

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5051  
MINORITY (202) 225-5074  
<https://oversight.house.gov>

April 7, 2022

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland  
Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Garland:

The Oversight Committee is investigating potential violations of the Presidential Records Act (PRA) by former President Donald Trump, including the removal of records from the White House and potential destruction of records. As part of this investigation, the Committee requested documents and information from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), including an inventory of 15 boxes of documents recovered from the former president's Mar-a-Lago residence. I write today because the Department of Justice is preventing NARA from cooperating with the Committee's request, which is interfering with the Committee's investigation.

The Committee has jurisdiction over the PRA and is conducting this investigation in order to determine the full scope of PRA violations by former President Trump and assess whether legislative reforms are needed to ensure presidential records are preserved in accordance with the law.

On February 9, 2022, the Committee wrote to Archivist of the United States David Ferriero about the 15 boxes of presidential records and reports that Mr. Trump attempted to destroy documents while serving as president, in violation of the PRA.<sup>1</sup>

On February 18, 2022, Mr. Ferriero responded with two letters constituting a partial response to the Committee's request, identifying significant potential violations of the PRA and other federal laws governing the preservation of federal records.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from Chairwoman Carolyn B. Maloney, Committee on Oversight and Reform, to David S. Ferriero, Archivist of the United States (Feb. 9, 2022) (online at <https://oversight.house.gov/sites/democrats.oversight.house.gov/files/2022-02-09.CBM%20to%20Ferriero-NARA%20re%20Trump%20Mar-a-Lago%20FINAL.pdf>).

<sup>2</sup> Letter from David S. Ferriero, Archivist of the United States, to Chairwoman Carolyn B. Maloney, Committee on Oversight and Reform (Feb. 18, 2022) (responding in part to the Committee's February 9, 2022, letter) (online at [www.archives.gov/files/foia/ferriero-response-to-02.09.2022-maloney-letter.02.18.2022.pdf](http://www.archives.gov/files/foia/ferriero-response-to-02.09.2022-maloney-letter.02.18.2022.pdf)); Letter from David S. Ferriero, Archivist of the United States, to Chairwoman Carolyn B. Maloney, Committee on Oversight and Reform (Feb. 18, 2022) (describing the Trump Administration's failure to capture social media

On February 24, 2022, the Committee wrote to NARA requesting documents, including a detailed description and inventory of the “contents of the boxes recovered from Mar-a-Lago,” as well as “identification of any items that are classified and the level of classification including, if necessary, a classified index.”<sup>3</sup>

On March 28, 2022, NARA responded to the Committee, writing:

With respect to your request for information about the contents of the 15 boxes that NARA received from President Trump’s Mar-a-Lago residence or about any reviews conducted by other federal agencies, based on our consultation with the Department of Justice, we are unable to provide any comment.<sup>4</sup>

By blocking NARA from producing the documents requested by the Committee, the Department is obstructing the Committee’s investigation. The Committee does not wish to interfere in any manner with any potential or ongoing investigation by the Department of Justice. However, the Committee has not received any explanation as to why the Department is preventing NARA from providing information to the Committee that relates to compliance with the PRA, including unclassified information describing the contents of the 15 boxes from Mar-a-Lago.

Please confirm to the Committee by April 14, 2022, whether the Department will inform NARA that it may fully cooperate with the Committee’s inquiry, including by providing the requested inventory of documents recovered from Mar-a-Lago. If the Department will not allow NARA to comply with the Committee’s requests or if the Department seeks to impose any limitations on NARA’s response, I request a written explanation and briefing on these matters by April 14, 2022.

The Committee on Oversight and Reform is the principal oversight committee of the House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate “any matter” at “any time” under House Rule X. In addition, House Rule X states that the Committee on Oversight and Reform has jurisdiction to “study on a continuing basis the operation of Government activities at all levels, including the Executive Office of the President.”

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request.

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records) (online at [www.archives.gov/files/foia/ferriero-letter-to-maloney-on-trump-presidential-records-on-social-media-platforms.02.18.2022.pdf](http://www.archives.gov/files/foia/ferriero-letter-to-maloney-on-trump-presidential-records-on-social-media-platforms.02.18.2022.pdf)).

<sup>3</sup> Letter from Chairwoman Carolyn B. Maloney, Committee on Oversight and Reform, to David S. Ferriero, Archivist of the United States (Feb. 24, 2022) (online at <https://oversight.house.gov/sites/democrats.oversight.house.gov/files/2022-02-24.CBM%20to%20Ferriero-NARA%20re%20Document%20Request.pdf>).

<sup>4</sup> Letter from Gary M. Stern, General Counsel, National Archives and Records Administration, to Chairwoman Carolyn B. Maloney, Committee on Oversight and Reform (Mar. 28, 2022) (online at <https://oversight.house.gov/sites/democrats.oversight.house.gov/files/NARA.220328.Response%20to%20CBM%20re%20Document%20Request.pdf>).

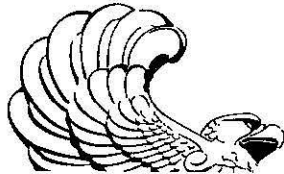
The Honorable Merrick B. Garland  
Page 3

Sincerely,

  
Carolyn B. Maloney  
Chairwoman

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Ranking Member



NATIONAL  
ARCHIVES

March 28, 2022

The Honorable Carolyn B. Maloney  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Oversight and Reform  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2157 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Madam Chairwoman:

I write in response to your letter of February 24, 2022, to Archivist of the United States David S. Ferriero, "seeking additional documents about former President Donald Trump's removal of classified documents and presidential records from the White House, President Trump's attempt to destroy records by tearing them into pieces, and other presidential records from the Trump Administration that are missing."

With respect to your request for information about the contents of the 15 boxes that NARA received from President Trump's Mar-a-Lago residence or about any reviews conducted by other federal agencies, based on our consultation with the Department of Justice, we are unable to provide any comment. Please contact Christina Calce at DOJ's Office of Legislative Affairs if you have any questions on this issue.

NARA did not receive any written responses from Stefan Passantino or other White House officials to our June 14, 2018, letter to the Trump Administration or our follow-up queries.

NARA did not send any other letters to the Trump Administration related to the Presidential Records Act that we have not already provided to the Committee. In addition to the June 14, 2018, letter that we provided to you on February 18, 2022, we provided you with five letters to the Trump Administration regarding the disposal of Presidential records on January 5, 2021.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES and  
RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

8601 ADELPHI ROAD  
COLLEGE PARK, MD 20740-6001

[www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov)

GARY M. STERN  
GENERAL COUNSEL

Suite 3110  
t. 301.837.3026

[garym.stern@nara.gov](mailto:garym.stern@nara.gov)

We will continue to keep your staff apprised of our progress in responding to other parts of your request.

Sincerely,

GARY  
STERN

Digitally signed by  
GARY STERN  
Date: 2022.03.28  
08:31:24 -04'00'

Gary M. Stern  
General Counsel

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Ranking Member  
The Honorable David S. Ferriero, Archivist of the United States



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Oversight and Reform  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Maloney,

Thank you for your letter dated April 7, 2022, regarding correspondence you received from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). We appreciate the opportunity to explain our position in this matter.

As NARA has explained previously in correspondence with you, as part of NARA's role in collecting and archiving the records of the Trump Administration, NARA received boxes of materials that included certain items "marked as classified national security information."<sup>1</sup> Based upon NARA's concerns about whether such materials had been properly handled, it referred this matter to the Department of Justice (Department). As the Attorney General said in February when asked about this matter: The Department "will do what we always do under these circumstances—look at the facts and the law and take it from there."<sup>2</sup>

While we have great respect for the oversight authority of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform (Committee), in light of the Department's law enforcement responsibilities, and consistent with NARA's response to you on March 28, 2022, the Department previously asked NARA not to share or otherwise disclose to others information relating to this matter in order to protect the integrity of our ongoing work. Based upon that request, NARA referred you to the Department. As you know, the Department's longstanding policy, across administrations of both parties, is "to comply with Congressional requests for information to the fullest extent consistent with the constitutional and statutory obligations of the Executive Branch, [and] the Department's goal in all cases is to satisfy legitimate legislative interests while protecting Executive Branch confidentiality interests. Examples of confidential

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from David S. Ferriero to Chairwoman Carolyn B. Maloney, Committee on Oversight and Reform (Feb. 18, 2022), available at <https://www.archives.gov/files/foia/ferriero-response-to-02.09.2022-maloney-letter.02.18.2022.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> Matt Zapotosky, *Commenting on classified material found at Mar-a-Lago, Garland says Justice Dept. will 'look at the facts and the law,'* Washington Post (Feb. 22, 2022).

information include ... information the disclosure of which might compromise open criminal investigations or prosecutions or civil cases.”<sup>3</sup>

With respect to your request for a briefing on this matter, under well established Department policy, we are unable to provide your office with information related to this matter at this time.<sup>4</sup> We appreciate that your letter to the Department acknowledged that the Committee “does not wish to interfere in any manner with any potential or ongoing [Department] investigation.”

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,

PETER  
HYUN



Digitally signed by PETER HYUN  
Date: 2022.04.11 09:50:23 -0400

Peter S. Hyun  
Acting Assistant Attorney General

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<sup>3</sup> Letter from Assistant Attorney General Robert Raben to Chairman John Linder, Subcommittee on Rules and Organization of the House, Committee on Rules at 2-3 (Jan. 27, 2000), *available at* <https://www.justice.gov/file/1080046/download>.

<sup>4</sup> *Id.* at 3 (“Congressional inquiries during the pendency of a matter pose an inherent threat to the integrity of the Department’s law enforcement and litigation functions. Such inquiries inescapably create the risk that the public and the courts will perceive undue political and Congressional influence over law enforcement and litigation decisions. Such inquiries often seek records and other information that our responsibilities for these matters preclude us from disclosing.”).

Michael R. Turner, Ohio  
Ranking Member

Brad R. Wenstrup, Ohio  
Chris Stewart, Utah  
Rick Crawford, Arkansas  
Elise M. Stefanik, New York  
Markwayne Mullin, Oklahoma  
Trent Kelly, Mississippi  
Darin LaHood, Illinois  
Brian Fitzpatrick, Pennsylvania  
Mike Gallagher, Wisconsin

Kevin McCarthy, California  
Republican Leader

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

HVC-304, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515  
202-225-4121

Adam Howard  
Minority Staff Director

August 19, 2022

The Honorable Merrick Garland  
Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Garland:

On Monday, August 8, 2022, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) conducted a court-authorized search of former President Trump's Mar-a-Lago residence and removed at least 45 enumerated items (27 boxes and 18 items grouped with imprecise labeling such as various, miscellaneous and or binders). The recently unsealed search warrant and receipt for property seized during this search includes at least 11 enumerated items purportedly containing classification markings.

I request an immediate briefing by you to Members of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence concerning your perceived risk to national security that mandated your selection of the most aggressive use of authority to resolve your concerns. Additionally, a detailed description of the materials and documents that were confiscated, a determination of their classification status, and the potential or perceived risks to national security posed by storage of these materials inside a guarded facility.

Both the unprecedented nature of this search and the assertions of national security threats posed by the alleged mishandling of the seized documents requires immediate Congressional attention and review. Thus, I also request your assistance in providing Members of this Committee the opportunity to review all seized documents used in support of the search warrant application and affidavit of probable cause, as well as all documents containing classification markings seized by the FBI.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Michael R. Turner  
Ranking Member





**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Michael Turner  
Ranking Member  
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Turner:

This letter responds to your letters dated August 8, 2022, August 9, 2022, and August 19, 2022, regarding the FBI's execution of a court-approved search of premises in Florida belonging to the former President. Your letters request information about the potential risk to national security posed by documents recovered during the search and seeks non-public information regarding a related criminal investigation. In addition to the following information, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) is sending you a letter regarding the role of the Intelligence Community (IC) in reviewing and assessing the materials.

Regarding your request for information about the potential risk to national security posed by the recovered materials, the Department of Justice (Department) is working with counterparts in the IC to facilitate a classification review of relevant materials and an IC assessment of the potential risk to national security that would result from their release. In conducting this assessment, ODNI will closely coordinate with the Department to ensure the review does not unduly interfere with the criminal investigation.

Regarding your request for non-public information about the criminal investigation, the Department has an obligation to adhere to laws and our longstanding policies that prohibit us from disclosing information about ongoing criminal matters. The Department's public disclosures on this topic have been and will continue to be, guided by established standards that apply to all cases. On August 11, 2022, the Department filed a motion in the Southern District of Florida to unseal the underlying search warrant and associated property receipt related to the search of August 8, 2022. On August 15, 2022, the Department filed an omnibus response to motions to unseal other materials related to the search warrant. The Department's factual and legal rationales for the disclosures are set forth in our court filings. On August 25, 2022, the court ordered a partial release of portions of the search warrant affidavit and other court filings, consistent with the Department's proposals. Other portions of the affidavit and other court filings remain under seal pursuant to a court order.

As the Attorney General explained on August 11, 2022, the Department of Justice speaks

The Honorable Michael Turner  
Page Two

through its court filings and its work. Upholding the rule of law means applying the law evenly, without fear or favor. All Americans are entitled to the evenhanded application of the law, due process of law, and the presumption of innocence. Much of the Department's work is by necessity and by law conducted out of the public eye.

The Department shares your commitment to protecting classified information and to safeguarding our national security. We hope you find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

**CARLOS** Digitally signed by  
**URIARTE** CARLOS URIARTE  
Date: 2022.08.26  
19:01:01 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General

COMMITTEE SENSITIVE

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MARCO RUBIO, FLORIDA, VICE CHAIRMAN

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United States Senate

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WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6475

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JAMES M. INHOFE, OKLAHOMA, EX OFFICIO

MICHAEL CASEY, STAFF DIRECTOR  
BRIAN W. WALSH, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR  
KELSEY S. BAILEY, CHIEF CLERK

August 14, 2022

The Honorable Avril Haines  
Director of National Intelligence  
Office of the Director of National Intelligence  
Washington, D.C. 20511

The Honorable Merrick Garland  
Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Director Haines and Attorney General Garland:

As the Chair and Vice Chair of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, we write to request that you provide to the Committee information relating to the search of former President Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago residence, which appears to involve classified documents pertaining to intelligence matters under this Committee's jurisdiction.


In the Attorney General's statement on Thursday, August 11, he noted the substantial public interest in this matter, which involves the unprecedented search of the home of a former president. At times like these, the need for bipartisan and responsible oversight of the actions of the Executive Branch is at its highest. Further, our Committee is charged with overseeing counterintelligence matters, including the handling and mishandling of classified information, which are at the core of the search executed at Mar-a-Lago.


Consistent with our oversight duties, we request that you provide to the Committee within 10 days of your receipt of this letter, in a manner compliant with the need to protect an ongoing investigation, all classified documents that were seized in the search of Mar-a-Lago, as well as an assessment of the risk to national security if those classified documents were to be exposed in public or to a foreign adversary. We also request that you provide to the Committee, consistent with federal legal obligations and in a manner that protects the identity of any relevant confidential human sources, all materials relevant to understanding the rationale behind and justification for the search, including but not limited to the underlying affidavit and all associated attachments and exhibits.

COMMITTEE SENSITIVE

**COMMITTEE SENSITIVE**

Sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark R. Warner  
Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Marco Rubio  
Vice Chairman

**COMMITTEE SENSITIVE**



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Mark R. Warner  
Chairman  
Select Committee on Intelligence  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Marco Rubio  
Vice Chairman  
Select Committee on Intelligence  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Warner and Vice Chairman Rubio:

This letter responds to your letter dated August 14, 2022, regarding the FBI's execution of a court-approved search of premises in Florida belonging to the former President. Your letter requests information about the potential risk to national security posed by documents recovered during the search and seeks non-public information regarding a related criminal investigation. In addition to the following information, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) is sending you a letter regarding the role of the Intelligence Community (IC) in reviewing and assessing the materials.

Regarding your request for information about the potential risk to national security posed by the recovered materials, the Department of Justice (Department) is working with counterparts in the IC to facilitate a classification review of relevant materials and an IC assessment of the potential risk to national security that would result from their release. In conducting this assessment, ODNI will closely coordinate with the Department to ensure the review does not unduly interfere with the criminal investigation.

Regarding your request for non-public information about the criminal investigation, the Department has an obligation to adhere to laws and our longstanding policies that prohibit us from disclosing information about ongoing criminal matters. The Department's public disclosures on this topic have been and will continue to be, guided by established standards that apply to all cases. On August 11, 2022, the Department filed a motion in the Southern District of Florida to unseal the underlying search warrant and associated property receipt related to the

The Honorable Mark R. Warner  
The Honorable Marco Rubio  
Page Two

search of August 8, 2022. On August 15, 2022, the Department filed an omnibus response to motions to unseal other materials related to the search warrant. The Department's factual and legal rationales for the disclosures are set forth in our court filings. On August 25, 2022, the court ordered a partial release of portions of the search warrant affidavit and other court filings, consistent with the Department's proposals. Other portions of the affidavit and other court filings remain under seal pursuant to a court order.

As the Attorney General explained on August 11, 2022, the Department of Justice speaks through its court filings and its work. Upholding the rule of law means applying the law evenly, without fear or favor. All Americans are entitled to the evenhanded application of the law, due process of law, and the presumption of innocence. Much of the Department's work is by necessity and by law conducted out of the public eye.

The Department shares your commitment to protecting classified information and to safeguarding our national security. We hope you find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

**CARLOS**  
**URIARTE**

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CARLOS URIARTE  
Date: 2022.08.26  
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Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

(202) 225-3961  
judiciary.house.gov

August 15, 2022

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland  
Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Garland:

The FBI's unprecedented raid of President Trump's residence is a shocking escalation of the Biden Administration's weaponization of law-enforcement resources against its political opponents. The American people deserve transparency and accountability from our most senior law-enforcement officials in the executive branch. We will settle for nothing but your complete cooperation with our inquiry.

Under your tenure, the Justice Department continues to shatter public confidence in the equal application of justice. The Department has filed politically motivated lawsuits against Republican-led states on policies disfavored by the Biden Administration, artificially inflated domestic violent extremism statistics to advance the Biden Administration's political narrative, used counterterrorism resources to target parents at school board meetings opposed to policies supported by the Biden Administration, and selectively prosecuted and investigated political opponents of the Biden Administration. These actions not only undermine the stated mission of the Department, they violate the most fundamental tenets of our country.

The American people deserve answers for the Biden Administration's continued misuse of law-enforcement resources against its political opponents. Accordingly, please produce the following material:

1. All documents and communications referring or relating to the execution of a search warrant on President Trump's residence;
2. All documents and communications referring or relating to the decision to seek a search warrant for President Trump's residence;
3. All documents and communications referring or relating to the use of confidential human source(s) in connection with the search of President Trump's residence;

4. All documents and communications between or among the Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, or the Executive Office of the President about a search of President Trump's residence;
5. All documents and communications between or among the Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, or the United States Secret Service about a search of President Trump's residence; and
6. All documents and communications between or among the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or the National Archives and Records Administration about a potential search of President Trump's residence.

Please provide this material as soon as possible, but no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 29, 2022. In addition, please preserve all responsive documents in your possession, custody, or control. You should construe this communication as an instruction to preserve all documents, communications, and other information, including electronic information and metadata, that are or may be potentially responsive to this inquiry. This instruction includes all electronic messages sent using official and personal accounts or devices, including records created using text messages, phone-based message applications, or encryption software. For purposes of this request, "preserve" includes taking reasonable steps to prevent the partial or full destruction, alteration, testing, deletion, shredding, incineration, wiping, relocation, migration, theft, mutation, or negligent or reckless handling that could render the information incomplete or inaccessible. These steps include preserving all compilations of documents that have already been gathered in response to other government or litigation requests, even if copies of individual documents or materials may still exist elsewhere in the organization.

The Committee on the Judiciary has jurisdiction to oversee the activities of the Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation pursuant to Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives. Please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906 if you have any questions about this matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet

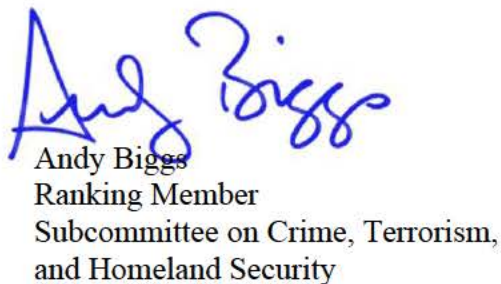




Matt Gaetz  
Member of Congress



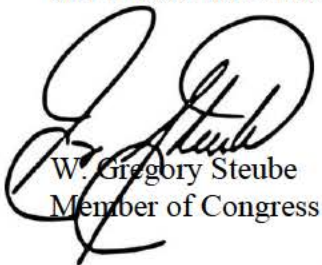
Mike Johnson  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on the Constitution,  
Civil Rights and Civil Liberties



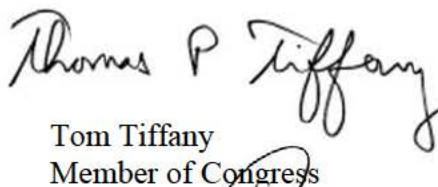
Andy Biggs  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism,  
and Homeland Security



Tom McClintock  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Immigration  
and Citizenship




W. Gregory Steube  
Member of Congress



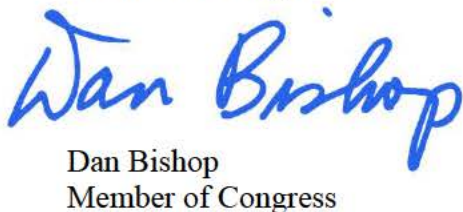
Tom Tiffany  
Member of Congress



Thomas Massie  
Member of Congress



Chip Roy  
Member of Congress



Dan Bishop  
Member of Congress



Michelle Fischbach  
Member of Congress



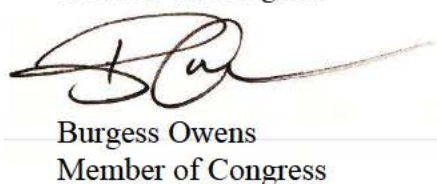
Victoria Spartz  
Member of Congress



Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland

August 15, 2022

Page 4

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler, Chairman



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Cliff Bentz  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Bentz:

This letter responds to your letters to the Department of Justice (Department) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) dated August 15, 2022, regarding the FBI's execution of a court-approved search of the premises in Florida belonging to the former President.

As the Attorney General explained in his public remarks on August 11, the Department speaks through its court filings and its work. Upholding the rule of law means applying the law evenly, without fear or favor. All Americans are entitled to the evenhanded application of the law, due process of law, and the presumption of innocence. Much of the Department's work is by necessity and law conducted out of the public eye. We do this to protect the constitutional rights of all Americans and to protect the integrity of our investigations.

The Department's public disclosures have been, and will continue to be, guided by established standards that apply to all cases. On August 11, 2022, the Department filed a motion in the Southern District of Florida to unseal the underlying search warrant and associated property receipt related to the search of August 8, 2022. On August 15, 2022, the Department filed an omnibus response to motions to unseal other materials related to the search warrant. On August 25, 2022, the court ordered a partial release of portions of the search warrant affidavit and other court filings consistent with the Department's proposals. Other portions of the affidavit and other court filings remain under seal pursuant to court order. On August 30, 2022, the Department filed a response to a motion filed by the former President related to the search. The Department's factual and legal rationales are set forth in our court filings.

The Department has also received several requests from Members of Congress for information about the search beyond what has been disclosed publicly through our court filings. The Department's longstanding position is that, "[a]lthough Congress has a clearly legitimate interest in determining how the Department enforces statutes, Congressional inquiries during the pendency of a matter pose an inherent threat to the integrity of the Department's law enforcement

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We hope you find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

**CARLOS** Digitally signed by  
**URIARTE** CARLOS URIARTE  
Date: 2022.09.01  
16:06:23 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from Assistant Attorney General Robert Raben to Chairman John Linder, Jan. 27, 2000 (the “Linder Letter”) (citing precedent dating back to the beginning of the 20th century), available at <https://www.justice.gov/file/1080046/download>; see also Justice Manual §§ 1-7.000, et seq., Confidentiality and Media Contacts Policy; 1-8.200, Communications with Congress; 1-8.210, Responding to Congressional Requests Generally.



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Andy Biggs  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Biggs:

This letter responds to your letters to the Department of Justice (Department) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) dated August 15, 2022, regarding the FBI's execution of a court-approved search of the premises in Florida belonging to the former President.

As the Attorney General explained in his public remarks on August 11, the Department speaks through its court filings and its work. Upholding the rule of law means applying the law evenly, without fear or favor. All Americans are entitled to the evenhanded application of the law, due process of law, and the presumption of innocence. Much of the Department's work is by necessity and law conducted out of the public eye. We do this to protect the constitutional rights of all Americans and to protect the integrity of our investigations.

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Sincerely,

**CARLOS**  
**URIARTE**  
Digitally signed  
by CARLOS  
URIARTE  
Date: 2022.09.01  
16:07:21 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from Assistant Attorney General Robert Raben to Chairman John Linder, Jan. 27, 2000 (the “Linder Letter”) (citing precedent dating back to the beginning of the 20th century), available at <https://www.justice.gov/file/1080046/download>; see also Justice Manual §§ 1-7.000, et seq., Confidentiality and Media Contacts Policy; 1-8.200, Communications with Congress; 1-8.210, Responding to Congressional Requests Generally.



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Dan Bishop  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Bishop:

This letter responds to your letters to the Department of Justice (Department) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) dated August 15, 2022, regarding the FBI's execution of a court-approved search of the premises in Florida belonging to the former President.

As the Attorney General explained in his public remarks on August 11, the Department speaks through its court filings and its work. Upholding the rule of law means applying the law evenly, without fear or favor. All Americans are entitled to the evenhanded application of the law, due process of law, and the presumption of innocence. Much of the Department's work is by necessity and law conducted out of the public eye. We do this to protect the constitutional rights of all Americans and to protect the integrity of our investigations.

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Sincerely,

**CARLOS**  
**URIARTE**

Digitally signed by  
CARLOS URIARTE  
Date: 2022.09.01  
16:04:22 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from Assistant Attorney General Robert Raben to Chairman John Linder, Jan. 27, 2000 (the “Linder Letter”) (citing precedent dating back to the beginning of the 20th century), available at <https://www.justice.gov/file/1080046/download>; see also Justice Manual §§ 1-7.000, et seq., Confidentiality and Media Contacts Policy; 1-8.200, Communications with Congress; 1-8.210, Responding to Congressional Requests Generally.





**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Steve Chabot  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Chabot:

This letter responds to your letters to the Department of Justice (Department) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) dated August 15, 2022, regarding the FBI's execution of a court-approved search of the premises in Florida belonging to the former President.

As the Attorney General explained in his public remarks on August 11, the Department speaks through its court filings and its work. Upholding the rule of law means applying the law evenly, without fear or favor. All Americans are entitled to the evenhanded application of the law, due process of law, and the presumption of innocence. Much of the Department's work is by necessity and law conducted out of the public eye. We do this to protect the constitutional rights of all Americans and to protect the integrity of our investigations.

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We hope you find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

**CARLOS** Digitally signed by  
**URIARTE** CARLOS URIARTE  
Date: 2022.09.01  
16:10:45 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from Assistant Attorney General Robert Raben to Chairman John Linder, Jan. 27, 2000 (the “Linder Letter”) (citing precedent dating back to the beginning of the 20th century), available at <https://www.justice.gov/file/1080046/download>; *see also* Justice Manual §§ 1-7.000, et seq., Confidentiality and Media Contacts Policy; 1-8.200, Communications with Congress; 1-8.210, Responding to Congressional Requests Generally.



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Michelle Fischbach  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Fischbach:

This letter responds to your letters to the Department of Justice (Department) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) dated August 15, 2022, regarding the FBI's execution of a court-approved search of the premises in Florida belonging to the former President.

As the Attorney General explained in his public remarks on August 11, the Department speaks through its court filings and its work. Upholding the rule of law means applying the law evenly, without fear or favor. All Americans are entitled to the evenhanded application of the law, due process of law, and the presumption of innocence. Much of the Department's work is by necessity and law conducted out of the public eye. We do this to protect the constitutional rights of all Americans and to protect the integrity of our investigations.

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We hope you find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

**CARLOS**  
**URIARTE**

Digitally signed by  
CARLOS URIARTE  
Date: 2022.09.01  
16:11:13 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from Assistant Attorney General Robert Raben to Chairman John Linder, Jan. 27, 2000 (the “Linder Letter”) (citing precedent dating back to the beginning of the 20th century), available at <https://www.justice.gov/file/1080046/download>; see also Justice Manual §§ 1-7.000, et seq., Confidentiality and Media Contacts Policy; 1-8.200, Communications with Congress; 1-8.210, Responding to Congressional Requests Generally.



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Scott Fitzgerald  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Fitzgerald:

This letter responds to your letters to the Department of Justice (Department) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) dated August 15, 2022, regarding the FBI's execution of a court-approved search of the premises in Florida belonging to the former President.

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Sincerely,

**CARLOS** Digitally signed by  
**URIARTE** CARLOS URIARTE  
Date: 2022.09.01  
16:11:50 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General

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**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Matt Gaetz  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Gaetz:

This letter responds to your letters to the Department of Justice (Department) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) dated August 15, 2022, regarding the FBI's execution of a court-approved search of the premises in Florida belonging to the former President.

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Sincerely,

**CARLOS** Digitally signed by  
**URIARTE** CARLOS URIARTE  
Date: 2022.09.01  
16:13:04 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General

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**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Louie Gohmert  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Gohmert:

This letter responds to your letters to the Department of Justice (Department) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) dated August 15, 2022, regarding the FBI's execution of a court-approved search of the premises in Florida belonging to the former President.

As the Attorney General explained in his public remarks on August 11, the Department speaks through its court filings and its work. Upholding the rule of law means applying the law evenly, without fear or favor. All Americans are entitled to the evenhanded application of the law, due process of law, and the presumption of innocence. Much of the Department's work is by necessity and law conducted out of the public eye. We do this to protect the constitutional rights of all Americans and to protect the integrity of our investigations.

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Sincerely,

**CARLOS**  
**URIARTE**

Digitally signed by  
CARLOS URIARTE  
Date: 2022.09.01  
16:13:36 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from Assistant Attorney General Robert Raben to Chairman John Linder, Jan. 27, 2000 (the “Linder Letter”) (citing precedent dating back to the beginning of the 20th century), available at <https://www.justice.gov/file/1080046/download>; see also Justice Manual §§ 1-7.000, et seq., Confidentiality and Media Contacts Policy; 1-8.200, Communications with Congress; 1-8.210, Responding to Congressional Requests Generally.



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Darrell Issa  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Issa:

This letter responds to your letters to the Department of Justice (Department) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) dated August 15, 2022, regarding the FBI's execution of a court-approved search of the premises in Florida belonging to the former President.

As the Attorney General explained in his public remarks on August 11, the Department speaks through its court filings and its work. Upholding the rule of law means applying the law evenly, without fear or favor. All Americans are entitled to the evenhanded application of the law, due process of law, and the presumption of innocence. Much of the Department's work is by necessity and law conducted out of the public eye. We do this to protect the constitutional rights of all Americans and to protect the integrity of our investigations.

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Sincerely,

**CARLOS**  
**URIARTE**

Digitally signed by  
CARLOS URIARTE  
Date: 2022.09.01  
16:12:39 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from Assistant Attorney General Robert Raben to Chairman John Linder, Jan. 27, 2000 (the “Linder Letter”) (citing precedent dating back to the beginning of the 20th century), available at <https://www.justice.gov/file/1080046/download>; see also Justice Manual §§ 1-7.000, et seq., Confidentiality and Media Contacts Policy; 1-8.200, Communications with Congress; 1-8.210, Responding to Congressional Requests Generally.



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Jim Jordan  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Jordan:

This letter responds to your letters to the Department of Justice (Department) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) dated August 15, 2022, regarding the FBI's execution of a court-approved search of the premises in Florida belonging to the former President.

As the Attorney General explained in his public remarks on August 11, the Department speaks through its court filings and its work. Upholding the rule of law means applying the law evenly, without fear or favor. All Americans are entitled to the evenhanded application of the law, due process of law, and the presumption of innocence. Much of the Department's work is by necessity and law conducted out of the public eye. We do this to protect the constitutional rights of all Americans and to protect the integrity of our investigations.

The Department's public disclosures have been, and will continue to be, guided by established standards that apply to all cases. On August 11, 2022, the Department filed a motion in the Southern District of Florida to unseal the underlying search warrant and associated property receipt related to the search of August 8, 2022. On August 15, 2022, the Department filed an omnibus response to motions to unseal other materials related to the search warrant. On August 25, 2022, the court ordered a partial release of portions of the search warrant affidavit and other court filings consistent with the Department's proposals. Other portions of the affidavit and other court filings remain under seal pursuant to court order. On August 30, 2022, the Department filed a response to a motion filed by the former President related to the search. The Department's factual and legal rationales are set forth in our court filings.

The Department has also received several requests from Members of Congress for information about the search beyond what has been disclosed publicly through our court filings. The Department's longstanding position is that, "[a]lthough Congress has a clearly legitimate interest in determining how the Department enforces statutes, Congressional inquiries during the pendency of a matter pose an inherent threat to the integrity of the Department's law enforcement

and litigation functions.”<sup>1</sup> Disclosing confidential information about ongoing investigations could violate the law or court orders and could impede the Department’s ability to gather relevant facts and enforce the law, free from inappropriate interference. Along the same lines, providing Congress with confidential information about active investigations risks jeopardizing those investigations and creating the appearance that Congress may be exerting pressure or attempting to influence Department decisions in certain cases. Finally, disclosing non-public information related to an ongoing investigation risks improperly harming the reputation of individuals involved in the matter, as a case might ultimately not warrant prosecution or other legal action, and not all information gathered during an investigation is necessarily offered or admitted into evidence where an action is brought.

To protect the integrity of its investigation and the constitutional rights of the individuals involved in this matter, and to avoid the appearance of undue political influence over law enforcement decisions, the Department has an obligation to adhere to its longstanding policies that prohibit us from disclosing information about ongoing matters. Accordingly, at this time, the Department is unable to disclose additional information about or related to this matter.

We hope you find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

**CARLOS** Digitally signed by  
**URIARTE** CARLOS URIARTE  
Date: 2022.09.01  
16:31:01 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from Assistant Attorney General Robert Raben to Chairman John Linder, Jan. 27, 2000 (the “Linder Letter”) (citing precedent dating back to the beginning of the 20th century), available at <https://www.justice.gov/file/1080046/download>; see also Justice Manual §§ 1-7.000, et seq., Confidentiality and Media Contacts Policy; 1-8.200, Communications with Congress; 1-8.210, Responding to Congressional Requests Generally.



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Thomas Massie  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Massie:

This letter responds to your letters to the Department of Justice (Department) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) dated August 15, 2022, regarding the FBI's execution of a court-approved search of the premises in Florida belonging to the former President.

As the Attorney General explained in his public remarks on August 11, the Department speaks through its court filings and its work. Upholding the rule of law means applying the law evenly, without fear or favor. All Americans are entitled to the evenhanded application of the law, due process of law, and the presumption of innocence. Much of the Department's work is by necessity and law conducted out of the public eye. We do this to protect the constitutional rights of all Americans and to protect the integrity of our investigations.

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We hope you find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

**CARLOS** Digitally signed by  
CARLOS URIARTE  
**URIARTE** Date: 2022.09.01  
16:30:10 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from Assistant Attorney General Robert Raben to Chairman John Linder, Jan. 27, 2000 (the “Linder Letter”) (citing precedent dating back to the beginning of the 20th century), available at <https://www.justice.gov/file/1080046/download>; see also Justice Manual §§ 1-7.000, et seq., Confidentiality and Media Contacts Policy; 1-8.200, Communications with Congress; 1-8.210, Responding to Congressional Requests Generally.





**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Tom McClintock  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative McClintock:

This letter responds to your letters to the Department of Justice (Department) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) dated August 15, 2022, regarding the FBI's execution of a court-approved search of the premises in Florida belonging to the former President.

As the Attorney General explained in his public remarks on August 11, the Department speaks through its court filings and its work. Upholding the rule of law means applying the law evenly, without fear or favor. All Americans are entitled to the evenhanded application of the law, due process of law, and the presumption of innocence. Much of the Department's work is by necessity and law conducted out of the public eye. We do this to protect the constitutional rights of all Americans and to protect the integrity of our investigations.

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We hope you find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

**CARLOS** Digitally signed by  
**URIARTE** CARLOS URIARTE  
Date: 2022.09.01  
16:32:37 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from Assistant Attorney General Robert Raben to Chairman John Linder, Jan. 27, 2000 (the “Linder Letter”) (citing precedent dating back to the beginning of the 20th century), available at <https://www.justice.gov/file/1080046/download>; see also Justice Manual §§ 1-7.000, et seq., Confidentiality and Media Contacts Policy; 1-8.200, Communications with Congress; 1-8.210, Responding to Congressional Requests Generally.



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Burgess Owens  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Owens:

This letter responds to your letters to the Department of Justice (Department) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) dated August 15, 2022, regarding the FBI's execution of a court-approved search of the premises in Florida belonging to the former President.

As the Attorney General explained in his public remarks on August 11, the Department speaks through its court filings and its work. Upholding the rule of law means applying the law evenly, without fear or favor. All Americans are entitled to the evenhanded application of the law, due process of law, and the presumption of innocence. Much of the Department's work is by necessity and law conducted out of the public eye. We do this to protect the constitutional rights of all Americans and to protect the integrity of our investigations.

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We hope you find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

**CARLOS** Digitally signed by  
**URIARTE** CARLOS URIARTE  
Date: 2022.09.01  
16:31:41 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from Assistant Attorney General Robert Raben to Chairman John Linder, Jan. 27, 2000 (the “Linder Letter”) (citing precedent dating back to the beginning of the 20th century), available at <https://www.justice.gov/file/1080046/download>; see also Justice Manual §§ 1-7.000, et seq., Confidentiality and Media Contacts Policy; 1-8.200, Communications with Congress; 1-8.210, Responding to Congressional Requests Generally.



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Chip Roy  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Roy:

This letter responds to your letters to the Department of Justice (Department) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) dated August 15, 2022, regarding the FBI's execution of a court-approved search of the premises in Florida belonging to the former President.

As the Attorney General explained in his public remarks on August 11, the Department speaks through its court filings and its work. Upholding the rule of law means applying the law evenly, without fear or favor. All Americans are entitled to the evenhanded application of the law, due process of law, and the presumption of innocence. Much of the Department's work is by necessity and law conducted out of the public eye. We do this to protect the constitutional rights of all Americans and to protect the integrity of our investigations.

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We hope you find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

**CARLOS**  
**URIARTE**

Digitally signed by  
CARLOS URIARTE  
Date: 2022.09.01  
17:07:48 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from Assistant Attorney General Robert Raben to Chairman John Linder, Jan. 27, 2000 (the “Linder Letter”) (citing precedent dating back to the beginning of the 20th century), available at <https://www.justice.gov/file/1080046/download>; see also Justice Manual §§ 1-7.000, et seq., Confidentiality and Media Contacts Policy; 1-8.200, Communications with Congress; 1-8.210, Responding to Congressional Requests Generally.



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Victoria Spartz  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Spartz:

This letter responds to your letters to the Department of Justice (Department) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) dated August 15, 2022, regarding the FBI's execution of a court-approved search of the premises in Florida belonging to the former President.

As the Attorney General explained in his public remarks on August 11, the Department speaks through its court filings and its work. Upholding the rule of law means applying the law evenly, without fear or favor. All Americans are entitled to the evenhanded application of the law, due process of law, and the presumption of innocence. Much of the Department's work is by necessity and law conducted out of the public eye. We do this to protect the constitutional rights of all Americans and to protect the integrity of our investigations.

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We hope you find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

**CARLOS**  
**URIARTE**

Digitally signed by  
CARLOS URIARTE  
Date: 2022.09.01  
17:08:20 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General

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**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable W. Gregory Steube  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Steube:

This letter responds to your letters to the Department of Justice (Department) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) dated August 15, 2022, regarding the FBI's execution of a court-approved search of the premises in Florida belonging to the former President.

As the Attorney General explained in his public remarks on August 11, the Department speaks through its court filings and its work. Upholding the rule of law means applying the law evenly, without fear or favor. All Americans are entitled to the evenhanded application of the law, due process of law, and the presumption of innocence. Much of the Department's work is by necessity and law conducted out of the public eye. We do this to protect the constitutional rights of all Americans and to protect the integrity of our investigations.

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We hope you find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

**CARLOS** Digitally signed by  
CARLOS URIARTE  
**URIARTE** Date: 2022.09.01  
17:06:36 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from Assistant Attorney General Robert Raben to Chairman John Linder, Jan. 27, 2000 (the “Linder Letter”) (citing precedent dating back to the beginning of the 20th century), available at <https://www.justice.gov/file/1080046/download>; see also Justice Manual §§ 1-7.000, et seq., Confidentiality and Media Contacts Policy; 1-8.200, Communications with Congress; 1-8.210, Responding to Congressional Requests Generally.



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Tom Tiffany  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Tiffany:

This letter responds to your letters to the Department of Justice (Department) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) dated August 15, 2022, regarding the FBI's execution of a court-approved search of the premises in Florida belonging to the former President.

As the Attorney General explained in his public remarks on August 11, the Department speaks through its court filings and its work. Upholding the rule of law means applying the law evenly, without fear or favor. All Americans are entitled to the evenhanded application of the law, due process of law, and the presumption of innocence. Much of the Department's work is by necessity and law conducted out of the public eye. We do this to protect the constitutional rights of all Americans and to protect the integrity of our investigations.

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We hope you find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

**CARLOS**  
**URIARTE**

Digitally signed by  
CARLOS URIARTE  
Date: 2022.09.01  
17:05:58 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from Assistant Attorney General Robert Raben to Chairman John Linder, Jan. 27, 2000 (the “Linder Letter”) (citing precedent dating back to the beginning of the 20th century), available at <https://www.justice.gov/file/1080046/download>; see also Justice Manual §§ 1-7.000, et seq., Confidentiality and Media Contacts Policy; 1-8.200, Communications with Congress; 1-8.210, Responding to Congressional Requests Generally.

GARY C. PETERS, MICHIGAN, CHAIRMAN  
THOMAS R. CARPER, DELAWARE  
MAGGIE HASSAN, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
KYRSTEN SINEMA, ARIZONA  
JACKY ROSEN, NEVADA  
ALEX PADILLA, CALIFORNIA  
JON OSSOFF, GEORGIA  
ROB PORTMAN, OHIO  
RON JOHNSON, WISCONSIN  
RAND PAUL, KENTUCKY  
JAMES LANKFORD, OKLAHOMA  
MITT ROMNEY, UTAH  
TRICK SCOTT, FLORIDA  
JOSH HAWLEY, MISSOURI

DAVID M. WEINBERG, STAFF DIRECTOR  
PAMELA THIESSEN, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR  
LAURA W. KILBRIDE, CHIEF CLERK

**United States Senate**  
COMMITTEE ON  
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

August 10, 2022

The Honorable Merrick Garland  
Attorney General  
Department of Justice

The Honorable Christopher Wray  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Dear Attorney General Garland and Director Wray:

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) raid on former President Donald Trump's residence at Mar-a-Lago is deeply concerning. It occurred almost two weeks after I sent a letter to both of you highlighting recent whistleblower allegations which raise serious questions regarding the integrity of the FBI and your agencies' ability to do its job without political bias.<sup>1</sup>

The FBI's unprecedented actions against former President Trump, without any stated justification, only add to the mounting evidence of corruption within our federal law enforcement agencies and is yet another example of a multi-tiered system of justice and federal agencies being weaponized against the left's political opponents.

I understand other members of Congress have requested that you provide a full explanation for the raid at the former president's residence. I request that information immediately. However, given your history of lack of transparency and obstruction of my investigations, I am not confident that your explanation for the raid will be forthright, honest, or ease anyone's concerns.

Instead, I want to reiterate my message to the brave men and women who work at the FBI and the Department of Justice who are frustrated and concerned with the direction your agencies are taking:

If you have witnessed wrongdoing at your agency, please come forward and share your concerns with my office. You have a right to talk to Congress.

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from Sen. Ron Johnson, Ranking Member, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to Merrick Garland, Attorney General, Dep't of Justice, Avril Haines, Director, Office of National Intelligence, Christopher A. Wray, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Michael E. Horowitz, Inspector General, Dep't of Justice, July 26, 2022.

By exposing the truth, Congress can hold accountable those who continue to abuse our system of justice.

Sincerely,



Ron Johnson  
Ranking Member  
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

cc: The Honorable Jon Ossoff  
Chairman

The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz  
Inspector General



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Ron Johnson  
Ranking Member  
Permanent Subcommittee on  
Investigations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Johnson:

This letter responds to your letter to the Department of Justice (Department) dated August 10, 2022, regarding the FBI's execution of a court-approved search of the premises in Florida belonging to the former President.

As the Attorney General explained in his public remarks on August 11, the Department speaks through its court filings and its work. Upholding the rule of law means applying the law evenly, without fear or favor. All Americans are entitled to the evenhanded application of the law, due process of law, and the presumption of innocence. Much of the Department's work is by necessity and law conducted out of the public eye. We do this to protect the constitutional rights of all Americans and to protect the integrity of our investigations.

The Department's public disclosures have been, and will continue to be, guided by established standards that apply to all cases. On August 11, 2022, the Department filed a motion in the Southern District of Florida to unseal the underlying search warrant and associated property receipt related to the search of August 8, 2022. On August 15, 2022, the Department filed an omnibus response to motions to unseal other materials related to the search warrant. On August 25, 2022, the court ordered a partial release of portions of the search warrant affidavit and other court filings consistent with the Department's proposals. Other portions of the affidavit and other court filings remain under seal pursuant to court order. On August 30, 2022, the Department filed a response to a motion filed by the former President related to the search. The Department's factual and legal rationales are set forth in our court filings.

The Department has also received several requests from Members of Congress for information about the search beyond what has been disclosed publicly through our court filings. The Department's longstanding position is that, "[a]lthough Congress has a clearly legitimate interest in determining how the Department enforces statutes, Congressional inquiries during the

pendency of a matter pose an inherent threat to the integrity of the Department's law enforcement and litigation functions.”<sup>1</sup> Disclosing confidential information about ongoing investigations could violate the law or court orders and could impede the Department's ability to gather relevant facts and enforce the law, free from inappropriate interference. Along the same lines, providing Congress with confidential information about active investigations risks jeopardizing those investigations and creating the appearance that Congress may be exerting pressure or attempting to influence Department decisions in certain cases. Finally, disclosing non-public information related to an ongoing investigation risks improperly harming the reputation of individuals involved in the matter, as a case might ultimately not warrant prosecution or other legal action, and not all information gathered during an investigation is necessarily offered or admitted into evidence where an action is brought.

To protect the integrity of its investigation and the constitutional rights of the individuals involved in this matter, and to avoid the appearance of undue political influence over law enforcement decisions, the Department has an obligation to adhere to its longstanding policies that prohibit us from disclosing information about ongoing matters. Accordingly, at this time, the Department is unable to disclose additional information about or related to this matter.

We hope you find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

**CARLOS** Digitally signed by  
**URIARTE** CARLOS URIARTE  
Date: 2022.09.01  
16:15:18 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from Assistant Attorney General Robert Raben to Chairman John Linder, Jan. 27, 2000 (the “Linder Letter”) (citing precedent dating back to the beginning of the 20th century), available at <https://www.justice.gov/file/1080046/download>; see also Justice Manual §§ 1-7.000, et seq., Confidentiality and Media Contacts Policy; 1-8.200, Communications with Congress; 1-8.210, Responding to Congressional Requests Generally.



# United States Senate

ARMED SERVICES  
HOMELAND SECURITY  
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND  
TRANSPORTATION  
BUDGET  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE  
ON AGING

August 12, 2022

The Honorable Merrick Garland  
Attorney General  
United States Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530

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

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Dear Attorney General Garland and Director Wray:

As you are both well aware, the American people are justifiably alarmed by the conduct of your agencies. This alarm has arisen not only because of the unprecedented nature of the raid conducted at the personal residence of a former president, and potential future political opponent of the sitting president, but increasingly because of the lack of transparency by you and the Biden administration in the face of repeated questions seeking the legal justification for such extreme action.

Let me be clear: no one is above the law and no government agency, especially the Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), is immune from accountability to the American people. Your refusal to fully and transparently answer legitimate questions about the motivations and justifications for such provocative conduct by your agencies serves only to further damage the integrity of the DOJ and FBI, is unacceptable, and will not be tolerated.

Please respond to the following queries *no later than Friday, August 19, 2022*:

1. Please provide an unredacted copy of—
  - a. The search warrant application and any additional materials or documents submitted to the federal magistrate judge in support of the search warrant application.
  - b. All internal memoranda, briefing documents, and supporting materials of the FBI and DOJ developed and used in the drafting and review of the search warrant application in question.

The Honorable Merrick Garland & Christopher Wray

August 12, 2022

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2. Did you or any member of your respective agencies inform the president, or any personnel at the White House, of the search warrant application prior to its submission to the federal magistrate judge?
3. Did you or any member of your respective agencies inform the president, or any personnel at the White House, of the execution of the search warrant before the raid was made public by former President Donald J. Trump on August 8, 2022?
4. Did you personally review the contents of the search warrant application prior to its submission to the federal magistrate judge?
  - a. If so, when did you review the search warrant application in question?
  - b. If not, who within your agency was responsible for reviewing the search warrant application prior to its submission?
5. What "less-intrusive means" were considered and pursued by the FBI and DOJ as an alternative to conducting a forcible raid of the former president's personal residence to obtain the documents or materials sought through this search warrant?
  - a. In reference to the subpoena reportedly issued to former President Trump for certain materials and records earlier this year, what steps did the DOJ take to enforce that subpoena before pursuing the search warrant in this case?

To the extent responses to these requests include confidential or sensitive information, I am willing to receive an in-person briefing and review such documents and materials in a classified setting.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. I look forward to your responsive reply no later than Friday, August 19, 2022.

Sincerely,



Rick Scott  
United States Senate



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Rick Scott  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

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