

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

## United States Senate

December 6, 2017

Hope Hicks c/o Robert Trout, Esq. Trout Cacheris & Janis PLLC 1350 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Suite 300 Washington, DC 20036

Dear Ms. Hicks:

As a longtime staffer of Donald Trump, you have been involved publicly and behind the scenes on several issues of public importance. For example, you reportedly were with the President at his Bedminster golf course when he decided to fire FBI Director Comey¹ and present during discussion of the President's draft letter explaining the firing.² Given your role on the campaign and in the White House, we believe that you have information that would assist the Committee in its investigation related to the 2016 presidential election and the dismissal of Director Comey. Accordingly, we are writing to request documents and schedule an interview with you in January 2018.

During the campaign, you were with then-candidate Trump when he announced his foreign policy team, including Carter Page and George Papadopoulos.<sup>3</sup> You told reporters on November 10, 2016 that "we are not aware of any campaign representatives that were in touch with any foreign entities before yesterday," but Mr. Page testified to the House Intelligence Committee that he told you about his invitation to speak in Russia in July 2016.<sup>5</sup>

Darren Samuelsohn, "Hope Hicks may hold the keys to Mueller's Russia puzzle," Politico (Nov. 16, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Rosalind S. Helderman, Carol D. Leonnig and Ashley Parker, "Mueller examining Trump's draft letter firing FBI Director Comey," Washington Post (Sept. 1, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> A transcript of Donald Trump's meeting with The Washington Post editorial board (Mar. 21, 2016).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Ivan Nechepurenko, "Russian Officials Were in Contact With Trump Allies, Diplomat Says," N.Y. Times (Nov. 10, 2016).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Testimony of Carter Page before the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (Nov. 2, 2017).

You evidently also knew about efforts by WikiLeaks to reach out to Donald Trump, Jr., and you communicated with Paul Manafort about his ties to Vladimir Putin and Oleg Deripaska, a Russian oligarch. Indeed, as a key press person during the campaign and in the administration, you have fielded countless questions about communications and ties to Russia and had to gather the facts before responding.

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. 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." Director Comey was leading the FBI's investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election – including possible ties to the Trump campaign – when he was summarily dismissed by the President.

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 documents concerning the firing of James Comey as Director of the FBI;
- 2. All documents concerning the selection, termination or resignation of Lt. General Michael Flynn as national security advisor;
- 3. All communications concerning the status, progress, or scope of the FBI's investigation of Russian interference in the 2016 election, including communications regarding press reporting on the investigation;
- 4. All documents related to the June 9, 2016, meeting at Trump Tower, including statements (including drafts) issued on or about July 8 through July 10, 2017, by Donald Trump, Jr., the President, or the White House;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Julia loffe, "The Secret Correspondence between Donald Trump Jr. and WikiLeaks," The Atlantic (Nov. 13, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Darren Samuelsohn, "Hope Hicks may hold the keys to Mueller's Russia puzzle," Politico (Nov. 16, 2017). <sup>8</sup> 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Office of the Director of National Intelligence, "Assessing Russian Activities and Intentions in Recent US Elections," ICA 2017-01D, January 6, 2017.

- 5. All communications to, from, or copied to you concerning Russia, Ukraine, U.S. sanctions, or Vladimir Putin;
- 6. All communications with Russian government officials, associates, or representatives, including any individuals who purported to act or whom you believed to be acting on behalf of or in concert with Russian government officials, associates, or representatives.
- 7. All documents concerning efforts to obtain or share "hacked" emails or other electronic data belonging to or housed on the servers of the Democratic National Committee (DNC), John Podesta, Hillary Clinton, or the 2016 U.S. presidential campaign of Hillary Clinton; and
- 8. All communications to, from, or copied to you with WikiLeaks, DC Leaks, Guccifer 2.0, or their representatives.

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 20, 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