



United States Senate

November 13, 2018

Honorable Charles Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley:

This letter requests a hearing as quickly as possible with Acting Attorney General Matthew Whitaker. The circumstances surrounding Attorney General Sessions' departure raise serious questions, including whether the appointment is lawful and the possible impact on Special Counsel Mueller's investigation.

With Sessions' departure, the statutory line of succession designates Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein as next in line to serve as Acting Attorney General and he would continue to oversee the Special Counsel's investigation. He has performed this job ably and should continue. However, there appears to be an effort by the President to substitute Mr. Whitaker who has criticized the investigation and even suggested a different Attorney General could not fire Bob Mueller but "just reduces his budget to so low that his investigations grinds to almost a halt."

As you have stated previously, you "have confidence in Mueller, the president ought to have confidence in Mueller." I agree and believe it is critically important to have Mr. Whitaker before the Committee to ensure that he will take no action to restrict or otherwise interfere with the Special Counsel's work.

I look forward to hearing from you soon regarding this important request. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dianne Feinstein".

Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary