

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3203

June 9, 2020

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

The Honorable John Ratcliffe  
Director  
Office of the Director of National Intelligence  
Washington, D.C. 20511

Dear Director Wray and Director Ratcliffe,

We write to request that you promptly inform the public of any information that supports recent claims made by the President related to protests of the police killing of George Floyd.

On June 1, 2020, President Trump asserted that “our nation has been gripped” by, among others, “professional anarchists” and “Antifa.” He further attributed instances of violence and property damage to “acts of domestic terror.” These statements are similar to those made by other members of the Administration.

These claims are highly inflammatory. They also appear intended to frame the legitimate peaceful protests taking place around the country as terrorist threats in order to justify unnecessary federal, even military, intervention and the excessive use of force. Worse still, the President and others have made these assertions without any factual support or evidence.

These vague and unsubstantiated claims do not justify the extraordinary measures taken in response to these protests. In recent days, the Administration has deployed numerous federal agencies to the streets of our cities, considered the use of active duty troops against Americans, attacked peaceful protesters, and instigated tensions with state and municipal authorities. These actions are not sustainable in a democracy.

We therefore urge that you immediately release to the public any information you may have supporting the President’s statements and respond to questions from the press.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,



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Charles E. Schumer  
United States Senator



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Mark R. Warner  
United States Senator



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Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator