amangum@jmd.usdoj.gov> >
Cc: Calanni, Rachel (b) (6) House Email
McElvein, Elizabeth (b) (6) House Email
ov> >
Subject: Joint Committee investigation follow up

Stephen --

Last night, our Committee Majority copied us on a letter to the Attorney General from Chairmen Goodlatte and Gowdy requesting interviews with three FBI employees: Andrew McCabe, Jim Rybicki, and Lisa Page. Of course, we would look forward to being copied on your written response to this request, but I write to ask that you also inform us by phone or email of any information you provide by

phone or email to the Majority prior to any response by letter so we could prepare adequately. Please contact me and Rachel and Elizabeth with any such response.

In addition, you may recall that as part of the investigation, Ranking Member Nadler and House Oversight Committee Ranking Member Elijah Cummings sent a letter to Attorney General Sessions and Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein on December 11 concerning correspondence issues and requested any documents and communications related to "True Pundit", its connections to Wikileaks or the investigation into Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server, as well as Trump Campaign personnel knowledge of the investigation. Please let us know when you expect to be able to receive a response.

Thank you.

Perry

Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 2:53 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA); Schools, Scott (ODAG); Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA); Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI); Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (DO) (FBI)
Cc: Johnson, Joanne E. (OLA)
Subject: Fwd: Committee's Letter to the DAG 121915
Attachments: DAG_Rosenstein_SSCI_121915.pdf; ATT00001.htm

FYI attached. Not necessarily a new production request, just a memorialization thereof from SSCI concerning the PS/LP text messages.

David F. Lasseter

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Le, Vanessa (Intelligence)" (b) (6) Senate Email
Date: December 19, 2017 at 14:20:32 EST
To: "Lasseter, David F. (OLA)"
<David.F.Lasseter@usdoj.gov>, "Joanne.E.Johnson@usdoj.gov"
<Joanne.E.Johnson@usdoj.gov>
Cc: "Doss, April (Intelligence)" (b) (6) Senate Email, "Llewellyn, Nicolette (Intelligence)" (b) (6) Senate Email
Subject: Committee's Letter to the DAG 121915

David,

Attached is a copy of the letter that Nicolette will be giving Joanne in hard copy this afternoon. Please confirm receipt and ensure this gets to the DAG.

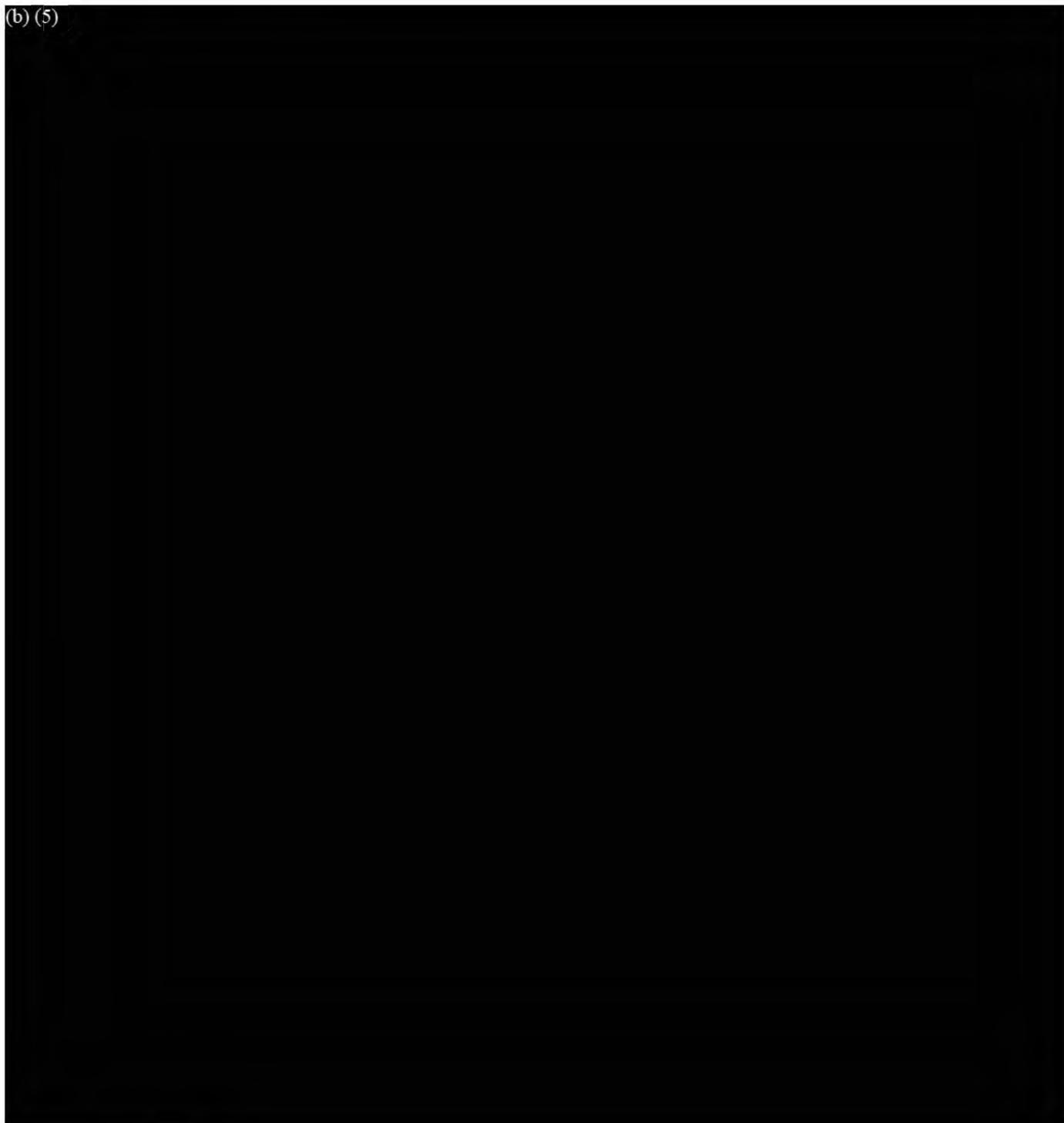
Best,
Vanessa

Vanessa J. Le
Counsel
Senate Select Committee on Intelligence
(O) (b) (6)
(M) (b) (6)

Cutrona, Danielle (OAG)

From: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 1:57 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Cc: Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG); Barnett, Gary E. (OAG); Whitaker, Matthew (OAG); Bolitho, Zachary (ODAG)
Subject: RE: edits

(b) (5)



Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 10:16 AM
To: Mangum, Anela M. (OLA)
Cc: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Subject: FW: texts
Attachments: 0365_001.pdf

Connecting these emails and the attached written request from Goodlatte, referenced below, for record keeping purposes. SB

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Friday, December 8, 2017 11:15 AM
To: 'Parmiter, Robert' (b) (6) House Email; Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Breitenbach, Ryan (b) (6) House Email; Husband, Shelley (b) (6) House Email; Ritchie, Branden (b) (6) House Email
Subject: RE: texts

Roger. Will likely need a formal letter from the Chairman for this, but we'll proceed with the assumption that is coming.

As you may know, the volume is very high. We are exploring ways to expedite review of a subset of the texts that is likely to contain those most relevant to the Committee's interests.

Will update you as we know more.

SB

From: Parmiter, Robert (b) (6) House Email
Sent: Tuesday, December 5, 2017 6:57 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Breitenbach, Ryan (b) (6) House Email; Husband, Shelley (b) (6) House Email; Ritchie, Branden (b) (6) House Email
Subject: texts

Stephen/David. I see [here](#) that DOJ has provided the Strzok/Page texts to HPSCI. Please provide HJC with the same. Thank you.

ROBERT B. PARMITER • CHIEF COUNSEL
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CRIME, TERRORISM, HOMELAND SECURITY, AND INVESTIGATIONS
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY • U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. • (b) (6)

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ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

(202) 225-3951

<http://www.house.gov/judiciary>

December 12, 2017

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
The Honorable Rod J. Rosenstein
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Sessions and Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein:

Over the past several weeks, there has been widespread media reporting about former FBI counterintelligence supervisor Peter Strzok, and his leadership role in both the Clinton email investigation and the investigation by Special Counsel Robert Mueller.

It has also been reported recently that Mr. Mueller removed Mr. Strzok from his team after learning that Mr. Strzok had exchanged text messages critical of then-candidate Donald Trump with Lisa Page, a FBI attorney who had similarly served on the Special Counsel team.

As you know, the Judiciary Committee, which is the principal Committee of jurisdiction over the FBI and DOJ, is currently conducting a joint investigation with the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform into the FBI and DOJ's activities during the 2016 election. It is therefore imperative that this Committee be provided with these text messages, which relate directly to that investigation. Please do so at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



BOB GOODLATTE
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Jerrold Nadler
Ranking Minority Member

Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)

From: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 6:42 PM
To: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA); Lasseter, David F. (OLA); Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA); Escalona, Prim F. (OLA); Tyson, Jill C. (OLA)
Cc: Brooks, Roshelle (OLA)
Subject: RE: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages

(b) (5)

From: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 6:38 PM
To: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA) <kkellner@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Escalona, Prim F. (OLA) <pfescalona@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Tyson, Jill C. (OLA) <jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Brooks, Roshelle (OLA) <rbrooks@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages

(b) (5)

From: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 6:06 PM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Escalona, Prim F. (OLA) <pfescalona@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Tyson, Jill C. (OLA) <jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Brooks, Roshelle (OLA) <rbrooks@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages

(b) (5)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 4:11 PM
To: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA) <kkellner@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Escalona, Prim F. (OLA) <pfescalona@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Tyson, Jill C. (OLA) <jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Brooks, Roshelle (OLA) <rbrooks@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages

(b) (5)

From: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 2:49 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Escalona, Prim F. (OLA) <pfescalona@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Tyson, Jill C. (OLA) <jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Brooks, Roshelle (OLA) <rbrooks@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: FW: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages

This OIG letter responds to questions concerning the IG's discovery of certain text messages between Peter Strzok and Lisa Page of the FBI/Special Counsel.

From: Lee, Rene R. (OIG)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 1:44 PM
To: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA) <kkellner@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Sheehan, Matthew (ODAG) <msheehan@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: (b) (6) - Per OIG; (OIG) (b) (6) - Per OIG
Subject: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages

Attached please find a copy of the DOJ Office of Inspector General's response to the December 6, 2017 letter from Chairmen Grassley and Johnson. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you,
Rene Rocque Lee
Senior Counsel to the Inspector General
Department of Justice
(202) 514-3435

Tyson, Jill C. (OLA)

From: Tyson, Jill C. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 6:40 PM
To: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA); Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA); Lasseter, David F. (OLA); Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA); Escalona, Prim F. (OLA)
Cc: Brooks, Roshelle (OLA)
Subject: RE: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages

Anela prepared a set for OIG. Ken please treat them as close hold (we only gave them to the Hill in hard copy). Thanks.

From: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 6:38 PM
To: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA) <kkellner@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Escalona, Prim F. (OLA) <pfescalona@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Tyson, Jill C. (OLA) <jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Brooks, Roshelle (OLA) <rbrooks@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages

Duplicative Material



Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)

From: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 6:40 PM
To: Lee, Rene R. (OIG)
Cc: (b) (6) - Per OIG (OIG)
Subject: RE: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages
Attachments: 2017-12-12 FBI Strzok Text - Enclosure.pdf

Scanning did not take long.

From: Lee, Rene R. (OIG)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 5:59 PM
To: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA) <kkellner@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: (b) (6) - Per OIG (OIG) (b) (6) - Per OIG
Subject: RE: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages

Hi, Ken:

Is there any way that we can get a copy of the text messages that were provided to the Hill?

Thanks,
René

From: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 4:15 PM
To: Lee, Rene R. (OIG) <rlee@OIG.USDOJ.GOV>
Cc: (b) (6) - Per OIG (OIG) (b) (6) - Per OIG
Subject: RE: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages

Thanks Rene. OLA leadership asked me to send the attached letters to you. The letters were transmitted yesterday.

Ken

From: Lee, Rene R. (OIG)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 1:44 PM
To: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA) <kkellner@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Sheehan, Matthew (ODAG) <msheehan@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: (b) (6) - Per OIG (OIG) (b) (6) - Per OIG
Subject: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages

Duplicative Material

Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)

From: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 5:08 PM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Subject: RE: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages

(b) (5)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 4:21 PM
To: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA) <kkellner@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages

Ken—(b) (5)

From: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 2:49 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Escalona, Prim F. (OLA) <pfescalona@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Tyson, Jill C. (OLA) <jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Brooks, Roshelle (OLA) <rbrooks@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: FW: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages

Duplicative Material



Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)

From: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 4:23 PM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA); Tyson, Jill C. (OLA); Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA); Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA); Escalona, Prim F. (OLA); Mangum, Anela M. (OLA)
Cc: Brooks, Roshelle (OLA)
Subject: RE: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages

(b) (5)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:54 PM
To: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA) <kkellner@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Tyson, Jill C. (OLA) <jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Escalona, Prim F. (OLA) <pfescalona@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Mangum, Anela M. (OLA) <amangum@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Brooks, Roshelle (OLA) <rbrooks@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages

Anela—(b) (5)

Ken—(b) (5)

Thanks,
dfl

From: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:28 PM
To: Tyson, Jill C. (OLA) <jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Escalona, Prim F. (OLA) <pfescalona@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Brooks, Roshelle (OLA) <rbrooks@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages

(b) (5)

From: Tyson, Jill C. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:26 PM
To: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA) <kkellner@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Escalona, Prim F. (OLA) <pfescalona@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Brooks, Roshelle (OLA) <rbrooks@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages

(b) (5)

From: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)

Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 2:49 PM

To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Escalona, Prim F. (OLA) <pfescalona@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Tyson, Jill C. (OLA) <jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov>

Cc: Brooks, Roshelle (OLA) <rbrooks@jmd.usdoj.gov>

Subject: FW: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages

Duplicative Material





U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

The Honorable Richard Burr
Chairman
Select Committee on Intelligence
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

DEC 12 2017

Dear Chairman Burr,

This responds to the Committee's request that the Department of Justice (Department) provide the Committee with copies of text message communications between Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) employees Peter Strzok and Lisa Page. We are sending letters and identical enclosures to a number of Congressional Committees that have made similar requests.

As you may know, on January 12, 2016, the Department of Justice's Office of Inspector General (OIG) publicly announced that the OIG would review "allegations that Department or FBI policies or procedures were not followed in connection with, or in actions leading up to or related to, the FBI Director's public announcement on July 5, 2016,¹ and the Director's letters to Congress on October 28 and November 6, 2016, and that certain underlying investigative decisions were based on improper considerations."² As part of that review, the OIG obtained, among other things, text messages between Mr. Strzok and Ms. Page.

The Department expected the documents provided herein to be provided as part of a completed OIG report. However, public reporting about the existence of the text messages prompted Congressional Committee requests for the text messages. Please find enclosed an initial disclosure of approximately 375 text message communications, dated August 16, 2015 to December 1, 2016, that have been identified as pertinent to the OIG review referenced above. The enclosed documents contain minimal redactions that protect the privacy interests of third parties and sensitive law enforcement information, and remove irrelevant information. The Department continues to review documents and will provide pertinent documents as they become available.

¹ On that date, then-FBI Director James B. Comey announced that the FBI was recommending to the Department of Justice that no charges should be filed relating to former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server.

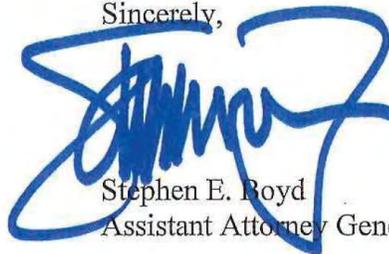
² DOJ OIG Announces Initiation of Review, January 12, 2017, available at: <https://oig.justice.gov/press/2017/2017-01-12.pdf>

The Honorable Richard Burr
Page Two

As has been publicly reported, Mr. Strzok previously served on the investigative team led by Special Counsel Robert Mueller. The OIG informed the Special Counsel of the existence of the enclosed text messages on or about July 27, 2017. Mr. Mueller immediately concluded that Mr. Strzok could no longer participate in the investigation, and he was removed from the team.

This extraordinary accommodation of providing the enclosed documents is unique to the facts and circumstances of this particular matter. The Department appreciates the work of the OIG on this matter, looks forward to the findings and recommendations arising from that review, and will take appropriate action as warranted.

Sincerely,



Stephen E. Boyd
Assistant Attorney General

cc: The Honorable Mark Warner
Ranking Member

Enclosures

Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 4:12 PM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Cc: Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI); Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (DO) (FBI)
Subject: FW: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages
Attachments: Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson - Text Messages.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Scott—did you see attached OIG response to similar questions from Chairman Johnson?

dfl

From: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 2:49 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Escalona, Prim F. (OLA) <pfescalona@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Tyson, Jill C. (OLA) <jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Brooks, Roshelle (OLA) <rbrooks@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: FW: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages

Duplicative Material



Mangum, Anela M. (OLA)

From: Mangum, Anela M. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:56 PM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA); Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA); Tyson, Jill C. (OLA); Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA); Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA); Escalona, Prim F. (OLA)
Cc: Brooks, Roshelle (OLA)
Subject: RE: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages
Attachments: 2017-12-12 FBI Strzok Text - Nunes.pdf; 2017-12-12 FBI Strzok Text - Goodlatte.pdf; 2017-12-12 FBI Strzok Text - Johnson.pdf; 2017-12-12 FBI Strzok Text - Burr.pdf; 2017-12-12 FBI Strzok Text - Grassley.pdf

Please find the cover letters attached.

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:54 PM
To: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA) <kkellner@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Tyson, Jill C. (OLA) <jctyson@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6) Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Escalona, Prim F. (OLA) <pfescalona@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Mangum, Anela M. (OLA) <amangum@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Brooks, Roshelle (OLA) <rbrooks@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: OIG Response letter to Sens Grassley and Johnson re Text Messages

Duplicative Material



Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 8:18 PM
To: Mangum, Anela M. (OLA)
Subject: FW: texts

Written request of 12/05 for house judiciary.

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Friday, December 8, 2017 11:15 AM
To: 'Parmiter, Robert' (b) (6) House Email [REDACTED]; Lassetter, David F. (OLA)
<dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Breitenbach, Ryan (b) (6) House Email [REDACTED]; Husband, Shelley
(b) (6) House Email [REDACTED] Ritchie, Branden (b) (6) House Email [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: texts

Duplicative Material



Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 4:31 PM
To: Patel, Kash
Subject: Re: Text message production

Kash—left you a vm. We are ready to produce. I just need a short letter signed by Chairman. DOJ attorneys are recommending based on future potential litigation.

Thanks,
David

David F. Lasseter

On Dec 12, 2017, at 13:19, Patel, Kash (b) (6) House Email wrote:

David,

The first formal request was made in writing to DOJ (on an email which you were included on 12/2) for all communications between Strzok and Page, to include text messages. Furthermore, the Chairman made the very same request in person to the DAG when they met at DOJ on 12/6. Lastly, there was yet another follow-up email sent to DOJ on 12/6 itemizing the agreed upon due outs from the meeting, which included again, the request for all communications to include text messages. If these multiple requests in writing and in person from the Chairman to the DAG are insufficient for DOJ to comply with agreement, please let me know. You may also consider this yet another written request on behalf of the Chairman and the Committee to produce said communications. Thanks and we look forward to receiving the production.

Regards,
Kash

Kashyap P. Patel
Senior Counsel for Counterterrorism
House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

Desk: (b) (6)
Cell: (b) (6)
NSTS: (b) (6)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) [<mailto:David.F.Lasseter@usdoj.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 11:57 AM
To: Patel, Kash (b) (6) House Email
Subject: Text message production

Kash—good morning. It is our understanding that the Chairman has made a request for text

messages between Pete Strzok and Lisa Page. If the committee will send us a formal request in writing on letterhead today, we should be able to provide an initial production in the next day or two.

Thanks,
David

David F. Lasseter
Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
(202) 514-1260

Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:47 PM
To: Herbert, Jenelle R. (OLA)
Cc: Johnson, Joanne E. (OLA)
Subject: FW: A Letter from Chairman Johnson to Acting Attorney General Rosenstein
Attachments: 2012-12-13 Draft response to Johnson 12--6-2017.docx; 2017-12-06 RHJ to DOJ Rosenstein.pdf

JH—(b) (5)

Thanks,
David

From: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:20 AM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI) <gbrower@fbi.gov>;
Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (DO) (FBI) Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6)
Subject: RE: A Letter from Chairman Johnson to Acting Attorney General Rosenstein

David:

(b) (5)

Scott

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 11:35 AM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI) <gbrower@fbi.gov>;
Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (DO) (FBI) Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6)
Subject: FW: A Letter from Chairman Johnson to Acting Attorney General Rosenstein
Importance: High

Scott/Greg—good morning. (b) (5)

Thanks,
David

From: Downey, Brian (HSGAC) (b) (6) Senate Email
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2017 8:19 PM
To: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA) <kkellner@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Johnson, Joanne E. (OLA) <jojohnson@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (DO) (FBI) Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (DO) (FBI) Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: Brewer, David (HSGAC) (b) (6) Senate Email

Subject: A Letter from Chairman Johnson to Acting Attorney General Rosenstein

Importance: High

Hello,

Please find attached a letter from Chairman Johnson addressed to Acting Attorney General Rosenstein. Please confirm receipt of the letter and enclosure. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brian M. Downey

Senior Investigator

Chairman Ron H. Johnson (WI)

U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Washington, DC

(P) (b) (6)

**House Judiciary Committee Holds Hearing on FBI Oversight
December 7, 2017 (Final Transcript)**

WITNESS:
FBI Director Wray

GOODLATTE:

The Judiciary Committee will come to order. And, without objection, the chair is authorized to declare recesses of the committee at any time. We welcome everyone to this morning's hearing on oversight of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and I'll begin by recognizing myself for an opening statement.

Thank you, Director Wray, for appearing for your first time in front of this committee, and thank you for your service to our country in your new position. There is much to discuss today, and we look forward to your answers.

The president recently tweeted that the FBI is in tatters. While some will take umbrage with President Trump's assertion, it does appear to me that, at the very least, the FBI's reputation as an impartial, nonpolitical agency has been called into question recently.

We cannot afford for the FBI, which has traditionally been dubbed the premier law enforcement agency in the world, to become tainted by politicization or the perception of a lack of evenhandedness.

Questions regarding the FBI's impartiality first came to light under the Obama administration, surrounding the handling of the investigation into the Clinton e-mail server scandal. You, Director Wray, have a unique opportunity to repair the damage of the reputation of the FBI, and we encourage you in the strongest terms to do so.

Director Comey's decision to weigh in on the fate of the investigation into the mishandling of classified e-mails by former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton was one that brought criticism to the bureau from all sides.

The FBI's decision to recommend no charges against formers -- the former secretary or anyone connected to her continues to raise serious concerns that our nation's system of justice applies differently to the rich, powerful and well-connected than to everyone else.

Many on this committee have repeatedly called on Attorney General Sessions and Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein to name a second special counsel to review the voluminous unresolved inconsistencies and perceived improprieties with regard to formal -- to normal FBI and DOJ investigatory practice that arose during the Clinton e-mail investigation.

Despite our request, the department has not appointed a second special counsel. While we still request the appointment of a second special counsel, we have now also opened our own joint investigation with the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee to review FBI and DOJ's handling of that investigation.

The attorney general has recently committed to provide us relevant documents and I hope to hear directly from you that you will ensure your agency provides a fulsome response of documents to enable unimpeded congressional oversight.

Even more recently, reports on the bias of some of the career agents and lawyers on current Special Counsel Mueller's team are also deeply troubling to a system of blind and equal justice. Investigations must not be tainted by individuals imposing their own personal political opinions.

We do not know the magnitude of this insider bias on Mr. Mueller's team, nor do we have a clear understanding of the full magnitude of bias reflected in the Russia investigation and prior Clinton e-mail investigation.

One thing is clear, though: It is absolutely unacceptable for FBI employees to permit their own political predilections to contaminate any investigation. Even the appearance of impropriety will devastate the FBI's reputation.

We hope to hear from you today about an action plan for making sure this never happens again, that individuals are held accountable, and whether you plan to reevaluate prior decisions in light of the prejudice shown by officials in integral roles on past and ongoing investigations.

Concerning substantive legislative measures, we find ourselves only weeks before a critical program for our national security expires, FISA Section 702. This committee passed on an overwhelmingly bipartisan basis a reauthorization of Section 702 that maintains the integrity of the program while protecting cherished civil liberties.

GOODLATTE:

We ensure that the FBI is not hindered by having a -- having to obtain a warrant before performing a search for information that the agency has inside its databases. However, we also put in place protections to ensure that law enforcement cannot shortcut American civil liberties by reading Americans' e-mails without a warrant when looking for evidence of run-of-the-mill crimes.

This committee's legislation struck a balance that will hope that will promote national security and civil liberties. So I hope to hear from you that you will work with us to make any perfecting changes to the legislation so that Section 702 can be reauthorized on time.

Needless violence on the home front is also a concern for all Americans who value and expect safety and security as they go about their day-to-day lives. We have seen horrific violence in the past year, including the worst mass shooting in U.S. history.

Violence has hit this very body when our colleague, Congressman Scalise, and others were shot. We also see many of our major cities stricken by daily murders and excessive violence. Is this the new normal? I'm unwilling to accept that.

While we have disagreements over policy for addressing this violence, we can all agree that it is essentially -- it is existentially important for us to understand and address the underlying causes. If we neglect this duty, we do a disservice for generations to come.

Director Wray, in addition to punishing individuals who have already committed criminal acts, I hope the FBI is also committed to crime prevention initiatives.

I am interested to know what steps federal law enforcement is taking to address the underlying causes of violence and whether Congress can offer any additional resources to ensure that we can faithfully say that we have done what we can to battle gratuitous violence in all of its forms.

I believe that this committee's criminal justice reform legislation will help address these problems, including helping to rehabilitate offenders so that they can become productive members of society, once released.

Notwithstanding the question of the impartiality and independence of the FBI, I am often astounded by the efforts that the men and women of the FBI contribute on a daily basis toward keeping our country safe from foreign and domestic threats. There are many successes that never come to light -- that never see the light of day, for which the FBI cannot receive public credit, due to the sensitivity of the FBI's methods and operations.

We are truly grateful and hope that the line agents, analysts and support staff of the FBI know that their jobs are sincerely appreciated and greatly valued.

Again, Director Wray, thank you for appearing today. And I'll now yield to the ranking member of the committee, the gentleman from New York, Mr. Nadler, for his opening statement.

NADLER:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and welcome to the House Judiciary Committee, Director Wray.

Earlier this week, in a message to your agents and employees, you gave us your vision of what the FBI is supposed to be. Quote, "We find ourselves under the microscope each and every day, and rightfully so. We do hard work for a living. We are entrusted with protecting the American people and upholding the Constitution and laws of The United States.

"Because of the importance of our mission, we are also entrusted with great power, and we should expect and welcome people asking tough questions about how we use that power. That goes with the job and always has," unquote, from your statement.

I appreciate that sentiment. But it cannot be a coincidence that you sent this message to your agents just hours after President Trump launched an online tantrum aimed largely at the bureau as an institution and at individual agents. Early Saturday morning, the president tweeted, quote, "So General Flynn lies to the FBI and his life destroyed, while crooked Hillary lies many times and nothing happens to her? Rigged system or just a double standard?" question mark, unquote.

He went on: "After years of Comey, with the phony and dishonest Clinton investigation, running the FBI, its reputation is in tatters, worst in history." These outbursts exemplify two key characteristics of the administration: a cheapening and coarsening of our dialogue, and baseless but entirely predictable political attacks against Hillary Clinton, political opponents, the Department of Justice and the FBI.

I fear that this demeaning language has infected much of our work here on this committee. And I suspect, Mr. Director, that many of my Republican colleagues will take a similar approach in attempting

to shift the conversation away from questions they have largely ignored, like obstruction of justice, election security and the rise in hate crimes.

Indeed, I predict that these attacks on the FBI will grow louder and more brazen as the special counsel does his work and the walls close in around the president and evidence of his obstruction and other misdeeds becomes more apparent.

In this moment, Director Wray, your responsibility is not only to defend the bureau, but to push back against the president when he is clearly wrong, both on the facts and as a matter of principle.

When he says, quote, "the FBI person really reports directly to the president of the United States," unquote, it is your job to tell him that the director of the FBI has reported to the attorney general since the founding of the bureau, and the president should not comment on pending cases.

When he claims that you should focus on, quote, "crooked Hillary," unquote, instead of his closest associates, or when my colleagues argue for a new special counsel to do the same, it is your responsibility to remind us that, absent sufficient evidence of a crime, there is no investigation to which a special counsel can be assigned.

And when he tells you that you need to, quote, "clean house;" that your agents are, quote, "phony and dishonest;" and that your, quote, "reputation" -- or "the reputation of the bureau is in tatters" and, quote, "the worst in history," you should do more than send a private e-mail to your employees. Your job, then, is to stand up to the president of the United States.

As former Acting Attorney General Sally Yates has said, "The only thing in tatters is the president's respect for the rule of law. The dedicated men and women of the FBI deserve better."

Or, as former Attorney General Eric Holder said, "You'll find integrity and honesty at FBI headquarters, and not at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, right now."

Or, as Thomas O'Connor, president of the FBI Agents Association, said, "The FBI continues to be the premier law enforcement agency in the world. FBI agents are dedicated to their mission. Suggesting otherwise is simply false," unquote.

I'm curious if you think their defense of the bureau is wrong or misplaced. And I hope you'll address the matter in your testimony today. Your job requires you to have the courage, in these circumstances, to stand up to the president. That responsibility is far more than a matter of politics.

There really -- there are real consequences for allowing the president to continue his attacks on the FBI and to continue unchecked in this manner. For example, FBI statistics released last month show a marked increase in the rise of hate crimes in the United States. Your data indicate 6,121 hate crimes against seven -- against 7,615 victims last year alone.

Last week, about 70 of our colleagues wrote to me and to Chairman Goodlatte, asking us to, quote, "convene immediate hearings to determine what can be done to stem the tide," unquote, of this violence. I agree completely. This committee should address the matter without delay, and I ask that the letter I have made a part of the record.

GOODLATTE:

Without objection, it will be made a part of the record.

NADLER:

Thank you.

I am certain that more than one factor is to blame for this rise in violence, but I cannot help but look to a president who has tacitly and sometimes explicitly created an environment that is more hostile to the most vulnerable among us.

As a candidate, he denigrated women, characterized immigrants as rapists and openly mocked the disabled. As president, he cracked a Pocahontas joke at a ceremony honoring the contributions of Native Americans in combat defending this country, circulated unverified anti-Muslim videos produced by far-right fascist extremists in Great Britain and asked us to remember the very -- the, quote, "very fine people," unquote, among the racists and white nationalists at Charlottesville. According to reports, he has even resurrected the question of President Obama's birthplace, a pernicious, racist lie from the start.

We are looking for leaders who have the moral -- who can supply some moral authority to lead this country. I hope you will be among them, Director Wray. I look forward to your testimony today.

I thank the chairman. I yield back.

GOODLATTE:

Chair thanks the gentleman.

We welcome our distinguished witness. And if you'll please rise, I'll begin by swearing you in.

Do you swear that the testimony that you are about to give shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

WRAY:

(OFF-MIKE).

GOODLATTE:

Thank you very much. Let the record show that the witness answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Christopher Wray was sworn in as the eighth director of the FBI on August 2, 2017. A New York City native, Mr. Wray graduated from Yale University and subsequently earned his law degree from Yale Law School.

Mr. Wray began his Department of Justice career in 1997 as an assistant U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Georgia, where he prosecuted cases ranging from public corruption to gun trafficking and financial fraud.

In 2001, he joined the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, where he served as associate deputy attorney general and then principal associate deputy attorney general.

In 2003, Mr. Wray was nominated by President George W. Bush to serve as assistant attorney general for the Criminal Division. At the conclusion of his tenure, Mr. Wray was awarded the Edmond J. Randolph Award, the Department of Justice's highest award for leadership and public service. Mr. Wray went on to practice law before returning to the public sector as Director of the FBI.

Mr. Wray, your written statement will be entered into the record in its entirety, and we ask you summarize your testimony in five minutes. Welcome.

WRAY:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, Ranking Member Nadler, members of the committee, thank you for having me here today. This is my first opportunity to appear before this committee, and I look forward to our discussion.

Let me start by saying that it is, for me, the honor of a lifetime to be here representing the men and women of the FBI. There is no finer institution than the FBI, and no finer people than the men and women who work there and are its very beating heart: almost 37,000 men and women with a fierce commitment to protecting the American people and upholding the rule of law in all 50 states and in about 80 countries around the world, men and women who face the darkest that life has to offer with unyielding integrity and honesty and dedication. And I am both humbled and inspired to be back in public service working alongside them.

I'd like to take a step back to consider the serious challenges that we're facing and to remember the millions of people that we're protecting. On the national security front, we confront individuals who want to harm the United States in whatever way they can -- terrorists hell-bent on striking us with IEDs, vehicles, guns and knives. For example, as we speak, the bureau has about 1,000 active ISIS investigations in all 50 states.

We have nation-states actively seeking our technology, our military secrets, our research and development to build their own economic process and prowess and to tear ours down; cyber criminals who are using sophisticated means to infiltrate our systems and steal every piece of data that they can get their hands on.

These threats are real, they are many and they are a grave threat to all Americans. But, for the people we serve, these are not the threats that they encounter the most in their everyday lives. Threats like violent crime and the national opioid epidemic impact everyday people trying to lead everyday lives.

They don't want to have to worry about a terrorist driving a truck down a busy walkway. They don't want to worry about an active shooter opening fire on a crowded public gathering. And they certainly don't want to worry about whether their kids are safe from gangs and drug dealers and predators.

WRAY:

We all need to be aware of the world around us and of the threats we face, but we in the FBI are trying to do everything we can to make sure that the American people can go about living their lives while we focus on trying to keep them safe.

I'd like to highlight just a couple recent investigations that illustrate just a small, small part of our work, together with our law enforcement partners and our colleagues in the Justice Department.

In October, through Operation Cross Country, which the FBI conducted in 44 states and the District of Columbia, we arrested 120 sex traffickers and recovered 84 sexually exploited juveniles, including a three-month-old girl and her five-year-old sister, who were recovered from a family friend who was trying to sell them for sex for \$600.

And, through our top 10 most wanted fugitives program, we have apprehended, just in the last couple years, 10 of the most particularly dangerous offenders.

In August -- late August, we were able to work with our Mexican counterparts to capture Luis Macedo, a gang member charged with first-degree murder for beating, then shooting, and then setting on fire a 15-year-old boy in Illinois who refused to show a gang sign.

And then, earlier this year, the pressure of being added to our top 10 list led fugitive Robert Van Wisse to turn himself in to FBI agents in Texas for the 1983 murder of a young woman with a one-year-old daughter. For 33 years, that little girl, now all grown up, had hoped and prayed for his arrest, and he was finally captured on her birthday. Cold comfort, I suspect, but we hope that his capture provides some measure of peace and justice to her.

The work that we do is not easy, to put it mildly. But the FBI is mission focused and passionate about the work we do. We are determined to be the very best at protecting the American people and upholding the rule of law. And I, for one, could not be more proud to be part of it.

I want to thank you, this committee, for your support. We could not do what we do without the funding that you all help us secure, without the investigative tools and authorities that you granted us, including, as you noted, Mr. Chairman, Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, which is at risk and set to expire very soon.

We need every tool and every authority we've got to keep people safe and to pursue justice. And, as always, we're committed to using those authorities lawfully and appropriately for the good and protection of the American people.

So thank you for having me here today. I look forward to your questions.

GOODLATTE:

Thank you, Director Wray. I'll begin by recognizing myself for questions.

Mr. Director, I'm sure you're aware of the recent media reports indicating that Peter Strzok, who is a special agent at the FBI changed the words "grossly negligent" to "extremely careless" in former Director Comey's statement closing the Clinton investigation. Are you aware of that?

WRAY:

I've heard some of the same information you have.

GOODLATTE:

Great. Do you know, by chance, what the criminal intent standard is under the Espionage Act? In particular, 18 USC 793(f).

WRAY:

I haven't studied the statute recently, but I believe it's gross negligence.

GOODLATTE:

That's right. It is gross negligence. So would it be accurate to say that a senior FBI official changed the wording of the director's statement to ensure that Secretary Clinton was not liable under the Espionage Act?

WRAY:

Well, Mr. Chairman, as you may know, the handling of the investigation into Secretary Clinton is currently the subject of an outside, independent investigation by the inspector general, and I think it would not be appropriate for me to speculate about what the inspector general will or will not find.

GOODLATTE:

That is probably appropriate, but it's still not at all inappropriate to ask you to draw a legal conclusion about a standard in the law that was changed in a statement that the -- your predecessor put out as a justification for closing the investigation of the former secretary of state.

WRAY:

As I said, Mr. Chairman, I believe the standard is gross negligence. I leave it to others to conclude whether "extremely careless" and "gross negligence" are the same thing.

But I will say that the particulars of the investigation and the decisions that were made and whether or not it was handled appropriately is, as I think it should be, the subject of an outside, independent investigation by the inspector general, and I look forward to his findings, as I'm sure the committee does, as well.

GOODLATTE:

In July of 2016, the State Department revealed that former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton exchanged on her unsecured private server nearly two dozen top secret e-mails with three State Department officials.

The classification Top Secret means, in part, the unauthorized disclosure of which reasonably could be expected to cause exceptionally grave damage to national security.

Can you explain to the American people how the FBI could not be investigating actions taken by individuals like those named in 2016 -- Jacob Sullivan, Cheryl Mills, William Burns -- that threatened grave damage to the national security?

WRAY:

Well, as I said, Mr. Chairman, the handling of the investigation and whether or not -- in particular whether or not decisions made in that investigation were the product of any improper considerations is precisely what the outside, independent inspector general is investigating. And, when we get his findings, I will look and see what appropriate action we can take at the FBI in response to that.

GOODLATTE:

Can anyone on this committee set up a private server now and conduct classified business on it, since not a single person has been prosecuted or held accountable for the Clinton e-mail investigation?

WRAY:

No.

GOODLATTE:

Thank you.

Director Wray, what are you doing to ensure that the top ranks of the Federal Bureau of Investigation are cleared of individuals who are tainted by bias or those who have exhibited indiscretion by failing to demonstrate the integrity Americans expect from their top law enforcement officials?

WRAY:

Well, the first thing I'm doing is respecting the outside, independent investigations that are underway. My preference is to be one of these people who is not a "act first and ask questions later" kind of guy, but an "ask questions first and then act" kind of guy.

And so I think these matters are being looked at, as they should be, by somebody outside the FBI. And, when those findings come to me, I will take appropriate action, if necessary.

In the meantime, I am emphasizing in every audience I can inside the bureau that our decisions need to be made based on nothing other than the facts and the law and our rules and our processes and our core values, and not based on any political considerations by any side of the aisle.

GOODLATTE:

Thank you.

Does the FBI obtain a warrant before accessing and reading Americans' e-mail?

WRAY:

It depends on the situation, but yes.

GOODLATTE:

So can you explain why you obtain a criminal search warrant before reading an e-mail of someone under investigation for a crime?

WRAY:

I'm sorry, can you repeat the question?

GOODLATTE:

Can you explain why you obtain a criminal search warrant before reading an e-mail of someone under investigation for a crime?

WRAY:

Well, in the situations where a search warrant is required, and, of course, under the Fourth Amendment, there are plenty of situations where a search warrant is not required -- there are all sorts of aspects to

the Fourth Amendment. But, in those situations where we seek a warrant, it's because the Fourth Amendment requires it.

GOODLATTE:

Section 702, as you and I both noted, is up for renewal within a few weeks. It is a critical national security tool that must be reauthorized. You and I agree on that, as well. But it is just that -- a national security tool, not a criminal tool.

Is it reasonable, when accessing content that shows evidence of a routine crime and is located in the FBI's 702 database, that agents should obtain some process, as is required in criminal cases?

WRAY:

Mr. Chairman, I've appreciated our discussions on Section 702. My own view is that Section 702, as currently drafted, which is the view shared by the courts that have looked at the question, is fully constitutional and lawful.

And I would say to you that our handling of querying of the information in the 702 database is querying of information that is already lawfully and constitutionally in the FBI's possession and is most useful at the earliest stages, when information is coming in in fragments and the bureau is trying to make assessments of what do we have, is this a real threat, where is this going. And I would implore the committee and the Congress not to begin rebuilding the wall that existed before 9/11.

GOODLATTE:

Well, thank you. My time's expired, but I will add that we share that concern, as well, and that's why we have drawn a clear distinction between national security and solving domestic crimes.

And, when it comes to the query, we allow that to move forward. But, when you then find that there's something related to the investigation of a domestic crime, then you should go ahead and get a search warrant. And we've protected the FBI's ability to access that database for the purpose of a query, but then, if you're going to take it further and actually read the contents of the e-mails -- if they're national security, go right ahead, because you may be stopping a terrorist attack.

But if you're solving a domestic crime, whatever it might be, then I think you need to respect the civil liberties of American citizens and get a warrant.

I now recognize the gentleman from New York, Mr. Nadler, for his questions.

NADLER:

Thank you.

Let me say prior to my statement that I totally agree with the chairman and his observations on 702 and on the distinctions we made in our bill between national security and counterintelligence operations, on the one hand, and investigations of domestic crimes, on the other, where we -- where you should get a warrant, where you'd normally need a warrant.

Director Wray, I'd like to ask you for your help putting the events of the last few days into context. To set the stage, over the summer, in an interview with The New York Times, President Trump stated,

quote, "When Nixon came along, out of courtesy, the FBI started reporting to the Department of Justice, but the FBI person really reports directly to the president of the United States," close quote.

Director Wray, you have one direct report to the executive branch. To whom do you directly report?

WRAY:

I directly report to the deputy attorney general, who then reports to the attorney general.

NADLER:

Thank you.

Has President Trump ever asked you to sidestep the chain of command and report directly to him?

WRAY:

No.

NADLER:

Also, over the summer, former Director Comey testified that, during a private dinner, President Trump told him, quote, "I need loyalty. I expect loyalty." Has President Trump ever asked you for loyalty?

WRAY:

I have never been asked by the president to take any kind of loyalty oath. My loyalty is to the Constitution, to the laws of this country and to the -- you know, the good men and people of America.

NADLER:

Thank you.

Last week, former National Security Adviser Michael Flynn pleaded guilty to one felony count of lying to the FBI about conversations he had with the Russian ambassador.

I would like to put President Trump's initial Twitter reaction up on the screen. I won't read it, but I will simply say he claims here to have known that General Flynn committed a crime at the time General Flynn was fired.

There's come controversy as to whether the president actually wrote this Tweet. The White House later claimed that it came from the president's private attorney. But I'm not sure that it matters who wrote it, given the Department of Justice's litigating position that these tweets are, quote, "official statements of the president of The United States," close quote.

A few clarifying questions, Mr. Director. In your experience at the Department of Justice, have you ever prosecuted a case involving a charge of obstruction of justice?

WRAY:

Yes.

NADLER:

And Sections 1503, 1505 and 1512 of Title 18 make it a crime if someone corruptly, quote, "obstructs, influences or impedes any official proceeding," close quote. What does it mean to corruptly obstruct, influence or impede an official proceeding?

WRAY:

Well, Congressman, that would require me to get into kind of a legal discussion...

(CROSSTALK)

WRAY:

... and it's been a while since I've looked at the case law on this subject. I do know -- have (ph) somebody who's been both a line prosecutor and a senior Justice Department official and a defense attorney -- that sometimes the language of that statute can be trickier than folks...

(CROSSTALK)

NADLER:

OK, fair enough -- fair enough. And I'm glad you're respecting the fact I only have five minutes.

Does obstruction of justice require specific intent? In other words, does a prosecutor have to establish that a defendant had knowledge of the official proceeding and intended to obstruct it?

WRAY:

Sitting here right now, Congressman, I don't remember the specifics of exactly what the intent requirement is.

NADLER:

OK. So you can't say if it matters that a suspect -- well, does it matter that a suspect has knowledge of a crime when he attempts to wave off criminal investigators? In other words, if a suspect has knowledge of a crime and he attempts to wave off criminal investigators, does that constitute obstruction of justice?

WRAY:

Well, certainly, the defendant's knowledge and state of mind and intent is a critical element of the offense.

NADLER:

OK.

Later that day, the president tweeted this claim -- this claim that we'll put up there. And, in effect, he accuses former Director Comey of giving false testimony. Mr. Comey testified that President Trump urged him to be lenient with Michael Flynn, producing a note in which he quoted the president saying, "I hope you can't -- I hope you can let this go."

In multiple appearances before Congress, Attorney General Sessions appears to have corroborated both the fact of the meeting and the gist of the conversation between the president and Director Comey.

Director Wray, do you have any reason to doubt the testimony of Director Comey or Attorney General Sessions on this point?

WRAY:

Congressman, the questions you're asking go directly to what Special Counsel Mueller is investigating. I don't think it would be appropriate for me to be weighing in on that in this setting.

NADLER:

You don't think you can say whether you have reason to doubt the veracity of a statement because that might be under investigation?

WRAY:

Congressman, you're -- the question you're asking me -- and I appreciate the reasons for the question, but the questions you're asking me are -- would be asking me to weigh in on witnesses in the course of an investigation that's ongoing...

NADLER:

OK.

WRAY:

... and I don't think that's appropriate for me to do.

NADLER:

I -- fair enough. As -- at your confirmation hearing, you testified that you would, quote, "consider any attempt" -- I'm sorry, "any effort to tamper with Director Mueller's investigation unacceptable and inappropriate, and any such effort would need to be dealt with very sternly and appropriately, indeed."

Since your confirmation, has the president ever contacted you about the special counsel's investigation? Has the Attorney General or anybody else at the White House?

WRAY:

No.

NADLER:

OK.

My final question is, the president's tirade ended with one final tweet, where he says your reputation is in tatters. After years of -- well, Director Wray -- and it's up there -- we have heard other veterans of the FBI and the Department of Justice push back against this attack on the reputation of the FBI.

With the time I have -- we haven't heard from you. With the time I have left, will you respond to this tweet by the president? Is the FBI's reputation in tatters?

WRAY:

Mr. Chairman, may I have time to answer this question? Because it's something that matters to me a great deal.

GOODLATTE:

Yes, go ahead, please.

WRAY:

Congressman, there is no shortage of opinions out there. What I can tell you is that the FBI that I see is tens of thousands of agents and analysts and staff, working their tails off to keep Americans safe from the next terrorist attack; gang violence; child predators; spies from Russia, China, North Korea and Iran.

The FBI that I see is tens of thousands of brave men and women who are working as hard as they can to keep people that they will never know safe from harm. And the FBI that I see is reflected in folks like the new class of agents that I swore in at Quantico two days ago: hard-charging, high-integrity people; people like the hostage rescue team and SWAT teams that we send out into all sorts of danger with almost no notice.

The FBI that I see is people -- decent people committed to the highest principles of integrity and professionalism and respect. The FBI that I see is respected and appreciated by our partners in federal, state and local law enforcement; in the intelligence community; by our foreign counterparts, both law enforcement and national security, in something like 200 countries around the globe. That's the FBI that I see.

Now, do we make mistakes? You bet we make mistakes, just like everybody who's human makes mistakes. And, when we make mistakes, there are independent processes, like that of the outside, independent inspector general, that will drive and dive deep into the facts surrounding those mistakes. And, when that independent fact-finding is complete, we will hold our folks accountable, if that's appropriate.

NADLER:

It's very fine. Thank you very much. I yield back.

GOODLATTE:

The chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio, Mr. Chabot, for five minutes.

CHABOT:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Director Wray, you've mentioned that the I.G., the inspector general, is investigating matters related, for example, to the Clinton e-mail server scandal, et cetera. But isn't it a fact that the I.G. does not have prosecutorial powers?

WRAY:

Well, under certain circumstances, the inspector general works with prosecutors to bring criminal cases.

CHABOT:

Well, what about in this case?

WRAY:

Well, this is a matter that's under review, at the moment, looking into the facts surrounding all those decisions.

CHABOT:

So the bottom line is the I.G. is looking into the matter, investigating it, but has no prosecutorial powers per se at this time?

WRAY:

The inspector general does not himself have prosecutorial power, yes.

CHABOT:

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

The president of the United States, as the chairman mentioned, recently expressed the opinion that the FBI's reputation was, quote, "in tatters," unquote.

Now, someone who's sat on this committee, the judiciary committee that has oversight of the Justice Department and the FBI, for over 20 years now, such a statement is, at least at first, shocking. But, when you look at a few facts, it's understandable why the president might make such a statement.

A former head of the FBI, Robert Mueller, is put in charge of an important investigation, and who does he pick to be on his team? Well, you'd want people who are experienced and smart and, most importantly, unbiased, because, whatever you do, the result is going to be second-guessed. One side or the other is going to be dissatisfied and critical.

So, above all things, they've got to at least appear to be fair and unbiased. So who does Mueller pick? He picked 16 attorneys -- nine of the 16, more than half, have given money to the Obama campaign or the Clinton campaign or both, and nobody has given a cent to Donald Trump or his campaign.

Does that show a lack of bias? Does that show fairness? I think the American people can decide that for themselves.

And, perhaps even more shocking, we recently learned that one of those supposedly unbiased investigators on the Mueller team was a guy named Peter Strzok. Turns out Strzok was sending out anti-Trump, pro-Clinton messages, so he ultimately got canned from the investigation.

The question is, how did this guy get on your supposedly unbiased team in the first place, when you consider that this is the same guy that had a key position investigating the Hillary Clinton e-mail server scandal, and apparently had a hand in altering the FBI's conclusion that Clinton was grossly negligent, down to "extremely careless," so she could escape prosecution and thus stay in the race against Donald Trump.

And now we learn that the number two guy on Mueller's team, Andrew Weissmann, is just as biased as Strzok. He made an anti-Trump communication to the since-fired Sally Yates, and the depths of this anti-Trump bias on the Mueller team just goes on and on. It's absolutely shocking.

Director Wray, I know all this took place before you took the helm at the FBI, but none other than the president of the United States has said that an organization that most Americans, including myself, hold in the highest esteem, the FBI, is in tatters.

What can you do -- what will you do to restore confidence in the premier law enforcement agency in the world?

WRAY:

Congressman, I appreciate the question and the reason for the question. It goes to the heart of whether or not the bureau is following its processes and the rules and the guidelines, and adhering to the independence and objectivity and professionalism that we all come to expect and respect from the FBI.

And I think the best way that I can validate the trust of the American people in the FBI is to ensure that we bring that same level of professionalism and integrity and objectivity and adherence to process in everything we do. As I said at the beginning, I think it is important that we not jump first and ask questions later.

So the second thing that I think can be done is, when there are fair questions to be asked about things like whether or not some of the decisions made in the 2016 investigation were handled appropriately or were subject or based on any kind of improper considerations, rather than have the FBI investigate itself, having an outside inspector general do the investigation and report to all of us on the findings, I think, is the -- one of the best things I can do. And then, based on that information, I won't hesitate to take appropriate action based on what it is he finds.

CHABOT:

Thank you.

And I'm almost out of time, but let me ask you, would you as FBI director, for example, ever permit associates of someone under investigation who themselves could also be under investigation to sit in an interview with the accused?

WRAY:

Well, I will say this: Having been, as I said to Congressman Nadler, both a line prosecutor a Justice Department official, but then also a defense attorney, that -- that's not my experience as the normal practice.

I'm also, however, reluctant to ever answer questions, as you can appreciate, with a hypothetical about whether I would ever do something, because every investigation is subject to its own unique circumstances.

CHABOT:

I certainly understand it, because that's exactly what happened in the so-called investigation of Hillary Clinton. And I yield back my time.

GOODLATTE:

The chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California, Ms. Lofgren, for five minutes.

LOFGREN:

Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman. And thank you, Mr. Director, for being here today. And thanks to you for your leadership of this agency, and to the men and women who work so hard to protect our country and to serve the United States. It's -- we all appreciate it, even though we might have a few questions.

My question -- my first question has to do with cybersecurity. You know, the -- there's a rapidly growing threat of cyber attacks at all levels, federal, state and local, business, personal level. And I was really concerned to learn in November of a report highlighting the FBI's failure to notify multiple government officials that they were the target of a Russian hacking campaign.

LOFGREN:

Now, at least according to this report, 500 people were targeted in the past year, including officials as high-profile as the former head of the Defense Intelligence Agency, the former head of the -- Air Force intelligence. Many of these people still had security clearances or worked for the government.

So I'd like to know -- the FBI was, as I understand it, correct me if I'm wrong -- of these efforts for at least a year, but, I am advised, informed only two of the targets. Can you explain why these individuals had to learn from the Associated Press that they were targets of an aggressive Russian hacking effort?

And do we know if any classified information was stolen? Were any members of Congress or congressional staff a target? And what mechanisms or additional resources need to be put in place so that targeted officials know they're at risk when there's a foreign operation such as this?

WRAY:

Well, Congresswoman, I think I'm not comfortable trying to discuss this -- specific victim engagements in a particular investigation, at least in this setting. But I think what I can tell you, which might be helpful, in response is that we have very well-established criteria and policies and procedures for questions of victim notification in cyber matters.

And the questions -- and I probably can't repeat them to you verbatim, but I can give you the gist of them -- the questions go to things like, number one, can we identify the victim, which in a lot of cases is harder than you might think; number two, is the information that we have at that point in the investigation actionable for the victim -- is there something they can do with it, you know, can it -- could sharing the information actually protect somebody, prevent a loss, et cetera?

We also look at whether or not sharing the information at the time that we -- you know, in question would potentially compromise or jeopardize an existing investigation or reveal sources and methods, which is often the case in these kinds of investigations.

LOFGREN:

But -- yeah.

WRAY:

And the last point I guess I would make is that, when you have a large number of people, it's much easier for us to provide victim notification when we have official or government or corporate accounts, where we can contact the chief information security officer and then they can communicate to all the people who are on that server.

When you talk about Gmail accounts and things like that, it gets a lot harder, because a lot of people's Gmail addresses don't have, you know, Wray -- C-W-R-A-Y, or, you know, Lofgren, or...

(CROSSTALK)

LOFGREN:

Right. But, for example -- and I assume, if what you're describing is the current practice, when the Democratic National Committee was hacked by the Russians, the FBI contacted an intern. They never contacted the chairman of the DNC. She found out, you know, months later. So, hopefully, those types of procedures have been revised. Do you know that?

WRAY:

I think the procedures themselves remain the same, and the procedures themselves, I think, are pretty sound. The question of -- but if you think about what they are, they are questions that the investigators have to ask in each victim notification context.

LOFGREN:

Well, let me go -- when we had the Attorney General here recently, we asked -- there's an ongoing effort to hack into the election system. We know that from various reports. And the Attorney General said he -- really, nothing was going on that he hadn't been able to pay -- I'm paraphrasing -- he would say it's really important; we haven't spent enough time on it.

I'm getting the sense that that's true across the government. In fact, we've got systems that were hacked within half an hour at DEF CON by -- state voting systems. What is the FBI doing, relative to preserving the integrity of the voting structure itself for the next election?

WRAY:

Mr. Chairman, may -- I see my time -- may I answer that one?

(CROSSTALK)

GOODLATTE:

Yes (ph).

WRAY:

Thank you.

Well, I think the FBI is actually very focused on this subject. It's one of the things that I've tried to insist on, upon arriving. We have a foreign influence task force that we stood up that brings together both our counterintelligence division, our cyber division and our criminal division, as well as some other parts of the bureau.

We are in coordination, through that task force, with DHS, which of course has responsibility for a lot of the election infrastructure, along with states. We are in contact with our foreign partners, because, as you know, efforts to interfere with elections are occurring in other countries, as well, and so, by doing that with our close relationships with our foreign counterparts, we learn more about tradecraft methods and things like that.

So we're acutely focused on looking out for signs of interference in the 2018 or 2020 election cycle.

LOFGREN:

If I may, Mr. Chair, I know my time is up, but I hope that there is an effort by the bureau to communicate with state election officers, who oftentimes have been kept in the dark.

And I yield back.

GOODLATTE:

The chair recognizes the gentleman from California, Mr. Issa, for five minutes.

ISSA:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Director Wray, a couple of questions, one is one that I'm sure you're aware of, and I'm just going to ask it as a "Do you agree?" And it's not hypothetical, but it's nonspecific. Do you agree that persons should not have their assets forfeited without due process and a provable link to criminal activity?

WRAY:

Well, Congressman, it's been a while since I looked at the law on asset forfeiture. So I want to be careful..

(CROSSTALK)

ISSA:

Well, this is a -- this is a constitutional, not a statutory question.

WRAY:

Well, I believe that, in the context of asset forfeiture, we should respect the constitution.

ISSA:

OK. So it's fair to say that, if somebody has \$10,000 in their van, they have it taken from them and they have to sue to get it back, even though they're never charged with a crime, that would be wrong under due process in the Constitution?

WRAY:

Well, again, I'm not trying to make this difficult, but I -- you know, to me, asset forfeiture questions raise all kinds of complicated case law questions about due process, et cetera.

What I do believe -- due process and adherence to the Constitution are incredibly important in the asset forfeiture context, as in elsewhere.

ISSA:

Thank you, Director.

Now, switching to the matter of Peter Strzok -- and I had a long time working with your folks on the personnel side, over at Oversight, where -- where we oversee a lot of those things.

And I just want to make the record straight, now that you're, in addition to being the chief from a law enforcement standpoint, you're also sort of the ultimate head of H.R. for those tens of thousands of people who are working so hard for us: Is an FBI agent allowed to have a political opinion?

WRAY:

Yes.

ISSA:

Is an FBI agent allowed to communicate that political opinion to their wife or even their mistress?

WRAY:

Yes.

ISSA:

So nothing in a text simply communicating a political opinion would be cause for firing or any other action under the ordinary rules of the FBI or any federal person (ph), correct?

WRAY:

I think each question would have to be based on its own circumstances. Certainly, I can imagine situations, as you're describing, where it wouldn't be, and I can imagine situations where it might be.

ISSA:

So that brings us to a situation, now, in which an individual is key to the question of whether or not there should be a full de novo review of the FBI's actions as to Hillary Clinton and the decision not to prosecute her, since he was -- he was actively involved in that.

So my question to you is, since it's clear that whatever Peter Strzok did was sufficient to have him relieved -- something that, in the ordinary course of simply communicating a political opinion, would not cause that, and would be inappropriate to relieve somebody simply for having a political opinion -- will you make available to this committee, upon the chairman's obvious request, the ability to see any or all of those 10,000 texts sufficient to understand why this individual was dismissed and how it might be relevant to the question of the objectivity of Director Comey's investigation and conclusions?

WRAY:

Well, there's a couple parts to your question, if I might. First, I want to be clear that the individual in question has not been dismissed or disciplined. What happened was -- what...

ISSA:

He has not been dismissed, but he's been relieved from the duties he had and he's now...

WRAY:

Well, he was...

ISSA:

... he's now in H.R., which...

WRAY:

... he was reassigned -- he was reassigned away from the special counsel investigation, which is different than disciplinary action.

Second, as to the question of access to the text messages, we'd be happy to try to work with the committee on that. I want to be sensitive to that fact that there is an active -- very active outside, independent investigation by the inspector general, and the last thing I want to do and, I think, the last thing this committee would want to do -- would somehow compromise or interfere with that.

So we'll have to go through a process to assess how we can be sensitive to those operational considerations, while at the same time, as we should be, be responsive to Congress and this committee in its oversight responsibility (ph).

GOODLATTE:

Would the gentleman yield on that?

ISSA:

Of course I'd yield to Chairman.

GOODLATTE:

I thank the gentleman for yielding.

We have been in communication with the Inspector General. We very much respect the investigation that is taking place there. And we have asked the Department of Justice and, through them, the Federal Bureau of Investigation for all of the 1.2 million documents that have been provided to the inspector general, minus those that relate to any particular on-going grand jury investigation.

Now, I have received back from the assistant attorney general, Mr. Boyd, a letter indicating that they will make a fulsome response to that request.

So I would like, in following up with Mr. Issa's question, to hear you tell us that you will also provide us with that honoring of that fulsome request, because most of those documents that the department has committed to provide are coming from the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

WRAY:

Sir, and I don't mean to suggest that we wouldn't be fully responsive and cooperative with the committee -- I'm simply saying that we would work with the Justice Department in making sure that we have considered all of the appropriate factors that we need to to make sure that we're not doing something on the -- in terms of unintended consequences with ongoing investigations. But we have no desire to frustrate the very legitimate oversight requests of this committee.

NADLER:

Would the chairman yield for a moment?

GOODLATTE:

Yes, I yield to the gentleman.

NADLER:

Thank you.

I just want to ask the director, do the -- can this kind or does this kind of document requests of the inspector general on an ongoing investigation -- could it interfere with that investigation? Is it proper to respond fulsomely? I mean, what are the limitations here?

WRAY:

Well, I think a lot of that is -- requires, as the chairman referenced, us to make sure that we are touching base with the inspector general, since it's his investigation and not ours.

If the inspector general is comfortable with the information being provided and that it's not going to interfere with or impede his investigation, then that's one very, very significant consideration that can be put to the side. So we'll..

NADLER:

But if he's not going to abide (ph)...

(CROSSTALK)

WRAY:

I can commit that our staff will work with the Justice Department staff and your staff to make sure that we're doing everything we possibly can to be responsive, while at the same time making sure that we're not in some way jeopardizing or compromising an ongoing investigation or revealing something about a -- you know, a grand jury matter or anything like that.

NADLER:

We ask for it minus grand jury material. Obviously, it takes some time to do that. The -- Mr. Boyd committed to a date of January 15, and he's going to require your cooperation. So we want to have your assurance that that cooperation in meeting that date will be forthcoming.

We would tend to follow up with further letters on clarifying this. But it's very important that we have this information very quickly. The inspector general is completely cooperative with us in his investigation, but they're not his documents.

They are the FBI, the Department of Justice's documents. So the request is not directed at him; it's directed to the department, and we need to have full response.

WRAY:

We intend to be fully cooperative with both this committee and the inspector general.

GOODLATTE:

I robbed the gentleman from California of a bit of his time. So I'm going to...

NADLER:

I have to say I yield back.

(LAUGHTER)

GOODLATTE:

I will...

ISSA:
I'll be brief, Mr. Chairman.

(CROSSTALK)

GOODLATTE:
The gentleman is recognized for an additional minute.

ISSA:
Thank you.

Director, at this time, as far as you know, you're not asserting or believe there's any privilege as to those documents. Is that correct?

WRAY:
Well, I haven't reviewed the however many million documents that...

ISSA:
I'm only saying that you -- at this time, you know of no privilege?

WRAY:
I'm not aware of it, but I really haven't asked the question yet, to be honest.

ISSA:
OK, I appreciate that.

And then, lastly, since -- in the case of Peter Strzok and other statements, because this information was not made available to us at a time in which you predecessor, Mr. Comey, specifically said he was breaking precedent and being open and transparent as to the investigation of Hillary Clinton's taking from government possession documents under the Federal Records Act and classified documents, do you agree that a de novo review, at some point, by someone, is clearly warranted as to whether or not the decision not to prosecute was appropriate?

WRAY:
Well, Congressman, I think what I would say to that is there is a -- what I would consider a de novo outside, independent review by the inspector general into whether or not decisions made, including charging or not charging decisions in the matter that you're referring to, were based on any kind of improper considerations or political considerations.

And, depending on what the inspector general finds, there could be any range of possible steps that we or others would have to take in response to those findings.

ISSA:
So it's not a de novo review by the inspector general, but a review of whether or not impropriety occurred. And, as such, a de novo review of that decision not to prosecute Hillary Clinton would be the question?

GOODLATTE:

The time of the gentleman has expired.

WRAY:

I think I...

GOODLATTE:

The director may answer the question.

WRAY:

... yeah, I think I can briefly respond, which is, I think of the inspector general's investigation as de novo in one sense, which is that it's objective, arm's-length, no skin in the game, if you will. But it's -- you're right that the inspector general is not second-guessing prosecutorial decisions and things like that.

However, however, the inspector general is looking at the very important question of whether or not improper political considerations factored into the decision-making. If he were to conclude that that's what happened, then I think, at that point, we're in a situation we have to assess what else might need to be done to un-ring that bell, if you will.

ISSA:

Thank you. I yield back.

GOODLATTE:

The chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas, Mrs. Jackson Lee, for five minutes.

JACKSON LEE:

I thank the chairman. I welcome you, Director, and I thank you for your service.

I'm holding in my hand right now the mission of the FBI, which reads, "The mission of the FBI is to protect and defend the United States against terrorists and foreign intelligence threats, to uphold and enforce the criminal laws of the United States, and to provide leadership and criminal justice services to federal, state, municipal and international agencies and partners, and to perform these responsibilities in a manner that is responsive to the needs of the public and is faithful to the Constitution of the United States."

Do you adhere to that mission?

WRAY:

Yes, ma'am.

JACKSON LEE:

Does that mission include your responding to the political bias and comments of politicians?

WRAY:

I do not think it is part of my responsibility to respond to opinions and biases, if they are out there, by politicians.

JACKSON LEE:

If -- and forgive me for the time period that I have -- if Director Comey made a statement that there would be no prosecution against the former secretary of state, would that statement have been reviewed by the Department of Justice?

WRAY:

Well, Congresswoman, I think that -- how that all -- that whole decision-making was handled...

JACKSON LEE:

But is that -- let (ph)...

WRAY:

... is part of what the inspector general is looking at.

JACKSON LEE:

... no, is that the protocol? You indicated that you report to the deputy attorney general; he reports to the attorney general. And so, in the normal protocol, a statement that you would've made, or any other FBI director would've made -- Director Mueller, when he was the FBI director -- reviewed by that protocol.

Is that the likely protocol?

WRAY:

Likely protocol, sure.

JACKSON LEE:

Let me move on to indicate that it was stated earlier that the FBI -- that the former secretary disclosed top secrets into e-mails -- whether that -- and asked the question whether that should be investigated. The present president disclosed Top Secret classified information to Russian ambassador and foreign minister in the Oval Office.

Is the FBI investigating those disclosures?

WRAY:

Congresswoman, I wouldn't confirm or suggest the existence of any ongoing investigation.

JACKSON LEE:

Just a few years ago, this committee considered and eventually moved on a obstruction of justice element in an impeachment proceeding. Do you believe -- yes or no: Can a sitting president commit obstruction of justice?

WRAY:

Congresswoman, legal questions, especially legal questions regarding impeachment, are not something that I'm equipped to answer in this setting...

JACKSON LEE:

This is separate and...

WRAY:
... as an FBI director.

JACKSON LEE:
... this is separate and apart from impeachment. Do you believe that a sitting president can commit an obstruction of justice?

WRAY:
That also is a legal question, and I would defer to the lawyers on that one. I'm a now-reformed lawyer as an FBI director.

JACKSON LEE:
I understand. Is it your opinion that, if a sitting president commits a crime, then it becomes a non-crime?

WRAY:
I'm sorry. I couldn't hear you.

JACKSON LEE:
If a sitting president commits a crime, does it become a non-crime?

WRAY:
Same answer.

JACKSON LEE:
Let me move on to the idea of the quote from the president of the United States. And do you believe that the FBI's reputation is in tatters? What impact did that have on the FBI?

And my -- if you would move quickly, I know you gave a long assessment, but what impact would that have on the FBI, if that is a statement made nationally, and also to the world -- that the FBI is in tatters?

WRAY:
Congresswoman, the agents, analysts and staff of the FBI are big boys and girls. We understand that we will take criticism from all corners, and we're accustomed to that.

I believe, personally, based on what I've seen, that our reputation with our counterparts in law enforcement, federal, state and local; our counterparts in the intelligence community; our counterparts around the world; the communities that we serve; the victims that we protect; the judges we appear before; the scientists we interact with in the laboratory services space, for example...

JACKSON LEE:
I have another question.

WRAY:
... my experience has been that our reputation is quite good.

JACKSON LEE:
Thank you very much.

I want it to (ph) be assured to the American people that Andrew Weissmann and Peter Strzok, who were removed from their posts -- that that will not sabotage Bob Mueller's investigation to Trump campaign's collusion with Russia -- their removal.

WRAY:
I'm sorry. I...

JACKSON LEE:
That their removal -- Peter Strzok and Mr. Weissmann -- will not sabotage Mueller's investigation into Russian collusion -- their removal from the investigation.

WRAY:
I'm not aware of any effort by anyone to sabotage -- or less, even -- Special Counsel Mueller's investigation.

JACKSON LEE:
Thank you. Let me ask the question on the black identity extremists. You indicated, or we have had some conversations -- let me indicate to you that a report that was done August 14th, 2017 said that, during the same period of this report, they found that right-wing extremists were behind nearly twice as many incidents, 115, and just over a third of these incidents were foiled, than those who might be considered Islamists or might be considered others.

There is a black extremist identity report. Again, I ask the question, would you see that that report be clarified? And would you take note of the fact that the convictions dealing with violence are more for the -- looking for my chart -- are more dealing with Islamists and left-wing and less for right-wing?

So right-wing extremists are not being prosecuted. Black identity extremists, as declared by the FBI, are in fact subjected to a report. And in -- and, if I might say, a FBI that is not diverse, that I know that we would like to work on to make diverse -- but they are not being prosecuted the way -- right-wing.

Right-wing has the lowest amount of prosecutions in the United States; percent of domestic terror incidents involving federal prosecution, the right wing is the lowest. The left wing is prosecuted 100 percent. Can you explain that?

GOODLATTE:
The time of -- the time of the gentlewoman has expired. The director is permitted to answer the question.

WRAY:
Congresswoman, I'd have -- I'd have to look at the statistics that you saw. I can tell you that we have our -- in our domestic terrorism program, that the last time I looked, we have about 50 percent more white supremacist -- what -- the category that we would call white supremacist investigations than we do in the black identity extremist category.

The other point I would make is that, in all of these contexts in the domestic terrorism arena -- that we only investigate if there are three things: one, federal criminal activity -- credible evidence of federal

crime; two, credible information suggesting an attempt to use force or violence; and three, those things in furtherance of a political or social goal.

If we don't have that, we don't investigate -- it doesn't matter whether they're right-wing, left-wing or any other wing.

JACKSON LEE:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like a report back on that question, please. Thank you very much.

GOODLATTE:

The gentleman from Iowa, Mr. King, is recognized for five minutes.

KING:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And thank you, Director, for your testimony here today and your service to our country.

I -- a number of curiosities I come here with this morning, as all of us do. And one of them is that, in the FBI interview and investigation of General Flynn -- are there -- are there notes from those interviews, do you know?

WRAY:

Number one, I don't know. But, beyond that, I wouldn't want to comment on a ongoing investigation being run by the special counsel.

KING:

And, in a normal circumstance like that, would you expect there to be notes in any other case?

WRAY:

It is our normal practice to memorialize interviews.

KING:

And do so by notes?

WRAY:

Well, it usually gets reflected in an FBI -- what's called an FBI 302. How agents go from the process of the spoken conversation to the 302 varies. And then there are other settings where it's a different kind of format.

KING:

But, when an agent sits someone down for that kind of interview, notes would be normal. In most cases, would there also be an audio tape recorded?

WRAY:

Actually, I think an audio tape would be unusual.

KING:

Or a videotape would fit that same category as unusual.

WRAY:
Likewise, also unusual.

KING:
Thank you. And -- but you don't know whether there are -- they are available for General Flynn? I bring this up because of the interview of Hillary Clinton.

And, when we interviewed some of the members of the former administration that were familiar with the interview -- the matter, we'll use their word and the -- let's call it now the investigation of Hillary Clinton -- and we learned here in this room that there were no notes available to us, that there were no audio and no video available to us, and in fact they had not been made available to the attorney general, Loretta Lynch, and neither had they been made available, or at least reviewed, by former Director Comey.

And it was curious to me that a heavy decision of the -- one of the highest investigations in the history of this country -- the people who made the decision on it didn't review the materials. They just simply received the briefing of the people that they had appointed to do the investigation.

I guess I'll ask you -- you're going to tell me you don't have an opinion on that. Would you conduct similar investigations in a similar manner? Doesn't -- wouldn't that send off an alarm bell to you, if that were going on within your department today?

WRAY:
Well, I think what I would say is that I think investigations are best conducted by taking appropriate memorialization of an interview. What I will also say is that, in the particular investigation, I think your question goes to whether or not the handling of the investigation was skewed or tainted in some way by improper political considerations. And I think that's what the outside inspector general is looking at, and I'm looking forward to seeing what he finds.

KING:
And I -- and I believe that the question's already been asked about the principals that were in the room during that investigation, and (ph) one is counsel, and -- at the same time being a subject of the investigation.

I'll pass that along and put some more information out here before this committee. In October of 2015, President Obama referenced the lack of intent on the part of Hillary Clinton -- that she wouldn't jeopardize national security, would never intend to do so.

That was October of 2015. April of 2016, he made a similar statement that Hillary Clinton was an outstanding secretary of state; she would never intentionally put America in any kind of a jeopardy.

We also noticed that the language has been moved from "extreme carelessness" -- or, excuse me, from "gross negligence" to "extreme carelessness." That "carelessness" was also language that President Obama used in his public discussions of the matter.

Now, I'm going to make the point here that it looks to me that the "get out of jail free" card that Hillary Clinton received is rooted clear back in Barack Obama, in his introduction of the word intent, or lack of intent, as a requirement for 18 USC 793(f). And that's been brought up here.

And so I'd ask you again -- surely you've examined the definition and the distinction between "extreme carelessness" and also -- "extreme carelessness" and the "gross negligence" that's within the statute. You're really going to tell us today that you don't have an opinion on that distinction?

WRAY:

"Gross negligence" is the language in the statute, I believe. But I believe, also, that almost anybody who grabbed a thesaurus would say that "gross negligence" and "extremely careless" are pretty darn close to each other.

I will also say that the -- whether or not the handling -- including the handling of the statement that Director Comey issued -- is exactly what the inspector general is investigating, and, I think, as he should. It's better that the FBI not -- FBI not investigate itself on this, and I think that's what the inspector general is doing. So that would be my response to that question.

KING:

And I thank you. And it does do a clarification to your earlier response, and I appreciate that.

I'd like to follow up with this: that there's a report that there are investigations going on on 27 potential leakers within the FBI. And I want to also ask if the unmasking that was ordered by the executive branch of government that took place shortly before the election -- I'll say September, October of 2016, and on throughout the transition period until the inauguration of -- and even beyond, perhaps -- of President Trump -- has any investigative committee in Congress had access to the full list of those unmasking requests? And how much of that is classified?

WRAY:

Congressman, I don't know what access committees have had to unmasking requests -- specific committees. I'd be happy to have my staff take a look at that. I will say that unmasking requests get made not just by parts of the intelligence community, but by -- congressional committees themselves often ask for unmasking, so that they can digest the information.

A lot of times, concerns -- legitimate concerns about unmasking are really almost more about, to me, a problem that I take very seriously, which is leaks of information. And that's something that -- we have, now, a dedicated unit, since I've taken over, that's focused specifically on that.

We've also recently reissued -- not reissued, issued -- a new media policy that clamps down and tightens up the rules about interaction with the media inside the FBI. And that's something that I think we take very, very, very seriously.

KING:

Well, I thank you. I'll just say, in conclusion, we know as much about the conversation on the Phoenix tarmac between President Clinton and Loretta Lynch as we do about the interview of Hillary Rodham Clinton within the FBI.

GOODLATTE:

Time of the gentleman has expired.

KING:

Thank you. I yield back.

GOODLATTE:

The chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee, Mr. Cohen, for five minutes.

COHEN:

Thank you, Mr. Chair. Director Wray, we in Memphis have been blessed with good FBI agents, and I believe the FBI has an outstanding reputation, and has, probably, other than some flaws with J. Edgar Hoover, historically had a great reputation.

In Memphis, I had a situation where there was a county employee named Mickey Wright, who was murdered. The FBI worked on that case and saw to it that justice was found, and he got a life sentence. And it was the FBI that did that.

They recently arrested a man named Castelo -- Lorenzo Castelo -- and found -- got him for 15 pounds of meth, which is the drug you ought to be looking at -- drugs like opioids and meth and crack and heroin, not so much cannabis -- and \$400,000, and had 10 people arrested and convicted.

And they also got Larry Bates, who swindled a lot of people in church from -- out of millions and millions -- \$68 million, and got him 22 years in jail. So the FBI's done a great job.

After the president said, which I disagree with, that the FBI was in tatters, Director Comey tweeted, "I must let the American people know the truth. The FBI's honest. The FBI's strong, and the FBI is and always will be independent." Did you welcome his tweet, and do you agree with it?

WRAY:

Well, I believe that description of the FBI aligns with my own description. As my folks would tell you, I'm not really a Twitter guy. I've never tweeted, don't have any plans to tweet and don't really engage in tweeting.

COHEN:

You've been at the FBI long enough to know the reputation of previous directors. What was the reputation of Director Comey within the agents of the FBI?

WRAY:

Well, my experience with Director Comey -- it was that, when I worked with him, which was back in the early 2000s -- was that he was a smart lawyer, a dedicated public servant and somebody that I enjoyed working with. We haven't stayed in as much touch over the last several years, and of course, there's now the ongoing investigation, but my experiences have all been positive.

COHEN:

Do you know the reputation of Director Mueller within FBI agents, in FBI lore (ph)?

WRAY:

My experience has been that Director Mueller is very well- respected within the FBI.

COHEN:

When you were interviewed by President Trump, and you were interviewed by President Trump before you were appointed, was that -- is that not the case?

WRAY:

Yes. Not exclusively, but yes.

COHEN:

What questions did he ask you?

WRAY:

My recollection is the conversations were more about my background, and in particular, we talked a lot about my desire to join the war on -- counter terror, as somebody who had been in the Justice Department and in FBI headquarters on the day of 9/11 itself, and having met -- I talked a lot about my interaction with the victims of 9/11 in my last law enforcement experience and my desire to return to public service to keep people safe.

COHEN:

He didn't ask you any questions about Russia or about Mr. Comey or Mr. Mueller, or any other questions like that at all?

WRAY:

No.

COHEN:

Good. Very good.

The FBI concentrates on situations that presently are a threat to United States, or to safety of the public. Is that correct?

WRAY:

Yes.

COHEN:

So the issues concerning the current president would be more important to you than the issues concerning the person who he defeated, who is now in -- not in office. Would that be an accurate assessment?

WRAY:

Well, I'm reluctant to try to compare one matter to another in that way. What I would tell you is that we take any effort to interfere with our election very seriously. I take any effort to mishandle classified information very seriously.

COHEN:

Well, thank you.

Benjamin Franklin said that he gave the American people a republic, if you can keep it. You are the heir to the legacy of Griffin Bell, having worked at King & Spalding. And you have an excellent reputation, if you can keep it. You will be tested. I feel you will rise to the task, but you will be tested.

I yield back the balance of my time.

GOODLATTE:

Chair thanks the gentleman.

Recognize the gentleman from Ohio, Mr. Jordan, for five minutes.

JORDAN:

Thank you. Director, was Agent Peter Strzok the former deputy head of counterintelligence at the FBI?

WRAY:

I don't remember his exact title, but I believe that's correct.

JORDAN:

And he's the same Peter Strzok who was a key player in the Clinton investigation, the same Peter Strzok who interviewed Cheryl Mills, Huma Abedin, participated in the Clinton -- Secretary Clinton's interview? And he's also the same Peter Strzok who -- now we know -- changed Director Comey's exoneration letter, changed the term "gross negligence," which is a crime, to "extreme carelessness"? Is that the same guy?

WRAY:

Well, Congressman, I don't know every step that the individual you mentioned was involved in. But certainly, I know that he was heavily involved in the Clinton e-mail investigation.

JORDAN:

And he -- thank you. And he -- and is it -- is this the same Peter Strzok who helped -- was a key player in the Russian investigation, and the same Peter Strzok who was put on Mueller's team -- Special Counsel Bob Mueller's team?

WRAY:

I certainly know that he was working on the special counsel's investigation. Whether or not he would be characterized as...

JORDAN:

And the same...

WRAY:

... a key player on that investigation, that's really not for me to say.

JORDAN:

... OK -- and the same Peter Strzok that, we learned this past weekend, was removed from the special counsel team because he exchanged text messages with a colleague at the FBI that were -- displayed a pro-Clinton bias -- is that accurate?

WRAY:

Yes.

JORDAN:

Talking about the same guy? OK.

WRAY:

Yes.

JORDAN:

Well, here's what I'm not getting: Peter Strzok is selected to be on Mueller's team, after all this history, put on Mueller's team, and then he's removed for some pro-Clinton text messages. I mean, there are all kinds of people on Mueller's team who are pro-Clinton. There's been all kinds of stories -- PolitiFact reported 96 percent of the top lawyers' contributions went to Clinton or Obama.

But Peter Strzok, the guy who ran the Clinton investigation; interviewed Mills, Abedin; interviewed Secretary Clinton; changed "gross negligence," a crime, to the term "extreme carelessness;" who ran the Russian investigation; who interviewed Mike Flynn gets put on Mueller's team, and then he gets kicked off for a text message that's anti-Trump.

If you kicked everybody off Mueller's team who was anti-Trump, I don't think there'd be anybody left. So here -- there's got to be something more here. It can't just be some text messages that show a pro-Clinton, anti-Trump bias. There's got to be something more. And I'm trying to figure out what it is.

But my hunch is it has something to do with the dossier. Director, did Peter Strzok help produce and present the application to the FISA court to secure a warrant to spy on Americans associated with the Trump campaign?

WRAY:

Congressman, I'm not prepared to discuss anything about a FISA process in this setting.

JORDAN:

Not a -- we're not talking about what happened in the court. We're talking about what the FBI took to the court, the application. Did Peter Strzok -- was he involved in taking that to the court?

WRAY:

I'm not going to discuss in this setting anything to do with the FISA court applications.

JORDAN:

Well, let's remember a couple of things, director, and I know you know this. We've all been made aware of this in the last few weeks. Let's remember a couple of things about the dossier.

The Democratic National Committee and the Clinton campaign, which we now know were one and the same, paid the law firm, who paid Fusion GPS, who paid Christopher Steele, who then paid Russians to put together a report that we call a dossier, full of all kinds of fake news, National Enquirer garbage.

And it's been reported that this dossier was all dressed up by the FBI, taken to the FISA court and presented as a legitimate intelligence document, that it became the basis for granting a warrant to spy on Americans.

And I'm wondering -- I'm wondering if that actually took place. It sure looks like it did, and the easiest way to clear it up is for you guys to tell us what was in that application and who took it there.

WRAY:

Congressman, our staffs have been having extensive interaction with both intelligence committees on our interaction with the FISA court, and I think that's the appropriate setting for those questions.

JORDAN:

Here's what I think, Director Wray. I think Peter Strzok, head of counterintelligence at the FBI; Peter Strzok, the guy who ran the Clinton investigation, did all the interviews; Peter Strzok, the guy who was running the Russian investigation at the FBI; Peter Strzok, Mr. Super Agent at the FBI -- I think he's the guy who took the application to the FISA court.

And if that happened -- I mean, think -- if this happened, if you had the FBI working with a campaign, the Democrats' campaign, taking opposition research, dressing it all up and turning it into an intelligence document and taking it to the FISA court so they could spy on the other campaign -- if that happened, that is as wrong as gets.

And you know what? Maybe I'm wrong. You could clear it all up. You could clear it all up for all of us here -- all the Congress who wants to know, and frankly, all of America who wants to know -- you could clear all up by releasing (ph) -- we sent you a letter two days ago -- just release the application.

Tell us what was in it. Tell us if I'm wrong. But I don't think I am. I think that's exactly what happened. And, if it did, it is as wrong as it can be, and people who did that need to be held accountable.

WRAY:

Congressman, we will not hesitate to hold people accountable after there has been an appropriate investigation, independent and objective, by the inspector general into the handling of the prior matter. And, based on that, I will look at all available remedies, depending on what the facts are when they are found.

As to the access to the dossier, that's something that is the subject of ongoing discussion between my staff and the various intelligence committees.

JORDAN:

There's nothing prohibiting you, Director. Is there anything prohibiting you from showing this committee the -- what was presented to the FISA court -- that -- the application you all put together at the FBI, that was presented to the FISA court? Is there anything preventing you from showing us that?

GOODLATTE:

The time of the gentleman has expired. The director can respond.

WRAY:

I do not believe that I can legally and appropriately share a FISA court submission with this committee.

JORDAN:

I'm talking about what the FBI put together, not what the court had. What you took there -- what was -- the process put together, what you presented, what you took to the court.

WRAY:

When I sign FISA applications, which I have to do almost every day of the week, they are all covered with a "classified information" cover. So that's part of why we will not be discussing it here.

JORDAN:

Director, is it likely that Peter Strzok -- is it likely that Peter Strzok...

GOODLATTE:

The gentleman -- the gentleman -- the gentleman...

JORDAN:

... played a part in the application presented to the FISA court?

GOODLATTE:

... the gentleman's time has expired. However, I do want to follow up on your last response to the gentleman.

This committee, the House Judiciary Committee, has primary jurisdiction over the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court. So any request for documents coming to any part of the Congress should include the House Judiciary Committee.

And if it is classified in any way, shape or form, it can be provided to us in a classified setting, but that is information that we are very much interested in...

JORDAN:

Mr. Chairman...

GOODLATTE:

... and very much want to receive.

JORDAN:

... the discussion -- the chairman -- yeah, I don't think there's anything prohibiting the FBI from giving us what they used to put together what was taken to the FISA court. That's what we're asking for, and there is nothing prohibiting him from doing that.

GOODLATTE:

I don't think there is, either. The time the gentleman has expired, however. You care to respond to that, Director Wray?

WRAY:

No, I think I've covered.

GOODLATTE:

The chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia, Mr. Johnson, for five minutes.

JOHNSON:

Thank you.

Director Wray, you've led a distinguished career as an assistant U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Georgia, Atlanta -- we're homeboys on that part -- Justice Department associate, deputy attorney general, even serving as an assistant attorney general heading up the criminal division of the entire Justice Department.

And then, as a litigation partner at the international and premier law firm of King & Spalding, you headed up the special matters and government investigations practice group, which involved sophisticated government investigatory matters, and -- involving your clients. And, also, you even represented Governor Christie during the Bridgegate scandal -- successfully, I presume at this point.

So you've had a long career in criminal law and in matters involving government, and I find it hard to believe that you have not pondered the question of whether or not a president can be guilty of obstruction of justice. You have pondered that question, have you not?

WRAY:

To be honest, it's really not something I've pondered. That is a question that involves complicated questions of separation of powers, and I have...

JOHNSON:

Well, do you...

WRAY:

... this committee won't be shocked to learn, quite a lot on my plate as it is. So I don't have a whole lot of time to do a lot of pondering.

JOHNSON:

... well, let me just -- let me just ask you the question. Is it your belief that a sitting president can be guilty of obstructing justice?

WRAY:

That's a legal question that I haven't tried to evaluate.

JOHNSON:

All right. Thank you, sir.

Within the last few days, the House Intelligence Committee has requested documents from you and other government officials from the so-called Steele dossier.

To date, you and other government officials have refused to comply with the production of these documents. Why have you failed to produce these documents?

WRAY:

I -- we are having extensive interaction with multiple committees about these issues. They involve complicated questions, not just of classification; they also affect ongoing investigations, in particular, the special counsel's investigation.

And, in particular, in many instances, we are dealing with very, very dicey questions of sources and methods, which is the lifeblood of foreign intelligence and for our liaison relationships with our foreign partners.

JOHNSON:
Thank you.

Director Wray, earlier this year, the FBI opened an investigation into the vulnerabilities of the state of Georgia's election systems. Thereafter, Georgia citizens filed a lawsuit over the security, or lack thereof, of Georgia's election systems, which were then outsourced by Georgia's secretary of state to the Center for Election Systems.

Four days after that lawsuit was filed, Georgia election officials wiped clean or deleted the election data on CES servers. One month later, two additional servers were wiped clean.

So evidence that is critical to the issues raised in the lawsuit and to the FBI investigation, perhaps -- that information has been destroyed. Can you confirm that the FBI obtained copies of the data on Georgia's election servers prior to the data being destroyed by Georgia election officials?

WRAY:
Congressman, I can't discuss what the FBI may or may not have obtained in the course of any particular investigation in this setting.

JOHNSON:
Can you confirm that there is an ongoing investigation into this matter?

WRAY:
Again, I don't want to confirm or deny -- it's important that I put both those words in there -- the existence of a specific investigation.

JOHNSON:
Would you be willing, upon your investigation's completion, if there is an investigation -- would you be willing to provide this committee with an update on this issue?

WRAY:
If there is information that we could appropriately share on the topic that you're answering (sic) about, I'd be happy to see if there's something we can do to be helpful and responsive to the committee.

JOHNSON:
Thank you, sir.

The Department of Justice recently admitted in court that they are treating the president's disturbing and combative tweets as, quote, "official statements of the president of the United States," end quote.

Considering the DOJ's position and the president repeatedly demanding that the FBI investigate his political opponents, do you consider these tweets to be orders that the FBI must follow?

WRAY:

That's a legal question, and I'll be guided by the lawyers on that one.

JOHNSON:

So have your lawyers given you an opinion as to whether or not the president's tweets are official statements?

WRAY:

Well, without discussing, you know, attorney-client communications, I'm still following the ordinary course of business in terms of what orders we follow.

JOHNSON:

Sir, you've given me every objection for not answering the questions that is in the books, and I appreciate it. Thank you so much. I yield back.

GOODLATTE:

The time of the gentleman has expired.

The chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas, Mr. Poe, for five minutes.

POE:

Thank you, Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Wray, for being here.

My background -- I was a former prosecutor. I was a judge for 22 years. During that time in the criminal courts, I had always thought that the FBI had a stellar reputation. In the last few years here in Congress, I don't have that belief any longer, and I think your predecessor did a lot to damage the reputation of the FBI. I don't think that the FBI has come back around with that stellar reputation, and that's unfortunate.

You gave us lots of statistics in the opening statement that -- you made about what the FBI is doing. The -- I want to talk about FISA, secret courts issuing secret warrants, supposedly to go after terrorists overseas.

A recent Washington Post article made the comment, or stated that, when information is seized on bad guys, there is the so-called seizure -- or the seizure of information that belongs to Americans -- inadvertent, as it's called by the legal community.

And in that database are Americans and non-Americans. And the Washington Post article quote (sic) says, "Many of them in this database were Americans; 90 percent of the account holders whose communications were collected under 702 were not the intended targets." And about half of the surveillance files were on Americans.

So you had this database that's supposed to go after the bad guys, and you get that information. But, inadvertently, you pick up all of this information on Americans who have nothing to do with terrorism. How many times has this database been queried -- I call the word "searched" -- to find out if there are identifiers on Americans? How many times has the FBI or the intelligence agency or government done that?

WRAY:

Congressman, I don't -- I don't have numbers for you here today. I will tell you that database that we're talking about is not bulk collection on anyone, first. Number two, it is a database of foreigners reasonably believed to be located overseas for foreign intelligence purposes. That's what's collected by the NSA...

POE:

Let me interrupt you...

WRAY:

... the FBI...

POE:

... reclaiming my time. The -- but I'm talking about the inadvertent seizure of information based on this idea we're going after terrorists. How many people have been queried, searched in that big database? That's my question.

WRAY:

And, Congressman, I don't have the statistics for you. I can give you one number that may be helpful to you in answering your question, which is that of what the NSA collects, that the FBI only receives -- much less queries against -- about 4.3 percent of what the NSA collects.

And the individuals that are incidentally collected -- the U.S. person information that's incidentally collected are people who are in communication with foreigners who are the subject of foreign intelligence investigations. So, like an ISIS recruiter -- if there's a U.S. person picked up, that person would've been in e-mail contact, for example, with an ISIS recruiter.

POE:

I understand. I understand that. I'm not talking about terrorism. I'm talking about the inadvertent -- where there's a communication with an American, and that American's information is seized and then later searched by -- whether it's the intelligence community or the FBI. The Washington Post said 90 percent of those seizures were on non-terrorists. Do you agree or disagree with that statistic?

WRAY:

I haven't reviewed the Washington Post's article.

POE:

So you don't. We've asked -- this committee has asked, for a long time -- to give us that information, because we are now coming up with FISA reauthorization. My opinion is that the FBI and intelligence service is back-walking that information, because they know FISA comes up at the end of this year, and then Congress should just reauthorize without knowing how many Americans are searched.

The right of privacy in the Fourth Amendment is guaranteed. I'm sure you believe this, but it is being abused and stolen by government, in this situation on what's happening to Americans.

And the search of that database, whether it's the first query, which is a search, or a later specific search of that communication, is being done in secret by our government, and Congress, Judiciary Committee,

is entitled to that information. And I will disagree with what you said about, "Well, it's classified. I can't tell you that." That's ridiculous.

Congress is entitled, members of Congress are entitled to every classified piece of information that is in your possession. That is our position; that is our right as members of Congress. So government can't have classified information and say, "We're not going to tell you because it's classified." We're entitled to it in some type of setting.

So I totally disagree with you on that. I hope you can provide us that information before the -- we reauthorize FISA; otherwise, I'm going to vote against FISA. And I yield back to the chairman.

WRAY:

Mr. Chairman, may I briefly respond?

GOODLATTE:

The director may respond.

WRAY:

First off, as to classified information, we are engaged with the intelligence committees, and we share classified information with the intelligence committees all the time. And then, under certain circumstances, as the chairman noted, we are also sharing classified information with the authorizing committees, like the two judiciary committees.

As to the question of abuses, every court -- every court to have looked at the way in which Section 702 is handled, including the querying, has concluded that it's being done consistent with the Fourth Amendment, as has the Independent Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board.

And there has been no abuse found in the 702 program, despite oversight by the inspector general, multiple sections of oversight within the executive branch, oversight by the federal FISA court and oversight by the intelligence committees.

POE:

And I disagree with the secret courts on their interpretation of the Fourth Amendment, as does many other members of Congress.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

GOODLATTE:

Chair thanks the gentleman (ph). His time has expired.

I just want to reiterate, as with the other request, this is a reasonable request by the gentleman from Texas. It has been made in varying forms by this committee in a bipartisan way, in the past, and we have not yet received the answers to those questions.

So I would again point out that this committee has oversight responsibility over both the intelligence unveiled (ph) in court and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and we have a very nice SCIF where this all can be discussed in a classified setting, where documents can be examined in a classified setting, and we think you need to be forthcoming on this.

So thank you, Director.

The chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida, Mr. Deutch, for five minutes.

DEUTCH:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Director, I thank you for being here today and thank you for your service to our country.

Director, as you know, what separates the United States from oligarchies and despots around the world is the American commitment to the rule of law. That means that powerful people don't get to write their own rules, means that the president doesn't direct law enforcement to target political enemies or to go easy on political friends. And it means that judges, police officers and the FBI agents are not intimidated by demands or tweets or whispers coming out of the White House.

Director Wray, I would commend your commitment to the independence of the FBI and the rule of law. As to the president's tweet over the weekend that the reputation of the FBI's in tatters, the worst in history, which, sadly, seems to be shared by many of my colleagues on this committee, I would like to just take a moment to thank the women and men of the FBI for their hard work, for the work they do investigating threats of terrorism, public corruption, organized crime, cyber crime, white-collar crime. I'd like to thank you and them for the work they do to combat violent crime. And I'd like to thank you for the work they do to enforce our civil rights laws.

I also want to thank your agents that are working with the Mueller investigation, an inquiry that has already delivered serious charges against the president's campaign manager and a guilty plea from the president's national security adviser.

Back in September, you reviewed the classified reports compiled by U.S. intelligence agencies that concluded that Russia interfered in the 2016 election and tried to tilt it in Donald Trump's favor. You said at the time, "I have no reason to doubt the conclusions the hard-working people who put that together came to." You still -- you still have that view?

WRAY:

I still believe fundamentally that the conclusions of the ICA are accurate.

DEUTCH:

And the FBI continues to focus on the threats posed by Russian interference in future elections?

WRAY:

Yes, as I was mentioning earlier, we are -- special counsel, of course, is looking backwards. We're looking forward. We're focused on trying to make sure that any effort by any foreign power to interfere with our elections is something that we can try to get in front of, investigate and prevent, as best we can.

DEUTCH:

When the special counsel looks backwards on what happens, it's important that the special counsel be able to do his job. There is legislation -- bipartisan legislation that's been introduced that -- as I understand, it codifies existing DOJ regulations that special counsel may only be removed for

misconduct, dereliction of duty, incapacity, conflict of interest or other good cause. Is that how you understand the DOJ regulations?

WRAY:

I'm not intimately familiar with the exact wording of the regulations, but I have no reason to doubt your summary of them.

DEUTCH:

Which is why, Mr. Chairman, we ought to be doing exactly that. We have sat here for almost two hours, and have heard nary a word from my Republican colleagues about Russian interference in our election, or about the efforts of the Mueller investigation to get to the bottom of it.

And, based on the talking points that we've heard that sound so eerily familiar to those coming from the president of the United States, it is more apparent than ever -- of this (ph) bipartisan legislation to protect the special counsel, to ensure that the special counsel can do his job and can pursue, ultimately, the truth wherever it takes him. It has to be brought up in this committee, must be.

I would urge my colleagues who are as concerned about the Russian interference in our last election and the potential Russian intervention in future elections, who are as concerned as Director Wray and the FBI and so many of us are, to let us protect the special counsel.

Director Wray, you also said in September, and I quote, that you said that you "saw no evidence of White House interference in the probe," the Mueller probe. And you said, quote, "I can say very confidently that I have not detected any whiff of interference with that investigation," close quote. I want to make sure that that continues to be your position.

WRAY:

Certainly, Congressman. As I sit here today, I am not aware of -- since I've been on the job, there's been no effort that I've seen going forward here -- any effort to interfere with Special Counsel Mueller's investigation.

DEUTCH:

Director Wray, if the president of the United States fired Special Counsel Mueller, would that constitute interference with Special Counsel Mueller's investigation?

WRAY:

You know, I'm not going to engage in a discussion of hypotheticals. It would absolutely depend on the circumstances surrounding the firing.

DEUTCH:

If the -- if the president fired the special counsel without satisfying any of the requirements that currently are in DOJ regulations, without doing it for a cause, but only because he was concerned about the special counsel getting too close to him, or his closest advisers, or his family, I think the answer to that is clear to anyone who is watching today, and that's exactly why at this moment, Mr. Chairman, we have to protect the special counsel.

There is legislation to do it. History is being written at this moment, and what it's seeing is efforts to obscure the very reality that's taking place in this country, which is the president's efforts to try to avoid the special counsel getting too close to him. We can do something about that, to protect this investigational on behalf of the American people, and I do hope that we will.

And I yield back.

GOODLATTE:

Time of the gentleman has expired.

The chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina, Mr. Gowdy -- I'm sorry. I'm sorry -- the gentleman from Texas, Mr. Gohmert, is recognized for five minutes.

GOHMERT:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And, Director, we appreciate you being here. I was so thrilled when I first got to question Director Comey. I didn't realize what direction that would take. But you are taking an FBI department that was weakened by Mueller's time, and I'm not asking for comment on that.

But I know, for his -- from his five-year "up or out" policy, as the Wall Street Journal pointed out, he got rid of thousands and thousands of years of experience, I came to believe, because he wanted younger people that were more yes-men.

And so he got rid of people that could've advised him against some of the poor decisions he made, whether it's squandering millions of dollars on software that didn't work and wouldn't work -- and people he got rid of knew that -- but all kinds of things.

And I came to understand, as a young prosecutor who knew the law better than some of the older lawyers, that there is something to be gained from experience. And so we lost thousands of years of experience, and Comey took over a weakened FBI because of what Mueller did, and Mueller made a lot of mistakes he wouldn't have otherwise.

So that was rather sad. But I want to -- and I'll be glad to have my friend across the aisle know that I am outraged by the government's collusion with Russia.

I was outraged. I was -- I didn't think President Bush and our State Department went far enough in condemning the invasion into Georgia by Putin and the Russians, but they did take some strong actions to make known their discomfort and their upset over that.

And of course the response by the Obama administration was to send over a plastic reset button with the wrong Russian word on it. But they made clear nonetheless that "We're not bothered by your invasion of Georgia. You can invade anybody you want."

That was the message the Russians took, and I am really outraged at the allowing of Russia to buy our uranium, even though the FBI and the Justice Department had already found out that they were trying to get our uranium illegally with bribes and violating the law, and that has not been addressed. So yes, I am outraged.

But, as you're aware, Deputy Director McCabe was involved in highly charged political cases that have been controversial due to his political leanings. So I want to ask you if you are aware of any other senior FBI executives that are aligned with McCabe's political views.

Yes or no: are you aware of any other senior FBI executives?

WRAY:

I'm not aware of any senior FBI executives who are allowing improper political considerations to affect their work with me right now.

GOHMERT:

OK. Let me ask you this -- I'm going to ask about specific executives, some of whom have been promoted by McCabe within the last few years. So my question to you, Director, is, are you aware of any of the following people openly aligning themselves with the political bias expressed by McCabe, or openly speaking against this administration?

First, Carl Ghattas -- yes or no?

WRAY:

My experience with Executive Assistant Director Ghattas has been very positive, and he's been a complete professional in all my interaction with him.

GOHMERT:

But have you -- are you aware of him openly aligning him -- selves with the political bias that McCabe expressed?

WRAY:

Well, I'm going to quarrel a little bit with the premise of your question about Deputy Director McCabe.

GOHMERT:

All right.

WRAY:

As far as -- but as far as Executive Assistant Director Ghattas, as I said, he's been a complete professional, and by that I mean to include apolitical...

GOHMERT:

Have you heard him open...

WRAY:

... in his interaction with me.

GOHMERT:

... align himself with political bias against the Trump administration?

WRAY:

No.

GOHMERT:
Mike McGarrity?

WRAY:
No.

GOHMERT:
Same question, and I'll take McCabe out of it. Are you aware of him openly aligning him -- selves with political bias against the Trump administration?

WRAY:
No.

GOHMERT:
Josh Skule?

WRAY:
No.

GOHMERT:
Larissa Mentzer?

WRAY:
I actually don't know who that is.

GOHMERT:
OK. All right. Thank you. Fair enough.

Brian Parman?

WRAY:
No.

GOHMERT:
Thank you.

And I know you appointed Brian Parman to the New York field office, counterterrorism division, so it is important that we have fair-minded people.

And there's never been a requirement that anybody not be able to vote or have political beliefs, just that they not let them affect their out -- their output. So I would encourage -- well, I got a lot more to ask, but thank you for your work.

I want to be your best friend, as long as you stay on the straight and narrow. Thank you, Director.

WRAY:
Thank you, sir.

GOODLATTE:

The chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California, Mrs. Bass, for five minutes.

BASS:

Thank you very much, Mr. Chair, and thank you, Mr. Director, for being here with us today. And I also want to thank you for the time that you spent, a week or so ago, with representatives of the Congressional Black Caucus, following up on the black identity extremists. And I would like to ask you questions following up from that meeting.

We raised a number of concerns, one of which the idea that that document was distributed to law enforcement nationwide, and also the concern that the message that that sends to many local law enforcement agencies -- and how you distinguish between what might be problematic behavior, and also what is people just exercising their First Amendment rights.

And so one of the questions that we asked you that I wanted to follow up on is if you've learned any more about what criteria, evidence, methodology that was used to even come up with that category of black identity extremists?

WRAY:

Congresswoman, as I think I may have mentioned in our meeting, the analysis that occurred there involved a -- which is our standard practice for one of these products, and we issue them across all of our various program categories -- is to take both so-called open source information, which is what the intelligence community would call it...

BASS:

Right.

WRAY:

... and our own ongoing investigations, of which there are many, and mesh them two (ph) together with other information and try to make sure that the information that we're speaking on -- that those two things align.

As to your concerns, and we discussed them, and I hope -- I found the conversation constructive, hearing your concerns...

BASS:

Yes.

WRAY:

... and I hope you did, too -- we take respect for the First Amendment very seriously. And, in this context, as in every other domestic terrorism context, we want to be very clear with people -- and all the American people -- that we do not investigate rhetoric, ideology, opinion...

BASS:

Right.

WRAY:

... no matter how -- who might consider it extremist. What we do investigate is when rhetoric, ideology, opinion takes that next step into the category of federal crime, and in particular, violence.

BASS:

Yes, exactly. And I did find our conversation constructive. There did seem to be several things that I know you were going to follow up on. And so you were clear about the three categories that led -- that were reasons for investigation.

And one of the things that I mentioned to you is the difference -- and we talked about this -- the difference between an investigation and surveillance. So you have the surveillance activity that may or may not lead to an investigation.

And so what a number of activists are complaining about around the country is the increase of surveillance, being visited by FBI agents, having FBI agents come to their house, leaving their business cards. And so that, you know, was a concern. And what was that really based on?

So these are activists that are protesting because of community police relations, because of killings that might have happened, a variety of reasons. Some of this is -- it might be the, you know, protests that have taken place in Baltimore and several of the cities around the country.

And so I want to know if there's any additional information that you have found from that. What is happening in your offices around the country, where activists are complaining of this?

WRAY:

I have -- after our meeting, I did farm out a whole number of follow-up questions to people. I will confess that I've been fairly busy lately and have not yet gotten the results of those. But we will continue to look into those questions.

BASS:

OK. We really need to do that, because -- let me just explain to you that one of the things that all of us would like to take place in our communities is for our communities to cooperate with law enforcement. But, at this point in time, to have FBI agents come by people's house after peaceful demonstrations -- I know I can't recommend that they speak to the FBI.

I have to tell them that they can't speak to the FBI because, if you do say something and you innocently say something that might not be true, then that person feels as though they might be entrapped, because they could be -- they could be charged with lying to an FBI agent. And so to find the information out as soon as possible, I think, is really important. I want our community to participate, but we can't participate if it's not really clear where the FBI is coming from.

So many organizations have called for the withdrawal of the BIE designation, in particular, NOBLE, which is the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives. And so, in light of the public outcry, including from law enforcement, I want to know if part of the follow-up from our meeting is if you are considering retracting that category of Black Identity Extremists and then sending out clarification to law enforcement around the country that that category really doesn't exist.

WRAY:

I think what we're doing right now is what we would normally do with any intelligence assessment, which is we continue to evaluate the data as it rolls in. The intelligence assessment in question was a snapshot in time. And, as we get more information that comes in from all quarters, considering all sorts of information, I expect that we will update that information in an appropriate way. And, depending on what the information shows, it could be anything from a reaffirmance, to a retraction, to a clarification. It just depends on what the information shows...

BASS:
OK.

WRAY:
But the one thing we will not do is withdraw intelligence assessments based on public outcry. I'm sure you can understand why that's not an approach that, ultimately, will stand (ph)...

(CROSSTALK)

BASS:
OK. Well, I want to continue to be in contact with you for this, because I think one of the points that we made to you, and I really hope you take it seriously, is the harm that that document is causing.

Because what that says -- it sends a chill to activists around the country. And my big concern is that local law enforcement will misinterpret that and will clamp down on people exercising their First Amendment right.

GOODLATTE:
Time of the gentlewoman has expired.

The chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina, the chairman of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee, Mr. Gowdy, for five minutes.

GOWDY:
Thank you, Chairman Goodlatte.

Director Wray, somewhere today, a group of our fellow citizens will be asked if they can be fair, impartial, free of bias before they sit in judgment of others on a jury, even in the smallest of courtrooms, where there are nothing but empty seats and no television cameras.

Somewhere today, those selected to sit in judgment of their fellow citizens will be told that they must wait until the very last witness testifies and the last piece of evidence has been introduced before they can even begin to deliberate on an outcome.

So if our fellow citizens should be impartial and free of bias, and if our fellow citizens must wait until the last piece of evidence is introduced, the last witness is called, before they can reach a verdict, a conclusion, an outcome, then I don't think it's asking too much that the Department of Justice and the FBI do the same thing.

There is no member of Congress who holds the department and the bureau in higher esteem than I do. There are others who hold you in high esteem, but I would take a second place to no one, and I have defended the department and the bureau when, frankly, it was pretty damn lonely to do so.

When my Democrat friends were asking that Jim Comey be prosecuted for a Hatch Act violation, about this time last year -- they now want him canonized, but this time last year, they wanted him prosecuted for a Hatch Act violation -- when your predecessor sat right where you're sitting and was embroiled in a fight with this little tiny startup company called Apple, I was on the side of the bureau.

When there are calls for special counsel, even today, I reject them, because I trust the women and men of the Department of Justice and the bureau, the professionals that we hired, to do their job. And the vast majority of line prosecutors and line agents are exactly what you described in your opening statement. They are exactly what you described.

But, unfortunately, the last two years have not been good years for the bureau, and they have not been good years for the department. We had an attorney general meet with the spouse of a target of an investigation on the tarmac and ask that an investigation be called something other than an investigation, but be called a "matter."

We've had an attorney general recuse himself from the largest, most significant investigation currently in his office. We had the director of the FBI appropriate a major charging decision away from the Department of Justice, because he was concerned that the public wouldn't have confidence if the Department of Justice handled that decision themselves.

We had an FBI director write two politically volatile letters, weeks before an election. We had an FBI director memorialize conversations he had with the president of the United States because he didn't trust the president's recall of those conversations.

And I think what frustrates some folks is, when Director Comey wanted special counsel for President Trump, he leaked one of those memos. When he didn't have confidence in Loretta Lynch, we didn't hear a word about it. There were no leaks that prompted special counsel when he didn't trust Loretta Lynch. There were leaks when he decided he didn't trust President Trump.

We've had an acting A.G. fired. We've had the director of the FBI fired. And we can't manage to find prosecutors who haven't donated to presidential candidates. Out of all the universal prosecutors that you used to work with and I used to work with and Johnny Ratcliffe used to work with, we can't find a dozen that haven't donated to major political candidates.

And now we have Special Agent Strzok. It was the inspector general, not the Department of Justice, not the bureau, who found these texts. It was the inspector general, and I share your confidence in his objectivity. I share it.

But it shouldn't have been the inspector general that had to bring this to our attention, 12 months after it happened. And that same agent is the one who reportedly interviewed Secretary Clinton in an interview that you and I have never seen conducted that way before.

To have potential witnesses and potential targets sit in on a witness interview -- I appreciate your professionalism and your unwillingness to want to say how unprecedented that is, so I'm not going to ask you -- I'll just tell you, it's unprecedented.

And that same agent is alleged to have been the one that changed the language. You're right, they are synonyms -- "extremely careless" is a synonym for "grossly negligent," which begs the question, why change it?

But you and I know why it was changed. It was changed because the statute says "grossly negligent," and if you're not going to charge someone, God knows you don't want to track the statute with the language that you use. That would be stupid.

What's also stupid is to do that memo two months before you've interviewed the target. That memo was drafted before the last witness was interviewed. Director, it was drafted before the target of the investigation was even -- was even interviewed, which makes people wonder, was the decision made before the interviews were finished?

And now, we believe that that same agent is also involved in the investigation into President Trump and his campaign, and may have interviewed Michael Flynn. That hasn't been confirmed, and we don't know what role, if any, he took in the preparation of documents for court filing.

So I'm going to say this, because I'm out of time, and I appreciate the chairman's patience with me: You have a really important job. When all else fails in this country, we want to be able to look to the FBI. We want to be able to look to the Department of Justice. When all the other institutions we trust, including Congress, appear to be broken, we want to be able to look to you.

It's been a really bad two years. I am counting on you to help answer our questions in Congress, our fellow citizens' questions. But I am, more than anything, counting on you to go back to work for that blindfolded woman holding a set of scales that really doesn't give a whit about politics. That's the FBI that I want.

GOODLATTE:

Time of the gentleman has expired...

(UNKNOWN)

Mr. Chairman -- Mr. Chairman, I...

GOODLATTE:

... the director is welcome to respond.

WRAY:

Just a 30-second response. First, let me say, Congressman Gowdy, I'm well aware of your longstanding support for the bureau and the department, and I want you know we appreciate it.

And second, I want to assure you and every other member of this committee that there is no scenario under which I would've taken the president's nomination if I were not committed to the kind of independent, impartial, objective and professional pursuit of the facts -- I wouldn't be here if I weren't committed to that, and I can give this committee that commitment.

GOODLATTE:

The chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana, Mr. Richmond, for five minutes.

RICHMOND:

Director Wray, let me thank you for being here, but also thank you for the meeting we had a couple weeks ago.

Let me ask you a question, because, as I think about our approach to opioid addiction and how we combat this awful crisis, I also have to think back to our response to the crack epidemic and how we responded to the crack epidemic, which was mandatory minimum sentences, which led to mass incarceration.

But one thing in -- specific example is that, when we found grandchildren in public housing that may have had crack cocaine or cocaine, we filed eviction notices with housing authorities to remove them from public housing. That is not what we're doing with opioid addiction and people that we find in possession of opioids.

Do you see and are you concerned about a double standard in our approach to opioid and our approach to -- our response to crack? And should we address that in criminal justice reform, so that we treat substance abuse addiction as the mental health crisis that it is, and that the president declared with his opioid crisis?

So the question is, should we go back and look at how we treated crack and reform our old drug laws to better represent the mental health crisis?

WRAY:

Well, Congressman, I -- questions of sentencing reform -- criminal justice reform, I think, are better directed to the other side of the street, of the Justice Department, than to the FBI, where we largely focus on trying to do the investigations and the intelligence assessments.

But I will tell you that, in the context of the opioid epidemic which is upon us now -- that it has become a sufficiently big scourge on all communities in the United States that it's clearly going to require a whole-of-government type response that involves not just criminal justice steps, aggressive investigation and prosecution, but all sorts of other outreach, mental health treatment.

It's -- there might have been a time when we could've investigated and prosecuted our way out of the problem, and that's clearly going to be a major part of it. But it's become too big now. We're going to have to do something that's much more holistic and multidisciplinary.

RICHMOND:

And, you know, life experiences mean a lot, and I heard my colleagues on the other side talk about how great the FBI has been, and how it's held in high esteem, except for the past eight years under President Obama and, for my friend Congressman Gowdy, he said the last two years.

It just amazes me how we just missed the whole COINTELPRO history of the FBI. And that has to be one of its darkest moments, when it did illegal surveillance and initiated propaganda in the media to discredit civil rights activists who were trying to make the country a better place.

So let me just go there for second. First of all (ph) -- and I know that we just released a batch of documents from the Church Committee on JFK's assassination, but have we released and made public, in your knowledge, all of the documents and actions of the FBI during those COINTELPRO years?

WRAY:

Congressman, I don't actually know what information specifically has been provided on the COINTELPRO era. I know that hearings were conducted, books have been written, lots and lots of discussion has been had about it.

Certainly, I will tell you that I think I and everybody in the Bureau recognizes the COINTELPRO problems - - and that means different things to different people -- as one of the darker moments in the FBI's history. And it's something we're not proud of, but it also is something that we've learned from.

And, during some of the same time period, there is a lot that the FBI did that that we can all be proud of in terms of aggressive investigation of various civil rights abuses, among other things.

So we're human. We make mistakes. We have things that we've done well. We have things we've done badly. And, when we've done things badly, we try to learn from them.

RICHMOND:

And I would just hope that we expose as much as we can, so we can learn from it. But who was the director of the FBI that initiated COINTELPRO and all of those programs that were the darker moments of the FBI's history?

WRAY:

Well, I believe Director Hoover was in place at the time.

RICHMOND:

And who is your building named after?

WRAY:

Director Hoover.

RICHMOND:

And it's the darker -- or some of the darkest times of the FBI history, under Hoover, and the building is named after him.

With that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

WRAY:

Well, Mr. Chairman...

GOODLATTE:

The director is permitted to respond.

WRAY:

... well, I would just say that Director Hoover, like most of us mortals, did some things that he's probably not proud of, wherever he is right now, and some things that we are all -- should be all very grateful to him for, in terms of building the FBI into the organization it is today. So, like most people, he's complicated.

GOODLATTE:

The chair recognizes the gentleman from Idaho, Mr. Labrador, for five minutes.

LABRADOR:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Director Wray, I really appreciated your opening statement to this committee. You and the great men and women of the FBI have an important and very difficult job. That is why, during the time of the Clinton investigation, I actually refused to question the integrity of your predecessor.

In fact, I spent dozens of town hall meetings as a Republican defending the integrity of your predecessor and disagreeing with some my constituents about the things that they were saying.

And -- but now it's become pretty clear to me that my belief in the integrity of your predecessor was misplaced. Could you please tell us what the letters "FBI" stand for? We know it stands for Federal Bureau of Investigation, but it also stands for something else.

WRAY:

We consider "FBI" to stand for the words "fidelity, bravery and integrity."

LABRADOR:

Mr. Director, I have begun to have serious doubts about some in the FBI, about -- serious doubts about the integrity of some of the highest levels of the FBI, because of actions taken by your agency over the past two years.

And that is so disappointing, because your agency does such important work, as you expressed in your opening statement, and that is to make America safe and secure. And it depends upon most of the work that you do.

It's a matter of public record that Hillary Clinton's aides, Cheryl Mills and Huma Abedin, blatantly lied to the FBI investigators about the existence of Hillary Clinton's private e-mails. And we know that an FBI agent, Strzok, investigated both Clinton and Trump. In fact, Strzok was present at many of these interviews.

Director, were Sherry (ph) Mills -- Cheryl Mills, Huma Abedin or any other Clinton associates ever charged by the FBI for lying to them?

WRAY:

Congressman, the handling of the Clinton e-mail investigation, including all the other participants in that matter, is the subject of an outside, independent investigation...

LABRADOR:

I understand. It's a simple question of...

(CROSSTALK)

WRAY:

... which is looking into that.

LABRADOR:

Was anybody charged for lying to the FBI?

WRAY:

No charges were filed against anybody in that investigation.

LABRADOR:

How many Clinton advisers were granted immunity during the e-mail server investigation?

WRAY:

I don't know the answer to that.

LABRADOR:

But there were several Clinton advisers who were granted immunity. Isn't that correct?

WRAY:

I believe that's true, but I don't know the answer to that, sitting here right now.

LABRADOR:

So we have recently heard that Strzok was the official who signed the documents that officially opened the collusion inquiry into -- the Russia Trump collusion inquiry. How many Trump administration advisers have been granted immunity during the Russia special counsel investigation?

WRAY:

For questions about the special counsel investigation, I'd refer you to the special counsel. I don't know the answer to that question.

LABRADOR:

So, if we want to believe in the integrity of the FBI, explain to me, why the double standard? When you have agents and people who work for the Clinton administration who were granted immunity, or who lied to the FBI, and they're not charged, what about -- why is there a double standard today?

WRAY:

Congressman, we in the FBI are committed to not having a double standard.

LABRADOR:

But you haven't been committed over the last two years. So are you doing something to correct that?

WRAY:

As I think I said to one of your colleagues, in every meeting that I go to since taking over director -- as director, I try to emphasize the importance of following the rules, following the process, following the law, following the Constitution, being faithful to our core values...

LABRADOR:

OK, so...

WRAY:

... and not allowing political biases to affect our decision-making. And where there have been situations...

(CROSSTALK)

LABRADOR:

OK. I only have -- I only have one minute...

WRAY:

... where there's a question, there's an Inspector General investigation.

LABRADOR:

Reclaim my time -- I only have one more minute left. So can you tell me definite -- definitively whether Michael Flynn violated the Logan Act?

WRAY:

That's not a question I can answer.

LABRADOR:

I actually believe that the Logan Act is unconstitutional, by the way. But, if we're going to not have a double standard, can you tell me whether the FBI is investigating former President Barack Obama for violating the Logan Act?

He has been spending the last couple weeks traveling the whole United States -- I mean the whole world, complaining about the foreign policy of the United States. Is the FBI currently investigating the former president of the United States for violating the Logan Act?

WRAY:

Congressman, as you may know, we will not confirm or deny the existence of any ongoing investigation.

LABRADOR:

Do you think we should investigate Minority Leader Pelosi for meeting with Assad, despite objections from then-sitting President Bush and Vice President Cheney in 2007?

WRAY:

Again, I'm not going to comment on -- speculate about whether or not there's an active investigation.

LABRADOR:

Let's not use an elected official. Should we investigate Dennis Rodman, who went to meet with the North Koreans? Should we investigate him for that?

WRAY:

Same answer.

LABRADOR:

All right. I want you to help me bring back the integrity of the FBI to the United States. I love the FBI. I even considered, as a young attorney, to join the FBI. I grew up on the show, and I have great love for the work that the men and women at the FBI do. And I hope that we can do something over the next two years that will counteract what happened over the last two years of...

ROBY:

The gentleman's time has expired.

The gentleman from Rhode Island is recognized for five minutes.

CICILLINE:

Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Director, for your service and for the extraordinary service of the men and women at the FBI, who are serving our country and who do important and dangerous work, and risk their lives often in that work.

You hold, in particular, a very solemn responsibility to protect the integrity and the reputation of the FBI, and you are clearly proud, as you should be, to lead this agency. And I think we are seeing an administration which will continue to challenge the independence of the FBI, and in many ways, our country is relying on your strength and your integrity to resist that. So I thank you.

I want to just begin with a couple of short questions. One is -- there's been a lot of question about obstruction of justice. You are of course aware obstruction of justice is a criminal statute in our federal law.

WRAY:

Yes.

CICILLINE:

And there is no exemption in it for the president or any other person in the United States; it applies to every person in this country.

WRAY:

I'm not aware of any statutory cop-out (ph).

CICILLINE:

Exemption -- OK. And I'd next like to turn to the issue of hate crimes. There's a ProPublica report from June of this year that identified at least 120 federal agencies that are not uploading information to the FBI's national hate crimes database.

And I'm wondering whether or not the FBI has reached out to these agencies so far; if so, how many; whether your plan is to reach out to all of them so that this information is being properly collected. And I'd be delighted to work with you on ways that Congress can help support that work.

WRAY:

Thank you, Congressman.

We do believe strongly that more and complete data is really essential to having an informed dialogue on that topic, just like in other areas of law enforcement.

As you may know, providing that kind of information is generally voluntary on the part of the state or locality. We do have all manner of outreach to various agencies to try to encourage them to provide information.

CICILLINE:

This is actually 120 federal agencies. These are not local. These are federal agencies.

WRAY:

You're only asking about the federal agencies, right.

CICILLINE:

So it's not voluntary. I mean, they're required to do this reporting.

WRAY:

Well, we -- right, so we have interaction with all sorts of federal agencies to try to collect their information.

CICILLINE:

Right. My question, really, is I hope you are putting together a plan now to reach out to those 120 agencies -- you be sure that they are complying with this reporting requirement -- and happy to work with you in ways that we can help support that.

Next, I'd like to turn to the NICS system, the background check system. The Pentagon's Office of Inspector General just released a report identifying serious deficiencies in the reporting system, with officials in all four branches failing to submit final disposition reports in 31 of those cases.

And we've seen a recent incident where that allowed someone who should not have been able to buy a gun to buy a gun and kill a great number of people. Has the bureau begun to coordinate with the Department of Defense to fix this very serious problem?

WRAY:

Yes, Congressman, we've been in sort of active engagement with the Department of Defense, and already a very significant amount of new records have come to the FBI, and a number of transactions have already been denied as a result.

CICILLINE:

Thank you, Mr. Director.

Under federal law, Director Wray, fugitive from justice -- those individuals who are fugitives from justice cannot lawfully possess a firearm. After a 2016 inspector general's report, the Obama administration agreed that the FBI would use ATF's interpretation of the terms "fugitive from justice," any individual with an outstanding warrant who has traveled across state lines.

Since taking office, Attorney General Sessions has narrowed this definition to include only those who have fled across state lines to avoid prosecution for a crime or to avoid giving testimony in a criminal proceeding.

This change resulted in the removal of almost 500,000 entries from the NICS database, with only 758 fugitives remaining. Do you agree with the narrowing of his definition? And you think Congress should take steps to define "fugitive from justice" to avoid this kind of action?

WRAY:

A couple things. First off, I actually think the change occurred before the change in administration. And there was a letter written by the Justice Department under the prior administration to Congress, notifying them of the change and essentially inviting legislative attention to the issue.

CICILLINE:

But do you -- do you agree with that?

WRAY:

Then the second -- as I said, the FBI's position for years and years had been that the "fugitive from justice" interpretation didn't require crossing of state lines. I gather there's been a legal interpretation, which I'll defer to the lawyers on.

I will tell you, though, that, as to the 500,000 point, that's -- there's been a little bit of confusion in the reporting on that. That's -- it removed it from one part of the NICS database, but it's still in the states' warrants database.

CICILLINE:

OK. My final question, Mr. Director -- last month, a Las Vegas shooter used a bump stock device to accelerate the rate of the assault weapon discharge, killed 58 people and injured about 500. Do you support the bipartisan effort in Congress to ban bump stocks?

WRAY:

I haven't reviewed the legislation, but obviously, we're deeply concerned about the bump stock issue.

CICILLINE:

And do you generally support a prohibition?

WRAY:

Well, the FBI doesn't normally take positions on that.

CICILLINE:

OK.

WRAY:

So we'd sort of provide operational assessment, and I've worked through the Justice Department on that.

CICILLINE:

Thank you. And, Madam Chair, I just -- before I yield back, I just want to say, Mr. Director, that the rule of law is really the guardian of our democracy, and the president and this administration are going to continue to test our commitment, as a nation, to this. And you're going to play a very critical role in defending that.

And our country is really depending on you, and I trust that you will continue to uphold the integrity of the FBI and the rule of law in this country, because the very foundations of our democracy depend on it. And with that (OFF-MIKE).

ROBY:

The gentleman's time is expired.

The gentleman from Florida, Mr. DeSantis, is now recognized for five minutes.

DESANTIS:

Welcome, Director.

Secretary Clinton's e-mails were backed up on a cloud by Datto, Inc. And they're now subject to an order by U.S. District Judge Moss in a case brought by Judicial Watch. My question is, why did the FBI not search the data -- Datto device in its possession for Hillary's deleted e-mails?

WRAY:

I believe decisions made in the course of the Clinton e-mail investigation are all the subject of the inspector general's review.

DESANTIS:

But why -- do you know why the FDA -- the FBI didn't disclose that such device was in its possession?

WRAY:

I don't know the answer to that.

DESANTIS:

OK.

Was Attorney General Lynch's airplane cabin monitored when she met with Bill Clinton on 27 June, 2016, on the tarmac in Phoenix?

WRAY:

I don't know the answer to that. And I think that -- the tarmac meeting, I think, is part of or related to the inspector general's outside and independent investigation.

DESANTIS:

Do you know how the meeting came about, though? It's not like you just bump someone in the shopping mall. They met on a private plane or a plane. Do you have any insight into that?

WRAY:

I wouldn't say that I have any constructive insight to offer to that. I've read some of the same newspaper covers that you have. But, as I said, that's -- that whole episode is wrapped up in the inspector general's ongoing investigation.

DESANTIS:

How did the Russia investigation start? Did Peter Strzok -- was he -- did he start it?

WRAY:

I'm not aware of who started the investigation within the FBI.

DESANTIS:

Was it started because the dossier was presented to somebody in the FBI?

WRAY:

I don't have the answer to that question.

DESANTIS:

OK. Can you get the answer to that question for us?

WRAY:

Well, if there's information that we can provide that -- without compromising the ongoing special counsel investigation, I'm happy to see what there is that we can do to be responsive.

DESANTIS:

Was Peter Strzok involved in coming up with the conclusion that the FBI reached about Russia -- whatever involvement they had -- when they issued a report after the election?

WRAY:

That's a question that goes right to the heart of the special counsel investigation, and I don't think it would be appropriate for me to speculate or comment on that.

DESANTIS:

So here's the -- I think the problem that you have -- I think you're walking into a contempt of Congress. I mean, the idea that we can't conduct oversight over how the FBI is handling things that are very sensitive, and then you're going to come to us and say we should reauthorize all these programs willy-nilly -- I just think you're wrong on that.

And I don't think you're trying. I just -- I don't know what advice you've got, but we do have a right to conduct oversight over this. We all can deal with classified information all the time.

So we have a question about how this dossier was generated for political purposes. It ended up in the FBI's possession. What did the FBI do with it? And your answer to us is you will not give us any information on that today.

WRAY:

My answer has a couple parts to it. There are certain -- of the various questions that have been asked here today, there's some topics that I think it's not appropriate to discuss in open forum. There's some topics that are classified...

(CROSSTALK)

DESANTIS:

Whether you use it or not, though, is not classified. Go ahead.

WRAY:

There are some topics where, even though the information is classified, we can and do and will share it with the committees in an appropriate setting. And then there are some topics that go straight to -- even -- it's not just a question of classification. They go straight to access to sensitive sources and methods, which is something that all of us as Americans have to take very, very seriously.

DESANTIS:

You admit that (ph) the chairman of the Intelligence Committee has a right to that, and you still -- you won't even produce it to the chairman of the Intelligence Committee.

So here's the problem. Whether Strzok was involved in this -- that needs to be disclosed to Congress. Whether the dossier was used to generate surveillance with the FISA court on a Trump associate -- that needs to be disclosed to Congress.

I don't care about the sources and methods beyond (ph) we know where -- the sources and methods. It was the Democratic Party paying Fusion GPS to get the dossier. So we know that.

The question is, how did your organization use it? You weren't there during that time, but, if they were getting this information from a political party and then using it for surveillance against an opposition party candidate, that's a problem.

Do you agree that that would be a problem for the American people?

WRAY:

I do agree, Congressman, that any inappropriate use of the FISA process for political purposes is something that we should all be very concerned about and take very seriously.

DESANTIS:

So we need the answers to that. It's very, very important. Let me ask you this. Independence from politics, I agree, but the FBI, like all agencies, need to be accountable to someone.

So let me ask you this. Would it have been inappropriate if President Kennedy ordered Director Hoover to stop surveilling Martin Luther King Jr. in, say, 1962, if he believed that surveillance was illegitimate?

WRAY:

No.

DESANTIS:

Right. So you would be accountable. Is it customary to draft an exoneration memo long before interviewing all relevant witnesses, including the target of that investigation?

WRAY:

Well, I do believe that, in any investigation, final decisions and conclusions should wait until, as Congressman Gowdy said -- until the -- you know, until the last witness has been reached.

On the other hand, I also know, from having done investigations both for the government and on the private side, that, as investigation develops, you start forming views about what you're finding, all subject to revision and, in some cases, withdrawal, until you're done.

DESANTIS:

Fair enough. Is it acceptable practice for FBI agents to leak official work product to the media?

WRAY:

No.

DESANTIS:

Thank you. I yield back.

ROBY:

The gentleman's time is expired.

The gentleman from California, Mr. Swalwell, is now recognized for five minutes.

SWALWELL:

Welcome, Director Wray. Congratulations on your appointment, and thank you and your agents for their service to our country.

I think there are fair questions, as you've pointed out, about prior investigations, and, if there's evidence of any misconduct, they should be held to account.

But it is sickening to sit here and listen to the good names of people like Bob Mueller and James Comey just be smeared, and that the work of your agents has become politicized, because I don't believe that is the case and what I've observed on the Intelligence Committee and what I've observed just as a former prosecutor who's had FBI agents on the stand.

But I would like to look forward. And our House Intelligence Committee investigation -- it's early, but it has yielded some key takeaways, which is that our social media was weaponized by the Russians, that senior presidential campaign aides were approached by Russians in a variety of ways to offer dirt on a political opponent, and that our government response, from the very top, to our intelligence officials, was probably not sufficient in how Congress was notified or how the public was notified.

Knowing that we have an election coming up in November 2018, what does the FBI plan to do, whether it's Russia or any of the other adversaries that you identified who would love to interfere, meddle or influence an election?

WRAY:

Well, Congressman, any effort to interfere with our elections, whether it's by Russia or any other nation-state or, really, by any non-state actor is something that we at the FBI take extremely seriously, and I know our counterparts throughout the government do, as well.

We are, as I think I may have mentioned, like you, focused on looking forward. We have created, a few months ago, a foreign influence task force to ensure that we're bringing the right kind of focus and discipline to the process. It combines -- because we think this is a multidisciplinary problem, it combines both the counterintelligence division and the cyber division and the criminal division and some other parts of the FBI, as well.

Our focus is on trying to look for, sniff out, determine whether or not there are any efforts to interfere with the upcoming elections. We are, in that effort, coordinating closely with Department of Homeland Security, which has a similar type of body on its end.

SWALWELL:

Would you be open to working with Congress on a "duty to report" law, whether it's social media companies who observe interference on their platforms before the FBI does, or whether it's individuals who are contacted by foreign nationals offering ill-gotten evidence against another campaign -- that there would be a duty to report that to law enforcement? Would that be helpful for the FBI?

WRAY:

I'd be happy to have our staff coordinate with yours to review any legislative proposal and to give you sort of an operational assessment of how that might or might not be helpful.

SWALWELL:

Director, again, looking forward, but being informed by prior conduct, in uncontradicted sworn testimony to Congress, former Director James Comey described multiple efforts by President Trump to influence the FBI's Russia investigation. Again, that's the only sworn testimony the record has.

Director Comey memorialized President Trump's inappropriate conduct a series of memos. A couple questions for you. Since being sworn in, have you met one on one with President Trump?

WRAY:

No.

SWALWELL:

Has he called you, where just the two of you have talked?

WRAY:

I've gotten maybe one congratulatory phone call, you know, for example, the day of my installation ceremony.

SWALWELL:

But haven't had to break a date with your wife?

(CROSSTALK)

WRAY:

... not a -- I haven't had sort of substantive engagement that way.

SWALWELL:

Now, knowing the prior efforts by the president to influence a past investigation, going forward, how will you memorialize or report to Congress or the public any improper effort by any president to influence an ongoing investigation? Have you thought about procedures or methods that you would take?

WRAY:

I would evaluate each situation on its own merits. I'm acutely aware of the importance of trying to keep careful track of conversations, especially important, sensitive conversations. Exactly what I would memorialize and how and whether -- again, it would depend on the circumstances of the particular situation.

But you can be confident that, in all of those situations, I would, as I said to the committee earlier, be guided by my unwavering commitment to following my duty and my adherence to the Constitution and the rule of law. And there isn't a person on this planet that can get me to drop a properly predicated investigation or start an investigation that's not properly predicated.

SWALWELL:

Do you believe that president Trump is above the law?

WRAY:

I don't believe anybody's above the law.

SWALWELL:

Thank you. I yield back.

ROBY:

The gentleman yields back.

The gentleman from Colorado is recognized for five minutes.

BUCK:

Thank you. And thank you, Director Wray, for your testimony today.

You've heard a lot about the appearance of impropriety or possible conflict of interest or the perception that there are some that are tainted in their views. There is a statute that was enacted years ago that the deals with this in part, and it's the Hatch Act.

And, as the former Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division and now the FBI director, I am assuming that you are familiar with the Hatch Act.

WRAY:

Generally familiar, sure.

BUCK:

And, as a former federal prosecutor, I was also -- before you started in the department, the Hatch Act was amended, and it allowed assistant U.S. attorneys and others to participate more fully in the political process.

But it specifically prohibited, or specifically did not allow, that enhanced participation to apply to prosecutors in the criminal division and FBI agents. At least that's my memory. Is that -- are you familiar with that?

WRAY:

I would say I'm generally aware that -- as you say -- that there were some changes, some loosening under the Hatch Act, at some point. I can't remember exactly when that was, relative to my time as a baby prosecutor. And so the particulars of exactly when it applies and when it doesn't, and to whom -- unfortunately, I just don't have that committed to memory here.

BUCK:

So I think it was '93. But I think, again, the criminal division and the FBI were not -- the rules were not loosened as to those two organizations.

And one of the -- one of the prohibitions is against individuals contributing to the -- a partisan political candidate. And I'm -- again, I'm asking you, are you are you familiar with that prohibition? And is that a prohibition that applies to FBI agents today?

WRAY:

I don't know that I can recall, right off the top of my head, exactly what the restrictions are on political participation under the Hatch Act for FBI agents and criminal division prosecutors. So, unfortunately, I would have to look at that and see if I can get back to you, if you would like me to.

BUCK:

I -- or a member of your staff would be -- would be great. I'd be interested in that.

There is at least one prosecutor on the Mueller team that was at the criminal division and donated to Hillary for America, according to a record that I am looking at right now, and there are a number of the prosecutors on the Mueller team now that have prosecuted in the past.

And I'm not sure that they were criminal division employees at the time they prosecuted, but my question really is whether we need to amend the Hatch Act and make it more clear, in light of the perception by members of the public that there are individuals that are investigating President Trump, and they have an agenda -- an unfair agenda in their investigation.

There -- a spouse of an FBI -- a senior FBI employee received a large amount of money from the Democrat Party to run for office in Virginia. And, again, the appearance of -- and my understanding is the Hatch Act does not apply to spouses, and hasn't applied to spouses and was never intended to apply to spouses.

But it does raise the issue of whether we should have further restrictions to make sure that the public has faith and trust in the process that you and I hold dear. I'm just wondering if you'd be willing to comment on that.

WRAY:

Well, any specific legislative reform would be something I'd have to look at more closely. I think the fundamental underlying principle of your point is one that you and I share, which is that investigations need to be conducted in a way that political bias doesn't taint.

Whether that -- how much of that is done through the Hatch Act, how much of that is done through policies and procedures and staffing, how much that is done through recruiting the right people, training and promoting the right people -- I think it's all of the above.

BUCK:

And I think that's a great point. In order to staff a case in a way that would assure the public that there wasn't a bias going into the case, you would need to know who had donated to who, who had participated in some political activity.

Should there be, at least internally -- maybe not as a matter of public record, but internally within the FBI -- a process where, if someone complies with the Hatch Act, but is still involved in some activity -- that they disclose that, so that, if there is a staffing decision to be made, that the staffing decision can be made with the assurance of supervisors that people are not tainted in some way, or at least the perception is that they aren't tainted?

WRAY:

I'd have -- I'd have to think about the First Amendment implications of that. I certainly take the point. You know, my guess, though, is that you could encounter similar concerns when you look at individuals' charitable contributions too, right -- you know, contributions to particular organizations -- 501(c)(3) organizations that have a particular social view, for example.

So I think questions of bias and objectivity back and forth, and questions of appearance of bias and objectivity back and forth, have to be taken very seriously. And I think you and I share that view. But I also want to make sure that, whatever I'm doing, I'm doing it in a way that's consistent with respecting the fact that FBI employees, just like all Americans, have a right to have views and -- both about politics, and about social issues.

BUCK:

Thank you for your...

ROBY:

The gentleman's time is expired.

BUCK:

... thank you.

ROBY:

Now recognize the gentleman from California, Mr. Lieu, for five minutes.

LIEU:

Thank you, Madam Chair.

Thank you, Director Wray, for being here. I want the American people to know that, when you served in the administration of President George W. Bush, you received the Edmund J. Randolph Award, the

highest award that the Department of Justice gives for leadership and public service. So not only have you served the American people; you have served us well. Thank you.

Earlier today you stated that Donald Trump has not asked you to take a loyalty oath. If Donald Trump were to ask you, later today or sometime in the future, to take a loyalty oath to him, would you do so?

WRAY:

The only loyalty oath I take is the one that I took when I was sworn into this job, which is of loyalty to the Constitution and the laws of the United States.

LIEU:

Thank you. That is the right answer. I asked that same exact question Attorney General Sessions last month. He did not give that answer. I commend you for understanding that your loyalty is to the Constitution, the laws and the American people, not to whoever happens to be president at the time. So thank you for recognizing that.

I'd like to ask you about intelligence community assessment. I have a document here called "Assessing Russian Activities and Intentions in Recent U.S. Elections." Madam Chair, I'd like to enter it for the record -- or Mr. Chair, I'd like to enter the document for the record.

Chairman Goodlatte, I'd like to enter a document for the record.

GOODLATTE:

Without objection.

LIEU:

Thank you I'm going to ask you about three specific findings. This report was released earlier this year. It states -- and this is the FBI, CIA, NSA, and others -- "We assess Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered an influence campaign in 2016 aimed at the U.S. presidential election.

"Russia's goals were to undermine public faith in the U.S. democratic process, denigrate Secretary Clinton and harm her electability and potential presidency. We further assess Putin and the Russian government developed a clear preference for President-Elect Trump."

Does the FBI stand by that assessment?

WRAY:

As we sit here right now, Congressman, I have not seen any information that would cause me to question the basic conclusions of the intelligence community assessment, including that one.

LIEU:

Thank you. Thank you. I'm going to ask you about two more. "We also assess Putin and the Russian government aspired to help President-Elect Trump's election chances, when possible, by discrediting Secretary Clinton and publicly contrasting her unfavorably to him."

Report notes that the FBI has high confidence in this judgment. Does that remain true today?

WRAY:

Again, sitting here right now, the information that I've seen to up to this point would not cause me to question the basic conclusions of the intelligence community assessment.

LIEU:

Thank you. And then one more: "Russian intelligence obtained and maintained access to elements of multiple U.S. state or local electoral boards." Does the FBI stand by that assessment?

WRAY:

Same answer.

LIEU:

Great, thank you.

Earlier this week, the president of the United States attacked the dedication and integrity of 37,000 FBI employees. I believe that's outrageous. It's also factually false.

I'd like to go through with you the extremely high caliber of the personnel in your department. As you know, there are a number of disqualifiers that keep the FBI from even considering to hire you. So, first off, you've got to be a U.S. citizen to be an FBI employee, correct?

WRAY:

Yes.

LIEU:

If you are convicted of a felony, if you violate the FBI's drug policy or fail the FBI's urinalysis test, you cannot be hired as an FBI employee, correct?

WRAY:

That's my understanding.

LIEU:

If you fail to pay court-ordered child support, if you fail to file your taxes, if you even just default on a student loan insured by the U.S. government, you can't be hired as an FBI employee, correct?

WRAY:

I believe that's right.

LIEU:

And all FBI employees, in addition to passing credit record checks, have to also pass a polygraph examination, correct?

WRAY:

I believe polygraphs are applied to almost everybody in the FBI, yes.

LIEU:

Thank you.

To be an FBI special agent, there's even more qualifications. You have to pass a phase one test that assesses reasoning and judgment, meet in person with FBI officials, pass a phase two test that includes a writing exercise interview with FBI special agents and pass a physical fitness test, correct?

WRAY:
Again, I believe that's correct.

LIEU:
And then you have to pass a 21-week course at the FBI Academy in Quantico, correct?

WRAY:
I'm sorry, what was the length?

LIEU:
You have to pass a 21-week course at the FBI Academy in Quantico.

WRAY:
Right, 21 weeks, exactly. That's a subject of some -- sometimes, the instructors will tell the new agents that it's only 20 weeks, and the agents will quickly point out, "No, no, no; it's 21 weeks. We know the difference."

LIEU:
Thank you. I served on active duty in the military. They've been known to say that, too.

Now, that's why, of all these enormous qualifications people have to go through -- that, of the 12,000 applications the FBI had last year, you only hired approximately the top 6.3 percent to be special agents. Correct?

WRAY:
Well, I don't have the numbers, but that sounds generally right.

LIEU:
So two more questions. The FBI's reputation is not in tatters, right?

GOODLATTE:
The time of the gentleman has expired. The director may answer the question.

WRAY:
As I said to the committee earlier, my experience with the FBI has been positive. I have enormous faith and confidence in the people who work there.

I see example after example of fidelity and bravery and integrity everywhere I go inside the organization, and I could not be more proud to be sitting here as one of their colleagues.

LIEU:
Thank you. I yield back.

GOODLATTE:

The chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas, Mr. Ratcliffe, for five minutes.

RATCLIFFE:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Director Wray, good to see you again.

Let me start off where my colleague from California just left off, about the tweet, FBI in tatters. As you've pointed out, the I in FBI stands for integrity. I never misunderstood President Trump's tweet to be anything other than questioning the integrity of senior leadership at the FBI, not the rank-and-file agents within the FBI. And much of that swirls around the senior leadership of former FBI Director James Comey.

Congressman Gowdy well highlighted a series of anomalies involving Director Comey -- former Director Comey, as well as former Attorney General Lynch. Director Comey's gone. But now, we have new questions raised this week about integrity of other senior FBI officials -- FBI Agent Peter Strzok.

Agent Strzok was, until recently, the FBI's number two counterintelligence official. Correct?

WRAY:

Well, I think he was number two -- one of the number twos in the counterintelligence division.

RATCLIFFE:

All right. And then, after some -- approximately 10,000 texts, some of which included anti-Trump or pro-Clinton sentiments, he was reassigned to the human resources division at the FBI, correct?

WRAY:

Correct.

RATCLIFFE:

And so here's what we've learned about Agent Strzok before that reassignment: That he headed up the Clinton e-mail investigation for Director Comey. Correct?

WRAY:

Well, I know he was actively involved in the investigation. Who headed it up -- I think I'd have to defer on that.

RATCLIFFE:

But we know that he was present for -- from the FBI's own 302s, we know he was present for the interview of Hillary Clinton.

WRAY:

I've heard that, as well.

RATCLIFFE:

Well, I have seen the actual redacted 302, so I'll represent to you that he was present. It was reflected that he was present in the room.

We also know that, months before that interview of former Secretary Clinton, that Mr. Strzok was part of the team that wrote an exoneration memo and changed, as you have been questioned about, language in there, changing "gross negligence" to "extremely careless," a legally significant change. Correct?

WRAY:

Well, Congressman, as you probably recall from your own prior life, you can probably guess what I'm about to say, which is that there is a very active -- and I can assure you it's very active -- outside, independent investigation by the inspector general into the matters that you're asking about.

RATCLIFFE:

I appreciate that. But I'm just trying to highlight all of the things where Agent Strzok was involved. And we know that, after President Trump's victory in November, it's believed that he may have signed off on various documents initiating the FBI's Russia election probe.

But we know, at a minimum, that he interviewed Trump campaign -- or was involved in the interview of Trump campaign adviser Michael Flynn. Correct?

WRAY:

Again, I'm not going to discuss the facts of the ongoing investigation.

RATCLIFFE:

And then we know that, upon the appoint of special counsel to look into possible Trump Russia collusion, Strzok was detailed to Mueller's investigative team. Some reports have him as the lead investigator. Correct?

WRAY:

I don't know whether he was the lead investigator.

RATCLIFFE:

All right. Well, as has been pointed out, every FBI employee has and is entitled to have political opinions. And now, we know that there are some 10,000 texts, which apparently very much highlight agent Strzok's political opinions -- anti-Trump and pro- Clinton.

I'm not making accusations here. I'm not making conclusions here. But you remember from law school that legal doctrine, the fruit of the poisonous tree -- it's really a legal metaphor that says that, if the source, or tree, is contaminated, biased or prejudiced, that everything that it yields and that it -- arises from that may also be -- I eat a fruit, it's contaminated -- prejudiced or biased.

And so I think you can see where I have concerns about the appearance of impropriety here, because what we've learned about FBI agent Strzok is that this is the one FBI agent that is literally at the epicenter of every -- virtually every major decision the FBI has been involved in, action and inaction, about Candidate Trump, about President Trump and about Candidate Clinton.

And, if that one agent at the center or source is decidedly anti- Trump and decidedly pro-Clinton, that raises real questions about all of the conclusions that the FBI has reached on any and all of these matters.

Now, to his credit, it is being reported that Special Counsel Mueller is the one who demoted agent Strzok upon learning about these anti-Trump, pro-Clinton texts. I want to give him credit for that, if in fact those reports are true. Are they true?

WRAY:

Congressman, I would not say that the individual in question was demoted. I would say he was removed from the investigation, and that was something that we did from the FBI end in coordination with the Office of Special Counsel.

RATCLIFFE:

Well, I want to give credit where credit is due, and if Special Counsel Mueller is entitled to that, I will certainly want to give that to him. But what I am troubled about is that we found out these facts months later, not from Special Counsel Mueller, but from Inspector General Michael Horowitz.

Two weeks ago, Attorney General Sessions was in this room, and I asked him a question, because I'm part of an investigative team -- joint committee from Judiciary and the Oversight and Government Reform Committee that are looking into these irregularities in the 2016 election -- decisions that were made by the FBI and the Department of Justice.

And I asked Attorney General Sessions, will you allow us to go where the facts and evidence lead us in that investigation, in our oversight capacity? He assured me that he would.

I'm asking you, and giving you the opportunity to represent to us as this oversight body, and to the American people, that you will allow us to go where the facts and evidence lead us.

GOODLATTE:

The time of the gentleman has expired.

The director can answer the question.

WRAY:

We -- I would want the FBI to cooperate with the committee's oversight and investigation in every way we appropriately and legally can.

RATCLIFFE:

Well, Director, my time's expired. I just want to tell you that, as you know, we work together at the Department of Justice. The FBI is an organization that I have revered for my entire life. Help me help you restore the FBI's reputation with every American. Thank you, and I yield back.

GOODLATTE:

Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland, Mr. Raskin, for five minutes.

RASKIN:

Thank you very much. Director Wray, welcome, and thank you for your commitment to the rule of law in face of these continuing efforts to defame your department and its employees. When the White House says that your office is in tatters, I think it's a case of what the psychiatrists call projection.

But I want to ask you about the crisis of gun violence in America. You said that you would not rule out, in any way, common-sense gun reform legislation. Unfortunately, we haven't been able to have hearings on any common-sense gun reform legislation, like a criminal background check in the case of all gun sales which are supported by more than 90 percent of the people. But yesterday, the House passed something called the Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act which would, theoretically, if it passes the Senate, allow for millions more guns in interstate traffic because it would wipe out the laws of the states with respect to concealed carry.

Have you done any study or analysis as to what it would mean for federal and state and local law enforcement if this legislation were to pass?

WRAY:

I'm not aware of any such study, Congressman.

RASKIN:

Do you have any thoughts on this legislation?

WRAY:

I haven't reviewed this legislation, I'd be happy to take a look at it, but I think we would have to make an operational assessment depending on where the legislation goes.

RASKIN:

Do you support universal criminal background check, the kind that's supported by more than 90 percent of the American people? Is that in the interest of public safety in the country?

WRAY:

Any legislative change to the current gun laws is something that I would evaluate from the standpoint of all the operational impacts for the FBI.

RASKIN:

Mr. Director, some of my colleagues have asked questions about the possible politically-based targeting by the FBI of African-American political activists denominated as black identity extremists. Other colleagues across the aisle are asking questions about the possible politically-based targeting by the FBI of Republican presidents.

There's a lot more in the FBI's history with J. Edgar Hoover and the campaign to smear and disrupt Martin Luther King and the civil rights movement and the COINTELPRO program to justify Congresswoman Bass' fears or Congressman Richmond's fears than the odd fears being expressed by our colleagues that there is a conspiracy to target Republican presidents.

But let me just ask you some basic questions that might help to clear up some of the confusion. Does the FBI target people for criminal investigation or prosecution based on their political party?

WRAY:

No.

RASKIN:

Would you accept any prosecutors doing that?

WRAY:

I would not accept any prosecution -- well, first off, prosecuting is not what we do...

RASKIN:

Investigate or (ph) prosecute?

WRAY:

...what we do, what we do is investigate. And that's important, that we keep straight who the investigators are and who the prosecutors are. We open investigations, as I said earlier, only when they're properly predicated, which in this context means, credible evidence of a federal crime, credible evidence of a threat of force or violence and those things being -- both of those things being used to sort of further a political or social goal, that's what we investigate.

We do not investigate opinion, ideology, political persuasion, rhetoric. Those are not things -- we've got enough on our plate and we don't investigate those.

RASKIN:

But we know that President Trump tried to get Director Comey to drop the Flynn investigation and then fired Director Comey after he refused to go along with that. Other than the heckling and hectoring that you've experienced today by our colleagues, has anyone from the Trump White House tried to interfere with any investigations you're involved in right now?

WRAY:

First off, I don't take any of the questions from any of your colleagues as heckling or hectoring. As I said to my team earlier in the week, Congress has an important role and I welcome the tough questions. I may not always be able to answer your questions, as you've seen here today, but you can count on me to do my best and that -- that's what I will do as long as I sit in this chair. As for the, any effort to interfere with our investigations, to my knowledge, to my experience, since I started in my job, nobody has tried to interfere improperly with any investigation that's under my supervision.

RASKIN:

And in the face of political complaints that this group or that group doesn't like an investigation you're doing, what is the proper response of the FBI?

WRAY:

I say to all of our folks as often as I can, because I think that's what's so important and it goes, frankly, right to some of the concerns that members on both sides have expressed, that our job is to follow the facts independently and objectively wherever they may lead, no matter to whom it may lead, and no matter who doesn't like it. And one of the points that I try to make over and over again to our audiences is that there is always going to be someone who doesn't like what we do.

You think about the most basic investigations that we have. If it -- it leads to an arrest, I guarantee you, the guy we arrest, he didn't like it. And in those situations where we bring an investigation and we can't arrest somebody, more often than not, the victim is frustrated and disappointed and they don't like it. And our safe space is to follow the rules, follow the guidelines, follow the Constitution, follow the facts objectively and independently and then let the critics go where they may because there will always be lots of critics of everything we do.

RASKIN:
Thank you. And...

GOODLATTE:
Time of the gentleman has expired.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida, Mr. Gates for five minutes.

GATES:
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

You said that your safe space is to follow the rules. Were the rules followed in the Hillary Clinton investigation?

WRAY:
That's something that's being investigated right now by the outside Inspector General. I'm very much looking forward to seeing what he finds on that.

GATES:
Yes, you and me both. Did she get special treatment?

WRAY:
Well, again, I think when you ask about special treatment, I -- I interpret that, and I may not be correctly interpreting your question, in which case I'm sure you'll tell me, but I take that to be a question about whether or not the handling of that investigation was tainted in some way by improper political considerations. And that's exactly what the Inspector General's going to tell us.

GATES:
So I sent you a letter asking you to tell us whether or not Hillary Clinton got special treatment and your answers, your office's answer was that you would provide it in a classified setting. Why don't the American people deserve to know whether or not Hillary Clinton got special treatment?

WRAY:
Well, I think the reference to classified information went to the other part of your letter which has to do with the dossier issues. But the -- but the -- but so on -- but on the first part on this question of special treatment, what I would tell you, because I think this is one of the questions in your letter, is that we do not have at the FBI some double standard of special, not special. It's not a -- there's no formal term special. Special, as best as I can tell...

GATES:
It's an informal term.

WRAY:
It's an informal term.

GATES:

Yes, you could see how that informally designating something as special signifies a double standard, right?

WRAY:

I can see how the term special could be misunderstood, but I will tell you that in my experience...

GATES:

Well, let me go to the dossier because I have limited time, Mr. Director. So on the dossier, did the FBI pay for a dossier on the president?

WRAY:

Questions about the dossier are something that are better taken up in separate settings.

GATES:

Well, don't the American people deserve to know whether taxpayer money was used to buy a dossier that was curated by a political party to discredit the President of the United States before and after his election.

WRAY:

As I said, I understand the basis for the question, but I would tell you that questions on that subject are something they we're having lots and lots of interaction with multiple congressional committees and their staffs on in the classified setting.

GATES:

Did Bob Mueller recruit people to his probe that had a bias against the president?

WRAY:

I can't speak to how Director Mueller staffed or recruited for his team.

GATES:

It seems like a hell of a coincidence. I mean, we've got Mr. Strzok, who's clearly got a bias, that's why he was reassigned. He's at the center of a lot of the development of facts. You've got Mr. Weissmann who's praising people who are defying the president and then you have law firms that are overwhelmingly donating to the Obama campaign and the Clinton campaign that serve up the humans that are in that investigation. So you can't say with certainty that bias against the president wasn't a factor that brought people into the Mueller probe, can you?

WRAY:

As I said, I'm not going to weigh in on Director Mueller's staffing of his own team.

GATES:

So we don't know whether Mr. Mueller recruited people as a consequence of their bias. We don't know whether Hillary Clinton was treated as special. We don't know whether the FBI used taxpayer money to buy a dossier to discredit the president.

Now, what we do know is that you said you are and ask questions first, than act, kind of guy, which I believe and appreciate. So you would never -- as and ask questions first kind of guy, draft and exoneration statement before interviewing key witnesses in an investigation, would you?

WRAY:

Well, I certainly wouldn't finalize one. I -- I -- I will say as I said, I think -- I can't remember if it was to Congressman Gowdy or are one of your other colleagues, in my experience in an investigation, you do start to form a view, but keyword...

GATES:

But do you start drafting...

WRAY:

Keyword start...

GATES:

Do you start drafting an exoneration statement before conducting witness interviews?

WRAY:

We sometimes would draft reports before the investigation was...

GATES:

Exonerating someone?

WRAY:

Exonerating or incriminating, but in all cases -- in all cases, as Congressman Gowdy alluded to in his own comments, in my view, you would not make any kind of final decision about anything exoneration or otherwise, until you had all the evidence.

GATES:

So, we've got exoneration statement drafted before the interviews are done, you've got a meeting on the tarmac with the spouse of someone that is being investigated. You've got the former FBI director holding a press conference to make a determination about the outcome of an investigation. You've got James Clapper, when he's confronted with information from an intelligence Inspector General saying that he doesn't want anything to be a headache for the Clinton campaign. We don't know if these taxpayer funds were used for opposition research.

My question is, what's it going to take? Why do we have to wait for Inspector General. If I walk outside and it's raining, I don't need an Inspector General to tell me to get an umbrella. With these highly aberrational circumstances, which almost anyone would acknowledge depart from the standard procedures of the FBI, why wait for an Inspector General -- why not do what we know to be right and institute reforms that bring transparency and oversight and redundancy, so that in the future, you won't have some egomaniac rogue FBI director that departs from the normal procedures so that outcomes can be predetermined before the investigation?

WRAY:

As I said before, and as Congressman Gowdy said in his question to me, I think it's appropriate that we wait, in this instance, until we have all the facts, until the last witness, as he said, has been interviewed. And then based on the facts we have take appropriate action. I completely understand the reasons you're asking the question. I sympathize...

GATES:
Do you see...

WRAY:
But I do not think...

GOODLATTE:
The time of the gentleman has expired. The Director may answer the question.

WRAY:
Your concerns, which I completely sympathize with and understand, go to the question of whether or not proper process, investigative and otherwise were followed. And I think the best way to get to the bottom of that is not to bypass proper investigative process now into those things.

We should wait, let the fact-finding finish the Inspector General, as somebody who seen the Inspector General in action, from the Justice Department side, as a line prosecutor, as a defense attorney, is not a rubberstamp. This is somebody who puts people through their paces, and I look forward to hearing what it is he finds. This is not the FBI investigating itself, it's an outside watch dog. And I look forward to seeing what that report is. And then, at that time -- but at that time, that's when we should look at what appropriate steps should be taken in response.

GOODLATTE:
The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington, Ms. Jayapal, for five minutes.

JAYAPAL:
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Director Wray, thank you for being with us today. And thank you to your service to this country. I have a question about the FBI's 2016 crime in the United States report. It surprised many of us to see a drastic decrease in the amount of data available in the report. The report only contains 29 tables as opposed to the 80 plus tables, that's almost a 70 percent decrease in the tables of previous years. And when questioned, the Bureau explained that this plan had been in place since 2010.

However, state program managers were only informed of the change recently. Are you aware of the shift to dramatically decrease the amount of crime data available to the public?

WRAY:
Congressman, I recently learned of this issue. I guess I could say a couple things. The first is that the decision to remove those particular tables was based on information that CGIS, which is part of our FBI had, that spoke to how often those tables were even being reviewed by anybody.

Second, the information in those particular tables was largely just alternative views of data that was still in the report. But third, and probably most importantly to your question, we recently made a decision internally to go ahead and republish the information with the tables. It's going to take a few weeks for that to happen, however.

JAYAPAL:

That's great, we really appreciate that very much. And I did want to submit this letter for -- for the record, from the crime and justice research alliance about why those tables are so important. But we very much appreciate you doing that. Let me move to some questions about hate crimes and various ethnic religious and minority groups.

California State University's center for the study of hate and extremism found that biased crimes against various minorities and religious groups were up 20 percent since the election of Donald Trump. The majority of the crimes were against individuals in the Islamic or LGBT communities. Director Wray, the president has repeatedly posted tweets insulting various ethnic religious and minority groups. Most recently, he retweeted three videos by a discredited United Kingdom white separatist ultra nationalist political group. Videos which allegedly showed Muslims committing crimes.

In the tense environment and climate that we operate under and with the frequent vilification of minorities and the public's fear, do you believe that the president's rhetoric and actions such as these tweets have an impact on the rising hate crimes that we are seeing?

WRAY:

Congresswoman, I -- I try to stay out of commenting on the business of what's being said in social media. What I guess I would say is that as to the question of hate crimes statics and the apparent rise in hate crimes. As I think was noted in one of the earlier exchanges, in trying to collect that information, especially from state and local law enforcement, it's voluntary.

And so, we have challenges because it's sporadic as to which agencies will provide information and which ones won't and how accurate and what resources they have to collect the information. So its hard for us to get an accurate take on the rise, we do the best we can with the information we have.

JAYAPAL:

Director Wray...

WRAY:

I will say that my experience in dealing with communities as we do our investigation, is that it's very important that we have the trust and confidence of all the communities we serve throughout the United States and all the communities we serve and protect, especially not just because it's the right thing to do, but because it's the smart thing to do. We need to be able to encourage sources, which are the life blood of investigations. And we need people to come forward and speak up and tell us when they see something that is concerning so that if an investigation's appropriate, we can conduct one.

So I think the folks in the Bureau are acutely sensitive to that and intend to continue that practice and approach.

JAYAPAL:

I appreciate that. I -- I -- I feel like you're taking my questions right out of my mouth because I do think that it's important for you, as the director of the FBI, to be concerned about anything that hurts the trust that we have with our communities across the country that are helping in the FBI's efforts.

President Trump has previously warned that immigration from Muslim majority nations threatens the United States security. Do you share that view?

WRAY:

I am deeply concerned about global jihadist terrorism, which is a very real problem in this country...

JAYAPAL:

But do you -- but do you believe that Muslim majority countries and the immigrants that come from those countries are a threat to our security? And let me -- before you answer that, let me ask you if you know who said this quote. "Islam, as practiced by the vast majority of people is a peaceful religion, a religion that respects others. Ours is a country based upon tolerance and we welcome people of all faiths in America."

Do you know who said that, Director Wray?

WRAY:

Well, I'm not a hundred percent certain about the quote, but I -- if memory serves, it may be President George W. Bush shortly after 9/11.

JAYAPAL:

Very good. That's right. That's right. And so I would just ask, Director Wray, again, do you share the view that immigration from Muslim majority nations threatens the United States security?

GOODLATTE:

Time of the gentlewoman has expired.

The Director may answer the question.

WRAY:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What I would say is that an awful lot of our terrorism investigations do also involve immigration violations. So there is a -- a close nexus between immigration violations and counterterrorism investigations and an awful lot of the terrorist investigations we have involve global jihadist rhetoric, which is disproportionately concentrated in certain countries.

GOODLATTE:

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana, Mr. Johnson, for five minutes.

JOHNSON:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Director Wray, thank you for being here today. I have a number of questions on a variety of topics and we have limited time so let me get right into it. First, I have always found it interesting that Director Comey never sought to obtain the hacked DNC servers to -- to review any digital evidence or trails that can definitively prove or disprove the Russian hacking allegation.

Have you -- have you sought those servers and if not, why not?

WRAY:

The handling of that investigation, including access to servers or anything like that, those are investigative decisions made in the course of the Clinton e-mail investigation, which is now the subject

of a rigorous outside independent investigation by the Inspector General and I'm waiting to see what he finds in order to decide what appropriate action might ensue from that.

JOHNSON:

Do you know if the Inspector General is seeking the servers or do you have any information on it?

WRAY:

I don't have any information on that.

JOHNSON:

The number two official on Mr. Mueller's team, former FBI General Counsel Andrew Weissmann, as you know, was just shown to have made biased comments against President Trump in e-mails sent to the since fired Acting-Attorney General Sally Yates. As a matter of general policy, what happens when employees at the FBI are shown to make biased comments, in the midst of an investigation on which they serve?

WRAY:

Well, it's -- it's -- really, it's hard to generalize. It depends on the situation, depends on how severe the bias, depends on lots and lots of different circumstances. So it's hard for me to make one sweeping statement. Certainly, in some instances, we would, as has been alluded to earlier, remove somebody from an investigation.

JOHNSON:

Who makes that decision? I mean, what's the criteria, is that ultimately your unilateral authority, or?

WRAY:

It wouldn't have to rise to my level. It would depend on the investigation, I would suppose.

JOHNSON:

With regard to terrorism, the Department of Homeland Security has recently indicated the threat environment in the U.S. is perhaps the most serious since the 9/11 attacks. And in your opening statement today, of course, you noted that the FBI's currently investigating about 1,000 ISIS-related threats in all 50 states. Is the threat evolving now that ISIS is losing ground in Iraq and Syria and has the threat grown as that organization has become more decentralized?

WRAY:

That's a very good question. I think what I would say is the threat is different. Some people would say is it better or worse. The good news is, you know, the Caliphate is crumbling and that's positive for all of us. The bad news is, ISIS is encouraging some of its recruits and potential recruits to stay where they are and commit attacks right in the homeland.

So in addition to the thousand or thereabouts ISIS investigations, which I would define as sort of ISIS-directed investigations, we have a lot of what we would call homegrown violent extremist investigations. Which are individuals more kind of lone wolf types who are motivated and inspired by ISIS to commit attacks and that's, I think, the threat that in our view is growing and not just in the U.S., but in a lot of our allied countries as well.

JOHNSON:

I wish we had time to unpack that further. But let me, let me ask you specifically regarding ISIS and current investigations, can you confirm for us today, that the Las Vegas killer, Steven Paddock didn't have any ties to international terrorism despite the fact that ISIS is claiming responsibility?

WRAY:

Well, I've -- I've seen the same claims of responsibility that you have Congressman. I would tell you that so far in our investigation we haven't seen any evidence to support those claims of responsibility.

JOHNSON:

Thanks for that. In September, I led a letter with 17 members of Congress from Texas and Louisiana to Attorney General Sessions to request a thorough investigation into Planned Parenthood Gulf Coasts' actions of selling aborted fetal tissue for financial gain. If indeed that activity is shown to have taken place, is that a crime?

WRAY:

I don't know the legal answer, as I said before, I consider myself now a reformed lawyer. But I will tell you that we are aware of the request and we have farmed it out to the appropriate field offices and parts of the Bureau to take a look at the information provided.

JOHNSON:

Last month we -- we got information the FBI requested from Senate Judiciary Committee, documents that were obtained from those abortion providers regarding that probe and so, on behalf of all of our delegations and those in the region, I want to thank you for that and we'll look forward to the outcome of it. I appreciate your being here and your service to the country sir. And I yield back.

WRAY:

Thank you, sir.

GOODLATTE:

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York, Mr. Jeffries for five minutes.

JEFFRIES:

Thank, Mr. Chairman.

Thank you, Director Wray for your service to the country. WikiLeaks has repeatedly published information designed to damage the United States. Is that correct?

WRAY:

I think that's correct.

JEFFRIES:

And there's reason to believe that WikiLeaks works closely with Russian intelligence agents and spies. Is that right?

WRAY:

I've seen some of the same information. Certainly, we're concerned about WikiLeaks.

JEFFRIES:

Donald Trump, Jr. had multiple conversations with WikiLeaks between September 2016 and July 2017. Is that correct?

WRAY:

That one I don't know, but I think now you're getting into territory that I believe is right in the heart of what the Special Counsel has on his plate.

JEFFRIES:

OK, for example I think on October 3rd, Donald Trump, Jr. asked WikiLeaks, "What's behind this Wednesday leak I keep reading about?" Are you familiar with that?

WRAY:

I'm not going to comment on anything that might be part of the Special Counsel's investigation.

JEFFRIES:

OK, and on October 12th WikiLeaks contacted Donald Trump Jr. saying, "Great to see you and your dad talking about our publications. And by the way, we just released Podesta e-mails part four."

Let me ask you this question, Donald Trump, Jr. never informed the FBI or other law enforcement agencies that a known Russian collaborator had been in communication with him about matters related to the United States presidential election. Is that right?

WRAY:

Again, Congressman, I'm not going to comment on anything that might be part of the special counsel's ongoing investigation.

JEFFRIES:

OK, well the apparent existence of a triangular relationship between the Trump campaign, Russian spies and WikiLeaks seems, to me, to be something we should all be deeply troubled about. Now, in 1974, the House Judiciary Committee adopted articles of impeachment against President Richard Nixon, correct?

WRAY:

That sounds right.

JEFFRIES:

One of those articles of impeachment related to obstruction of justice, correct?

WRAY:

That I don't remember specifically. It's been a while since I studied that episode.

JEFFRIES:

OK, 1998, more recently, the House of Representatives adopted articles of impeachment against President Bill Clinton, true?

WRAY:

Yes.

JEFFRIES:

And one of those articles of impeachment related to obstruction of justice, correct?

WRAY:

I believe that's correct.

JEFFRIES:

So, the president of the United States can commit obstruction of justice, isn't that correct?

WRAY:

Well, again, that gets into a legal question that I'm not going to try to take on here.

JEFFRIES:

OK. Sally Yates served as acting-attorney general in January prior to the confirmation of Jeff Sessions, true?

WRAY:

Yes

JEFFRIES:

And while serving as acting-attorney general, she warned the White House that national security adviser Michael Flynn could be a Russian asset, is that correct?

WRAY:

Again that's -- now you're into something that I think is part of the special counsel's investigation.

JEFFRIES:

OK. In four days after informing the White House that the Department of Justice was aware of Michael Flynn's indiscretions related to Russia, Donald Trump fired Sally Yates. Is that a fact?

WRAY:

Again, I don't want talk with something that might be wrapped up in the special counsel's investigation.

JEFFRIES:

OK, but she was fired on January 30th, by Donald Trump, true?

WRAY:

Yes, she was fired by the president, and I can't remember the exact date, but I don't have any reason to question your understanding of what the date is.

JEFFRIES:

OK, thank you. Preet Bharara served as a U.S. attorney for the sub district of New York when Donald Trump was first elected, correct?

WRAY:

Yes.

JEFFRIES:

And Donald Trump met with Preet Bharara on November 30th and told Mr. Bharara he could keep his job, is that true?

WRAY:
That I don't know.

JEFFRIES:
OK. Now, Preet Bharara's prosecutorial office in the Southern District of New York has jurisdiction over Trump Towers, correct?

WRAY:
Yes.

JEFFRIES:
And at some point this year, it became clear that Preet Bharara office was investigating close allies of the Trump administration, correct?

WRAY:
That I don't know.

JEFFRIES:
It has been publicly reported that the president's lawyer, Marc Kasowitz warned Donald Trump this guy is going to get you. Is that true?

WRAY:
I have no idea whether that's true.

JEFFRIES:
Donald Trump fired Preet Bharara on March 11th, correct?

WRAY:
I know that he was, along with the other U.S. attorneys in place that were holdover U.S. attorneys, let go and -- but that date may be right, I don't know.

JEFFRIES:
James Comey was your predecessor as FBI director, is that right?

WRAY:
Well, he was my Senate-confirmed predecessor. Acting Director McCabe was in between.

JEFFRIES:
And he's a first rate -- widely regarded as a first rate talented law enforcement professional, true?

WRAY:
As I said earlier in response to a question, during my interaction with him, especially during the early 2000s, that was my experience.

JEFFRIES:

And in February, Donald Trump asked James Comey to drop the investigation into Michael Flynn, is that correct?

WRAY:

I don't know whether that's correct. I believe that's something that's part of the special counsel's investigation.

JEFFRIES:

Donald Trump also asked James Comey to bow down and take a loyalty pledge to the president, correct?

WRAY:

I have no idea whether that's true, and again, I don't want to comment anything that's subject to special counsel's investigation.

JEFFRIES:

And on March 20th, James Comey testified before Congress in publicly stated that the Trump campaign was under criminal investigation, is that right?

WRAY:

I don't know whether that's correct.

JEFFRIES:

FBI director James Comey led that criminal investigation into the Trump campaign, true?

WRAY:

Again, I'm not sure I can comment on that.

JEFFRIES:

Donald Trump fired James Comey on March 9th, is that correct?

WRAY:

I don't actually think -- I don't think it was March 9th.

JEFFRIES:

I'm sorry, May 9th.

WRAY:

May 9th.

JEFFRIES:

Is that correct?

WRAY:

I believe he was fired on May 9th.

GOODLATTE:

Time of the gentleman has expired.

JEFFRIES:

So Donald Trump fired Sally Yates without justification, fired Donald Trump (sic) -- fired Preet Bharara without justification, fired James Comey without justification. Feels like obstruction of justice, sounds like obstruction of justice, looks like obstruction of justice.

I think the American people, Mr. Chairman, can reasonably conclude it's obstruction of justice.

GOODLATTE:

One thing to conclude is the gentleman's time has expired.

And the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona, Mr. Biggs, for five minutes.

BIGGS:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and thank you, Director Wray for being here with us today.

I want to just ask some questions to follow up on some things that you have previously testified to today, particularly when Mr. Issa was talking talking to you and then several of the people got in on that exchange just a little bit.

One of the things you said, and I'm going to paraphrase part of it and then I'll quote part of it, you said, if there's undo political considerations -- if you find -- if the I.G. finds that there's undue political considerations at play in the original Clinton investigations, then the FBI would have to determine -- and then you said, "How to un-ring the bell." And I guess my question is -- multiple there. What did you mean when you said, "un-ring the bell?" And let's just start there.

WRAY:

It's hard for me to speculate about what I would do at that point. I think it would depend a lot on the particulars of what the Inspector General found. I would not rule out anything appropriate that would be in response to the Inspector General's findings. Sometimes there may be recommendations that come with the Inspector General's report, in my experience, so that's something we would take into account.

It could range from anything from changes to our policies, our structures. It could be personnel decisions that come out of it. There could be follow up that we need to engage in, as a result of things that we learn from the Inspector General's report. So there's -- it's hard for me to give kind of an exhaustive list, but those are a few of the kinds of things that I can imagine.

BIGGS:

Well, the first two things that you mentioned there were really kind of internal processes, personnel, maybe somebody needs to be corrected, maybe they need to be disciplined. Beyond that, though, I'm wondering if there's additional options that might include even re-opening the investigation, taking a harder look, and is that a potential option?

WRAY:

Well, I think what I would say to you there, Congressman, is something that I believe is true, really, in any situation, which is, if we find, for example, new information or new evidence that would cause us to

want to reopen an investigation, assuming we don't have a statute of limitations problem or something, that's something we would consider.

And likewise, if the information we receive from the Inspector General suggested that that's something that would be appropriate, then that's something we would consider.

BIGGS:

And you also indicated that -- and is his name Mr. Strzok? I want to get the pronunciation right. I've heard it about five different ways today. Strzok, is that?

WRAY:

Strzok.

BIGGS:

OK, so, Mr. Strzok was reassigned and you said that wasn't a disciplinary move. It just seems like an odd lateral move. Are you telling me that's -- telling us all that that was a lateral move for him?

WRAY:

The individual in question was reassigned away from the special counsel investigation to the human resources department. I understand that that may sound, to some of you, like a demotion, but I can assure you that in a 37,000 person organization with a \$9 billion budget, and offices all around the country and -- and in 80 countries around the world, that I think our human resources department is extremely important and a lot of what they do is cutting-edge best practice stuff. So, it's a very different kind of assignment, certainly, but that's why I don't consider it disciplinary or a demotion.

BIGGS:

OK, and so with regard to the attorneys that are on the Mueller team, did the FBI vet them at all and if so, what was the vetting process?

WRAY:

I am not aware of what vetting may or may not have been done in the staffing of Director Mueller's team. Of course, all FBI agents when they join, are subject to an excruciatingly detailed background investigation, and then over the course of their trajectories but should because of their access to classified information, there are follow-ups, sort of, re-up investigations that occur over the life of an agent's career. But as far as specific vetting, not sure exactly what you mean by that for purposes.

BIGGS:

Well, let's -- let's -- let's get to the heart of it. I won't mince words. So what we've talked about today is appearance of conflict or bias and everything from donating rather large sums of money to candidates, some of which have been, perhaps, even under investigation by the FBI at some point or another, communication widely critical of this administration, or highly supportive of another administration or candidates that, again, may have may have been under investigation at some point. What it -- what is the process there?

What -- is there an official process that that goes into determining whether someone is -- is compromised or has a bias in their investigation? Or is this -- like in the Department of Justice, when we had Attorney General Sessions here, he said, "Well, we don't have a process, it's up to each attorney to basically decide whether they have conflict of interest", which isn't the way it is in private sector, just so

you know. So I'm wondering what -- what would be your process in determining whether was the bias was too great, because you said earlier...

GOODLATTE:

Time of the gentleman has expired.

Director can answer the question.

WRAY:

We don't do political scrubbing of our agents. And of course, a lot of the questions today have gone to prosecutors, which again, that's not a part -- we devote agents and staff to the special counsel investigation, but not to the prosecutor side.

GOODLATTE:

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois, Mr. Schneider for five minutes.

SCHNEIDER:

Thank you, and Director Wray, thank you for your time, your patience here in answering all of our questions and your service to our country. It is all very, very much appreciated. You started today -- you gave us a testimony this morning, a summary, 15 pages describing the programs and priorities of the FBI, of the bureau.

You don't mention in this at all some of the work you've talked about later, which is, protecting our elections. I think -- I don't know want to put exact words, but you talked about protecting the integrity of our elections and it's critical to the foundations of our democracy. In fact, election security is national security.

However, two months ago, Attorney General Sessions testifying before the Senate Judiciary Committee said the Department of Justice has not yet taken any actions towards protecting our elections from foreign interference. It would be a gross understatement to say that I was deeply concerned about his remarks when he came a few weeks later to this committee. I asked him what had been done and I was astounded at his answer to say, we hadn't done anything, but I was grateful that he said he would take action and work with us.

I understand that the FBI is making this a priority, that you have created a taskforce within the FBI. What was it that prompted the development of the taskforce? What void does that fill? What's its mission and who are its members?

WRAY:

Well, first off, I think, if I might, I think the fact that the Attorney General didn't mention the efforts that we have underway is simply a reflection of the fact that there's lots and lots and lots of things that happen in a gigantic Justice Department and some of them may not have been briefed to him as promptly as we should have.

The Attorney General, I know, is -- cares deeply about this issue and in my view, is a great man and a great public servant. I will say that on the -- in the context of foreign influence in our elections, that was prompted in part by our concerns growing out of all of the dust up with the ICA that we knew from that

combined with what we saw from talking with some of our foreign partners that efforts to interfere, not just with our elections, but other countries elections, is a real thing.

We know that that was true not just in the last election, but that that's something the Russians have tried to do in prior elections, even before the last election.

SCHNEIDER:

They've done it before. We have to expect they'll do it again.

WRAY:

I think we all expect that and so, our foreign influence task force is a blend of people from the counter-intelligence division, the cyber division, the criminal division, and other parts of the Department. A lot of it is work that we were already doing, but I think putting them together in a single taskforce provides a -- it's a time-honored way to increase the focus, the discipline, the prioritization, the coordination, and it allows us to pursue those concerns with greater vigor and focus.

SCHNEIDER:

If I may -- you talk about doing that within the Bureau.

WRAY:

Right.

SCHNEIDER:

You've mentioned coordinating with DHS, but this is a complex issue that cuts across many agencies. How is the taskforce working with the other departments, the other agencies to make sure that we're prepared to protect the integrity of our elections next year?

WRAY:

We have a -- our taskforce has a variety of contacts with, not just DHS. I mentioned them because they're so critical to the election infrastructure in the country, but I didn't mean to leave out, in particular, other members of the intelligence community. There's regular contact there and I want to make sure I don't overlook our contact with our foreign counterparts where we're comparing notes there as well.

The state elections bodies which of course are important part of it as well, that happens really more indirectly through DHS and our coordination with DHS. And then, of course, as Congresswoman Handel knows well from her prior life, there are private companies that are an important part of the election infrastructure and we have some interaction with the private sector as part of this, as well.

SCHNEIDER:

What gives you the confidence that -- we're 11 months away from our next national election, primaries are starting in the couple months ahead. What gives you the confidence that we'll be able to protect our elections next year?

WRAY:

Well, what I can tell you is that I'm confident that we're working very hard on the issue. We're going to continue working very hard on the issue. We're going to be continually looking at how we can get even

better at working on the issue, but I long ago gave up the idea of making predictions about whether or not we're going to bat 1,000, but that's our goal.

SCHNEIDER:

So let me close with the question I asked the Attorney General when he was here. Are you willing to work with the members of this committee? Will you commit to briefing us whether in public or in classified briefings? And can you give us a point of contact with who we should be communicating with in your department?

WRAY:

I'd be happy to follow up with your staff on that.

SCHNEIDER:

Thank you very much. I yield back.

GOODLATTE:

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida, Mr. Rutherford, for five minutes.

RUTHERFORD:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Director Wray, first let me say thank you for coming and appear before the committee today for quite a while. Thank you very much. Listen, your appearance here is -- is critical to us doing our job and holding the Federal Bureau of Investigations accountable for the people and -- and I know that's something that -- that you, as the newly appointed director, are also very interested in. And I have to tell you as one member of Congress, I'm very encouraged by the fact that you are now sitting in that chair.

So I want to start with the fact that, you know, as -- as a former law enforcement officer myself, I often thought about and still think about the perceived or actual politicization of law enforcement agencies by the acts of officers within our agencies. And -- and I share my colleagues' concerns regarding the private communications by FBI personnel who were tasked with conducting the Clinton investigation, and -- and certainly those types of biases and other forms of biases go against the ethics of the FBI and other law-enforcement agencies if and when they begin to affect the fear and influence the fear and enforcement of the law through political consideration.

And I know to earlier it -- it was -- it was mentioned. So, rather than repeat what my colleagues have all gone through, I want to ask the question, what is it -- how does the FBI fight against the partisan -- partisan bias that can naturally exist in agents -- we all know that. But specifically, how does the Bureau monitor your agents and whether that be over social media or other private messaging, does the FBI have a formal guidance or policy on how this is conducted -- just answer that one first, please.

WRAY:

Well, I think an in-depth answer would require more of a follow-on briefing of some sort, but I what I would say is that we try to address the kinds of concerns that you're highlighting, which are important to me too. I think we share that. We do it through everything from making sure that we recruit the right people, from making sure we train them in the 21 week training that I described earlier, we make sure that we have policies that remind them about the importance of playing it straight, going by the book...

RUTHERFORD:

Are there policies then that specifically address contacts that they can put out publicly, understanding their First Amendment rights, but also understanding the influence that it can have on -- on the reputation of the agency? And -- and -- and I understand until it begins to effective an investigation, which -- which I think in the in the case of Special Agent Strzok, it certainly did.

I mean, when we're looking at what was previously called the unprecedented actions, of not only giving immunity, but not recording potential criminal investigation -- depositions, that's -- that's -- that is unprecedented, I -- I think that that you would combine the two of those. To give immunity is -- is -- is not unusual, and so, if I were to ask you, did anyone lie during the Clinton e-mail deposition would -- how would you answer that?

WRAY:

I'm not sure what deposition you're referring to, but I would say that questions about the handling of the Clinton e-mail investigation, and in particular, whether or not certain decisions made over the life of that investigation were in any way tainted or influenced, as you say, by improper considerations is something that has been referred to and is very deeply under investigation by the outside independent Inspector General.

RUTHERFORD:

Let me ask very quickly because my time is about to run out. So, the Inspector General has his investigation going, but does the FBI -- do you conduct your own internal investigation as well? I mean, surely it doesn't take an I.G. investigation to terminate an employee. That's certainly within your purview, correct, as a director?

WRAY:

Well, we have a process -- you know, these are career civil servants. We have a process that, and I said earlier, I prefer to ask questions first and then act later.

RUTHERFORD:

Exactly.

WRAY:

And in this situation, we would not normally be conducting a parallel internal investigation while the Inspector General is doing his and the reason for that is because, and this is something that is a best practice across investigations, we want to be sure that we're not doing something that would be viewed as interfering with his.

RUTHERFORD:

I understand.

My time is expired, sir.

GOODLATTE:

The committee is advised that we have votes on the floor. We have Director Wray, a great appreciation for the three hours and forty-five minutes you put in so far. We do have about a half dozen more members that will come back immediately after these votes, so you can get a bite to eat or whatever. I

expect it will be 35, 40 minutes and we'll be back again to complete the hearing. And the committee will stand in recess.

(RECESS)

GOODLATTE:

The committee will reconvene. When the committee recessed we were in the questioning period with the director of the FBI, and the chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Georgia, Mrs. Handel, for five minutes..

HANDEL:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Director Wray. Thank you so much for being here. It's wonderful to see you. And I would just like to say that given your distinguished and exemplary record of service, I am on the optimistic side that under your leadership we really will see a heightened degree of integrity going forward in the agency, so I look forward to that.

I wanted to ask a couple of questions around terrorism and ISIS. You mentioned that in your opening testimony that the agency has some 1,000 active terrorism related investigations. How is that volume of terrorism investigative cases continuing or not continuing to strain the agency in terms of resources and your breadth of being able to cover other investigations?

WRAY:

It's a good question. We -- in addition to those thousand ISIS-related investigations, we have, you know, probably a closely similar number of what we would classify as homegrown violent extremists, which we would define as not so much ISIS directed, but ISIS inspired. You know, people -- lone wolves here who see sermons and videos and things like that, and decide they want to act.

And then of course we have quite a fair number still even now in 2017 of Al Qaeda-related investigations, Hezbollah-related investigations and a number of other terrorist groups. And then that's not even talking about the domestic terrorism investigations.

So our counterterrorism division and our JTTS, our joint terrorism task forces around the country are extremely busy. We have, I think, matured to a point where we're not having to redirect agents from the more traditional criminal programs, except in rare situations where there's a sudden attack or something, and then we'll surge.

But there's no question we are spread very thin and we're doing the best we can with what we have.

I said to somebody recently, everywhere I turn in the country I find people who want the FBI to do more of something, and I have yet to find the person who has identified something they want the FBI to do less of, but I'd love to some day.

HANDEL:

There you go. You brought up homegrown terrorists and ISIS-inspired terrorists. What ability does the FBI have to actually investigate publicly available information that's posted online, specifically on various social media sites, and Facebook, et cetera, about individuals who would be terrorist sympathizers?

WRAY:

We do not, as a matter of course, just sit and sort of monitor social media. We do, however, in the context of specific properly-predicated investigations, look at all available sources, including publicly available information, which could include the kinds of information that you're describing.

So it -- it's definitely true that social media becomes a major part of a lot of our terrorism investigations. But we don't really have the means or, really, the authority to just kind of sit and troll...

HANDEL:
Right.

WRAY:
... social media, looking for problems.

HANDEL:
But if you have a case that you're working, do you have the authority to further those investigations...

(CROSSTALK)

WRAY:
Yes, yes.

HANDEL:
OK. Good, good. All right. You mentioned also, earlier in one of the -- your responses, about many terrorist investigations are linked, also, to immigration violations. I wanted to talk about the diversity visa.

As you know, it has been reported that the suspect in New York City, attack on Halloween, entered the U.S. on a diversity visa. In the course of the investigations, can you just talk a little bit more about the abuse of the immigration system, in particular visa security issues that are being exploited by subjects who are -- or individuals who are the subjects of investigations, and are there changes to that process -- that vetting -- that you could recommend to us?

WRAY:
Well, I -- I think most changes to the immigration or visa program are, really, better directed to the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of State, which have the responsibility for those two aspects...

HANDEL:
(OFF-MIKE)

WRAY:
... of enforcement.

In the -- I think I can say this because it's public record in the charging documents. That, in the New York attack, the individual in question, although he did come in through the diversity visa program, he radicalized -- at least according to him -- radicalized a little bit after he got here. In other words, he wasn't already radicalized when he came in, it -- it would appear.

Some of the visa concerns that we have, going forward, are as -- as the caliphate collapses and as fighters from overseas fan out to other countries, they could well end up in countries, for example -- visa waiver countries. And then -- and then end up in the U.S., right?

So a lot of people worry, "Well, are they gonna, when the caliphate falls, all come, you know, to the U.S.?" You know, another scenario that's a little more worrisome, and maybe a little more likely, is that they flee Syria or Iraq and go to some other country, some third country, and are there for a while, and then come into the U.S., maybe a year from now, 18 months from now, two years from now. And that's something that -- that concerns us.

HANDEL:

OK, great. Thank you. And my time is out, thank you.

I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

GOODLATTE:

Thank you.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas, Mr. Farenthold, for five minutes.

FARENTHOLD:

Thank you very much.

Director, thank you for being here. And I know this has been touched on a couple of times, and I just want to reiterate something that I hear regularly from my constituents in South Texas. And that's a concern, we have a special counsel investigating the Trump administration, but it seems like no one is addressing the Clinton administration.

I know the chairman touched on this, as do -- did some of the other questions. And I really don't have a question here, other than to reiterate that it is a pretty strong concern of a lot of the folks that I represent. And I know y'all don't comment on whether or not there is an ongoing investigation or is not.

But as we start seeing the results of the special counsel's investigations coming to fruition, with publicly-announced indictments in the light, if there are investigations going on with the FBI -- and I hope they are -- the time is -- is getting ripe to see some results for that.

And I think the other piece of that is, a lot of my constituents say it's not fair, we have a special counsel investigating one side and -- and not the other. So I just put that out there.

Now -- now that I'm finished on my soap box, I -- I do want to talk a little bit about Section 702. During our DOJ Oversight hearing a couple weeks ago with the attorney general, he indicated the DOJ finds it problematic to require a warrant from the FISC (ph) court before accessing or disseminating contents of communications that aren't related to foreign intelligence.

And I have a -- listen, I have a great deal of respect for Attorney General Sessions. But I have to say, I wasn't totally satisfied with the answer to this question.

So I want to ask you, again: Is it fair to say that requiring a court order to view content in limited circumstances -- after a 702 database was queried specifically to return evidence of a crime -- dismantles the 702 program? A national security tool designed to protect us from terrorists, not common criminals?

WRAY:

Congressman, the "dismantles" language, I think, comes from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence response to the bill. And that is the intelligence community's view about the bill in its totality. You know, all the different changes. Not just the querying part of it that you referred to, but some of the others.

We do believe, very strongly, that we are using the tool lawfully and appropriately, that -- that has been consistently found by the courts that have looked at the issue, and by the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, and by all the different oversight mechanisms that have existed.

We do believe that starting to, when there is no constitutional requirement to do so -- and that is, in my mind, quite clear -- that adding additional burdens and hoops for agents to jump through at that really early stage, that's when 702 is so important. Is at the very early stage, when tips are coming in, we are getting flooded with leads and we're trying to evaluate, "Is this a lead that is something that is important?"

It may come in, it may turn out to be foreign intelligence information, it may turn out to be some other kind of crime. At that point, we don't know and all we want to be able to do is query, which is running a database check of information that we have already, constitutionally, in our possession.

FARENTHOLD:

Again, my concern is, I understand the need to protect us from crime. But the Fourth Amendment is in the Constitution for a reason, and I have a great deal of respect for that.

On a -- on a similar note, I've introduced legislation criminalizing improper unmasking. It's actually called the Wrongful Unmasking Prevention Act, which establishes a penalty of 10 years' imprisonment for anyone who knowingly makes an unmasking request for any reason other than to understand foreign intelligence information, to assess the importance of foreign intelligence information or to determine whether classified information is evidence of a crime which has been, is being, or is about to be committed.

The idea behind this is, you don't want folks unmasking stuff for political purposes, or to check up on their girlfriend or -- or their neighbor, or for some other improper reason. Now, obviously, this is just a bill. But from an agency perspective, does the FBI now investigate unmasking claims that might be improper?

WRAY:

There are situations where the request could lead to an investigation. Merely somebody making a request -- an unmasking request -- and having it denied, for example, is not -- would not be enough. But if we have evidence that somebody obtained -- which would, in that case, for example, be classified information -- for an improper purpose, you know, that is something that we would investigate.

A lot of times, the unmasking concerns are linked to, and less about, the unmasking itself and more about a -- in my mind, a very serious issue, which is leaks of the information, whether it's through unmasking or something else. And that's something that we're trying to be very aggressive on.

The -- you know, my -- I think the department, the intelligence community, the FBI are open to working with you and the committee on the unmasking issue. I think, ideally, it would be separated from 702, which we think is an incredibly important tool...

FARENTHOLD:

That's fine. It's a separate piece of legislation.

WRAY:

... that (ph) we (ph) need (ph) to (ph) renew (ph). Yeah.

FARENTHOLD:

I see my time has expired. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

GOODLATTE:

The Chair recognized the gentleman from Georgia, Mr. Collins, for five minutes.

COLLINS:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Thanks for being, thanks for staying. As for the -- sometimes we get here a little bit later and (ph) we go earlier, many have left. But sometimes you get to stay to the end.

I think it's been good today because there was something that you had said earlier. The chairman brought it up, and I just -- with (ph) one from northeast Georgia, it's good to, you know, be back. I know you traveled to Gainesville and Judge Kelly's court, and everybody else up there for a while.

But I think the interesting thing, here, is something that was said earlier, especially about when asking for stuff -- and it was a determination I'm not going to share that here. And I think the question is, I would just have a -- a general question to start with. What is your belief -- personal belief -- in (ph) how much you have to cooperate with this committee?

WRAY:

My own view is that we should be trying to do everything to cooperate with this committee that we legally and appropriately can.

COLLINS:

OK. And -- and because you're -- when you come here, you're under oath, you're still under oath. It is something we take very seriously. But I've also been here five years. And there -- and some of the questions today -- and I (ph) want (ph) to put it in perspective because there's some things, I just want to put it for the record.

Is (ph) we have a good relationship, starting forward, because I think you bring a -- a great breath of fresh air, hopefully to this, you know, agency, as -- as I believe. My dad was a state trooper. I come from a law enforcement background. We've got to have this trust.

But just as a few years ago, right before I got here, in July 6th of 2011, in a draft letter that was circulated within the Department of Justice, a department official, a Faith Burton (ph), wrote, "I'd stay away from the representation that we'll fully cooperate in the future." This was in dealing with Fast and Furious.

So you've got to understand. The members up here, doing our constitutional job, are sometimes skeptical of what has been said here. And I have had an interested tete-a (ph), you know, back-and-forth with the former attorney general, with your former -- the former FBI director.

So I just have a few questions, if we could. One, is it possibly -- and recently, there's been some problems -- and I want to hear it (ph) from you -- of unprecedented leak of information about FISA wiretaps. We got into FISA a little bit ago. Specifically, there was a leak of information related to the FISA wiretap of Paul Manafort.

Leaking information about FISA warrants is a felony, is it not?

WRAY:

I'm sorry. Leaking information about FISA warrants...

COLLINS:

(inaudible) FISA warrants is a felony. Is it not?

WRAY:

Yes. I would think it would be.

COLLINS:

What is the FBI currently doing to identify the leakers of that information?

WRAY:

Well, I'm not gonna comment on or confirm or deny the existence of any specific investigation. I will say that, when we -- we have, at the moment, quite a number of active investigations into unauthorized disclosures of classified information.

COLLINS:

Is it something you would say that you would put a high priority on? Finding out who leaks, and holding them accountable.

WRAY:

I believe that finding out -- I -- I will say that I believe that finding out who has leaked classified information is something that's extremely important. I will say, also, having been somebody who has had responsibility for a lot of leak investigations -- not just now, but when I was assistant attorney general and head (ph) of (ph) both Criminal Division and what's now the National Security Division, leak investigations are breathtakingly difficult to pursue.

COLLINS:

Well, I think maybe...

(CROSSTALK)

WRAY:

And so that doesn't mean we shouldn't -- does not mean we shouldn't pursue them. and, in fact, I am a big believer in the idea that we should, even if we may be pessimistic about our ability, ultimately, to be able to find somebody to charge.

Because the mere fact of bringing -- of conducting those investigations sends a strong signal that -- that we will not tolerate people leaking classified information.

COLLINS:

And -- and I agree with that. And I think that's -- that (ph) needs (ph) time (ph) because I think it's got to start with you. And if it doesn't start with you -- and I think, frankly, there's not been that leadership in that department for a while.

But let's go back to FISA. Because, earlier on, there was a discussion that you wouldn't -- it came across as, you're -- "We're not going to provide that," or "provide that in this setting," or we didn't have a right to that.

So I just have a few questions. So what information or documents related to FISA do you think the FBI can withhold from the committee?

WRAY:

What...

COLLINS:

Can it withhold FISA warrants?

WRAY:

Well, I think there's a couple different stages of -- of cooperation here, right? So one is the question of what we can provide in an open setting. And then one is what we can provide...

COLLINS:

Well, let me -- let me help you out...

WRAY:

Right.

COLLINS:

... because I just want to -- I want to get down -- because your time's valuable (ph), and mine. We'll just assume it's in the proper setting, proper format. But what I was concerned about was the way it was actually said earlier, was there may be some issues (ph).

So if properly asked for, a FISA warrant. Is there any reason why you withhold that information? Legally, that you can?

WRAY:

There are situations where information related to a FISA application involves sensitive sources and methods that, in my experience, are not shared with committees of Congress.

COLLINS:

Any (ph) information that has formed the basis for a FISA warrant? Or legal memorandum regarding FBI's interpretation of FISA?

WRAY:

Well, the -- the FBI's legal interpretation of FISA, unless it's asking for attorney-client privileged information, I would think it's something we could discuss with the committee.

COLLINS:

Again, I think that's the concern that I have. And look at this is, as the chairman said earlier -- and (ph) backing up the chairman, the jurisdiction of this committee on both sides -- this has become one of the biggest issues that we have here. And I've been here on different committees, asking different agencies, under a Republican administration, now, and a Democrat administration, is, there's a belief that you can withhold from this oversight -- and this is the primary, especially on FISA, it's (ph) the primary.

So I'll clear up the uncertainty you might have. The committee has the authority to demand any document or piece of information related to the FISA program, and there are many things that we would like to see and be a part of. And I think you've indicated your willingness to do that.

We need to continue that openness in this thing. Otherwise you're gonna continue to have the discussions and innuendo and everything else. Because, at the end of the day, this is a problem.

But my last question has one concern. You made a mention earlier, and I thought it was sort of interesting. You said that Mr. Strzok was not demoted or (inaudible) -- I'm not sure, frankly -- and this is just a good North (ph) Order (ph) boy (ph) looking at this -- how do you take the number two counterintelligence person, who is on one of the highest-profile and special investigative committees, that's been in a long time in this town, and take him and put him in a random slot at Human Resources.

It's not offensive to Human Resources. They've got a big job. But I don't think there was a pressing need for your number-two person, here, in counterintelligence -- who was on the highest-profile investigation going on this Hill -- to all of a sudden say, "You know, there's a big need in Human Resources. Let's move him over here."

I have a bigger concern that if it's (ph) some of the issues that have fallen out (ph) with Mr. Strzok, why would you put him in Human Resources, where he would have an oversight -- or even teach responsibilities of what other agents would be a part of? I think you need to be careful, maybe just from an example part, of how we say that that wasn't a demotion or a transfer or something that did not have proper -- at least on the appearance of what happened in this case.

And with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

GOODLATTE:

The chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. Marino, for five minutes.

MARINO:

Thank you, Chairman.

Director, it's good to see you again. It's always a pleasure.

I've got to tell you a little something, when I got out of high school, I didn't go right to college, but I was - wanted to be an FBI agent. So I got a job many, many years ago as a clerk at the Department of Justice. I was there for a short period of time until we found out that I was colorblind, and would not make a very good agent if I couldn't tell the color of a car or the color of clothing.

So I came back home and worked in a factory for a while. When I was a district attorney and U.S. attorney, I was threatened a couple of times. And the FBI and the U.S. Marshals were right there to watch my back. But what was more important, they were there to watch my family during these threats. And I will never forget that, and I greatly appreciate it.

And I have the utmost faith in you and the bureau. We are part of the same honorable profession. You and Jim Comey and I worked very well together. We got a lot of good work done. And the agents and the staff of the Middle District of Pennsylvania, that would be Harrisburg, Scranton, and Williamsport, they made me look good. And I appreciate that.

I know how proffers work. I've used them many times. I know how immunity works. I know what a 302 report is, and how that works. I'm not -- let's put it this way, rarely, in my humble opinion, should we be using special or independent counsel. We know there is a strict criteria for that, if there is a conflict. And the reason is because I trust the 99.9 percent of our agents, the scientists, and staff a bit more than I trust Congress.

And I know you will follow the FBI and DoJ procedures, regardless of what happened in the past. If you ever need anything from me, don't hesitate to call upon me. Thank you very much for your service, and I yield back.

WRAY:

Thank you, Congressman Marino, I really enjoyed our time working in the department together. And I know you're committed to supporting law enforcement and it's very much appreciated.

GOODLATTE:

The chair thanks the gentlemen, and recognizes the gentlewoman from Alabama, Ms. Roby, for five minutes.

ROBY:

I thought I heard the chairman say since I was last I could go as long as I wanted to. But I won't. I will stick to the five-minute rule.

Thank you for your time spent with us today and I appreciate you staying through the last series.

Have you read the USA Liberty Act, which was our bill to renew Section 702 of the FISA Amendments Act, which this committee approved 27-8, last month?

WRAY:

I have -- I wouldn't say I reviewed it word for word, but I have read through it.

ROBY:

OK. And will you commit to working with this committee to reauthorize Section 782 in a way that protects Americans' civil liberties, as well as our national security?

WRAY:

I'm absolutely committed, in fact, eager to work with the committee to try to make sure that we get 702 reauthorized in a way that's not only constitutional, but that also protects our national security. Obviously, as you've gathered from some of my responses, I have very clear and very specific views about what that is. And I have tried very hard in order to be responsive to this committee to really get into the weeds with the agents about how we actually use 702.

I've actually sat at terminals with both kinds of agents, national security agents and criminal agents, in this role as director, rolling up my sleeves, looking at the screen, watching what happens when they tap the keyboard. So I feel like I have a pretty good handle on it. And I just implore the Congress to be really careful here, and I just -- I worry that we're heading down a road that we will all regret. And I just hope lives aren't put at risk as a result.

ROBY:

Well, I can -- I mean, I agree with you, as well. But I just want to make sure that we can continue to work together. And I've heard you say that, so thank you.

WRAY:

Yes, thank you.

ROBY:

As you well know, we have an epidemic of human trafficking in this country, including the trafficking of children. And the internet plays a huge role in that. Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act shields some websites from legal liability regarding content posted by their users.

I have serious concerns about this. Under existing law, do you believe that legal action can be taken against websites that enable -- that's a key word -- enable this horrible behavior?

WRAY:

Well, as I mentioned in some of the earlier questions in different contexts, I now consider myself a reformed lawyer, former lawyer, almost. So I would have to look closely at the law to study the law in this area. I will say that there are situations where we have been able to bring cases against what I would call third parties for aiding and abetting some of the issues that we're talking about here, payment processors, things like that.

So maybe there's a scenario where that kind of approach would work. Certainly, I am deeply concerned, as I know you are, about human trafficking, especially with respect to kids, but not only kids. And as I mentioned in my opening, that's something that we are very aggressively pursuing. So I would be happy to look at -- and then have somebody sit down with you.

ROBY:

Yes, and I mean, we would welcome any of your thoughts or your recommendations on improving our laws. Of course, we have several bills in front of the Senate and the House today, where we are, again,

trying to balance making sure that those that are enabling this type of horrific behavior are held liable, but at the same time, protecting innovation in the -- in the -- on the internet, and the use of the internet.

And so -- but I think at the end of the day, what we all can agree on is that we've got to come up with a solution that works so that we can protect these precious young people and adults from being subjected to this type of abuse.

So real quickly, given the decision by General Services Administration to scrap plans for the new FBI headquarters, I would be interested in your thoughts as to where we go from here. While the Obama administration requested \$1.4 billion for the construction, Congress appropriated \$523 million, leaving an \$882 million funding gap.

So the total cost of the proposed headquarters was a hefty \$2.5 billion. And I understand that the existing building is in a state of disrepair. However, I would be interested in your ideas about how to reduce costs.

WRAY:

Well, we are actively -- when I say went back to the drawing board, we're considering all options. We are working very hard with GSA, and I think there's a report due to another committee in late January about some of our progress. We're looking not just at different building permutations and locations, but also at funding permutations, which I think could be a change maybe in the way we go about getting to a good answer to try to look at how we might pay for it first, and then see what flows from that as opposed to the other way around.

I will tell you that as somebody who has now spent four months back in the building, I remember the last time I was in the building in 2005, the place seemed like it was not in good shape then, and I can assure you, it has not gotten better in the years that pass. So we do need to find a solution. I think the men and women of the FBI deserve a building that's in better shape than this one is.

But I'm not ruling out any particular approach to that. But I do want to make sure we get an upgrade.

GOODLATTE:

If the gentlewoman would yield, I completely agree with the director on that. And we have some excellent real estate in Virginia that would...

(LAUGHTER)

GOODLATTE:

... purpose exceedingly well, just across the river.

ROBY:

Well, my time has expired. But I just want to take the opportunity to tell you and your family, thank you for your service to our country. But also all of the men and women who serve at the FBI. We really appreciate all the hard work that is done. So thank you for being here.

WRAY:

Thank you, and on behalf of the men and women of the bureau and their families, we appreciate it.

GOODLATTE:
Thank you, Ms. Roby.

Director Wray, thank you very much. I do have one additional question. Have you personally seen any of the struck texts that we have been talking about here at length today?

WRAY:
Yes.

GOODLATTE:
Can you characterize for us your impression of whether those do indeed constitute the kind of political - going beyond just expressing opinion, but political activism that does not befit an FBI agent?

WRAY:
Mr. Chairman, I really would prefer not to do that at this point. There is -- because of the investigation that's ongoing and it's also because of whatever might come out of that, I don't think it would be responsible for me to be offering an opinion at this stage.

GOODLATTE:
I respect that.

Let me just close by saying that I very much appreciate your testimony here today, not just that you're here for five hours, but that you have answered questions with a great deal of candor when you can. And I respect the fact that you can't answer all of our questions, particularly in a public setting, regarding some ongoing investigations.

However, I think that members of the committee have made it very clear that there are deep concerns about what has been happening at the FBI, not under your watch, but now under your responsibility to repair that reputation of what I think -- truly think is the world's finest law enforcement organization. And that's going to take your testifying before committees and responding to various inquiries. But it's also going to take more than that.

It's going to take some action. There are going to need to be some personnel changes. We have had a number of names in high-ranking positions at the bureau mentioned in passing here, without getting into tremendous details. Again, the inspector general's investigation and the investigation being conducted by this committee will probably reveal more that needs to be done there.

I also think that a renewed effort to be fully responsive and timely responsive to the inquiries of this committee and other committees, but particularly this committee, which has oversight responsibility, and in lieu of a second special counsel, is conducting an investigation that if there were a special counsel, we would not feel the need to engage in that.

We need to have the information that we're requesting, and we need it promptly. And we have no intention of interfering with the investigation being conducted by the inspector general. In fact, we think his investigation is very important and very helpful, and we have been working with him in that regard.

So those sorts of actions, and probably some changes in protocol regarding how agents conduct themselves and how they view some of the actions that have been revealed in the media and in during the hearing today do not reflect well on the department and create in the minds of many Americans a mis-impression of how the overwhelming majority of FBI line agents and others conduct themselves.

But because these people are in positions of great responsibility at the highest levels of the agency, I think that those who stay need to get some new protocols on how to represent the agency. Some need to go. And all of this needs to be made available to the appropriate committees that are investigating.

I thank you very much, sir. If there is anything you would like to add, we welcome it.

With that, the hearing is concluded. And -- oh, one more thing. We will be submitting additional questions in writing, based upon some of the questions that members submitted, and some issues that have come up that we think may be more suited to submitting questions to you in writing. We hope that you will answer those promptly, as well.

Again, I thank you for your participation. Without objection, all members will have five legislative days to submit additional written questions for the witness or additional materials for the record.

And this hearing is adjourned.

List of Panel Members and Witnesses

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REP. BRAD SCHNEIDER, D-ILL.

WITNESSES:

CHRISTOPHER A. WRAY, DIRECTOR, FBI

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Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2017 5:24 PM
To: Hur, Robert (ODAG); Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG); Bolitho, Zachary (ODAG); Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI); **Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)** (DO) (FBI); Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA); Lasseter, David F. (OLA); Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA); Johnson, Joanne E. (OLA); Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Subject: RE: Update on HPSCI Production

Sorry for the misfire.

(b) (5)

SB

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2017 5:22 PM
To: Hur, Robert (ODAG) <rhur@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG) <zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Bolitho, Zachary (ODAG) <zbolitho@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI) <gbrower@fbi.gov>; **Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)** (DO) (FBI) **Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**; Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Johnson, Joanne E. (OLA) <jojohanson@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: Update on HPSCI Production

From: Hur, Robert (ODAG)
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2017 5:10 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) **(b) (6)**; Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG) <zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Bolitho, Zachary (ODAG) <zbolitho@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI) <gbrower@fbi.gov>; **Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)** (DO) (FBI) **Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**; Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA) <mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Johnson, Joanne E. (OLA) <jojohanson@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: Update on HPSCI Production

Stephen, many thanks to you and your team for helping navigate these requests.

(b) (5)

Thanks,
Rob

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2017 4:47 PM
To: Hur, Robert (ODAG) <rhur@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG) <zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov>;

BOITNO, Zachary (ODAG) <zboitno@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Brower, Gregory (DU) (FBI) <gbrower@fbi.gov>;
Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (DO) (FBI) Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>;
Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
<mhankey@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Johnson, Joanne E. (OLA) <jojohnson@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Schools, Scott (ODAG)
<sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Update on HPSCI Production

All:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Stephen

PS – See below.

WALL STREET JOURNAL

The Editorial Board

Dec. 10, 2017 5:02 p.m. ET

Christopher Wray was supposed to bring a new candor and credibility to the FBI after the James Comey debacle, but the country is still waiting. The director's testimony Thursday to the House Judiciary Committee suggests he has joined the Justice Department effort to stop the public from learning about the bureau's role in the 2016 election.

Judiciary Chairman Bob Goodlatte invited Mr. Wray to answer the multiplying questions about the bureau's 2016 political interference. This includes the role that the Steele dossier—opposition research financed by the Clinton campaign—played in the FBI's decision to investigate the Trump presidential campaign. The committee also wants answers about reports that special counsel Robert Mueller demoted Peter Strzok, a lead FBI investigator in both the Trump and Hillary Clinton email investigations, after Mr. Strzok exchanged anti-Trump texts with his mistress, who also works at the FBI.

Mr. Wray spent five hours stonewalling. The director ducked every question about the FBI's behavior by noting that the Justice Department Inspector General is investigating last year's events.

Is Mr. Wray concerned that Mr. Strzok edited the FBI's judgment of Mrs. Clinton's handling of her emails to "extremely careless" from "grossly negligent" in a previous draft? The grossly negligent phrase might have put Mrs. Clinton in legal jeopardy, but Mr. Wray said he couldn't answer because that is subject to the "outside, independent investigation."

Is Mr. Wray taking steps to ensure his top ranks are free of political "taint"? He couldn't say because of the "outside, independent" investigation.

Ohio Republican Jim Jordan noted that the only way for Congress to know if the FBI used the Steele dossier to obtain a warrant to spy on the Trump campaign is for the FBI to provide its application to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court. "Is there anything prohibiting you from showing this committee [that application]?" Mr. Jordan asked.

Mr. Wray's answer was dismissive. "I do not believe that I can legally and appropriately share a FISA court submission with this committee," said Mr. Wray. "When I sign FISA applications, which I have to do almost every day of the week, they are all covered with a 'classified information' cover."

This is an excuse, not a serious reason. The IG is a watchdog created by Congress to investigate executive misbehavior. It was never intended to supplant congressional oversight, much less be an excuse for executive officials to protect their decisions from scrutiny.

As for hiding behind “classified information,” the House Intelligence Committee that is investigating Russian campaign meddling has appropriate clearances. Mr. Goodlatte reminded Mr. Wray that the Judiciary Committee also has primary jurisdiction over the FISA court.

The FISA application is central to the issue of Russian meddling and whether the FBI used disinformation to trigger a counterintelligence investigation of a U.S. presidential candidate. Congress and the U.S. need to know not only if Trump officials were colluding with Russians but also if Russia and the Clinton campaign used false information to dupe the FBI into intervening in a U.S. election. Yet the FBI and Justice have been stonewalling House Intelligence for months.

The lack of cooperation has become more troubling amid reports that senior career Justice officials have a partisan motivation. Judicial Watch last week released emails showing that Mr. Mueller’s top lieutenant, Andrew Weissmann, praised Obama holdover and acting Attorney General Sally Yates in January for defying Mr. Trump on his travel ban.

Justice also confirmed a Fox News report last week that one of its top lawyers, Bruce Ohr, was in contact with Christopher Steele (the dossier author) before the election, and after the election with Glenn Simpson, the founder of Fusion GPS, the opposition-research firm that hired Mr. Steele. Mr. Ohr was demoted, which suggests his contacts were unauthorized.

By the way, the chief law enforcement officer of the United States is the President. This means he has the legal authority through his deputies at the White House and Justice to see the FISA application. AG Jeff Sessions is recused from the Russia probe, which complicates his access because we don’t know the extent of his recusal. But Deputy AG Rod Rosenstein supervises the FBI when Mr. Sessions does not.

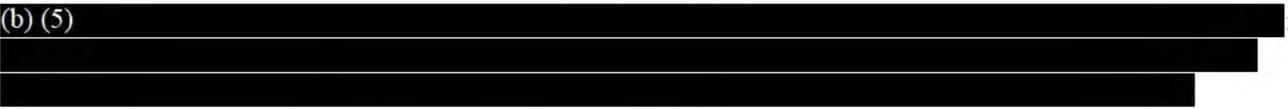
Mr. Rosenstein can and should order the FBI to meet Congress’s document requests including the FISA application. If he refuses, then Mr. Trump through White House counsel Donald McGahn can order him to do so. Mr. Rosenstein could choose to resign rather than comply, but he will not have the law on his side.

The easy way to solve this standoff is for executive officials, including the FBI, to do their duty and cooperate with the duly elected Members of Congress. If they don’t, sterner measures like a finding of contempt of Congress will be needed.

Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2017 3:19 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Subject: RE: OLA Document Production Update

(b) (5)



From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2017 2:19 PM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: OLA Document Production Update

(b) (5)



All:

(b) (5)



(b) (5)



Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Stephen

PS – See below.

WALL STREET JOURNAL

The Editorial Board

Dec. 10, 2017 5:02 p.m. ET

753 COMMENTS

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Mr. Rosenstein can and should order the FBI to meet Congress's document requests including the FISA application. If he refuses, then Mr. Trump through White House counsel Donald McGahn can

order him to do so. Mr. Rosenstein could choose to resign rather than comply, but he will not have the law on his side.

The easy way to solve this standoff is for executive officials, including the FBI, to do their duty and cooperate with the duly elected Members of Congress. If they don't, sterner measures like a finding of contempt of Congress will be needed.

Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Sunday, December 10, 2017 12:18 PM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA); Hur, Robert (ODAG); Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG); Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Subject: RE: 2017-12-06 RHJ to DOJ Rosenstein.pdf
Attachments: 2017-12-06 RHJ to DOJ Rosenstein.pdf

ODAG:

(b) (5)

SB

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2017 8:51 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Hur, Robert (ODAG) <rhur@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG) <zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Crowell, James (ODAG) <jcrowell@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Fwd: 2017-12-06 RHJ to DOJ Rosenstein.pdf

Gentlemen—good evening...please see attached. (b) (5)

S/F,
David

David F. Lasseter

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Downey, Brian (HSGAC)" (b) (6) Senate Email
Date: December 6, 2017 at 20:37:50 EST
To: "David F. Lasseter (OLA)" <David.F.Lasseter@usdoj.gov>
Subject: 2017-12-06 RHJ to DOJ Rosenstein.pdf

Here is a copy of the letter.

Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Thursday, December 7, 2017 1:42 PM
To: Patel, Kash
Cc: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA); Schools, Scott (ODAG); Nelson, Damon; Stewart, Mark; Glabe, Scott
Subject: Re: Due outs from yesterday's meeting

Kash—good afternoon. Can we arrange a call with the Chairman today anytime after 4:30 in order to discuss plan for below items?

Thanks,
David

David F. Lasseter

On Dec 6, 2017, at 10:21, Patel, Kash (b) (6) House Email wrote:

Gents,

Below is a quick summary of yesterday's agreed upon due outs. Thanks very much.

DOJ to propose satisfactory resolution within 48 hours regarding production of:

1. 1023s
2. 302s
3. unredacted copies of any FISAs
4. Woods file
5. Strzok text messages

Also need to settle timing and structure of Strzok interview.

Kashyap P. Patel
Senior Counsel for Counterterrorism
House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

Desk: (b) (6)

Cell: (b) (6)

Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)

From: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2017 4:50 PM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Subject: Re: Request

Got it.

On Dec 6, 2017, at 4:48 PM, Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

All—I have spoken with the staffer. In accordance with our instructions to other committees I informed HSGAC that the Chairman would need to send a formal request for this information. It will be addressed to the DAG.

David

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2017 4:27 PM
To: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA) <kkellner@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Johnson, Joanne E. (OLA) <jojohnson@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (DO) (FBI) Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (DO) (FBI) Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (DO) (FBI) Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Request

FBI/DOJ—I will handle this initial request. More to follow.

Thanks,
David

David F. Lasseter
Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
(202) 514-1260

From: Downey, Brian (HSGAC) (b) (6) Senate Email
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2017 4:06 PM
To: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA) <kkellner@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Johnson, Joanne E. (OLA) <jojohnson@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (DO) (FBI) Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (DO) (FBI) Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: Brosnan, Kyle (HSGAC) (b) (6) Senate Email
Subject: Request
Importance: High

Hello, as mentioned in press reports, the Department is producing Mr. Peter Strzok's electronic messages to congress. Our committee is requesting copies of these documents. Please let me know if you'd like to discuss this request. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brian M. Downey
Senior Investigator
Chairman Ron H. Johnson (WI)
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Washington, DC
(P) (b) (5)

Lasseter, David F. (OLA)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2017 4:28 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Subject: FW: Request
Importance: High

SB—we have a request from HSGAC now on the texts.

Thanks,
David

From: Downey, Brian (HSGAC) (b) (6) Senate Email
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2017 4:06 PM
To: Kellner, Kenneth E. (OLA) <kkellner@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Johnson, Joanne E. (OLA) <jojohnson@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (DO) (FBI) Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (DO) (FBI) Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: Brosnan, Kyle (HSGAC) (b) (6) Senate Email
Subject: Request
Importance: High

Duplicative Material



Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2017 11:58 AM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Subject: Fwd: Fox obtains letter to DOJ IG re: Peter Strzok
Attachments: 2017-12-06 RHJ CEG to DOJ OIG (Strzok).pdf; ATT00001.htm

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Gibson, Jake" <Jake.Gibson@FOXNEWS.COM>
To: "Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)" <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Fox obtains letter to DOJ IG re: Peter Strzok

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Herridge, Catherine" <Catherine.Herridge@FOXNEWS.COM>
To: "069 -Politics" <politics3@FOXNEWS.COM>, "030 -Root (FoxNews.Com)" <root@FOXNEWS.COM>, "050 -Senior Producers" <seniorproducers@FOXNEWS.COM>, "202 -FBN Editorial" <FBNEditorial@FOXNEWS.COM>
Subject: Fox obtains letter to DOJ IG re: Peter Strzok

Per herridge

Attached is a letter from Johnson and Grassley sent to DOJ IG Horowitz regarding the alleged text messages exchanged between FBI employees Peter Strzok and Lisa Page - when the IG became aware of the messages, how they notified Mueller of the messages, and whether similar allegations were found involving other government officials.

This message and its attachments may contain legally privileged or confidential information. It is intended solely for the named addressee. If you are not the addressee indicated in this message (or responsible for delivery of the message to the addressee), you may not copy or deliver this message or its attachments to anyone. Rather, you should permanently delete this message and its attachments and kindly notify the sender by reply e-mail. Any content of this message and its attachments that does not relate to the official business of Fox News or Fox Business must not be taken to have been sent or endorsed by either of them. No representation is made that this email or its attachments are without defect.

Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Tuesday, December 05, 2017 9:34 PM
To: Bitar, Maher
Cc: Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI); Bergreen, Timothy; Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Subject: Re: HPSCI Minority Follow-Up - New Testimony

Happy to set up a call tomorrow. What time works on your side?

No text messages have been turned over, though we have indicated a general intent to comply with the chairman's request. It's going to take a great deal of time, however.

We expect to formally update the committee by Thursday PM when we know more, but I'm sure DAG will be happy to speak to the Ranking Member before that. Just let me know and I'll try to make it happen.

Stephen

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 5, 2017, at 9:19 PM, Bitar, Maher (b) (6) House Email wrote:

Stephen –

We've recently been alerted to this Fox News [article](#), which states that DOJ "is in the process of handing over to the House Intelligence Committee the anti-Trump text messages that got a key FBI official removed from Robert Mueller's Russia probe." The article also states that Chairman Nunes "has been assured that those messages will be turned over in the coming days."

Has there been additional communication with our Majority – with the Chairman and/or staff – beyond your email to our Majority, which you forwarded on Sunday? Do you have more information on this new report that we can share with the Ranking Member? If so, we would greatly appreciate if you can loop us into any correspondence with the Majority, including with regard to document production or witness appearance.

As you can expect, the Ranking Member has also asked us to formally request a meeting or call between him and DAG Rosenstein. Please advise how best to get the meeting or call scheduled this week.

Thanks in advance,
Maher

--

Maher Bitar
General Counsel (Minority)
U.S. House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI)
HVC-304 - The Capitol
(b) (6)

From: Bitar, Maher
Sent: Sunday, December 03, 2017 9:10 AM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6)
Cc: Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI) <gbrower@fbi.gov>; Bergreen, Timothy
(b) (6) House Email
Subject: Re: HPSCI Minority Follow-Up - New Testimony

Thanks, Stephen. Appreciate the assurance moving forward and will review what you sent.

-- Maher

On Dec 3, 2017, at 9:06 AM, Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6) wrote:

You are correct; you should have been copied on the email. (Just forwarded it to you.) Will do so moving forward. SB

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 3, 2017, at 12:27 AM, Bitar, Maher (b) (6) House Email wrote:

Stephen, Greg, Sam -

Apologies for the late email, but we are reaching out in response to press reports - links pasted below - that indicate DOJ and FBI have informed our Committee's Majority that Peter Strzok, Deputy Director McCabe, and an additional FBI agent have been cleared to provide testimony to the Committee for the purpose of its Russia investigation.

Is this in fact the case? If so, we would reiterate the Ranking Member's request of and assurance from DAG Rosenstein that all DOJ and FBI correspondence with the Committee, including on the Committee's investigative matters, occur jointly with the Majority and Minority.

We would appreciate an update from you about these developments, and any additional information that may have been relayed to the Majority, so that we can update the Ranking Member. And please ensure future correspondence with the Committee remain bipartisan, including follow-up on these matters.

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you.

Maher

--

Maher Bitar

General Counsel (Minority)

U.S. House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI)

HVC-304 - The Capitol

FBI official's role in Clinton email investigation under review

By James Rosen, Jake Gibson | Fox News

<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2017/12/02/fbi-officials-role-in-clinton-email-investigation-under-review.html>

Nunes blows up, threatens contempt after FBI stonewalls House on Russia investigator demoted for anti-Trump bias

by Byron York | Dec 2, 2017, 6:38 PM

<http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/byron-york-nunes-blows-up-threatens-contempt-after-fbi-stonewalls-house-on-russia-investigator-demoted-for-anti-trump-bias/article/2642387>

CHARLES E. GRASSLEY, IOWA, CHAIRMAN
ORRIN G. HATCH, UTAH
LINDSEY O. GRAHAM, SOUTH CAROLINA
JOHN CORNYN, TEXAS
MICHAEL S. LEE, UTAH
TED CRUZ, TEXAS
BEN SASSÉ, NEBRASKA
JEFF FLAKE, ARIZONA
MIKE CRAPO, IDAHO
THOM TILNIS, NORTH CAROLINA
JOHN KENNEDY, LOUISIANA
DIANNE FEINSTEIN, CALIFORNIA
PATRICK J. LEAHY, VERMONT
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AMY KLOBUCHAR, MINNESOTA
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CHRISTOPHER A. COONS, DELAWARE
RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, CONNECTICUT
MAZIE HIRONO, HAWAII

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6275

KERAN L. DAVIS, Chief Counsel and Staff Director
JENNIFER DUCK, Democratic Staff Director

December 5, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

The Honorable Christopher Wray
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Director Wray:

Over the summer, media outlets reported that Peter Strzok was removed from his position in the FBI's counterintelligence division and from Special Counsel Robert Mueller's team and had been reassigned to work in the FBI's human resources department. According to recent media reports, Mr. Mueller removed Mr. Strzok from the team after discovering that he and FBI lawyer Lisa Page, his alleged mistress, "had exchanged politically charged texts disparaging President Trump and supporting Hillary Clinton."¹ It appears the Special Counsel may have learned this information from the Office of Inspector General's ongoing review of the handling of controversial pre-election activities of the Justice Department and FBI related to the campaign.²

Reportedly, Mr. Strzok and Ms. Page exchanged these text messages while working on the Clinton investigation. Mr. Strzok has been described as "a key player in the investigation into [Hillary] Clinton's use of a private email server to do government work as secretary of state."³ Ms. Page reportedly "was a regular participant when Comey would hold 'skinny group' meetings on the case—a small collection of advisers who gathered to address sensitive cases."⁴ Additionally, Mr. Strzok reportedly was one of two FBI agents who interviewed former National

¹ Karoun Demirjian & Devlin Barrett, *Top FBI Official Assigned to Mueller's Russia Probe Said To Have Been Removed After Sending Anti Trump Texts*, THE WASHINGTON POST (Dec. 2, 2017), https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/two-senior-fbi-officials-on-clinton-trump-probes-exchanged-politically-charged-texts-disparaging-trump/2017/12/02/9846421c-d707-11e7-a986-d0a9770d9a3e_story.html?utm_term=.5628b4762af1.

² Press Release, Office of Inspector General, Department of Justice (Dec. 2, 2017), available at https://oig.justice.gov/press/2017/2017_12_02.pdf.

³ Demirjian & Barrett, *Top FBI Official Assigned to Mueller's Russia Probe Said To Have Been Removed*.

⁴ *Id.*

Security Advisor Michael Flynn.⁵ The communications between members of the Clinton email investigation team raise questions about the integrity of that investigation, and about the objectivity of Mr. Strzok's work for the Special Counsel and in the FBI's investigation of Mr. Flynn.

The Committee has previously written to Mr. Strzok requesting an interview to discuss his knowledge of improper political influence or bias in Justice Department or FBI activities during either the previous or current administration, the removal of James Comey from his position as Director of the FBI, the DOJ's and FBI's activities related to Hillary Clinton, the DOJ's and FBI's activities related to Donald J. Trump and his associates, and the DOJ's and FBI's activities related to Russian interference in the 2016 election. To date, the Committee has received no letter in reply to that request. In advance of Mr. Strzok's interview, please provide the following communications, in the form of text messages or otherwise, to the Committee no later than December 11, 2017:

1. All communications sent to, received by, or copying Mr. Strzok related to then-Director Comey's draft or final statement closing the Clinton investigation, including all records related to the change in the portion of the draft language describing Secretary Clinton's and her associates' conduct regarding classified information from "grossly negligent" to "extremely careless";⁶
2. All communications sent to, received by, or copying Mr. Strzok regarding the decision to close the Clinton investigation without recommending any charges;
3. All communications sent to, received by, or copying Mr. Strzok related to opening the investigation into potential collusion by the Trump campaign with the Russian government, including any FBI electronic communication (EC) authored or authorized by Mr. Strzok and all records forming the basis for that EC;
4. All communications sent to, received by, or copying Mr. Strzok related to the FBI's interactions with Christopher Steele relating to the investigation into potential collusion by the Trump campaign with the Russian government, including any communications regarding potential or realized financial arrangements with Mr. Steele;
5. All communications sent to, received by, or copying Mr. Strzok related to any instance of the FBI relying on, or referring to, information in Mr. Steele's memoranda in the course of seeking any FISA warrants, other search warrants, or any other judicial process;

⁵ Nicole Darrah, *FBI Agent Fired From Russia Probe Oversaw Flynn Interviews, Softened Comey Language on Clinton Email Actions*, FOX NEWS (Dec. 4, 2017), <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2017/12/04/fbi-agent-fired-from-russia-probe-oversaw-flynn-interviews-changed-comey-memos-on-clinton-charges.html>.

⁶ Laura Jarrett & Evan Perez, *FBI Agent Dismissed from Mueller Probe Changed Comey's Description of Clinton to 'Extremely Careless'*, CNN (Dec. 4, 2017, 4:57 PM), <http://www.cnn.com/2017/12/04/politics/peter-strzok-james-comey/index.html>.

6. All FD-302s of FBI interviews of Lt. Gen. Flynn at which Mr. Strzok was present, as well as all related 1A documents (including any contemporaneous handwritten notes); and
7. All communications sent to, received by, or copying Mr. Strzok containing unfavorable statements about Donald J. Trump or favorable statements about Hillary Clinton.

If you have questions, please contact Patrick Davis of my committee staff at (202) 224-5225. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary

cc: The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz
Inspector General
U.S. Department of Justice

The Honorable Rod J. Rosenstein
Deputy Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice

Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)

From: Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
Sent: Tuesday, December 5, 2017 7:40 PM
To: Brennan, Samantha (Judiciary-Rep)
Cc: DOJ Correspondence (SMO); Foster, Jason (Judiciary-Rep); Davis, Patrick (Judiciary-Rep); CEG (Judiciary-Rep); Sawyer, Heather (Judiciary-Dem)
Subject: Re: 2017-12-05 CEG to FBI (Strzok Communications)

Received. Thanks Samantha.

On Dec 5, 2017, at 6:49 PM, Brennan, Samantha (Judiciary-Rep) (b) (6) Senate Email

wrote:

Hi Mary,

Attached is a letter from Chairman Grassley to FBI Director Wray. Please confirm receipt and send all follow-up correspondence to the email addresses copied above.

Thank you,
Samantha

Samantha Brennan
Investigative Counsel
Chairman Charles E. Grassley
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary

(b) (6)

<2017-12-05 CEG to FBI (Strzok Communications).pdf>

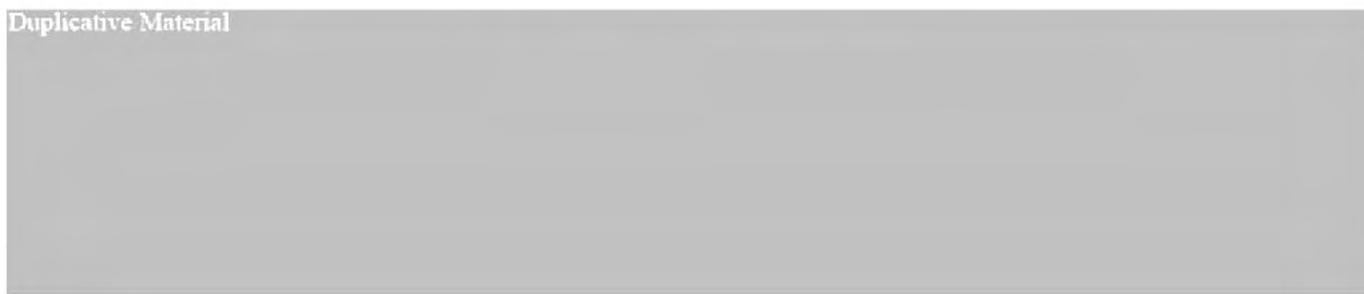
Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Tuesday, December 5, 2017 7:03 PM
To: Parmiter, Robert; Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Cc: Breitenbach, Ryan; Husband, Shelley; Ritchie, Branden
Subject: RE: texts

Slight clarification: we have expressed our intent to do so, but it's going to require a great deal of review and evaluation. I am happy to discuss further offline (I think you'll understand after hearing the details) if you want to give me or Lasseter a call tomorrow. Would ask for a written request from the chairman at some point, but will move forward assuming that HJC is interested. Thanks. SB

From: Parmiter, Robert (b) (6) House Email
Sent: Tuesday, December 5, 2017 6:57 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Breitenbach, Ryan (b) (6) House Email; Husband, Shelley
(b) (6) House Email; Ritchie, Branden (b) (6) House Email
Subject: texts

Duplicative Material



Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Tuesday, December 05, 2017 10:12 AM
To: Jarrett, Laura
Subject: RE: Contempt citations for DOJ/FBI?

FYI: munes has a call or meeting with the DAG today. We've already told him that we're going to give him the text messages.

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Jarrett, Laura [mailto:Laura.Jarrett@cnn.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 5, 2017 10:06 AM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Contempt citations for DOJ/FBI?

Laura Jarrett
CNN Justice Reporter
202-816-9771

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Langer, Jack" (b) (6) House Email
Date: December 5, 2017 at 10:01:10 AM EST
To: "Jarrett, Laura" <Laura.Jarrett@cnn.com>
Subject: RE: Contempt citations for DOJ/FBI?

Hi Laura,

We are expecting to put out a press release on this today. I've added you to our press list so you'll receive it.

Jack Langer
Director of Communications
House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
Office: (b) (6)
Cell: (b) (6)

-----Original Message-----

From: Jarrett, Laura [mailto:Laura.Jarrett@cnn.com]
Sent: Monday, December 04, 2017 10:38 PM

To: Langer, Jack
Subject: Contempt citations for DOJ/FBI?

Jack -

I cover DOJ for CNN and saw over the weekend that Chairman Nunes had set a deadline for COB today for all outstanding subpoena requests to be met from the Justice Dept and FBI. Do you have any update on what happened or next steps? Thanks in advance.

Laura Jarrett
CNN Justice Reporter
202-816-9771

Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Monday, December 04, 2017 7:16 PM
To: Hur, Robert (ODAG); Schools, Scott (ODAG); Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA); Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI); **Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)** (DO) (FBI); Lasseter, David F. (OLA); Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA)
Subject: RE: Outstanding HPSCI Requests [12/04 Update]

(b) (5)

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Sunday, December 3, 2017 12:52 PM
To: Hur, Robert (ODAG) <rhur@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI) <gbrower@fbi.gov> **Per FBI: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**
Subject: Outstanding HPSCI Requests

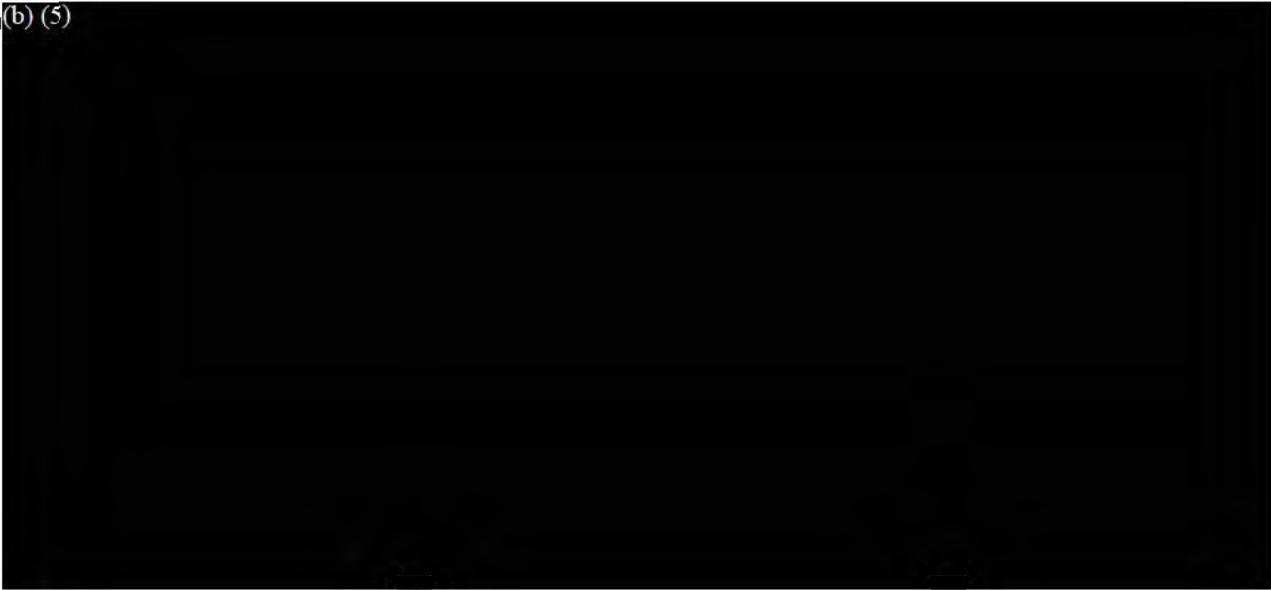
Team:

(b) (5)

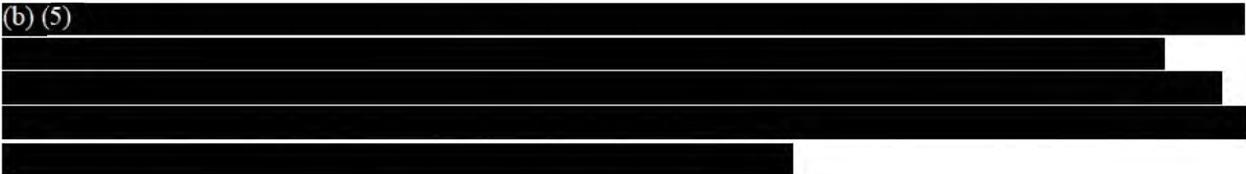
(b) (5)

(b) (5)

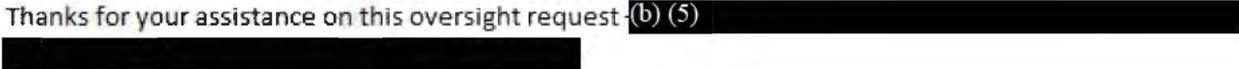
(b) (5)



(b) (5)



Thanks for your assistance on this oversight request (b) (5)



Stephen

Schools, Scott (ODAG)

From: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 11:00 PM
To: Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Items needing follow up
Attachments: Strzok Texts Redacted_Redacted.pdf

See below.

-----Original Message-----

From: Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI) (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 8:41 PM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG) <sschools@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Items needing follow up

Hi Scott,

I do hope that all is well. I tried to catch up with you today but was unable to reach you. (b) (5)

[Redacted]

(b) (5)

Thank you.
Cecilia

Cecilia O. Bessee
Acting Deputy General Counsel
Litigation Branch
Office of the General Counsel
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Room 10140
Washington, DC 20535
Telephone: (b) (6)
Facsimile: 202-323-2168

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Natasha Bertrand

From: Natasha Bertrand
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2017 9:54 AM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Cc: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Subject: Re: Question

Hi, following up on this.

Also wondering if the DOJ plans to release the texts that preceded and followed this one: "So look, you say we text on that phone when we talk about hillary because it can't be traced, you were just venting bc you feel bad that you're gone so much but it can't be helped right now."

thanks,
N

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 12:51 PM, Natasha Bertrand <nbertrand@businessinsider.com> wrote:
Hi there

Had a follow-up question -- how did DOJ determine which Strzok/Page texts were okay to provide to Congress?

In other words, how did DOJ whittle the texts down to the 375 it considered most relevant? What was the standard for relevancy?

Thanks,
Natasha

--

Natasha Bertrand
Political Correspondent | Business Insider
[631.317.8409](tel:631.317.8409)
[@NatashaBertrand](https://twitter.com/NatashaBertrand)

--

Natasha Bertrand
Political Correspondent | Business Insider
631.317.8409
[@NatashaBertrand](https://twitter.com/NatashaBertrand)

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, January 4, 2018 5:05 PM
To: Jarrett, Laura
Subject: FW: Letter for Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein
Attachments: CHM ltr to DAG re Subpoena Compliance - 28 Dec 17 FINAL.pdf; ATT00001.htm

No finger prints por favor

Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI)

From: Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 4:29 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI (DO) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Dec. 14 Letter from Sen. Johnson
Attachments: 2017-12-14 RHJ to FBI re Comey July 5 Statement.pdf

----- Original message -----

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI (DO) (FBI) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI
Date: 12/15/17 3:41 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI (DO) (FBI) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI, "Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI)"
<gbrower@fbi.gov>
Subject: Dec. 14 Letter from Sen. Johnson

All,

Please see attached. Thanks.

Best,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI
Legislative Affairs Specialist
FBI/Office of Congressional Affairs
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI

Downey, Brian (HSGAC)

From: Downey, Brian (HSGAC)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 11:13 AM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Cc: Brosnan, Kyle (HSGAC)
Subject: letter to FBI
Attachments: 2017-12-14 RHJ to FBI re Comey July 5 Statement.pdf

David, the Chairman sent the attached letter to the FBI. Thanks.

Sincerely,

Brian M. Downey
Senior Investigator
Chairman Ron H. Johnson (WI)
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Washington, DC
(P) (b) (6)

Gibson, Jake

From: Gibson, Jake
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 5:32 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Subject: Fwd: letter to FBI re: comey draft speech
Attachments: 2017-12-14 RHJ to FBI re Comey July 5 Statement.pdf; ATT00001.htm;
Attachment with RHJ Letter (SJC 000031-37).pdf; ATT00002.htm

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Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 1:30 PM
To: Singman, Brooke; Prior, Ian (OPA)
Cc: Gibson, Jake
Subject: RE: Strzok text 8/15/2016?

I cant speak to the nature of any texts. But Strzok has been cleared to be interviewed by Congress.

xxx

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Singman, Brooke [mailto:brooke.singman@FOXNEWS.COM]
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 12:36 PM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Gibson, Jake <Jake.Gibson@FOXNEWS.COM>
Subject: Strzok text 8/15/2016?

Hi Sarah and Peter,

Quick Q on this text...not sure if you already were in touch with Jake on this –If so, I apologize!

Hope you're well. Can you comment on this text or provide any guidance? Is it possible Peter Strzok was referring to Andrew McCabe or could it have been someone else? Do you know what this text was about?

Text from Peter Strzok to Lisa Page 8/15/2016:

"I want to believe the path you threw out for consideration in Andy's office –that there's no way [Trump] gets elected—but I'm afraid we can't take that risk. It's an insurance policy in the unlikely event you die before you're 40."

Deadline ASAP.

Brooke Singman
Politics Reporter, Fox News Channel

(b) (6)

Brooke.singman@foxnews.com

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Patel, Kash

From: Patel, Kash
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 5:55 PM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA); Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Cc: Nelson, Damon; Glabe, Scott; Stewart, Mark
Subject: RE: remaining text messages

Thanks david, we look forward to complete production by December 15, as stated in our letter.

Regards,

Kash

Kashyap P. Patel
Senior Counsel for Counterterrorism
House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

Desk: (b) (6)
Cell: (b) (6)
NSTS: (b) (6)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) [mailto:David.F.Lasseter@usdoj.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 2:01 PM
To: Patel, Kash (b) (6) Congressional Email >; Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6)
Cc: Nelson, Damon (b) (6) Congressional Email >; Glabe, Scott (b) (6) Congressional Email >; Stewart, Mark (b) (6) Congressional Email >
Subject: RE: remaining text messages

Kash—good afternoon. In response to your questions below:

1. The Congressional Committees with jurisdiction of this matter received hand-delivered copies of the text messages last night. These messages were delivered prior to the Deputy Attorney General's testimony today before House Judiciary.
2. OLA cannot speak to OPA's briefing with the press. The messages reviewed by the press were the same messages delivered to the committees of jurisdiction.
3. DOJ acknowledges that there are many more text messages and, as stated previously, the Department will plan to deliver these to the committees of jurisdiction on a rolling basis to ensure the committees have these in as timely a manner as possible.
4. The text messages delivered last night are the ones most relevant to the committee's inquiries.

Thanks,
David

From: Patel, Kash (b) (6) Congressional Email >
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:56 AM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6)
Cc: Nelson, Damon (b) (6) Congressional Email >; Glabe, Scott (b) (6) Congressional Email >; Stewart,

Mark (b) (6) Congressional Email
Subject: RE: remaining text messages

Stephen and David,

Per the DAG's testimony before House Judiciary this morning, the DAG acknowledged that the press was invited to the DOJ yesterday evening to review all text messages in private, before they were given to Congressional Committees. The DAG has confirmed this happened, we now demand an answer as to how many text messages the press was able to review on the evening of December 13, 2017 at DOJ. If they were given access to more than those turned over to our Committee, then DOJ has until close of business today to produce all such messages to this Committee. We also require an explanation as to why the press was given access to text messages, and the justification for doing so prior to their production to this Committee, also do by COB today. Thanks very much.

Regards,
Kash

Kashyap P. Patel
Senior Counsel for Counterterrorism
House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

Desk: (b) (6)
Cell: (b) (6)
NSTS: (b) (6)

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) [<mailto:David.F.Lasseter@usdoj.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 9:59 AM
To: Patel, Kash (b) (6) Congressional Email
Cc: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6); Nelson, Damon
(b) (6) Congressional Email; Glabe, Scott (b) (6) Congressional Email; Stewart, Mark
(b) (6) Congressional Email
Subject: Re: remaining text messages

Kash—good morning. We continue to work on the additional requests. As we mentioned last week we wanted to get y'all these as soon as possible. The remainder will follow upon further review.

Confirming that y'all are on for tomorrow's review? What time will the Chairman and you/Scott arrive?

Thanks,
David

David F. Lasseter

On Dec 13, 2017, at 08:50, Patel, Kash (b) (6) Congressional Email wrote:

Stephen,

Thank you for your production last night of 375 text messages. At this time, we renew our request for the Committee to obtain the remaining approximately 9,500 messages and all other communications by the date outlined in our letter to DOJ last night (attached herein for quick reference). Thanks very much

REFERENCE: NONE VERY HIGH

Regards,
Kash

Kashyap P. Patel
Senior Counsel for Counterterrorism
House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

Desk: (b) (6)
Cell: (b) (6)
NSTS: (b) (6)

<CHM ltr to DAG re Strzok & Page Communications - 12 Dec 17.pdf>

dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov

From: dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 9:20 AM
To: Patel, Kash
Cc: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA); Nelson, Damon; Glabe, Scott; Stewart, Mark
Subject: Re: remaining text messages

Kash—good morning. We continue to work on the additional requests.

David F. Lasseter

On Dec 13, 2017, at 08:50, Patel, Kash (b) (6) Congressional Email wrote:

Stephen,

Thank you for your production last night of 375 text messages. At this time, we renew our request for the Committee to obtain the remaining approximately 9,500 messages and all other communications by the date outlined in our letter to DOJ last night (attached herein for quick reference). Thanks very much.

Regards,
Kash

Kashyap P. Patel
Senior Counsel for Counterterrorism
House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

Desk: (b) (6)
Cell: (b) (6)
NSTS: (b) (6)

<CHM ltr to DAG re Strzok & Page Communications - 12 Dec 17.pdf>

Patel, Kash

From: Patel, Kash
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 4:52 PM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Subject: RE: Text message production

Dave, just called you, please let me know when you are available to chat. Thanks

kash

From: Lasseter, David F. (OLA) [mailto:David.F.Lasseter@usdoj.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 4:31 PM
To: Patel, Kash (b) (6) Congressional Email
Subject: Re: Text message production

Kash—left you a vm. We are ready to produce. I just need a short letter signed by Chairman. DOJ attorneys are recommending based on future potential litigation.

Thanks,
David

David F. Lasseter

On Dec 12, 2017, at 13:19, Patel, Kash (b) (6) Congressional Email wrote:

David,

The first formal request was made in writing to DOJ (on an email which you were included on 12/2) for all communications between Strzok and Page, to include text messages. Furthermore, the Chairman made the very same request in person to the DAG when they met at DOJ on 12/6. Lastly, there was yet another follow-up email sent to DOJ on 12/6 itemizing the agreed upon due outs from the meeting, which included again, the request for all communications to include text messages. If these multiple requests in writing and in person from the Chairman to the DAG are insufficient for DOJ to comply with agreement, please let me know. You may also consider this yet another written request on behalf of the Chairman and the Committee to produce said communications. Thanks and we look forward to receiving the production.

Regards,
Kash

Kashyap P. Patel
Senior Counsel for Counterterrorism
House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

Desk: (b) (6)
Cell: (b) (6)
NSTS: (b) (6)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI (OGC) (FBI)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 12:45 PM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Time today?

Scott,

(b) (5)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI

-----Original Message-----

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:46 AM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG) (JMD) <Scott.Schools@usdoj.gov>
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI (OGC) (FBI) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI
Subject: Time today?

Scott,

My apologies again for having to scoot out of Monday's meeting early.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI
(b) (5)

Thank you,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI

Unit Chief
Discovery Coordination and Policy Unit
FBI, Office of General Counsel

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI (DO) (FBI)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 4:26 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA); Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI)
Subject: Re: Text Messages

Thanks for the heads up.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: "Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)" (b) (6)
Date: 12/12/17 4:23 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI)" <gbrower@fbi.gov>
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI (DO) (FBI)" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) per FBI
Subject: Text Messages

Heads up: First tranche of text messages going by hand delivery tonight at 8 PM.

SB

Schneider, Jessica

From: Schneider, Jessica
Sent: Tuesday, December 26, 2017 6:49 PM
To: O'Malley, Devin (OPA)
Subject: RE: Question re Grassley deadline WEDNESDAY

I haven't – I will reach out to her now. Thank you.

Sarah also told me she'd look into it.

Appreciate it, Devin!

Jessica Schneider
CNN Justice Correspondent
(m) (b) (6)
Jessica.Schneider@turner.com
@SchneiderCNN

From: O'Malley, Devin (OPA) [mailto:Devin.O'Malley@usdoj.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, December 26, 2017 6:27 PM
To: Schneider, Jessica <Jessica.Schneider@turner.com>
Subject: Fwd: Question re Grassley deadline WEDNESDAY

Hey Jessica-

Have you reached out to Lauren from our team?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Date: December 26, 2017 at 6:26:08 PM EST
To: "O'Malley, Devin (OPA)" <domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: "Prior, Ian (OPA)" <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: FW: Question re Grassley deadline WEDNESDAY

Thank you - Kristen

From: Schneider, Jessica [mailto:Jessica.Schneider@turner.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 26, 2017 6:24 PM
To: Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Question re Grassley deadline WEDNESDAY

Hi –

I'm hoping to get some information on this prior to 9am tomorrow.

Does Deputy AG Rosenstein plan to respond to Senator Grassley's letter dated December 13th requesting various information about Mr. Strzok and Ms. Page's text messages by the deadline of tomorrow, December 27th?

Is there any information you can give us ahead of time, if so?

If not, have you talked with Grassley's office about an extension?

I know this request comes late in the day – I am likely going to be on air with this tomorrow by 9am, so hopefully I'll hear from you before then.

Thanks again.

Jessica Schneider

CNN Justice Correspondent

(m) (b) (6)

Jessica.Schneider@turner.com

@SchneiderCNN

Schneider, Jessica

From: Schneider, Jessica
Sent: Tuesday, December 26, 2017 6:22 PM
To: Pettit, Mark T. (OPA)
Subject: Question re Grassley deadline tomorrow

Hi Mark –

I see Ian is off, so I wanted to touch base and see if you can help me out.

Does Deputy AG Rosenstein plan to respond to Senator Grassley's letter dated December 13th requesting various information about Mr. Strzok and Ms. Page's text messages by the deadline of tomorrow, December 27th?

Is there any information you can give us ahead of time, if so?

If not, have you talked with Grassley's office about an extension?

I know this request comes late in the day – I am likely going to be on air with this tomorrow by 9am, so hopefully I'll hear from you before then.

Thanks again.

Jessica Schneider
CNN Justice Correspondent
(m) (b) (6)
Jessica.Schneider@turner.com
@SchneiderCNN

Patel, Kash

From: Patel, Kash
Sent: Thursday, December 7, 2017 2:22 PM
To: Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Cc: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA); Schools, Scott (ODAG); Nelson, Damon; Stewart, Mark; Glabe, Scott
Subject: Re: Due outs from yesterday's meeting

Thanks David, we are checking the boss's schedule and will let you know.

Kashyap P. Patel
Senior Counsel for Counterterrorism
House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

Desk: (b) (6)

Cell: (b) (6)

On Dec 7, 2017, at 13:42, Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <David.F.Lasseter@usdoj.gov> wrote:

Kash—good afternoon. Can we arrange a call with the Chairman today anytime after 4:30 in order to discuss plan for below items?

Thanks,
David

David F. Lasseter

On Dec 6, 2017, at 10:21, Patel, Kash (b) (6) wrote:

Gents,

Below is a quick summary of yesterday's agreed upon due outs. Thanks very much.

DOJ to propose satisfactory resolution within 48 hours regarding production of:

1. 1023s
2. 302s
3. unredacted copies of any FISAs
4. Woods file
5. Strzok text messages

Also need to settle timing and structure of Strzok interview.

Kashyap P. Patel
Senior Counsel for Counterterrorism
House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

Desk: (b) (6)

Cell: (b) (6)

Bitar, Maher

From: Bitar, Maher
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2017 7:32 AM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Cc: Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI); Bergreen, Timothy; Lasseter, David F. (OLA)
Subject: Re: HPSCI Minority Follow-Up - New Testimony

Thanks, Stephen. Would 3pm work for the Deputy Attorney General? If so, I can put Ranking Member Schiff's scheduler in touch with the right point of contact.

As for the below, appreciate the update. To the greatest extent possible, we would appreciate if you could ensure we are included in all communication by DOJ and FBI to the Committee, including with regard to conveying the general update you mention below.

Thanks again,
Maher

On Dec 5, 2017, at 9:34 PM, Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6) wrote:

Happy to set up a call tomorrow. What time works on your side?

No text messages have been turned over, though we have indicated a general intent to comply with the chairman's request. It's going to take a great deal of time, however.

We expect to formally update the committee by Thursday PM when we know more, but I'm sure DAG will be happy to speak to the Ranking Member before that. Just let me know and I'll try to make it happen.

Stephen

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 5, 2017, at 9:19 PM, Bitar, Maher (b) (6) House Email wrote:

Stephen –

We've recently been alerted to this Fox News [article](#), which states that DOJ "is in the process of handing over to the House Intelligence Committee the anti-Trump text messages that got a key FBI official removed from Robert Mueller's Russia probe." The article also states that Chairman Nunes "has been assured that those messages will be turned over in the coming days."

messages will be turned over in the coming days.

Has there been additional communication with our Majority – with the Chairman and/or staff – beyond your email to our Majority, which you forwarded on Sunday? Do you have more information on this new report that we can share with the Ranking Member? If so, we would greatly appreciate if you can loop us into any correspondence with the Majority, including with regard to document production or witness appearance.

As you can expect, the Ranking Member has also asked us to formally request a meeting or call between him and DAG Rosenstein. Please advise how best to get the meeting or call scheduled this week.

Thanks in advance,
Maher

--
Maher Bitar
General Counsel (Minority)
U.S. House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI)
HVC-304 - The Capitol
(b) (6)

From: Bitar, Maher
Sent: Sunday, December 03, 2017 9:10 AM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) (b) (6)
Cc: Brower, Gregory (DO) (FBI) <gbrower@fbi.gov>; Bergreen, Timothy
(b) (6) House Email
Subject: Re: HPSCI Minority Follow-Up - New Testimony

Thanks, Stephen. Appreciate the assurance moving forward and will review what you sent.

-- Maher

On Dec 3, 2017, at 9:06 AM, Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
(b) (6) wrote:

You are correct; you should have been copied on the email. (Just forwarded it to you.) Will do so moving forward. SB

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 3, 2017, at 12:27 AM, Bitar, Maher
(b) (6) House Email wrote:

Stephen, Greg, Sam -

Apologies for the late email, but we are reaching out in response to press reports - links pasted below - that indicate DOJ and FBI have informed our Committee's Majority that Peter Strzok, Deputy Director McCabe,

and an additional FBI agent have been cleared to provide testimony to the Committee for the purpose of its Russia investigation.

Is this in fact the case? If so, we would reiterate the Ranking Member's request of and assurance from DAG Rosenstein that all DOJ and FBI correspondence with the Committee, including on the Committee's investigative matters, occur jointly with the Majority and Minority.

We would appreciate an update from you about these developments, and any additional information that may have been relayed to the Majority, so that we can update the Ranking Member. And please ensure future correspondence with the Committee remain bipartisan, including follow-up on these matters.

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you.

Maher

--

Maher Bitar
General Counsel (Minority)
U.S. House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
(HPSCI)
HVC-304 - The Capitol

FBI official's role in Clinton email investigation under review

By James Rosen, Jake Gibson | Fox News

<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2017/12/02/fbi-officials-role-in-clinton-email-investigation-under-review.html>

**Nunes blows up, threatens contempt after FBI
stonewalls House on Russia investigator demoted
for anti-Trump bias**

by Byron York | Dec 2, 2017, 6:38 PM

<http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/byron-york-nunes-blows-up-threatens-contempt-after-fbi-stonewalls-house-on-russia-investigator-demoted-for-anti-trump-bias/article/2642387>

Chat with (b) (6)

Tuesday, December 12, 2017

(b) (6)

Hi Sarah, Lachlan at the Daily Beast. Betsy suggested I touch base about the document preview tonight? Just wanted to get on your radar. lachlan.markay@thedailybeast.com

8:18 PM

Tuesday, December 12, 2017

(b) (6)

Hi Sarah it's Jessica from the WSJ. Del asked me to head to the DOJ for an update. Can I get escorted?

10:09 PM

Me

I can't escort at this point. Folks are wrapping and I can't be outside for that long.

10:10 PM

(b) (6)

Is there any other way to do it?

10:10 PM

Me

5 committees on the hill have this stuff

10:10 PM

(b) (6)

I can be there in a short while

10:10 PM

(b) (6)

Is there anyone else that can get me inside?

10:11 PM

Me

Not at this point. Sorry.

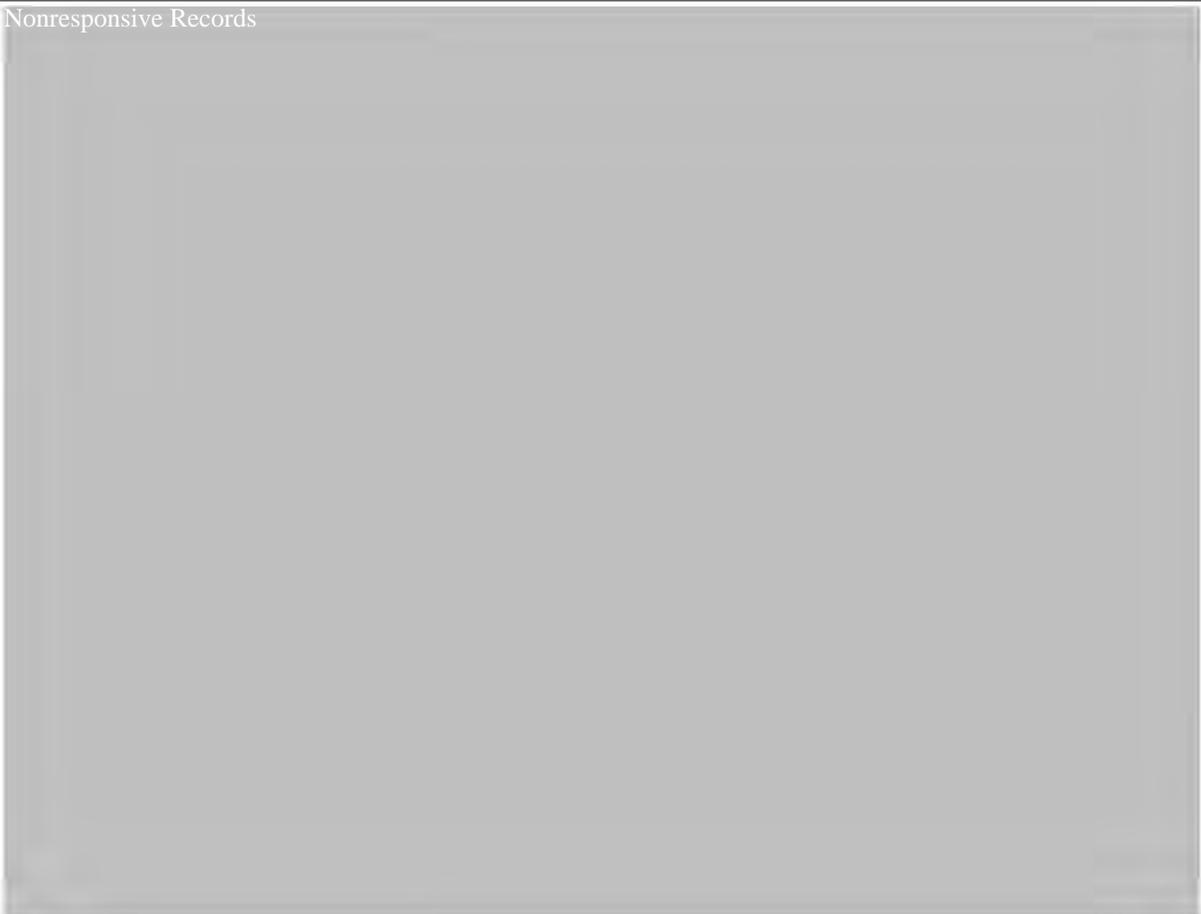
10:12 PM

(b) (6)

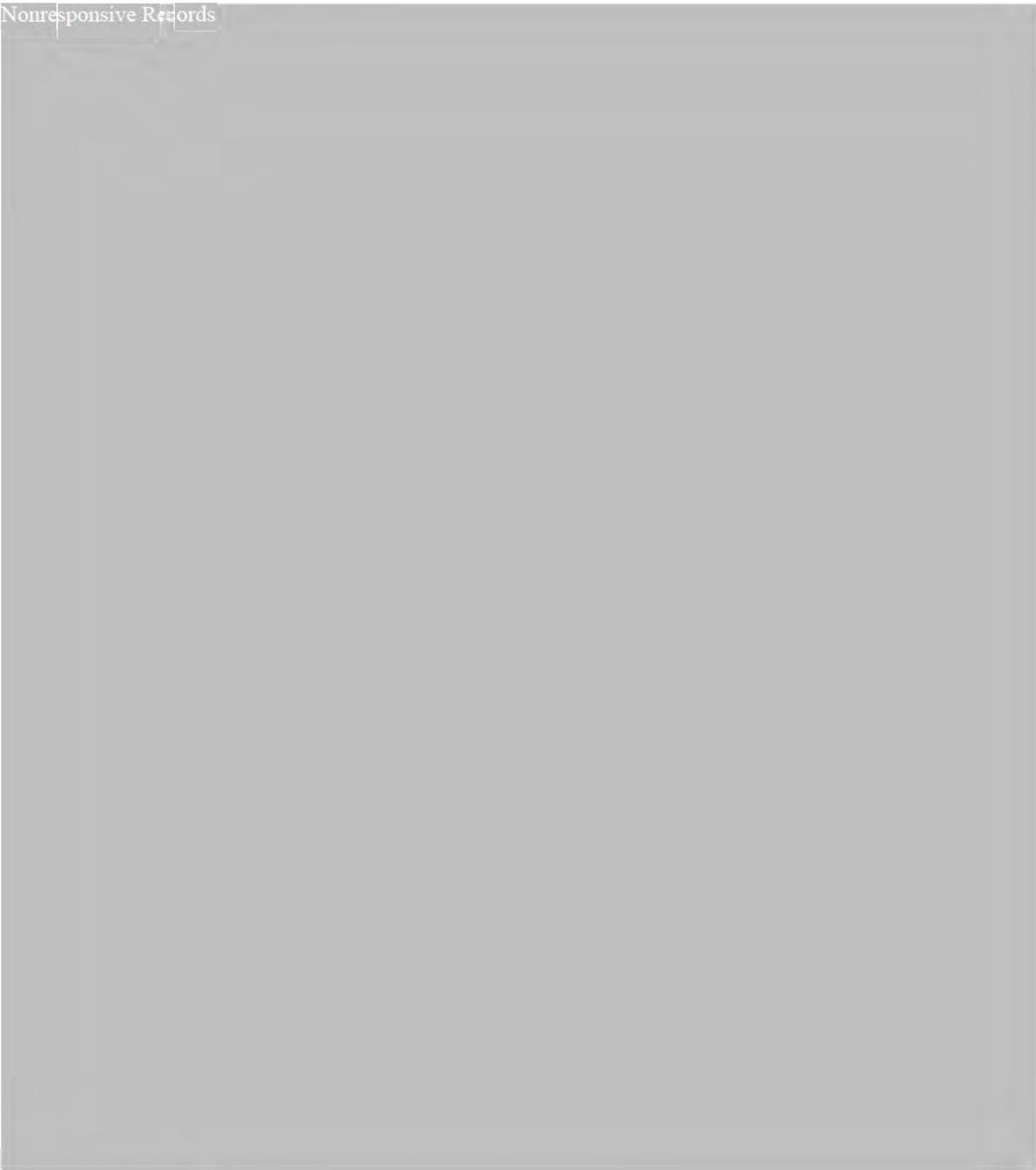
Ok will try to find a replacement, thanks all the same

10:13 PM

Nonresponsive Records



Nonresponsive Records



Tuesday, December 12, 2017

Nonresponsive Records



Alex Pfeiffer

Hey whats uo

8:46 PM

Alex Pfeiffer

*up

8:46 PM

Alex Pfeiffer

responding to ur call

8:46 PM

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

Alex Pfeiffer

Assuming last night's call was about Strzok?

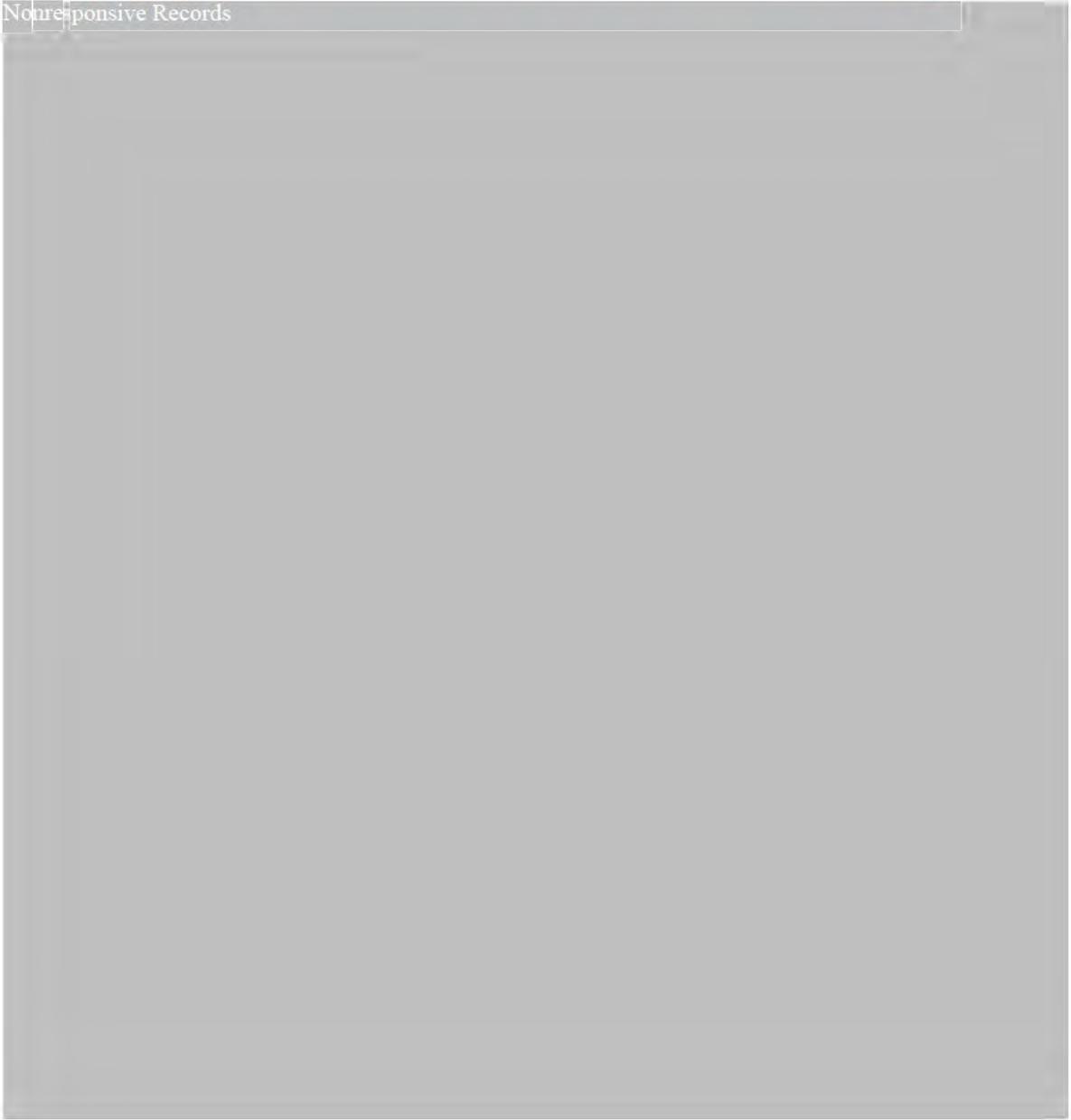
10:08 AM

Me

Yes sorry--turned out only some outlets have nighttime access.
Annoying!

10:10 AM

Nonresponsive Records



Chat with Brent kendall

Tuesday, December 12, 2017

Brent kendall

Hi Sarah it's Brent kendall from the Wall Street Journal. I'm on my way over to take a look at these documents. But I wanted to make sure how long you were going to be there. Thanks. I have a hard pass. 10:24 PM

Me

I'll be here for another 30 minutes for sure. Beyond that, I hope to leave at 11. I've been up since 4:) 10:26 PM

Brent kendall

Thanks. I'm sure it's been a super long day. I'm driving now from Silver Spring. Google says I will be there before 11. 10:27 PM

Me

The issue is you can't take them with you 10:27 PM

Me

You have to read them here 10:27 PM

Me

And take notes 10:27 PM

Brent kendall

Well if I am able to just take a quick look and at least confirm a few of the texts then I can feed to Aruba who is already writing. thanks

10:39 PM

Brent kendall

Excuse the grammar I am dictating text while driving thanks

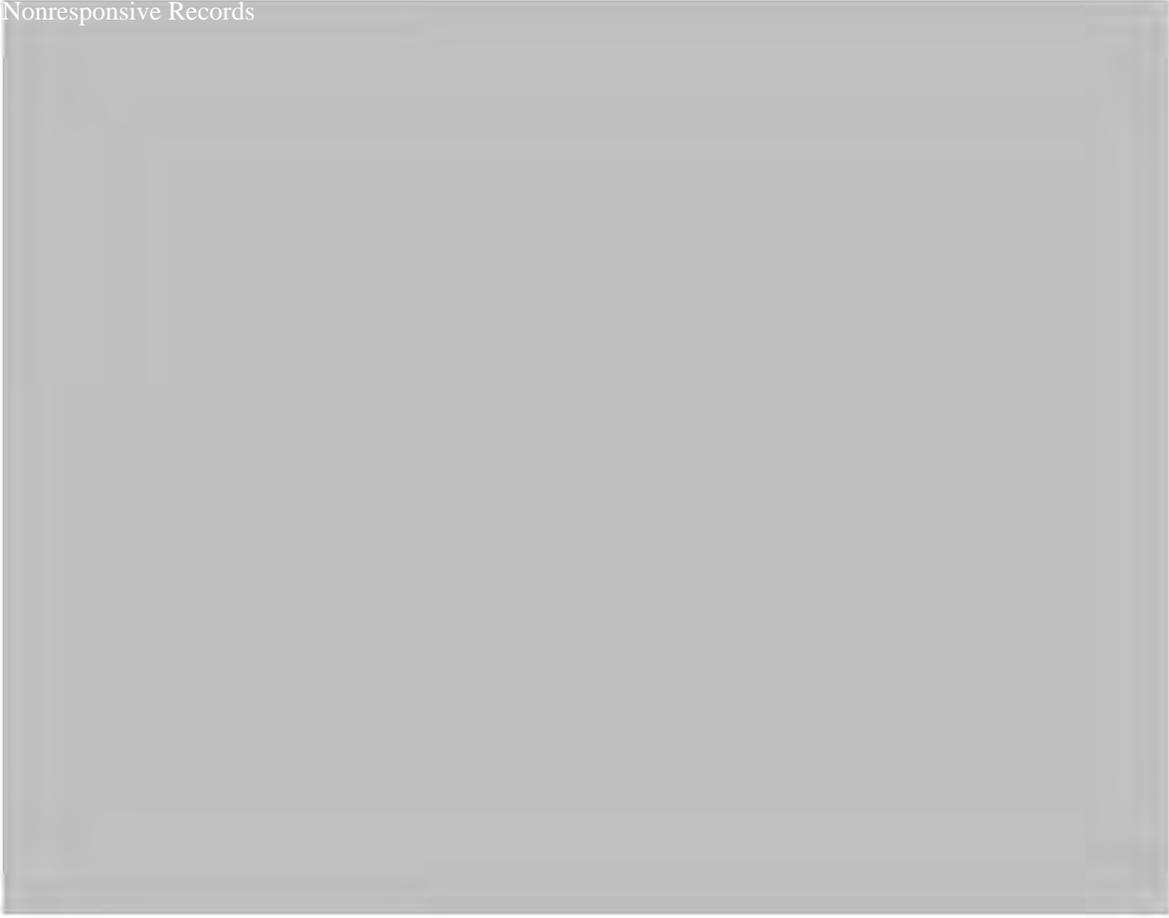
10:39 PM

Me

Not a problem at all

10:39 PM

Nonresponsive Records



Wednesday, December 13, 2017

Charlie Savage

Sarah -- Given RR testimony, can you please say who decided to put out the texts yesterday and why? did he know/authorize? If there is anything else DOJ is saying about the matter, can you please send it to me? Thanks! 1:02 PM

Me

He just said the IG approved 1:03 PM

Charlie Savage

I am in cab with Katie bc we are worried about missing the window for her to submit credential paperwork so not watching hearing. He said IG approved giving the stuff to the press specifically? I was asked to get Main Justice explanation for that in particular. 1:11 PM

Me

Off the record: I bent over backwards to include NYT including standing in 20 degree weather bc the person you sent didn't have a badge. The IG approved it. Lawyers and ethics officials approved it. But not to worry. We will note the press doesn't want access to information that we provide to congress and isn't subject to any withholding exemption. This is unreal to me after how much grief I've gotten from media of everything we haven't been able to make available. 1:14 PM

Me

Ian has a statement. You can work through him from now on. 1:14 PM

Charlie Savage

I understand where you are coming from and objected. They said bc RR confirmed it was a question we had to ask. (I am not even writing the story.) 1:25 PM

Me

OTR again: yep, and it will never happen again. Bc I was the one who jumped through all those hoops to ensure it could be release legally and ethically. Next time I won't bother. I'll go home before midnight, get to eat dinner, and get more than 4 hours of sleep. And you guys will never know the difference.

1:28 PM

Me

I was working from 4am to midnight yesterday. Why would I ever bother to do this again when my boss and I are both better off keeping press in the dark?

1:29 PM

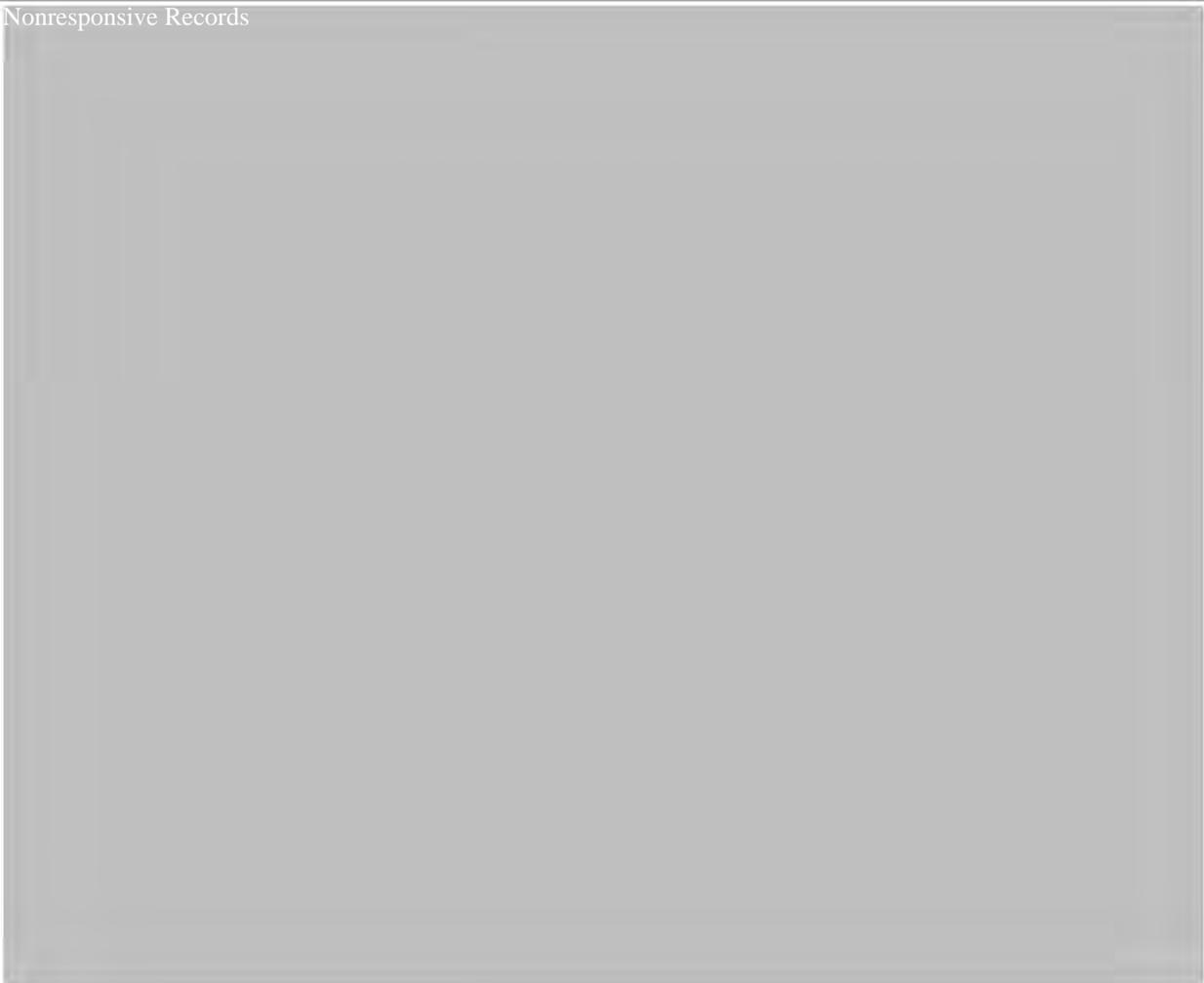
Me

That's the end of my rant. But you and the other beat reporters can expect a very different relationship w the department.

1:29 PM

Not Responsive Records

Nonresponsive Records



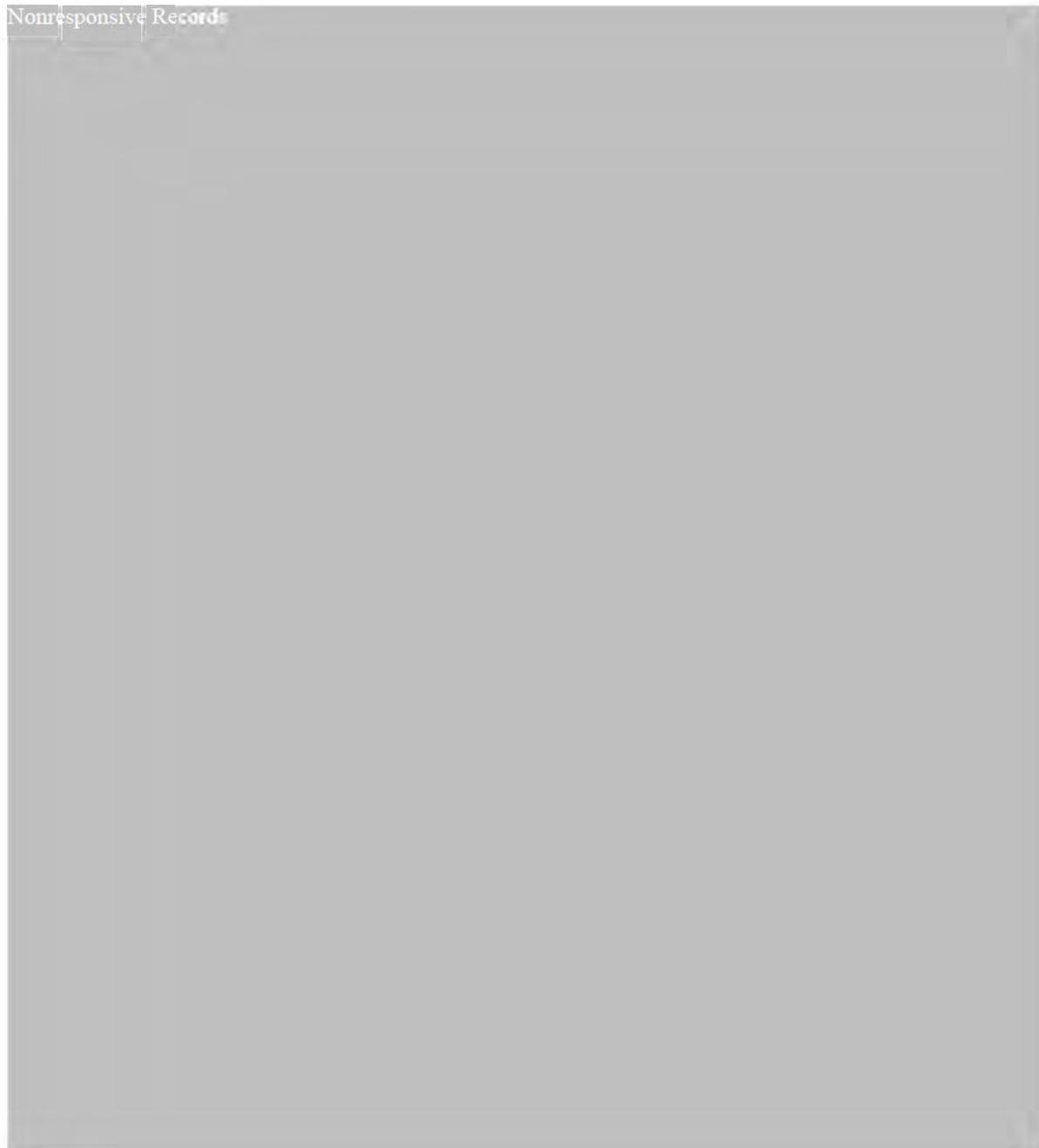
Nonresponsive Records



Tuesday, December 12, 2017

Nonresponsive Records





Del Wilbur

How late can we send the someone ?

10:06 PM

Del Wilbur

We send someone?

10:06 PM

Me

It would have to be someone w a badge

10:07 PM

Del Wilbur

How late? Where do they go?

10:08 PM

Me
10th street entrance. I'll be here for another 30 minutes. 10:09 PM

Del Wilbur
Brent Kendall is going if you want to leave the texts somewhere he can find them 10:20 PM

Me
Can't do that 10:20 PM

Me
I'll have to stay here with him 10:20 PM

Del Wilbur
Ah. Ok 10:20 PM

Me
Can't take it or take pictures of it 10:21 PM

Del Wilbur
Sorry. Ah 10:21 PM

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

Del Wilbur
Thanks so much for your help last night. Much appreciated. Sorry for my Paper's chaotic approach to it 8:22 AM

Me
No prob 8:28 AM

Del Wilbur
Left you some caffeine on your desk bc of the late night, but then realized you are probably on the hill...oops. I only watched it on cspan. 2:32 PM

Me
Aww. That's really really kind of you. I feel pretty burned by everything that happened this morning w stories about how I probably violated the law or something silly. but I guess I just need to get over it. 2:37 PM

Del Wilbur
How did you do that? 2:37 PM

Del Wilbur

I thought I saw something about it but assumed it was a reporter
pissed they didn't get the info 2:37 PM

Del Wilbur

I feel like Obama Doj would sometimes let us see documents that
were sent to congress, too. I have a vague recollection of that. But I
bet others in the press corp would recall it. Some have real
memories for that kind of thing. 2:38 PM

Del Wilbur

Welp, feel free to enjoy it. Once you get back, you can nuke it. I
like that 350 coffee place 2:39 PM

Del Wilbur

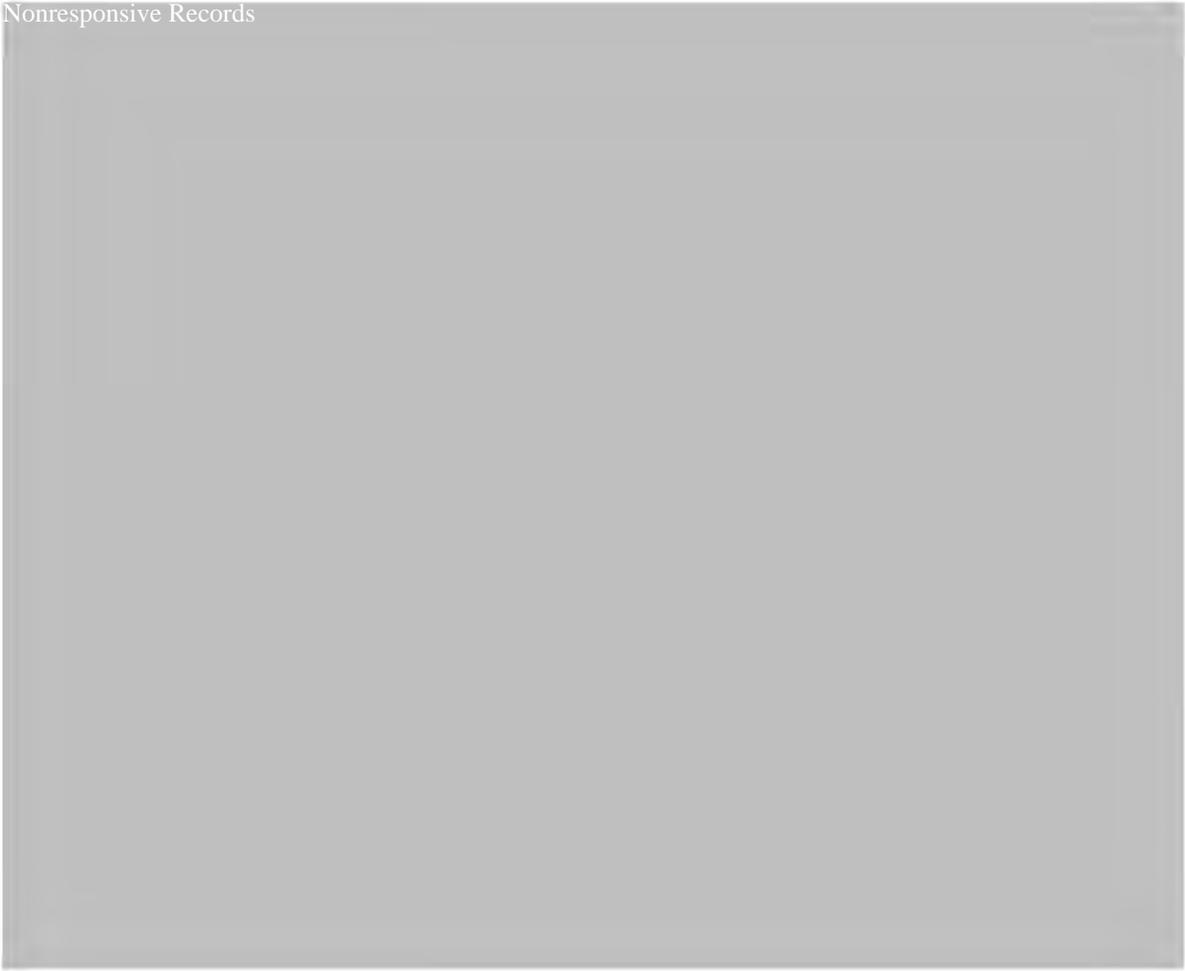
Can we get the texts now that they have been made public by
congress? 2:45 PM

Me

Anyone from congress is and has been welcome to give you the
texts 3:01 PM

Nonresponsive Records

Nonresponsive Records



Nonresponsive Records



Tuesday, December 12, 2017

Eric Tucker 8:05 PM

Can you give any more clarity as to what we're looking at?

Eric Tucker 8:05 PM

Is the DAG recusing?

Me

No. It's responsive to congress.

8:06 PM

Eric Tucker 8:11 PM

Thanks very much. Related to unmasking?

Me

Please stop guessing

8:11 PM

Eric Tucker 8:18 PM

Last question: this isn't an exclusive for AP, is it? Like, others are going to be there as well, right?

Eric Tucker 8:18 PM

Or is this just us

Me

Correct. Not just you.

8:18 PM

Nonresponsive Records



Chat with Ian & Alan

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

Alan

Hi Sarah and Ian, it's Alan from US News. I know you're probably following - or with - Rosenstein this morning. Would you mind calling when you have a moment?

10:13 AM

Me

I'm at the hearing. Happy to text.

10:14 AM

Alan

Wanted to touch base on the Strzok texts that were shared yesterday.

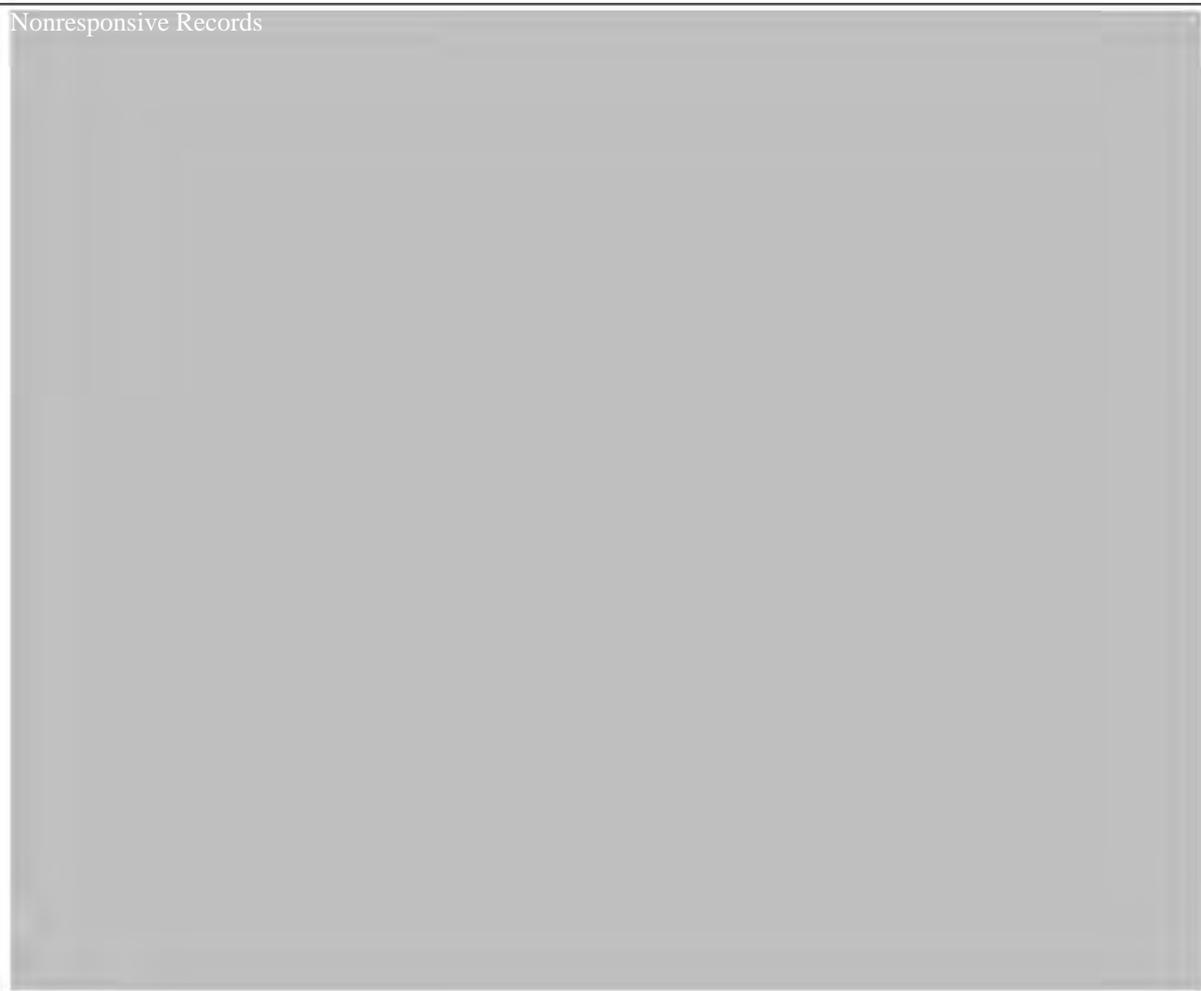
10:18 AM

Me

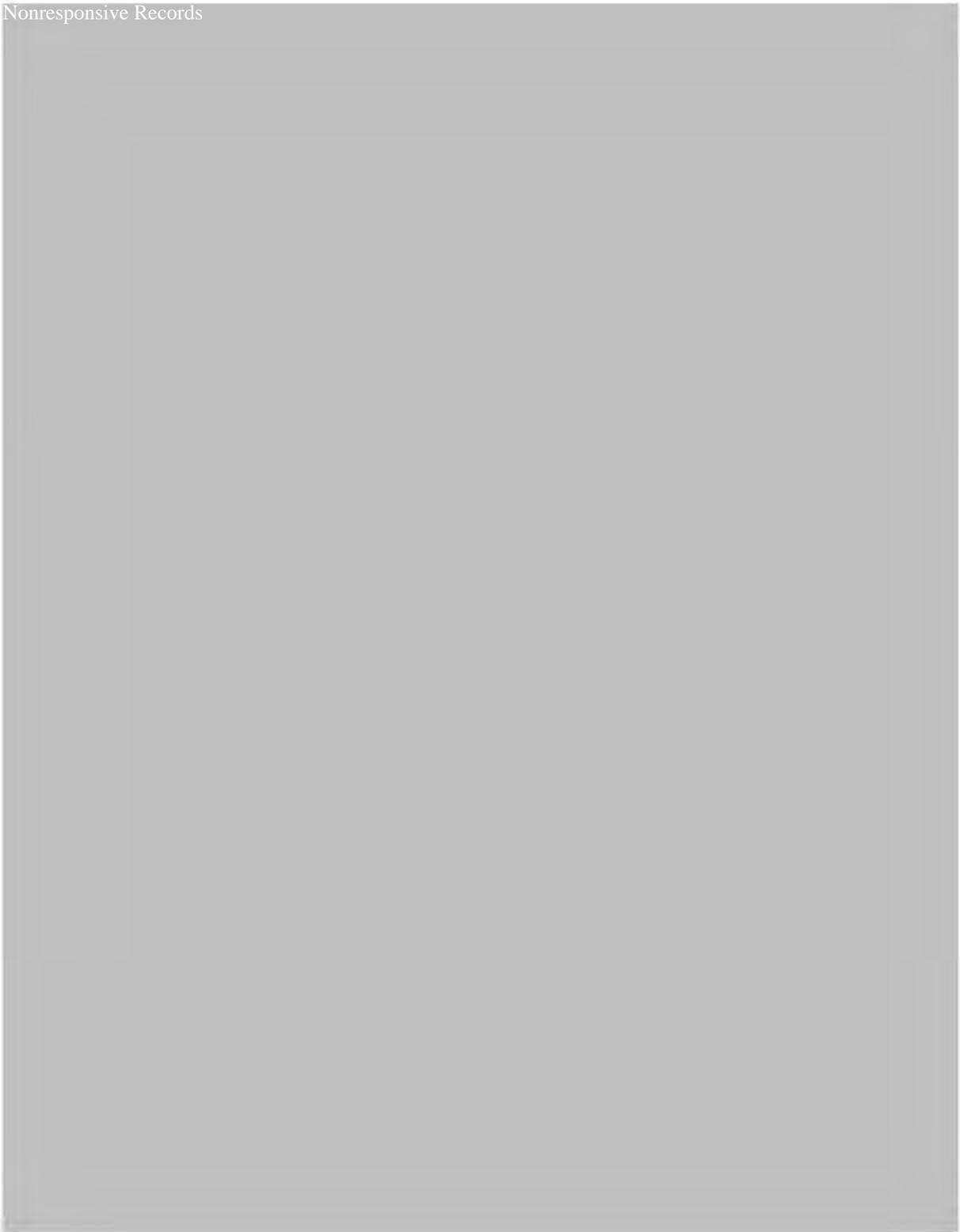
You bet. Let me know what you need.

10:57 AM

Nonresponsive Records

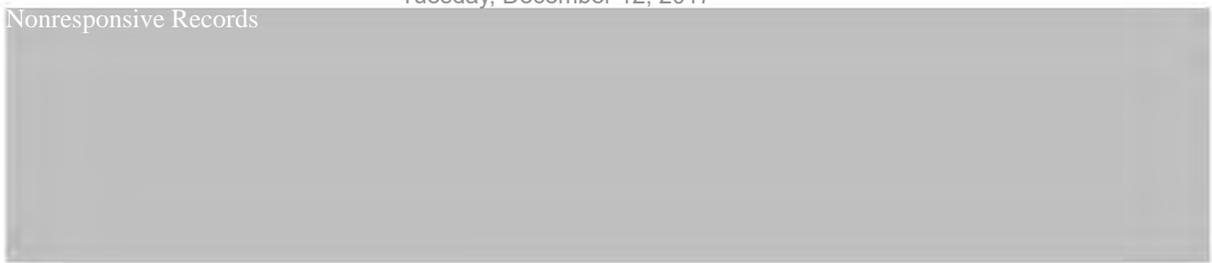


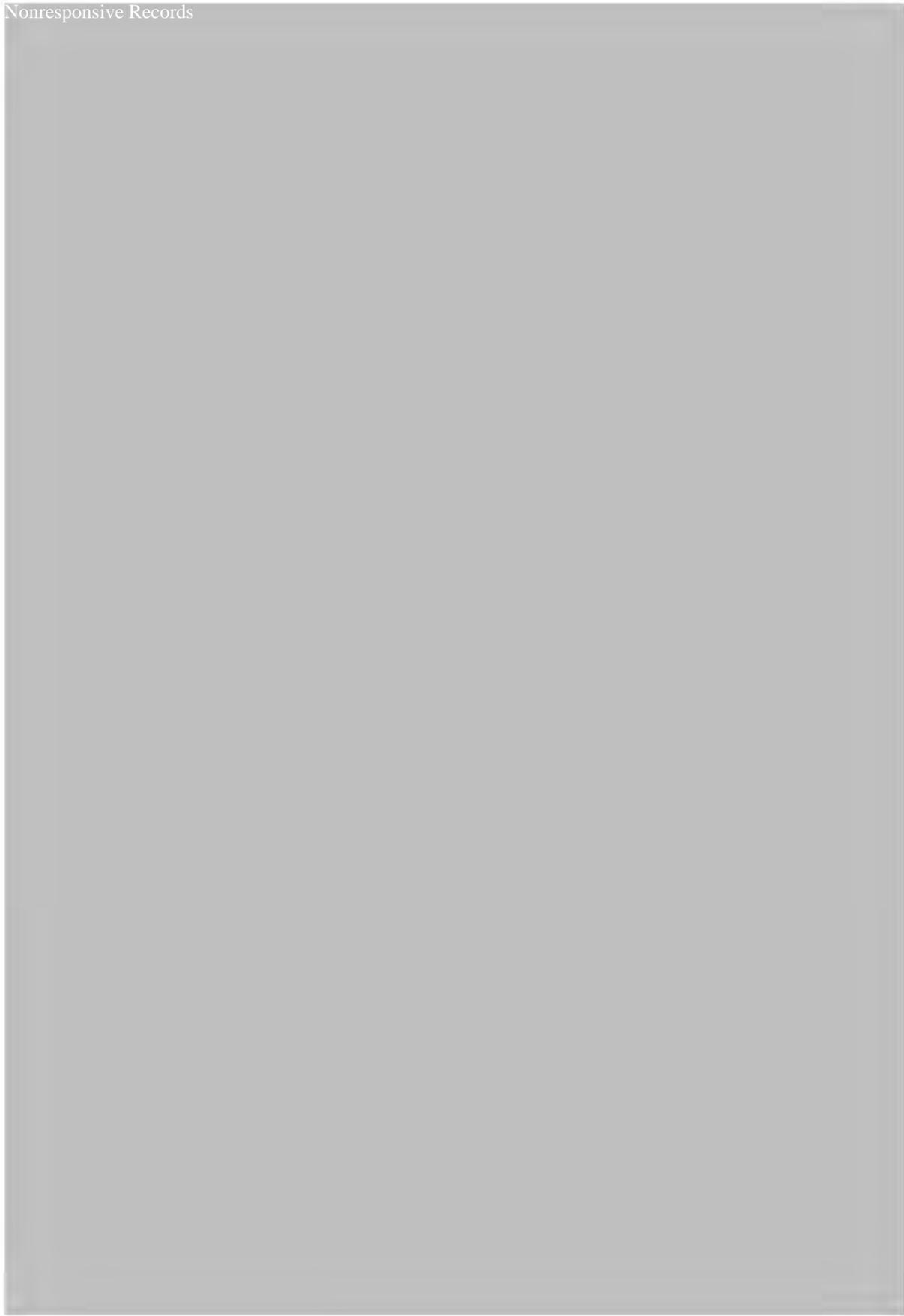
Nonresponsive Records

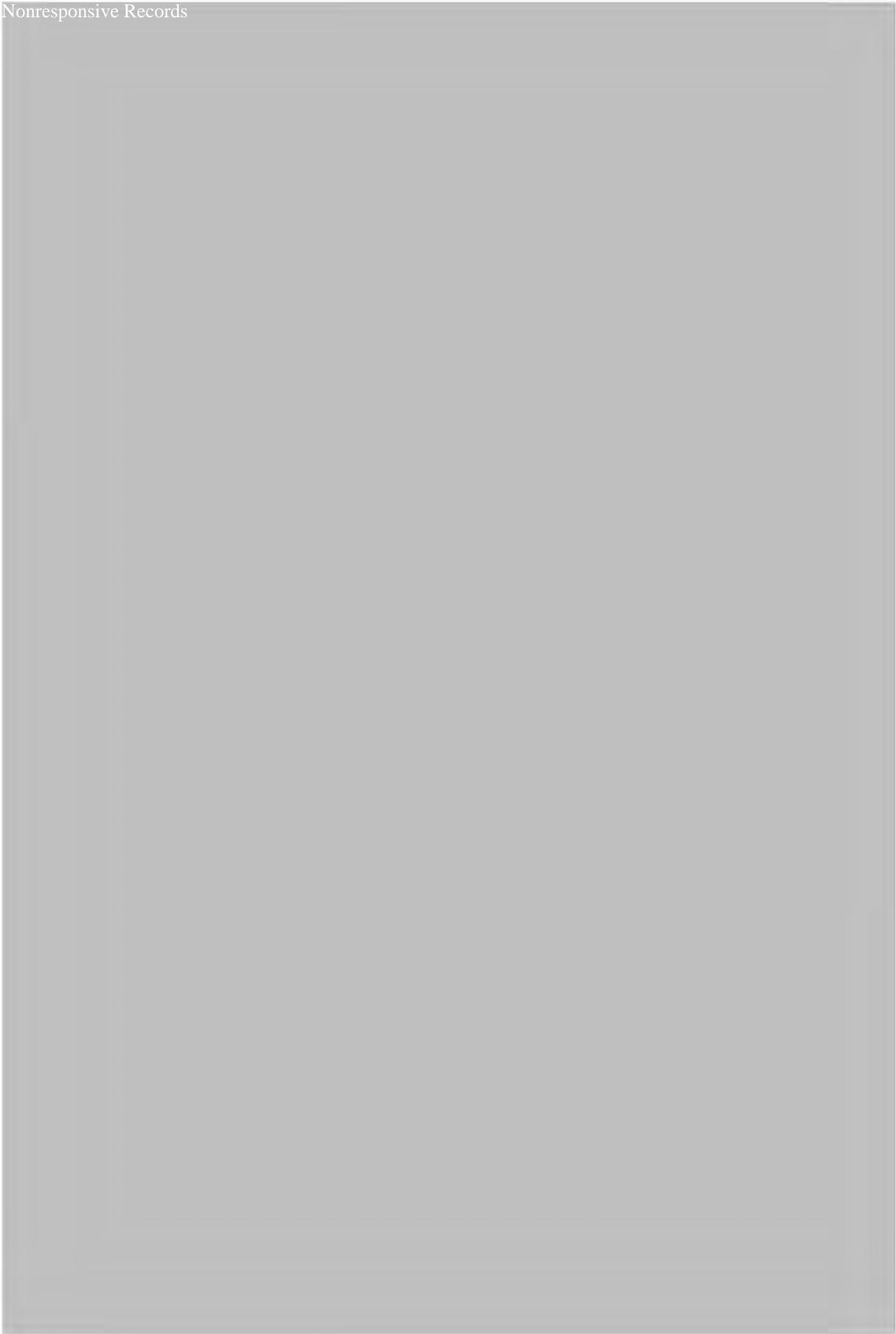


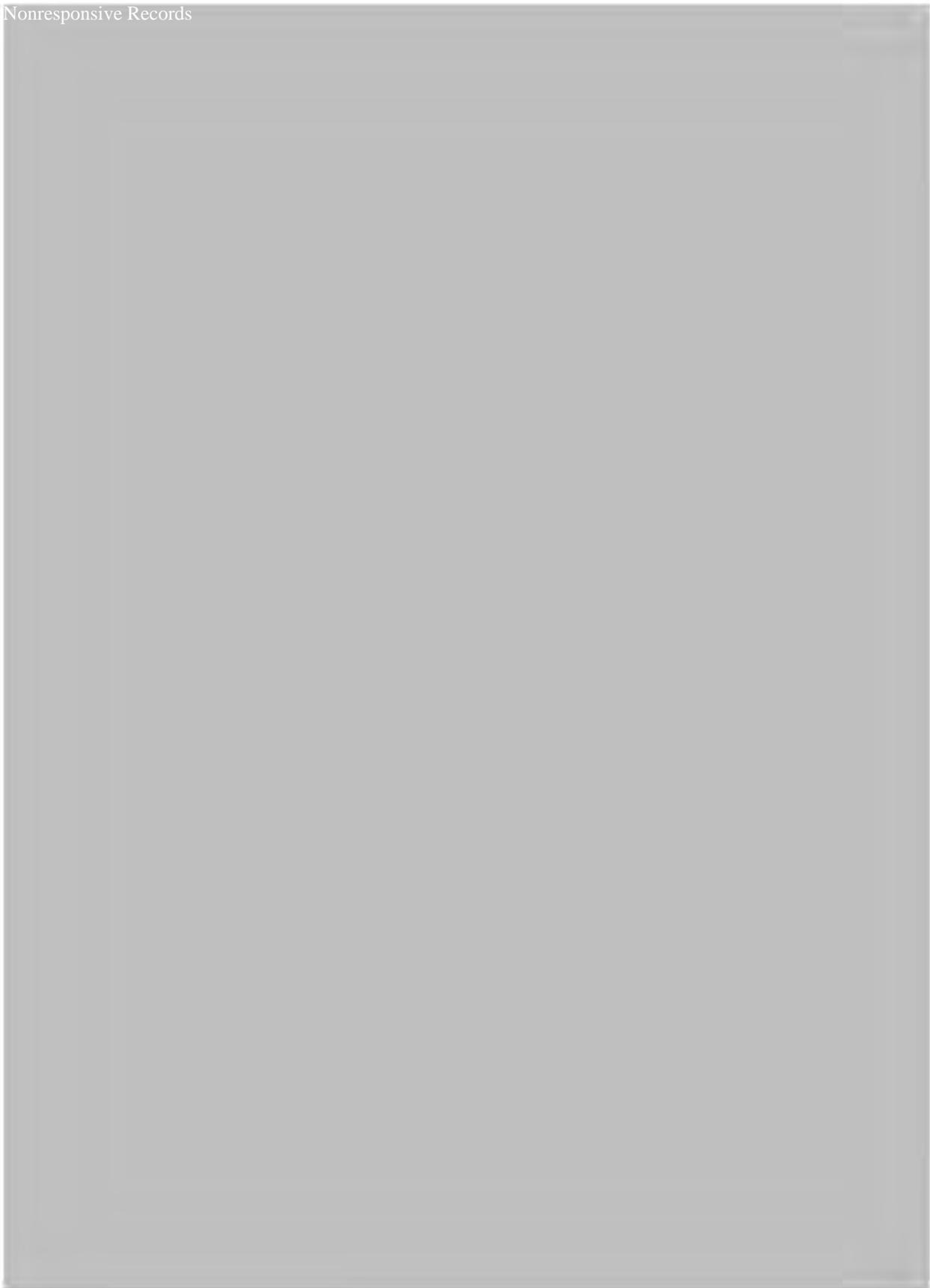
Tuesday, December 12, 2017

Nonresponsive Records











Me
Plan on coming back to doj a little after 8 7:00 PM

Jake Gibson
I'm long gone 7:00 PM

Jake Gibson
U all right? 7:00 PM

Me
Who from fox wants to come? 7:00 PM

Me
Can't talk now. And it's just a standby for the moment. Will provide more clarity when I can. 7:02 PM

Jake Gibson
Can u call me? 7:02 PM

Jake Gibson
Are u talking about doing something tonight?? 7:02 PM

Jake Gibson

You mean to do an on cam interview tonight? I'd be happy to come back for that. But need to know if it's a go, so I can get a crew

7:07 PM

Me

No. Nothing on camera.

7:08 PM

Me

This would be an info dump

7:08 PM

Jake Gibson

Oh... understood

7:08 PM

Jake Gibson

Copy

7:08 PM

Jake Gibson

Lemme know and I will book it a ckt

7:09 PM

Jake Gibson

Takes me like 30 mins door to door

7:09 PM

Jake Gibson

Can u talk anytime soon?

7:29 PM

Me

Head this way

7:44 PM

Jake Gibson

What's going on? What time? All Beat reporters?

7:45 PM

Me

Not all beats

7:46 PM

Jake Gibson

K

7:53 PM

Jake Gibson

On way

7:53 PM

Jake Gibson

Almost there

8:27 PM

Jake Gibson

10 mins

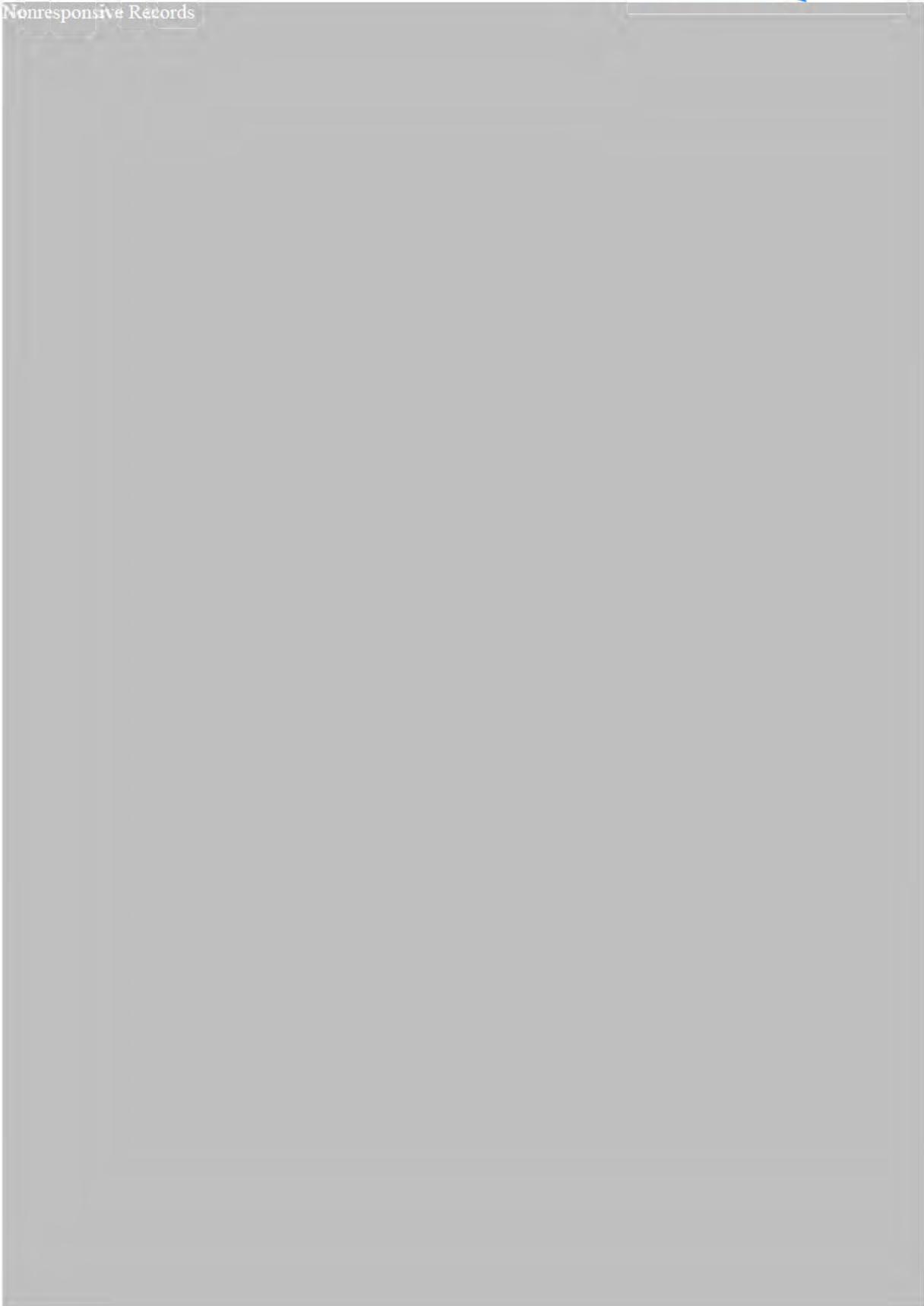
8:27 PM

Me

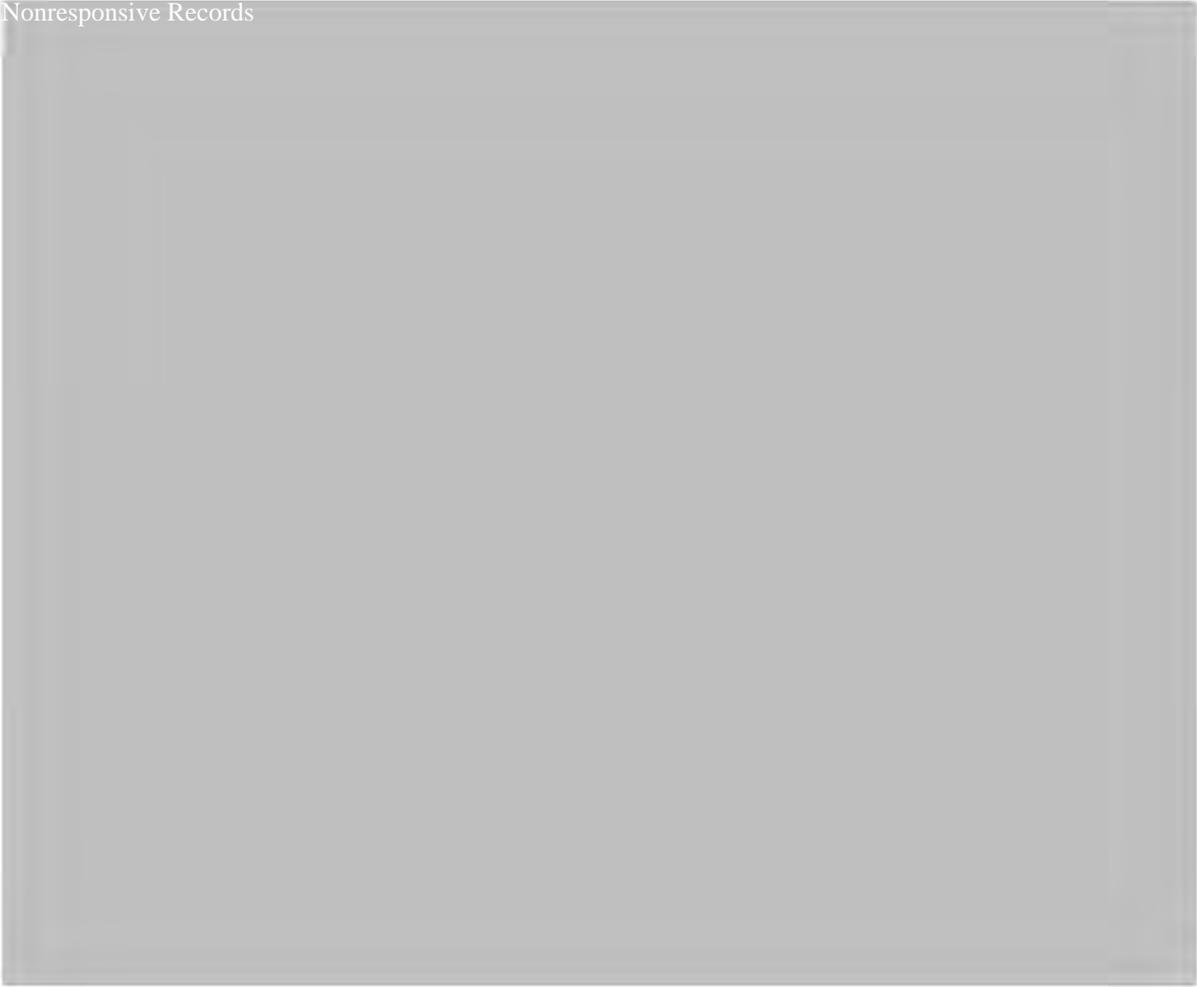
You're fine

8:29 PM

Nonresponsive Records

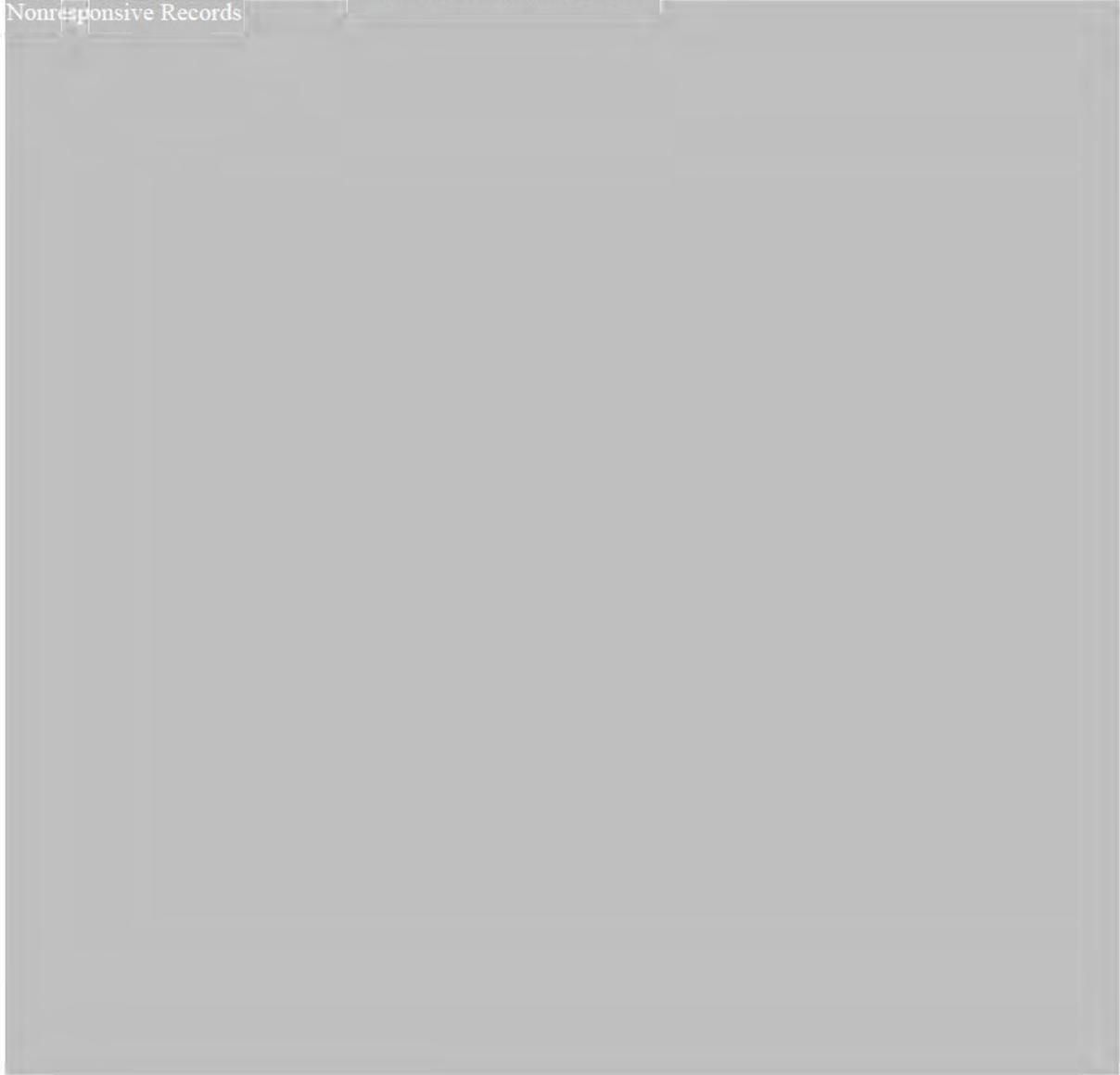


Nonresponsive Records



Tuesday, December 12, 2017

Nonresponsive Records



John Roberts

Hey...what's going on there tonight?

8:41 PM

Nonresponsive Records



Chat with Julia Edwards Ainsley

Nonresponsive Record



Tuesday, December 12, 2017

Julia Edwards Ainsley

You said tonight, right?

7:51 PM

Me

Yes. 830. Documents to review.

7:51 PM

Me

Nothing on camera

7:51 PM

Julia Edwards Ainsley

Ok. I'm coming

7:57 PM

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

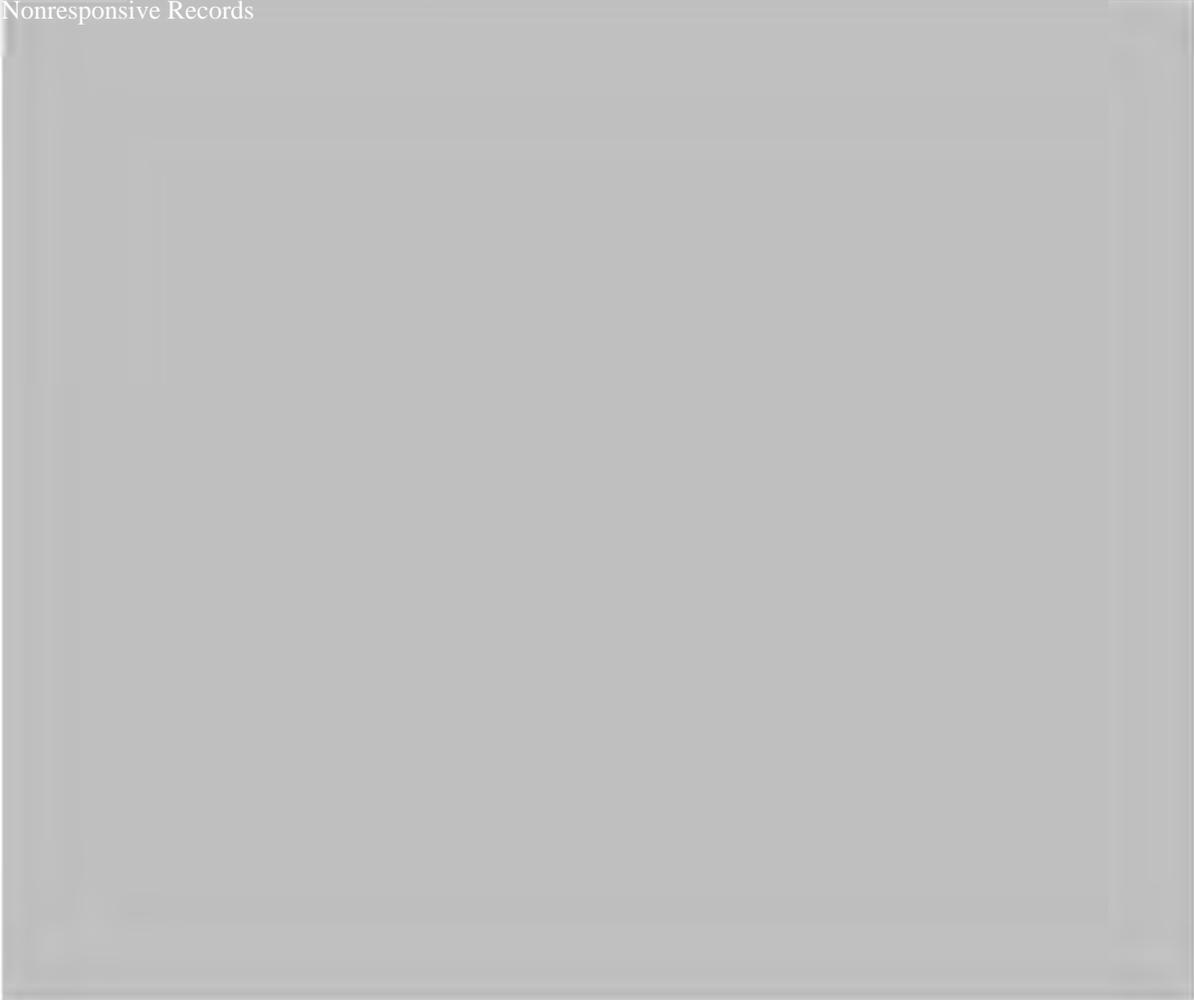
Julia Edwards Ainsley

Hey thanks again for giving us all a heads up last night. It was a very smooth roll out --Julia Ainsley NBC

4:50 PM

Nonresponsive Records

Nonresponsive Records



Nonresponsive Record

Tuesday, December 12, 2017

Kelly Cohen

be there in 17 minutes !

8:29 PM

Me

No prob!

8:29 PM

Kelly Cohen

i'm outside and can't get in! so cold!

8:41 PM

Me

10th street?

8:42 PM

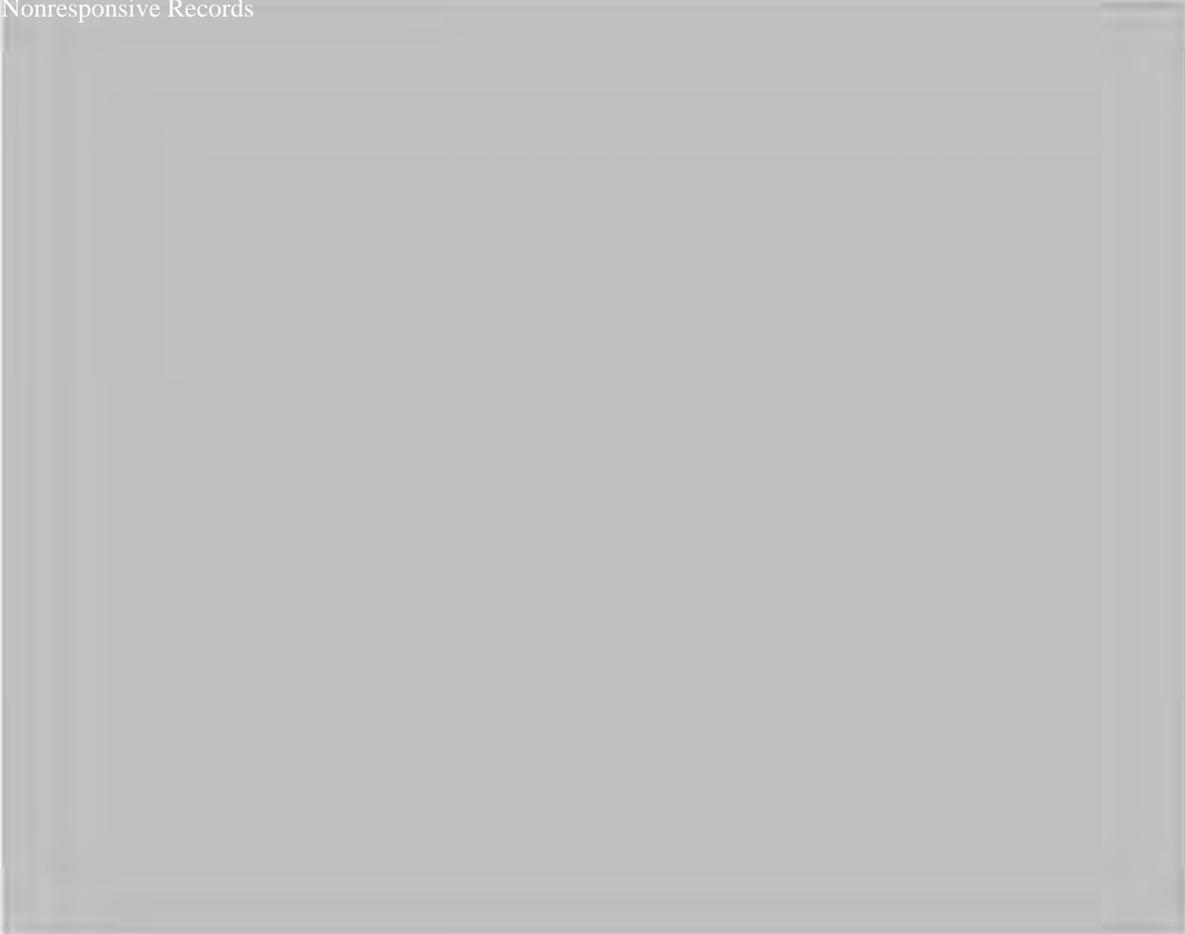
Kelly Cohen

yes !

8:42 PM

Nonresponsive Records

Nonresponsive Records

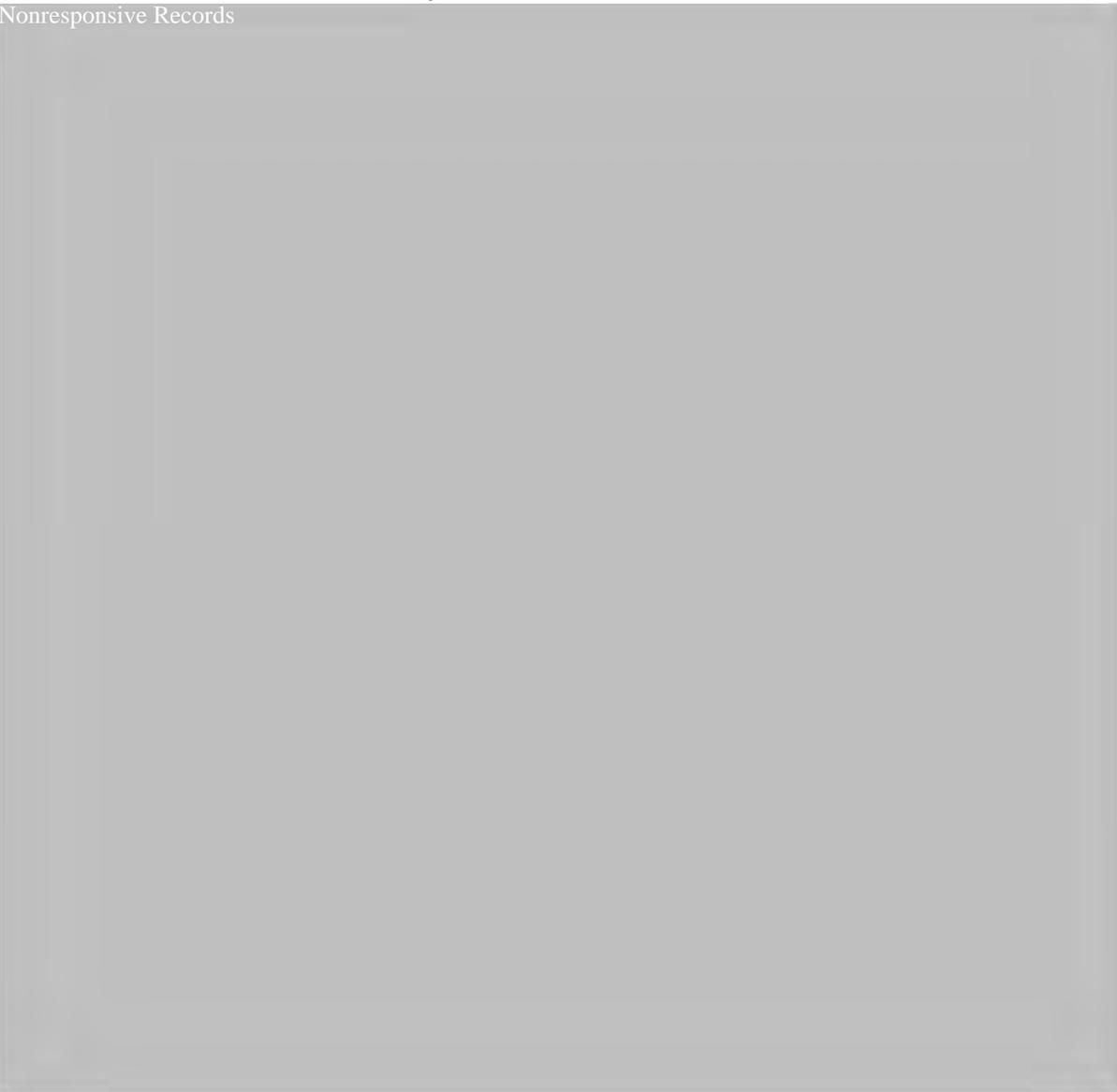


Nonresponsive Records



Tuesday, December 12, 2017

Nonresponsive Records



Nonresponsive Records



Me

Plan on coming back to doj a little after 8

6:59 PM

Laura Jarrett

Got it, here now. You upstairs?

7:01 PM

Me

Yeah. I'll come down in a bit hopefully.

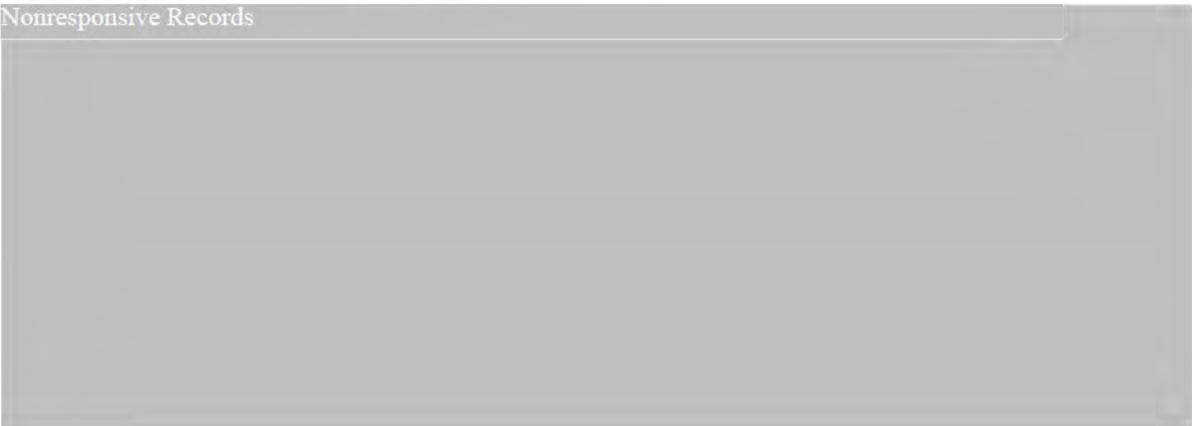
7:01 PM

Laura Jarrett

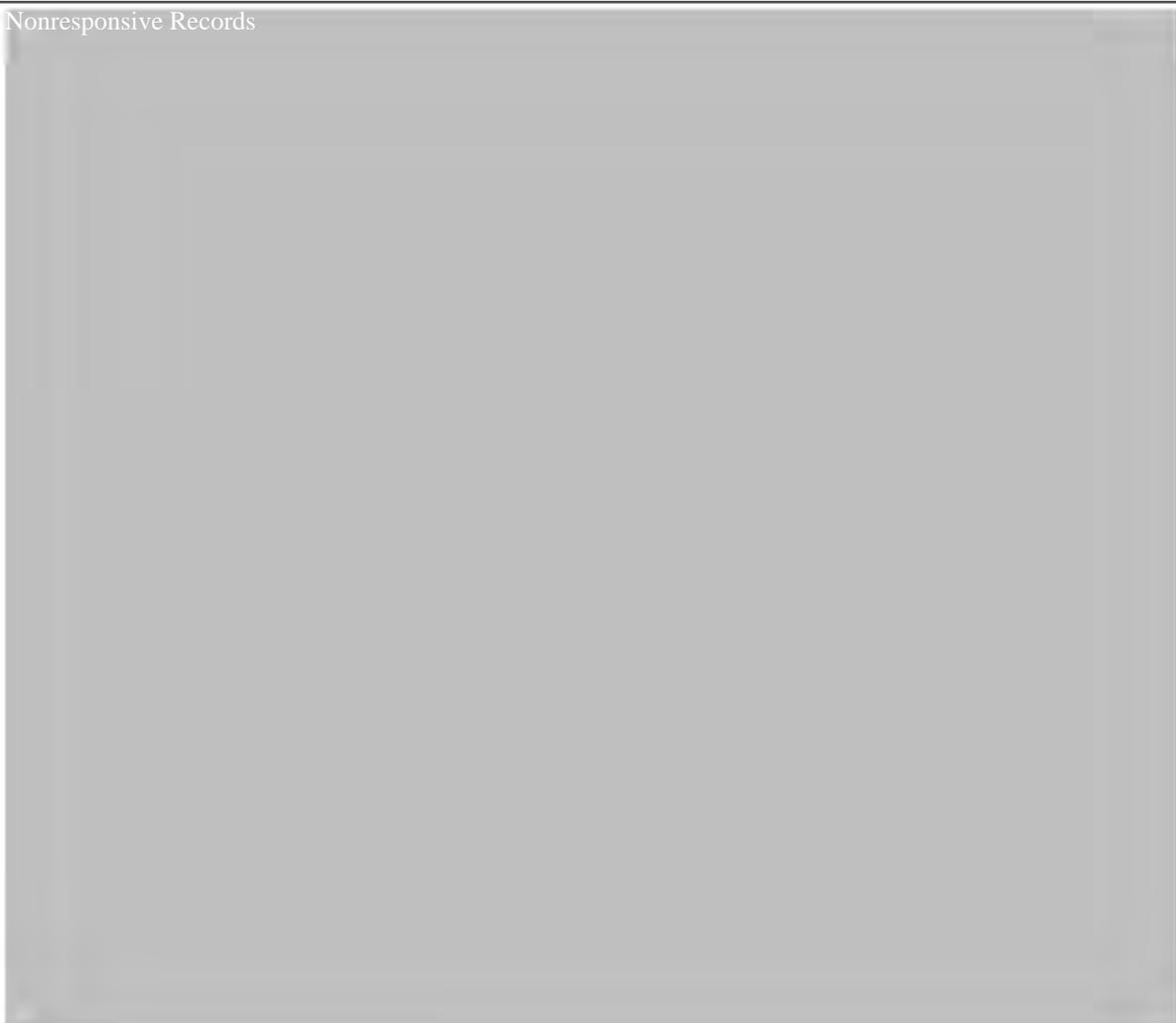
sounds good, let me know

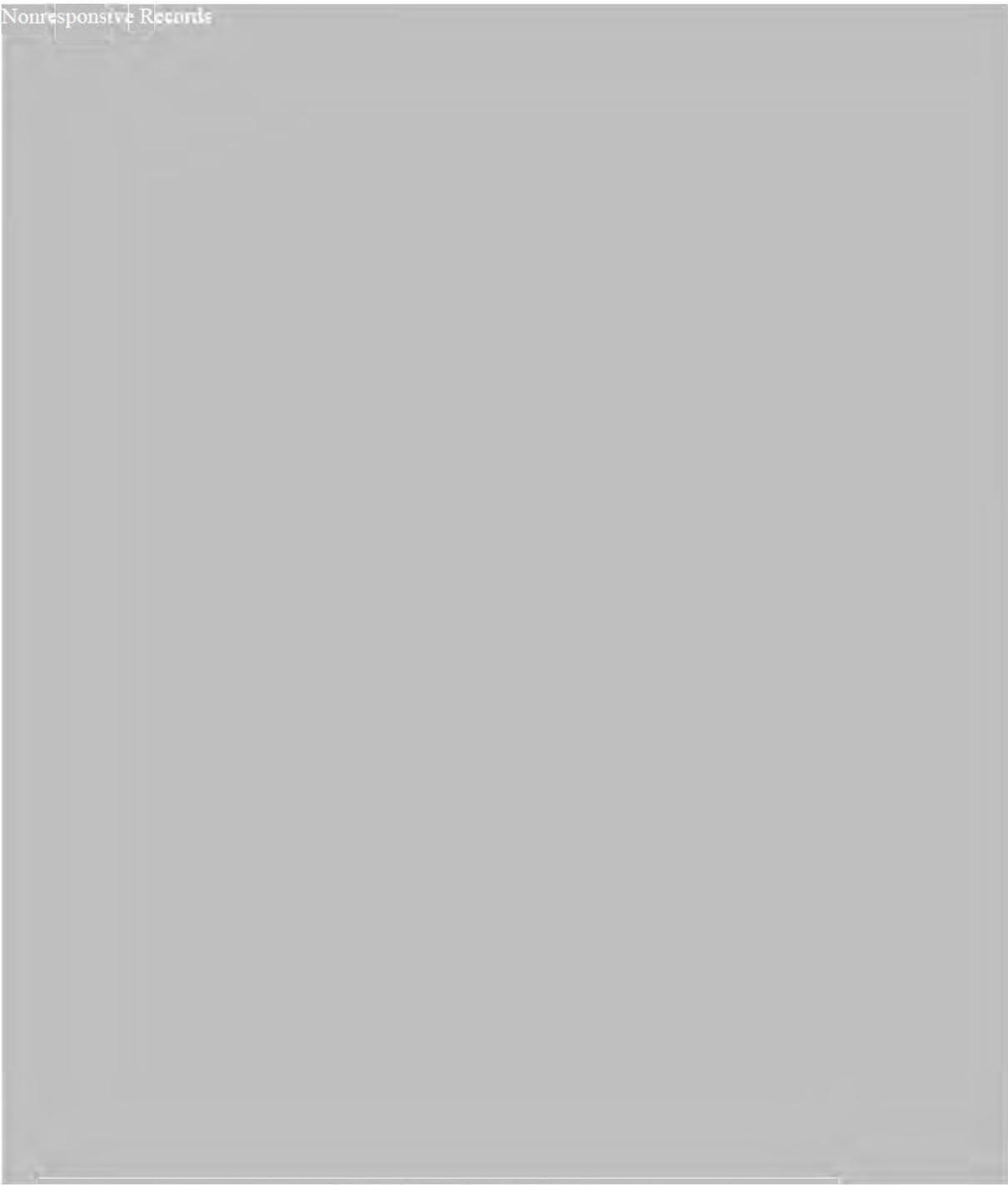
7:01 PM

Nonresponsive Records



Nonresponsive Records





Tuesday, December 12, 2017

Matt Zapotosky

You're gonna get Devlin instead of me (I'm technically on vacation today but am in DC).

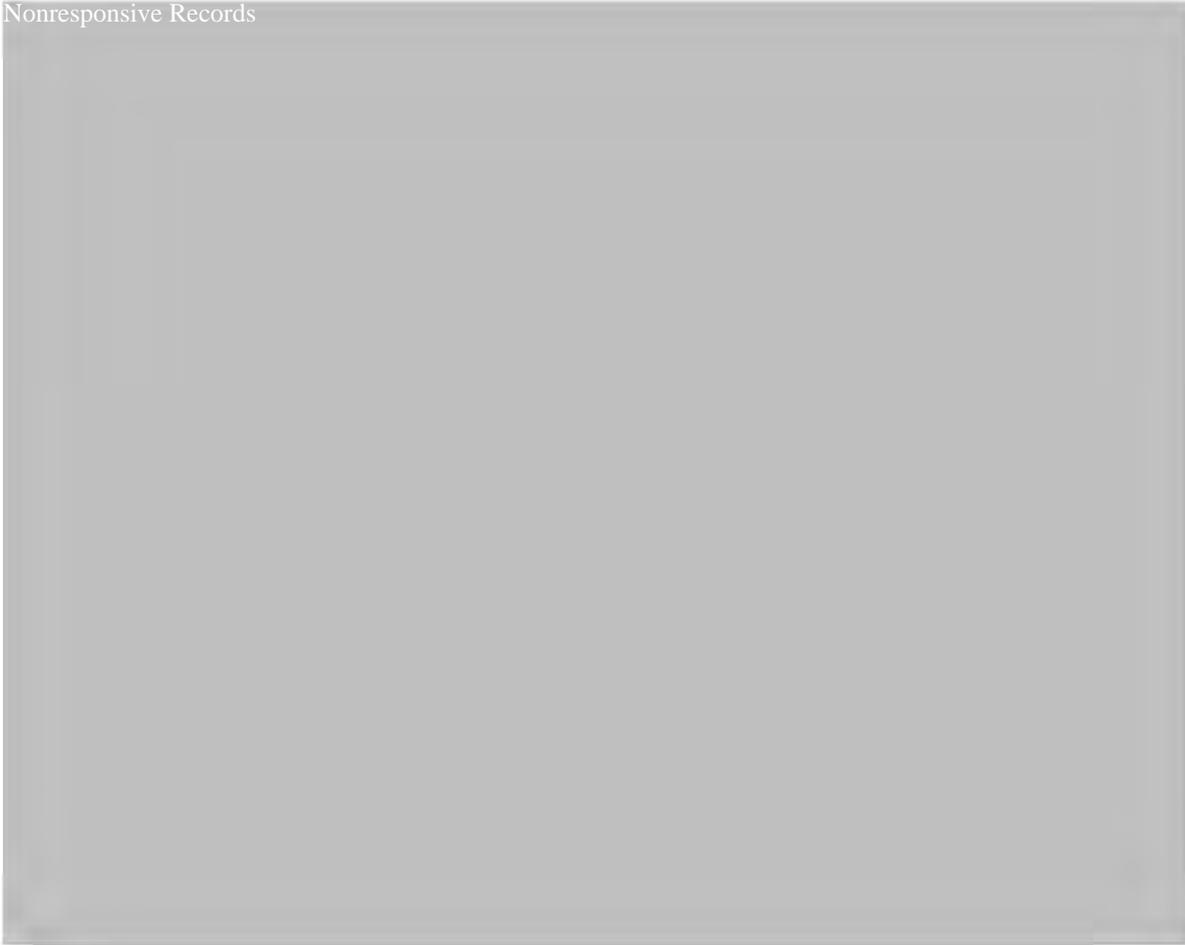
8:04 PM

Me

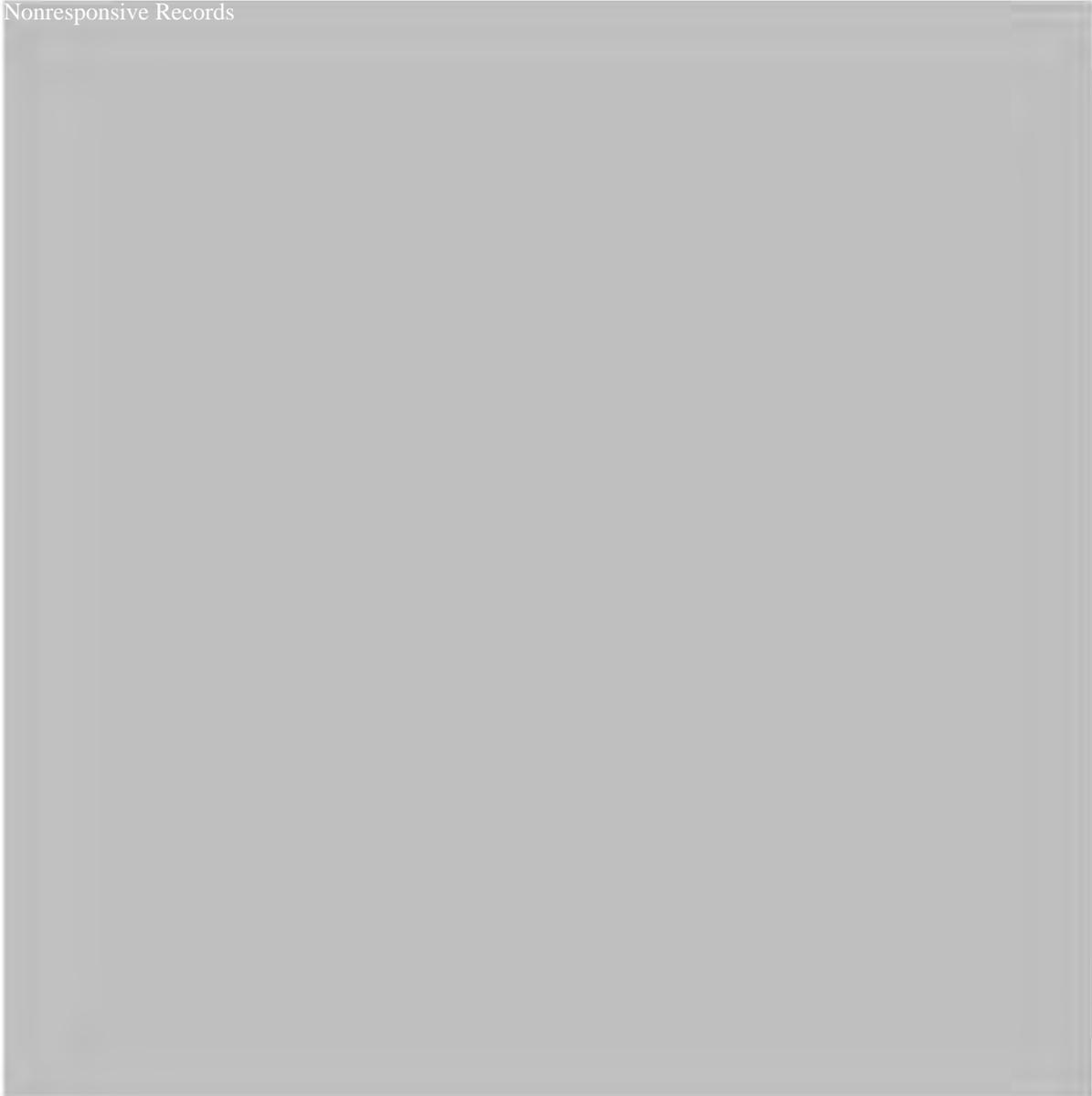
No prob!

8:06 PM

Nonresponsive Records

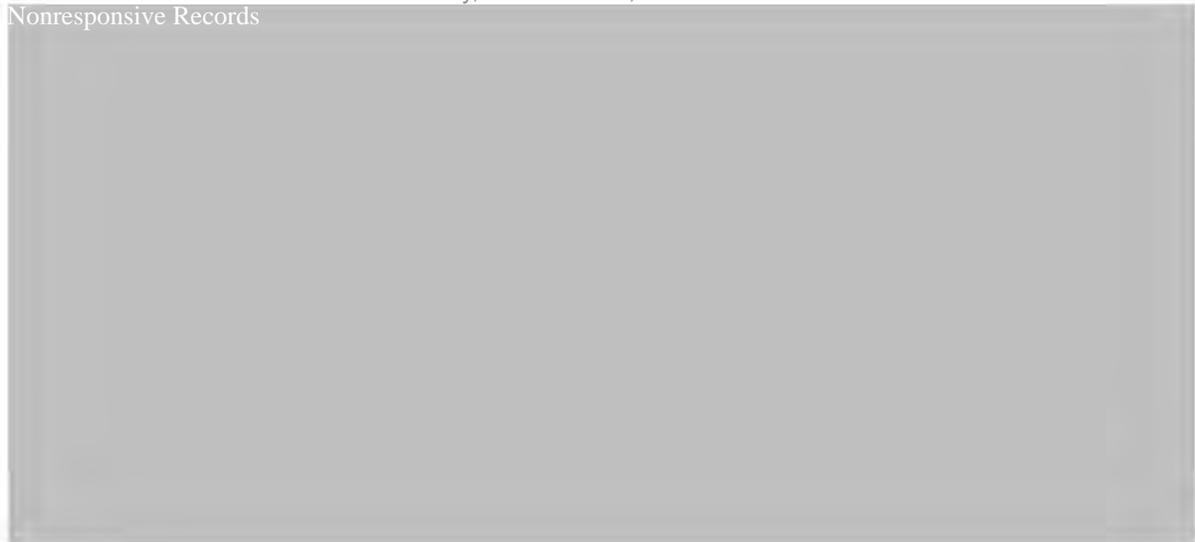


Nonresponsive Records



Tuesday, December 12, 2017

Nonresponsive Records





Me

Can u come to office tonight at 830?

7:45 PM

Mike Levine

I can make it there at 9. Is that ok?

8:01 PM

Me

Yep no prob

8:01 PM

Mike Levine

Cool thanks

8:01 PM

Mike Levine

Thanks for making all that happen.

10:13 PM

Me

You bet. It's my job:)

10:13 PM

Mike Levine

Ha true. Have a good night

10:14 PM

Mike Levine

Hi, do you know the date of the first earliest text message?

11:09 PM

Me

8/16/15

11:10 PM

Mike Levine

Thanks

11:10 PM

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

Mike Levine

Hey, apparently NBC reported that the texts were released by DOJ. My folks wanted me to check to see if we can say that too, or still case that can't mention DOJ?

7:42 AM

Me

No she said released by doj to the hill, which is true, if you read the story

7:43 AM

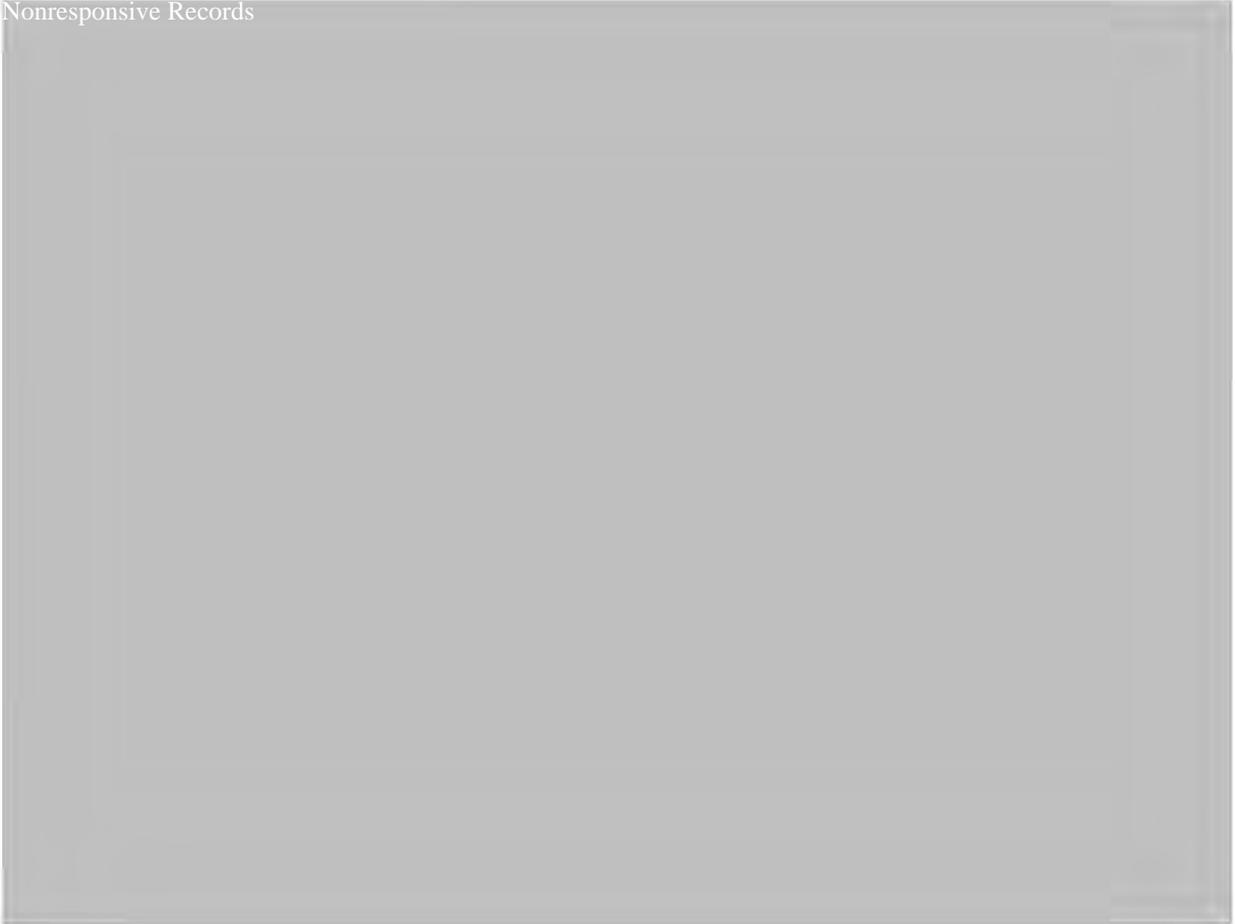
Mike Levine

Gotcha thanks

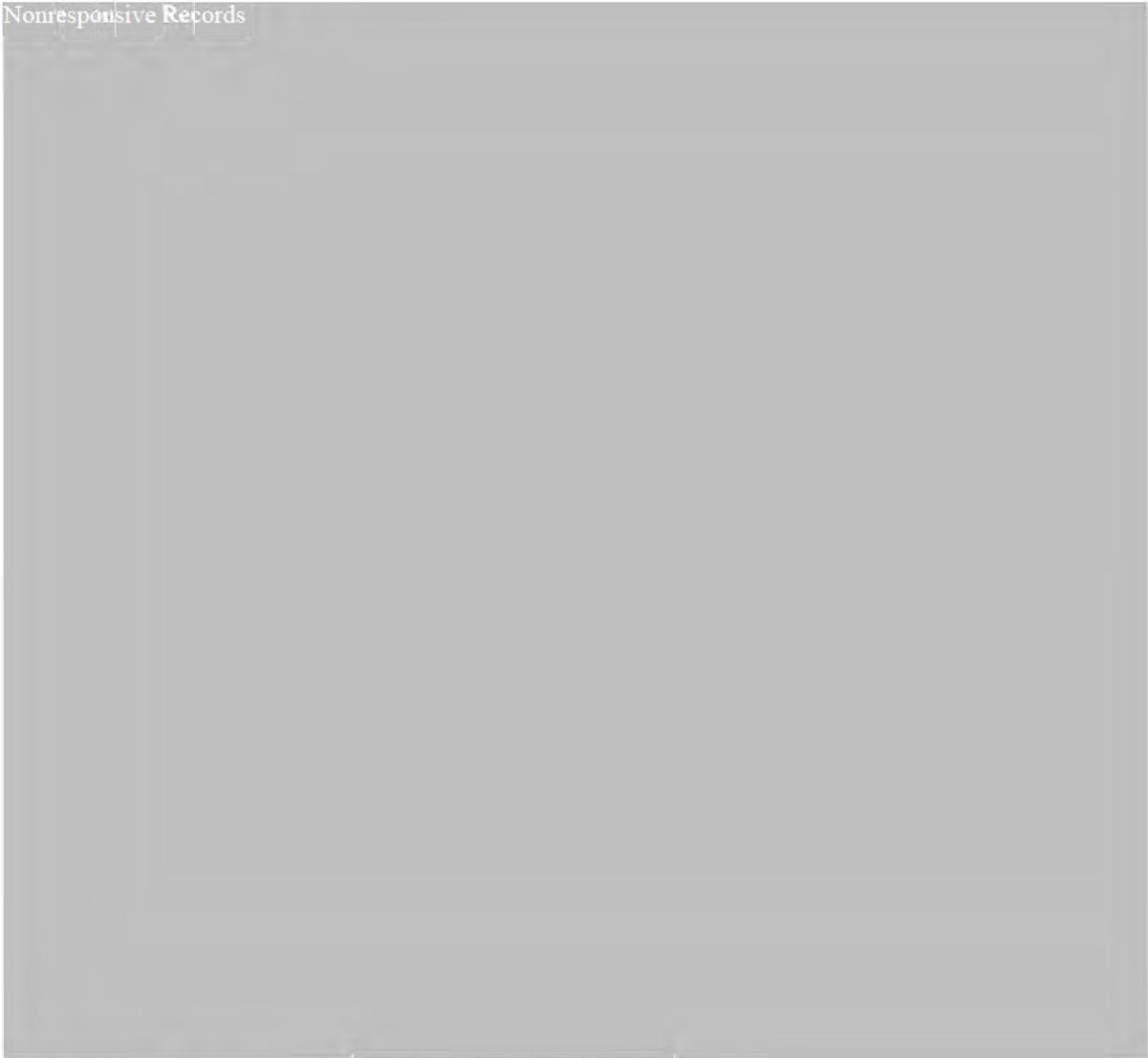
7:45 AM

Nonresponsive Records

Nonresponsive Records



Nonresponsive Records



Tuesday, December 12, 2017

Nonresponsive Records



Paula Reid

Any update? I am using this suspense as an excuse not to go to the gym.

6:34 PM

Me

Ha. Yeah no lid yet. I may ask y'all to come here after 8 if that helps. If not, it'll just be a phone call.

6:34 PM

Paula Reid

Ok. Thank you. Will keep my calendar open.

6:35 PM

Me

Be here at 830

7:48 PM

Paula Reid

Which entrance works this time of day?

7:49 PM

Me

The 10th street one and you go through the car entrance?

7:59 PM

Paula Reid

Cool. Tks

8:00 PM

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

Paula Reid

It seems you have had a s--t day, but I have a prime parallel example for you if you need precedent to defend last night.

7:51 PM

Nonresponsive Records

Chat with Pete Williams

Duplicative Material



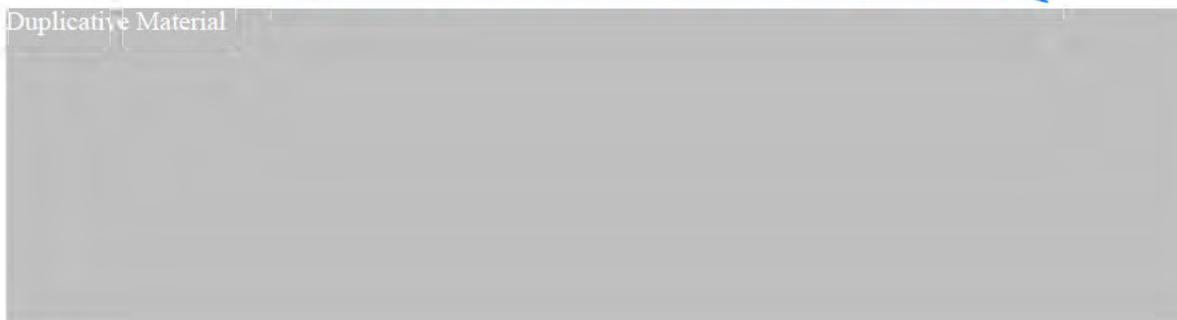
Tuesday, December 12, 2017

Me

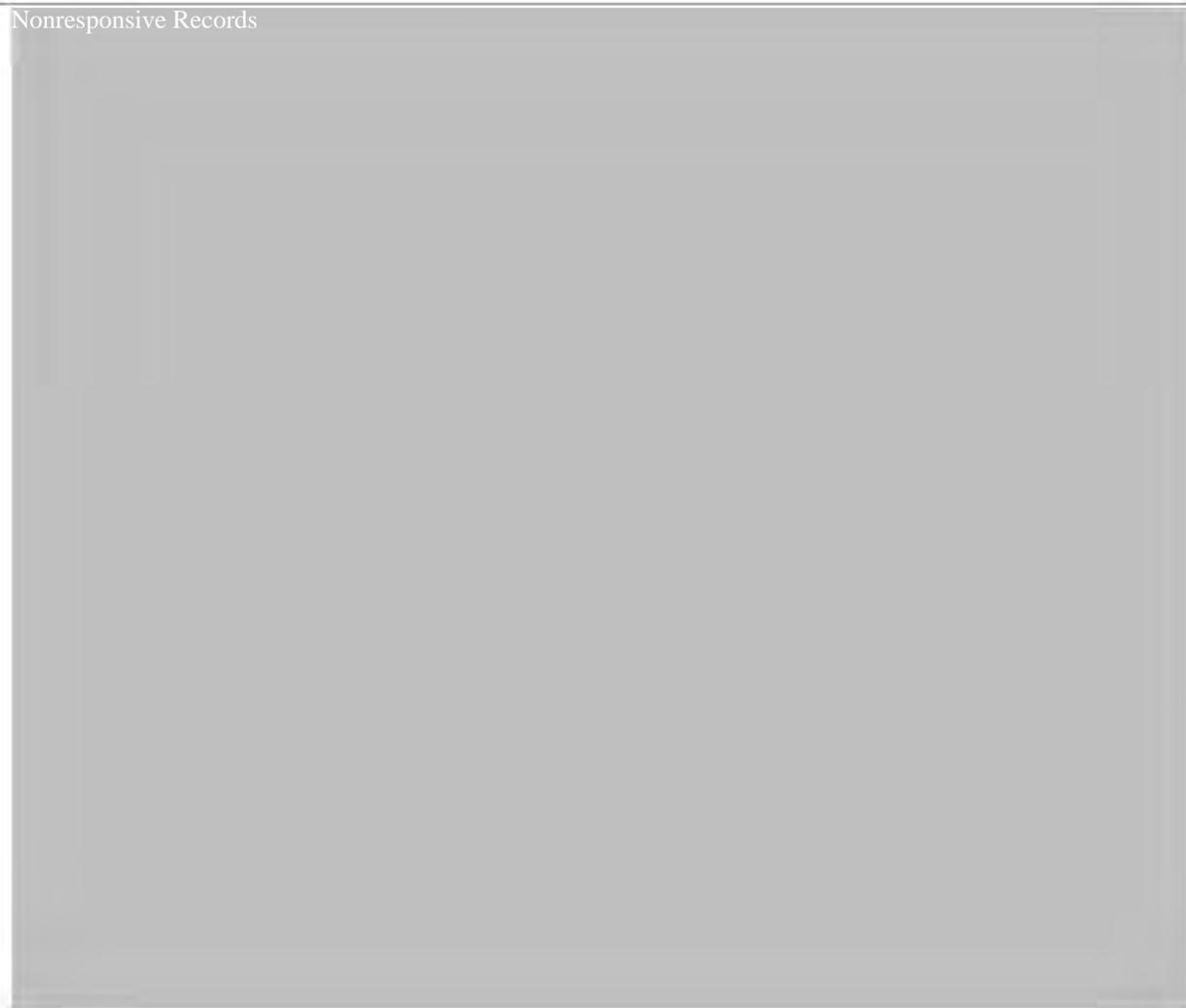
7:45 PM

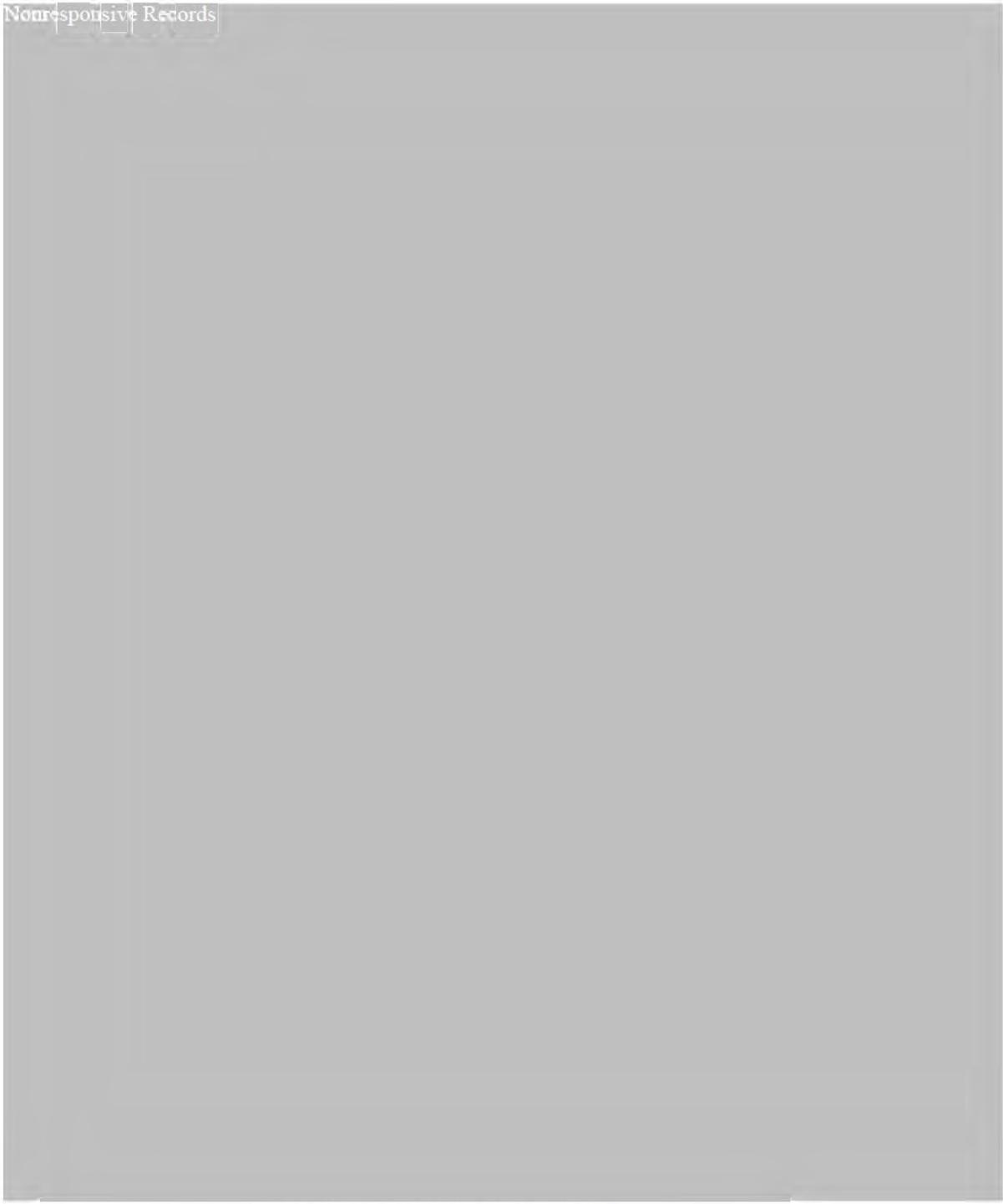
Can u or send someone to office tonight at 830?

Duplicative Material



Nonresponsive Records





Wednesday, December 13, 2017

Sarah Lynch

Hey. How come no one told me that the texts would be at doj yesterday??

9:42 AM

Sarah Lynch

Sarah - I am coming by later but I really hope we can avoid this in the future

9:51 AM

Me

Oversight on my part. I tried to get the outlets with overnight access and you're right that Reuters does but for some reason I thought it didn't.

10:11 AM

Sarah Lynch

Julia Harte might come by for me later. I think her hearing with end before Rod's.

10:11 AM

Sarah Lynch

In future def loop me in. We have 24 hour staffing around the globe

10:12 AM

Nonresponsive Records



Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI)

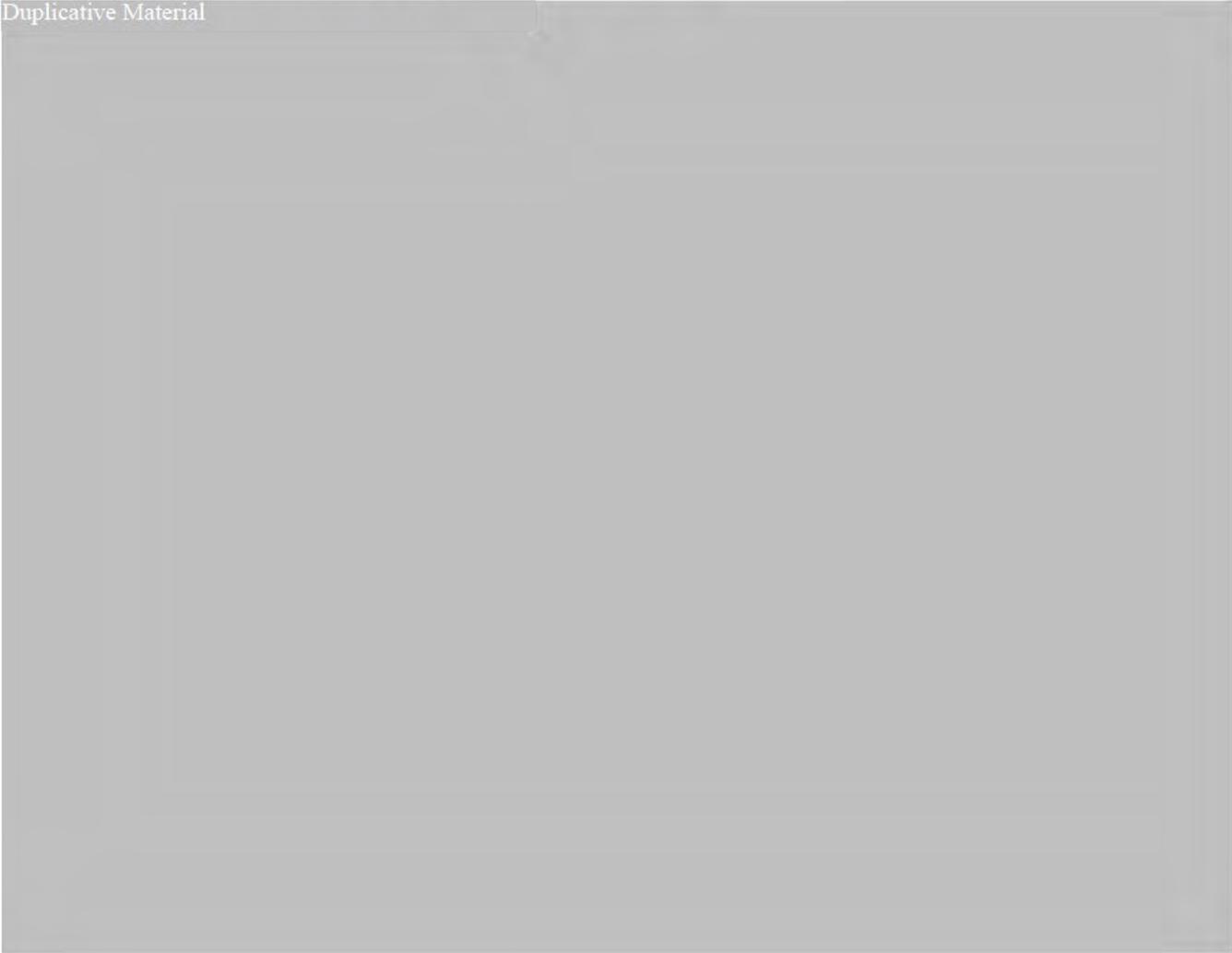
From: Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2017 9:45 AM
To: Schools, Scott (ODAG)
Subject: Re: Items needing follow up

Thanks Scott. (b) (5)

----- Original message -----

From: "Schools, Scott (ODAG)" <Scott.Schools@usdoj.gov>
Date: 12/19/17 11:00 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI)" (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Items needing follow up

Duplicative Material



Daniel Friedman

From: Daniel Friedman
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 2:43 PM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Subject: Question about Rosenstein Answer on IG consultation on Strzok texts

Ian,

I read the IG's letter, Flores statements and Rosenstein's answers on IG consultation. It seems like Rosenstein's statement to Raskin, in particular, while not clearly contradicted by Horowitz's letter, could have left the impression that he consulted with the IG about releasing the texts to the media.

Raskin's line of questioning was about release of texts to the media. Then he asked about IG rule that prohibits release of info that is part of an investigation.

Rosenstein: "When this inquiry came in from Congress, we did consult with the Inspector General and he determined that he had no objection to release of the material. If he had, I can assure you I would not have authorized the release."

So Rosenstein didn't say IG okayed release of messages to media, but it didn't exclude that.

I assume you guys will say Rosenstein didn't mean to imply IG approved release of texts to press. But is he considering sending any kind of clarification to the committee on that?

I don't know how significant this is, but I don't want to read any other stuff you guys out in Business Insider again.

I am coming around to the view that your guys knew Congress was gonna leak these anyway, so releasing them in whole could be as your first statement said, an attempt to avoid confusion/more selective leaking.

Thanks,
Dan
202.290.5424

Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal)

From: Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal)
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 8:52 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Subject: RE: Hi

We're about to do a "TRMS law school" special on the investigation with four former US Attorneys to go over viewer legal Q's. Should be good. Not sure how and to what extent this issue will come up. But I'll take the IG statement when you get and I'll try and get ready for air ASAP.

Genuinely sorry your Friday sucks. FWIW - I second Rachel's opinion.
We also know what it's like when people accuse you of bias just because of who you are/what you represent. People who know nothing accuse us of being liberal shills who distort reality, and it's like No - we actually try to report everything straight.
We have opinions, sure but we never lie or misrepresent what we believe to be the objective truth.

It's almost the weekend.

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) [mailto:Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov]
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 8:33 PM
To: Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Hi

Duplicative Material



Chuck Ross

From: Chuck Ross
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 8:02 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Subject: Re: DOJ IG letter on Strzok texts

Thanks. I'll wait for the OIG statement

On Friday, December 15, 2017, Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov> wrote:

Duplicative Material



Natasha Bertrand

From: Natasha Bertrand
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 6:23 PM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Cc: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Subject: OIG response to House
Attachments: Nadler Raskin Response Letter.pdf

Hi, does DOJ have any response to this letter sent by OIG to House Judiciary? (attached)

Thanks,
Natasha

--

Natasha Bertrand
Political Correspondent | Business Insider
631.317.8409
[@NatashaBertrand](https://twitter.com/NatashaBertrand)

Jarrett, Laura

From: Jarrett, Laura
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 3:13 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Subject: FW: GUIDANCE on DOJ - release of texts to media

From: Kupperman, Tammy
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 2:36 PM
To: *CNN Executive Producers (b) (6); *DCDigitalEditor (CNN)
(b) (6)
Cc: Jarrett, Laura <Laura.Jarrett@cnn.com>
Subject: GUIDANCE on DOJ - release of texts to media

We should **not** report that DOJ says the release of the Strzok/Page texts was “not authorized.” That is not true.

Spokesperson Sarah Isgur Flores has tweeted that the Department showed copies of texts to reporters working in the building **after** copies were delivered to the Hill and after some media outlets got hold of them.



Sarah Isgur Flores ([@SarahFloresDOJ](#))

[12/15/17, 10:51 AM](#)

So timeline in short: (1) Copies delivered to Congress, (2) Some media outlets are in possession of copies of texts (3) Department shows copies of texts to reporters working in the building.

There has been some significant confusion about this due to an inaccurate Business Insider article. DOJ never said that the release was unauthorized. The press shop said that some unnamed reporters received the texts by some other means, not through DOJ. Here's the full statement, showing context:

“The Chairman and Ranking Members of each of the congressional committees were provided the opportunity to have copies of the texts delivered to their offices. This was completed before any member of the media was given access to view the same copy of the texts by the Department’s Office of Public Affairs. **As we understand now, some members of the media had already received copies of the texts before that—but those disclosures were not authorized by the Department.**”

As the Deputy Attorney General said in this testimony on Wednesday, when the initial inquiries came from committees and members of Congress, the Deputy Attorney General consulted with the Inspector General, and the Inspector General determined that he had no objection to the Department’s providing the material to the Congressional committees that had requested it. After that consultation, senior career ethics advisors determined that there were no legal or ethical concerns, including under the Privacy Act, that prohibited the release of the information to the public either by members of congress or by the Department.”

Darren Samuelsohn

From: Darren Samuelsohn
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 2:45 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA); Josh Gerstein
Subject: Re: closing the loop

Ok – done.

Thanks for sticking with me on this.

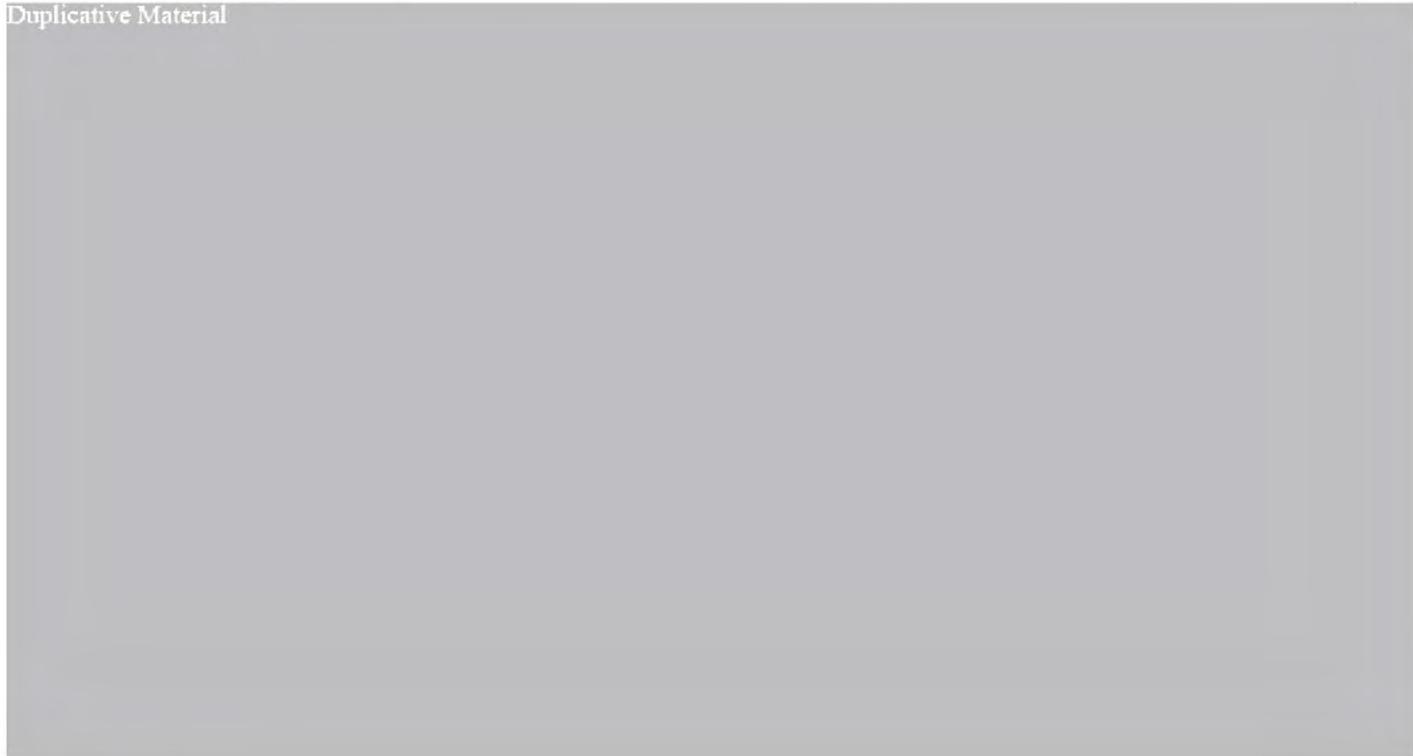
Apologies again for the delay getting back to you and the confusion.

Thank you,

Darren Samuelsohn
Senior reporter, POLITICO
Desk: 703-842-1769
Cell: (b) (6)
Dsamuelsohn@politico.com
@dsamuelsohn

From: "Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)" <Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov>
Date: Thursday, December 14, 2017 at 2:34 PM
To: Darren Samuelsohn <dsamuelsohn@politico.com>, Josh Gerstein <jgerstein@politico.com>
Subject: RE: closing the loop

Duplicative Material



Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com

From: Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 11:31 AM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Cc: Prior, Ian (OPA); John.Walcott@thomsonreuters.com
Subject: Re: Strzok texts

I'm sorry but just saw old tweet and accept your explanation of that. As for your second point I have consulted with former officials who say they have NEVER heard of a previous release of evidence in an active investigation. So I am disturbed that you are unwilling or unable to produce any real evidence to support your case. As to advocacy, I only advocate the facts so you should judge me by what I actually publish, and accept that answering aggressive questions is part of your job. The way I read this you are trying to bully or intimidate me and that is quite inappropriate for someone in your position.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 14, 2017, at 11:23, Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov> wrote:

Duplicative Material



New Byron York

From: New Byron York
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 6:13 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Subject: Re: strzok texts

thanks

On Dec 13, 2017, at 6:02 PM, Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov> wrote:

Further, prior to release, career officials determined that the text messages could be released under both ethical and legal standards.

Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com

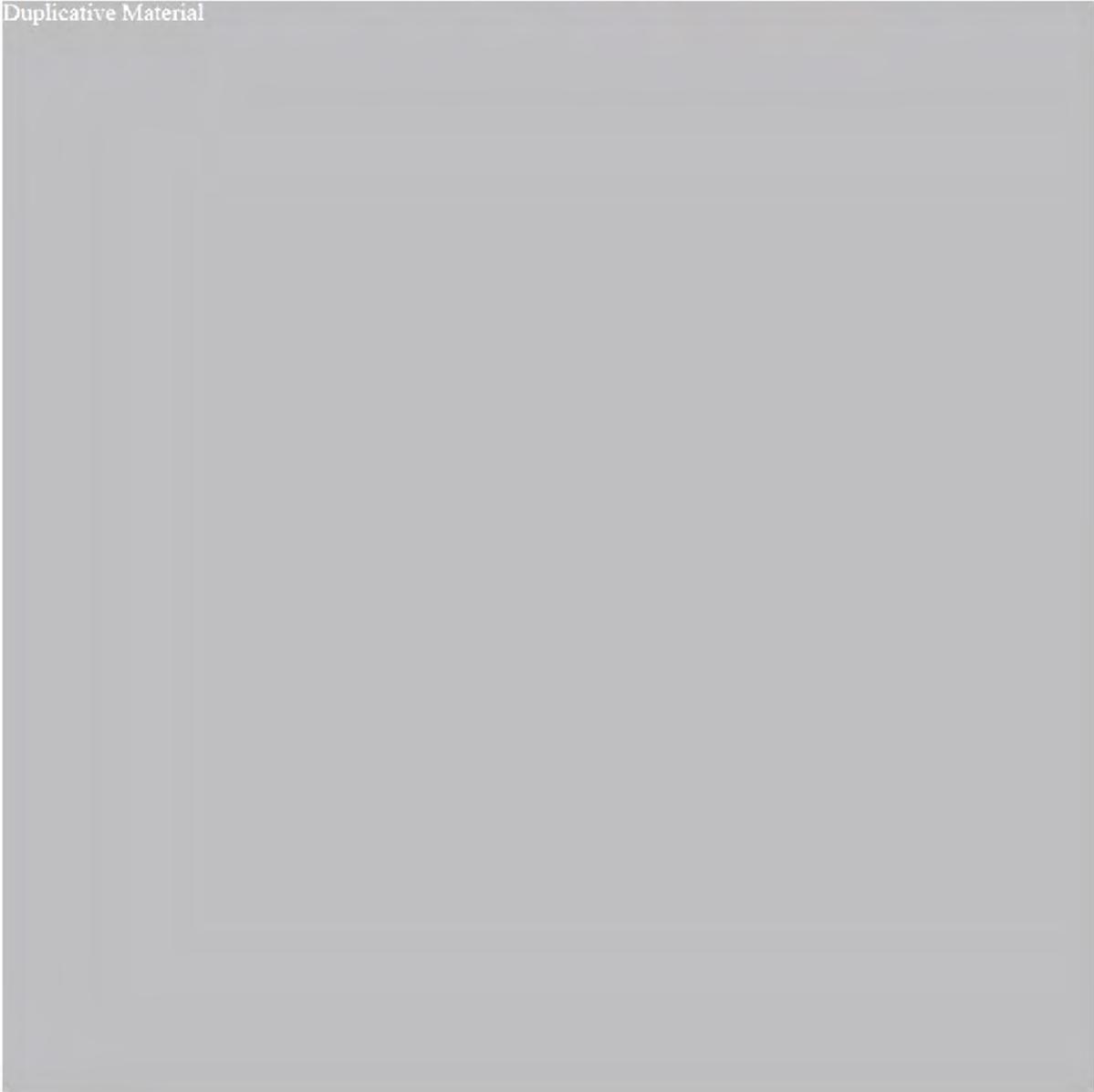
From: Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 4:23 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Cc: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Subject: Re: texts from last night
Attachments: image001.jpg; image002.jpg; image003.jpg; image004.jpg; image005.jpg

Tks. Kind of a mess and the RNC release looks like ugly politics.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 13, 2017, at 15:46, Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov> wrote:

Duplicative Material



Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal)

From: Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal)
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 4:15 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Subject: RE: Sarah - Stupid Q

Ha, Ok I figured, just.... Ahem, checking.

Thanks!

Busy day? ;)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) [mailto:Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 4:12 PM
To: Alexander, Matthew (NBCUniversal)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Sarah - Stupid Q

Duplicative Material



Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com

From: Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:20 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Cc: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Subject: Re: A couple of Strzok questions

Copy of letter please. Tks mh

Sent from my iPhone

> On Dec 13, 2017, at 15:06, Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov> wrote:

>

> Yes, these are the pertinent texts as determined by the IG as our letter to congress addresses this. Ian can send you a copy.

>

> We sent you a statement that career officials approved the release on legal and ethical grounds that included the release to both congress and the media.

>

>> On Dec 13, 2017, at 2:53 PM, "Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com" <Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com> wrote:

>>

>> Colleagues tell me There are clearly SMSs omitted from the message chains in these documents. Who made the decision to omit them, the IG or DOJ? Secondly as I understand it career officials authorized release of messages to Congress but not to Media. Who explicitly authorized media release ? Tks mh

>>

>> Sent from my iPhone

Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com

From: Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:13 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Cc: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Subject: Re: A couple of Strzok questions

Ok this clarifies remaining issues. Tks

Sent from my iPhone

> On Dec 13, 2017, at 15:06, Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov> wrote:

Duplicative Material



Natasha Bertrand

From: Natasha Bertrand
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:30 AM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Subject: Re: FW: DOJ invited reporters over to DOJ to view Strzok/Page texts

Can you disclose who invited the reporters to view the texts? Was it an initiative by the AG's office?

On Wed, Dec 13, 2017 at 10:41 AM, Natasha Bertrand <nbertrand@businessinsider.com> wrote:
Ok. Thanks.

On Wed, Dec 13, 2017 at 10:38 AM, Prior, Ian (OPA) <ian.prior@usdoj.gov> wrote:

Duplicative Material



dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov

From: dlasseter@jmd.usdoj.gov
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:23 AM
To: Foster, Jason (Judiciary-Rep)
Cc: Davis, Patrick (Judiciary-Rep)
Subject: Re: DOJ document review

Problem is we have the DAG before HJC right now. I know we are working on getting this over to y'all asap. The document production was atypical and thus necessitated hand delivery. We did this for each committee that requested this information.

David F. Lasseter

On Dec 13, 2017, at 10:17, Foster, Jason (Judiciary-Rep) <Jason_Foster@judiciary-rep.senate.gov> wrote:

I'm happy to deal with any of the other folks who I CC'd. Sounds like you are tending to more important things.

On Dec 13, 2017, at 10:08 AM, Lasseter, David F. (OLA) <David.F.Lasseter@usdoj.gov> wrote:

Duplicative Material



Zoe Tillman

From: Zoe Tillman
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:15 AM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Cc: Prior, Ian (OPA); Pettit, Mark T. (OPA)
Subject: Re: Strzok texts

My colleague Emma Loop will be going over to look at the docs, I've given her Mark's information and she'll be reaching out shortly.

On Wed, Dec 13, 2017 at 10:02 AM, Zoe Tillman <zoe.tillman@buzzfeed.com> wrote:

Duplicative Material



Chuck Ross

From: Chuck Ross
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 10:04 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Subject: Re: Strzok texts

Thanks. I'll try to track 'em down.

On Tue, Dec 12, 2017 at 8:59 PM, Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov> wrote:
Duplicative Material



Grace Wyler

From: Grace Wyler
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 10:21 PM
To: Press; O'Malley, Devin (OPA)
Subject: Strzok/Page Texts?

Hi all -

Can you please send over any documents DOJ has released containing text messages between Peter Strzok and Lisa Page?

Thanks so much!

Grace

--

Grace Wyler | [BuzzFeed News](#) | News Editor | 310-804-7785 | [@grace_lightning](#)
6824 Lexington Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90038

Emma Loop

From: Emma Loop
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:38 AM
To: Pettit, Mark T. (OPA)
Subject: RE: Text messages

Will do, Thanks!

Emma Loop | BuzzFeed | Capitol Hill Reporter, Washington | @LoopEmma
c: (b) (6)

On Dec 13, 2017 10:30 AM, "Pettit, Mark T. (OPA)" <Mark.T.Pettit@usdoj.gov> wrote:

Perfect, and correct! Our visitor entrance is on the south side of the building (Constitution Street). Give me a call on my cell when you are heading in and I will meet you up front.

Mark T. Pettit

Confidential Assistant

Office of Public Affairs

U.S. Department of Justice

Office: 202.514.1449

Cell: (b) (6)

From: Emma Loop [<mailto:emma.loop@buzzfeed.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:25 AM
To: Pettit, Mark T. (OPA) <rmtpettit@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Text messages

I have a hard pass for the Hill, but I'm guessing the one you're talking about is different.

Full name on ID is (b) (6). I'll probably be there in about 45 minutes. You're at 950 Pennsylvania, right?

Thanks again,

Emma

Emma Loop | **BuzzFeed News** | Capitol Hill Reporter, Washington | c: (b) (6) (on Signal) | d: [202-602-1706](tel:202-602-1706) | PGP: <http://bit.ly/2pCPtjT> | Twitter: [@LoopEmma](https://twitter.com/LoopEmma) | buzzfeed.com/emmaloop

Got a confidential tip? Here's how to send it to us: tips.buzzfeed.com

On Wed, Dec 13, 2017 at 10:19 AM, Pettit, Mark T. (OPA) <Mark.T.Pettit@usdoj.gov> wrote:

Hey Emma,

I am assuming you don't have a hard pass (if you do let me know). I will need your full name as it appears on your ID and let me know what time you plan on coming in and I can get you cleared.

-Mark

Mark T. Pettit

Confidential Assistant

Office of Public Affairs

U.S. Department of Justice

Office: 202.514.1449

Cell: (b) (6)

From: Emma Loop [<mailto:emma.loop@buzzfeed.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:18 AM
To: Pettit, Mark T. (OPA) <mtpettit@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Text messages

Good morning Mark,

My colleague Zoe Tillman has been in touch with you about viewing the Strzok texts. She's in a hearing and mentioned we need to view them in person at DOJ. Can you let me know how to go about doing that?

Thank you,

Emma

Emma Loop | **BuzzFeed News** | Capitol Hill Reporter, Washington | c: (b) (6) (on Signal) | d: [202-602-1706](tel:202-602-1706) | PGP: <http://bit.ly/2pCptjT> | Twitter: [@LoopEmma](https://twitter.com/LoopEmma) | buzzfeed.com/emmaloop

Got a confidential tip? Here's how to send it to us: tips.buzzfeed.com

From: "Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)" <Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov>
Date: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 at 9:24 PM
To: Darren Samuelsohn <dsamuelsohn@politico.com>
Subject: RE: Seeking comment on criticism today DOJ is undermining the overall Mueller probe?

1. The Department ensures that its release of information from the Department to members of Congress or to the media is consistent with law, including the Privacy Act. As the Department's letter to Congress last night makes clear, this information was provided in response to requests from several Congressional committees for access to this information that was not subject to withholding exceptions. Notice and delivery of this information was made to the lawyers for the parties and the relevant congressional committees in advance of public release. Further, prior to release, career officials determined that the text messages could be released under both ethical and legal standards.
2. We followed past practice by including the attributable number in Note 3. I don't know where you heard that wasn't the case, but your information is incorrect.

Off the record:

1. Huh?! I'm a comms expert and can tell you the absolute worst way to sensationalize these tweets was to dump them all at once the night before a hearing. Truly. I could have let people say "Oh, I've read them and their ***really*** bad and then let R members have them just a little bit before the Ds and leaked out one at a time as we refused to release them and every cable news show would wonder when the next tweet was coming and cover it constantly. But instead I gave it to a dozen reporters all at once with the same embargo time because I thought it was the most fair way to treat

everyone involved in a difficult story. And, frankly, I find it offensive that anyone would think my motives were otherwise—I take my job and my responsibilities here seriously and hope you ask some of the beat reporters here who work with me every day.

2. Mueller's team made the call on not releasing his ethics form despite me telling them why we should—which should be obvious because if they wanted to release it, they are in possession of it and could do a voluntary release at any time (as we did with the AG's sf86 if you remember when that was subject to FOIA exemption but we did a voluntary release). So perhaps you should ask them to do that and see whether they give it to you. Otherwise, this theory will be particularly hilarious when its in your story to the SCO team that fought me on it.
3. I haven't even heard whatever youre talking about leaking to CNN? Do people actually think this? I watch a lot of tv and haven't seen it.
4. So what was RR thinking when he said he was satisfied with the job Mueller was doing? When he's constantly defended his hiring choices today and said employees were entitled to their political opinions? I mean, theres an equal opposite version of this story from the other side that would have just as much evidence that we're helping Democrats cement the Mueller probe.
5. This is a funny story to me only because republicans are hitting us CONSTANTLY for not providing them information like why Stroyk was removed from SCO in August when they asked back in October and covering up for the FBI, Mueller, etc. But I guess I should thank you for writing it since it might help us fend off those constant attacks...

S

Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Darren Samuelsohn [<mailto:dsamuelsohn@politico.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 8:51 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Seeking comment on criticism today DOJ is undermining the overall Mueller probe?

Hi Sarah,

Writing a piece for tomorrow AM that raises the question that came out of today's hearing that DOJ is quietly helping Republicans put pressure on the Mueller probe. I know the DAG was asked about this several different ways today about this, in light of last night's news release on the StrozK-Page text messages.

We're also raising in this story several other subtle events that have given Mueller critics a chance to criticize the probe, including the addition of the \$3.5 million in costs added to the overall Mueller budget probe for DOJ components that the report itself noted were not required to be included by law or past precedent; the DAG's unusual and vague [media statement](#) in June; DOJ refusing to

disclose [details](#) on the process that led up to the special counsel being granted an ethics waiver to serve as special counsel; DOJ not coming to Mueller's defense amid criticism that his office leaked the news to CNN on the first indictments in late October.

Does DOJ want to comment in any way beyond the DAG's remarks today, which I'm pulling from extensively in my story. You can get back to me until 11:30 pm this evening.

Thank you,

Darren Samuelsohn
Senior reporter, POLITICO
Desk: 703-842-1769
Cell: (b) (6)
Dsamuelsohn@politico.com
@dsamuelsohn

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 10:09 AM
To: Natasha Bertrand
Subject: Re: Dems statement
Attachments: Screen Shot 2017-12-18 at 10.03.31 AM.png

Refer you to my earlier statements on twitter and the IGs statement on Friday night that I sent you.

On Dec 18, 2017, at 9:06 AM, Natasha Bertrand <nbertrand@businessinsider.com> wrote:

Hi there,

Wondering if DOJ plans to respond to this statement put out by the Dems late Friday night:

<Screen Shot 2017-12-18 at 10.03.31 AM.png>

Natasha

--

Natasha Bertrand
Political Correspondent | Business Insider
631.317.8409
[@NatashaBertrand](https://twitter.com/NatashaBertrand)

“We are disappointed and alarmed that some within the Justice Department would mislead us about whether or not officials had obtained the approval of the Inspector General before releasing the text messages of Department employees to Congress and the press. This baffling breach of procedure raises the question of whether these messages should have been released at this time and in this manner in the middle of an ongoing IG investigation. It also invites questions about whether any responsible DOJ officials are going out of their way, not only to disparage the reputations of their colleagues, but to actively try to undermine confidence in Special Counsel Robert Mueller and the investigation into Russian interference with the 2016 election in an attempt to appease or directly serve the interests of President Trump. This is a very serious matter, and we expect a full and complete explanation for these misstatements and the underlying suspicious actions by the Department of Justice, including by the Public Affairs Officer, in the coming days.”