ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

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July 21, 2021

The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz Inspector General U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 4706 Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Inspector General Horowitz:

On July 20, 2021, the Justice Department Office of Inspector General (OIG) released an "investigative summary" with findings of misconduct by a former senior Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) official.¹ The investigative summary states, in relevant part:

The OIG investigation substantiated the allegation that the Senior FBI Official had numerous unauthorized contacts with the media from 2014 through 2016, in violation of FBI policy. In addition to substantive communications with reporters, this media contact included unauthorized social engagements outside of FBI Headquarters involving drinks, lunches, and dinners. The OIG also found that the Senior FBI Official violated federal regulations and FBI policy when the Senior FBI Official accepted tickets from members of the media to two black tie dinner events, one valued at \$225 and the other valued at \$300, and received transportation to one event from a reporter, all without prior authorization.²

The investigative summary explains that the unnamed senior official retired from the FBI before an OIG interview could occur.³ When asked to sit for a voluntary interview, the senior official declined.⁴ The OIG also noted in the investigative summary that this investigation grew

¹ INSPECTOR GEN., DEP'T OF JUSTICE, Findings of Misconduct by a Then-Senior FBI Official for Having Numerous Unauthorized Contacts with the Media, and for Accepting Unauthorized Gifts from Members of the Media (July 2021) [hereinafter OIG Investigative Summary].

² OIG Investigative Summary.

 $^{^3}$ Id.

⁴ *Id*.

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out of OIG's investigation of misconduct by the FBI and Department of Justice in advance of the 2016 election.⁵

To allow the Committee to better understand the OIG's findings, determine the extent of this serious misconduct, and evaluate the FBI's handling of the matter, I ask that you please provide the complete unredacted case file for Investigative Summary 21-096, to include all documents, communications, and other evidence related to the report.

Please provide this information as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 4, 2021. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Jim Jordan

Ranking Member

cc: The Honorable Jerrold Nadler, Chairman

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⁵ INSPECTOR GEN., DEP'T OF JUSTICE, A Review of Various Actions by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Department of Justice in Advance of the 2016 Election (June 2018).