DIANNE FEINSTEIN
CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY - RANKING MEMBER
SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

United States Senate

December 4, 2017

VIA EMAIL

Mr. Carl Richard Clay, Jr.
[redacted]

Dear Mr. Clay:

In statements to the media, you have said that you reached out to Rick Dearborn, a top aide to then-candidate Donald Trump, during the campaign to pass along a "friend's" request to set up a meeting between Russian officials and the Trump campaign.[1] It has been reported that this involved a request from Alexander Torshin – a "senior Russian official who claimed to be acting at the behest of resident Vladimir V. Putin of Russia" – to arrange a meeting between Donald Trump and President Putin.[2] Mr. Torshin met Donald Trump, Jr. at a private dinner the night before Donald Trump spoke at the NRA convention in Louisville, Kentucky.[3] We are writing to request documents and an interview of you in December 2017 related to these topics.

The Intelligence Community has concluded that Russia interfered in the 2016 election, with the goal of undermining faith in our democratic processes and harming Secretary Clinton's candidacy.[4] As explained in the January 6, 2017 Intelligence Community assessment: "We further assess Putin and the Russian Government developed a clear preference for President-elect Trump."[5]

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[1] Manu Raju, "Exclusive: How a request about Russians made its way from West Virginia to Trump's team," CNN (Aug. 28, 2017).
[2] Benjamin Hart, "'Russian Backdoor Overture' to Kushner Involved Close Putin Ally," New York Magazine (Nov. 18, 2017).
[3] Matt Apuzzo, Matthew Rosenberg, and Adam Goldman, "Top Russian Official Tried to Broker 'Backdoor' Meeting Between Trump and Putin," New York Times (Nov. 17, 2017).
[4] Office of the Director of National Intelligence, "Assessing Russian Activities and Intentions in Recent US Elections," ICA 2017-01D, January 6, 2017, at 2-3.
[5] Office of the Director of National Intelligence, "Assessing Russian Activities and Intentions in Recent US Elections," ICA 2017-01D, January 6, 2017.

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504
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The Committee is investigating these matters, and we ask that you provide the following documents in advance of your interview with the Committee, covering the time period from June 15, 2015 to the present:

1. All communications to, from, or copied to you with anyone associated with the campaign of Donald J. Trump;

2. All documents concerning Alexander Torshin, Maria Butina, Rick Dearborn, Johnny Yenason, Paul Erickson, or the NRA relating to the 2016 presidential campaign;

3. All documents and communications concerning the 2016 National Rifle Association convention and related events in Louisville, Kentucky;

4. All communications concerning arranging a meeting between Russian officials and representatives of the campaign of Donald Trump for president; and

5. All documents concerning financial support or the provision of anything of value by foreign nationals, directly or indirectly, to the campaign of Donald Trump for president.

We appreciate your cooperation and prompt attention to this important matter and ask that you provide the requested material as soon as possible, but no later than December 18, 2017. Please contact Brian Privor on my staff at (202) 224-7703 to schedule your interview and discuss arrangements for document production.

Sincerely,

Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

cc: The Honorable Charles E. Grassley