

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 16, 2018

The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz
Inspector General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 4760
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Mr. Horowitz:

We respectfully request that you conduct a comprehensive review of recent allegations Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein threatened to "subpoena" phone records and other documents from staff on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI).

One witness (*hereinafter* "Witness 1") recorded contemporaneous notes during the January 2018 meeting which addressed multiple matters regarding an outstanding subpoena issued by Chairman Nunes. According to Witness 1, Mr. Rosenstein "threatened HPSCI staffers and Chairman Nunes." Specifically, he said he would "'subpoena' the Committee's phone calls and emails." The specifics of the meeting were further memorialized by Witness 1 in a detailed email after the meeting. Both documents and further details are available to supplement a sworn statement Witness 1 is willing to provide. Additionally, a second witness has offered to provide documents and a sworn statement.

According to published media reports, Mr. Rosenstein criticized HPSCI staff for sending written document requests. Further, Rosenstein was "going so far as to say that if the Committee likes being litigators, then 'we [DOJ] too [are] litigators, and we will subpoena your emails,' referring to HPSCI and Congress overall."¹ A second HPSCI staffer added "having the nation's #1 (for these matters) law enforcement officer threaten to 'subpoena your calls and emails' was downright chilling."² This notion Mr. Rosenstein threatened to use his official investigative powers as Deputy Attorney General to retaliate against rank-and-file staff members for sending written oversight requests raises concerns he has abused his authority in the context of this investigation.

¹ See e.g., Catherine Herridge, *Rosenstein threatened to 'subpoena' GOP-led committee in 'chilling' clash over records, emails show*, Fox News (June 12, 2018) available at <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2018/06/12/rosenstein-threatened-to-subpoena-gop-led-committee-in-chilling-clash-over-records-emails-show.html>

² *Id.*

We request the Office of the Inspector General examine this information as soon as possible. We also request you report to Congress and, if possible, the public, on your recommendations and findings related to these allegations.

Sincerely,



Mark Meadows
Member of Congress



Jim Jordan
Member of Congress