



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE | OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

February 25, 2021

SENT VIA EMAIL

foia@americanoversight.org

Mr. Austin R. Evers
Executive Director
American Oversight

Subject: Freedom of Information/Privacy Act Request [20-OIG-302]

Dear Mr. Evers:

This is a second partial response to your July 24, 2020 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Office of the Inspector General (OIG), seeking “[a]ll complaints submitted to the DOJ Office of the Inspector General (OIG) . . . containing allegations that concern the conduct of Attorney General William Barr.” This partial response supplements a response made to you on January 22, 2021.

We have processed 339 pages of responsive records. It has been determined that pursuant to FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)(A) and (b)(7)(C), ninety-four pages are being released in part and 245 pages are withheld in full, as follows:

- 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3), the Inspector General Act of 1978, 5 U.S.C. App. 3 § 7(b) protects the identities of agency employees who submit complaints or information;
- 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6), protects personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(A), protects records compiled for law enforcement purposes, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to interfere with law enforcement proceedings; and
- 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(C), protects records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Of the 245 pages withheld in full, one 8-page document is being withheld pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(6), (b)(7)(A), (b)(7)(C), and (b)(3) (per the Inspector General Act of 1978, 5 U.S.C. App. 3 § 7(b)), and one 237-page document is being withheld pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(6), (b)(7)(C), and (b)(3) (per the Inspector General Act of 1978, 5 U.S.C. App. 3 § 7(b)).

We are aware that this matter is in litigation and we will continue to process the requested records as expeditiously as possible and in compliance with all applicable court orders.

If you are not satisfied with OIG's determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP's website: <https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV 2010). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

You may contact our FOIA Public Liaison, Deborah Waller at (202) 616-0646 for any further assistance of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at (202) 741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline E. Lightle

Jacqueline E. Lightle
Government Information Specialist
Office of the General Counsel

Attachment

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 12, 2019

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

Dear Inspector General Horowitz:

On May 3, 2019, Senator Harris wrote a letter urging the Office of the Inspector General to investigate whether Attorney General William Barr received or acted upon requests or suggestions from President Trump or the White House to investigate anyone.¹ The letter explained that an inspector general investigation was warranted after Attorney General Barr's May 1, 2019, appearance before the Senate Judiciary Committee, where he proved unable or unwilling to state whether the president or anyone at the White House ever asked or suggested that he open an investigation of anyone. To date, you have not responded to the letter, nor have you otherwise confirmed whether such an investigation is underway.

Attorney General Barr's testimony—coupled with the president's own alarming pattern of pressuring the Justice Department to investigate his political opponents,² as documented in the special counsel's report³—prompted concerns about whether inappropriate White House requests have undermined the longstanding independence of the Justice Department. Recent revelations proved such concerns to be well founded. Last month, for example, the American people learned that during a July 25 phone call between President Trump and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, the president indicated that he would instruct Attorney General Barr to contact the Ukrainian leader and assist with investigations into American political figures and members of their families.

Although the Justice Department later denied that the attorney general had knowledge of the call and said that Mr. Barr did not speak with the president about assisting with Ukrainian investigations,⁴ such claims are belied by the president's own public statements. In an April 25, 2019, interview with Sean Hannity, President Trump strongly suggested that Attorney General Barr would examine evidence gathered by Ukrainian officials relating to the family of one of the president's political opponents.⁵ It strains credulity to maintain that Attorney General Barr was unaware of the president's

¹ Letter from Kamala D. Harris, U.S. Senator, to Michael E. Horowitz, Inspector Gen. for the U.S. Dep't of Justice, <https://www.harris.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Harris%20DOJ%20IG%20Letter%20.pdf>.

² Michael S. Schmidt, *Mueller Report Reveals Trump's Fixation on Targeting Hillary Clinton*, N.Y. TIMES, Apr. 24, 2019, <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/24/us/politics/jeff-sessions-hillary-clinton-donald-trump.html>.

³ U.S. DEP'T OF JUSTICE, SPECIAL COUNSEL ROBERT S. MUELLER, III, REPORT ON THE INVESTIGATION INTO RUSSIAN INTERFERENCE IN THE 2016 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION (2019) vol. II, at 107, 109.

⁴ Katie Benner, *Justice Dept.'s Dismissal of Ukraine Call Raises New Questions About Barr*, N.Y. TIMES, Sept. 25, 2019, <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/09/25/us/politics/william-barr-trump-ukraine.html>.

⁵ Gregg Re, *Clinton-Ukraine collusion allegations 'big' and 'incredible,' will be reviewed, Trump says*, FOX NEWS, Apr. 25, 2019, <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/trump-barr-will-look-at-incredible-possibility-of-ukraine-clinton-collusion>

desire for him to conduct such investigations—investigations that the president mentioned to a foreign head of state and spoke of openly on cable television. When later asked whether Attorney General Barr or the Justice Department had ever been directed or suggested to start, stop, or limit the scope of an investigation, FBI Director Christopher Wray was unable to provide a definitive answer. “I can’t speak to Attorney General Barr’s communications with others,” he replied.⁶

These episodes again raise questions about whether the Department of Justice and its leadership participate in politically motivated investigations—a practice that threatens not only the independence of the Justice Department, but of the rule of law. These disturbing revelations, as well as the attorney general’s unwillingness or inability to be forthcoming when asked under oath about the president or White House’s involvement in Justice Department investigations, warrant the prompt attention of your office.

It is our understanding that you will appear before the Senate Judiciary Committee in the coming month. Prior to that hearing, we request a written response acknowledging receipt of the letter and informing us whether the Office of the Inspector General has opened an investigation into whether Attorney General Barr has received or acted upon requests from the president or the White House to conduct politically motivated investigations. We also request that you be prepared to answer questions about this matter when you later appear before the Committee.

Sincerely,



KAMALA D. HARRIS
United States Senator



SHELDON WHITEHOUSE
United States Senator



RICHARD BLUMENTHAL
United States Senator

(“President Trump told Fox News’ ‘Hannity’ in a wide-ranging interview Thursday night that Attorney General Bill Barr is handling the ‘incredible’ and ‘big’ new revelations that Ukrainian actors apparently leaked damaging information about then-campaign chairman Paul Manafort to help Hillary Clinton’s campaign.”). During the interview, President Trump was asked whether American investigators should review evidence allegedly to be offered by Ukrainian officials. The president said, “Well, I think we do. And, frankly, we have a great new attorney general who has done an unbelievable job in a very short period of time. And he is very smart and tough and I would certainly defer to him. I would imagine he would want to see this. People have been saying this whole—the concept of Ukraine, they have been talking about it actually for a long time. You know that, and I would certainly defer to the attorney general. And we’ll see what he says about it. He calls them straight. That’s one thing I can tell you.”

⁶ *Threats to the Homeland: Hearing Before the S. Comm. on Homeland Security and Gov’t Affairs, 116th Cong. (Nov. 5, 2019).*

From: [COPS – Office of the Director \[mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov\]](mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov)
To: [HOTLINE, OIG \(OIG\)](#)
Subject: [Hotline Submission] - DOJ Employee or Program
Date: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 9:16:19 PM

YOUR INFORMATION:

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERSON YOU ARE COMPLAINING ABOUT:

Name: William Barr
Job Title: Attorney General of the United States
Address Type: Business
Street Address: 950 Pennsylvania Ave
City: Washington
State: DC
Zip Code: 20530
Country: USA
Phone: (202) 514-2000
Fax:
Email:

INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPLAINT:

City Incident Occurred: Washington
State: DC
Zip Code: 20005
Country: USA
Date and Time Incident Occurred: 06/01/20 6:40 PM
Department of Justice Component:
Occurred at a Prison or Holding Facility?:
Is this a Civil Rights Violation?: on
Is this an Insider Threat?:

OTHER GOVERNMENT ENTITIES NOTIFIED:

DC Police, DC National Guard, US Park Police, US Secret Service, Arlington County Police, FBI

DESCRIPTION:

At about 6:40 PM on June 1, 2020, Attorney General Barr ordered action that violated the First Amendment rights of US Citizens. Those citizens were peaceful protestors in/around the public property of Lafayette Square Park and on/around the private property of St. John's Episcopal Church. AG Barr approved and/or ordered a swift dispersal

of peaceful assembly, and he ordered it not because of curfew (which was a half hour away and not in his jurisdiction) or because of imminent violence/danger, but merely to clear the park and clear the way for a photoshoot. Because AG Barr ordered the dispersal on short notice, he required (or should have understood based on his position and training) that it could only be accomplished through violence to those assembled. Secret Service, DC National Guard, and other troops under his control used extreme measures, including smoke, tear/OC gas and/or pepper smoke, rubber bullets/projectiles, sound grenades, etc. AG Barr's actions violated the right of free speech, protest, and assembly for all the protestors. His actions, and those of the troops under his order, were a commission of assault and battery for those who were injured and/or traumatized.

This message was sent from:

<https://oig.justice.gov/hotline/contact-doj.htm>

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: [COPS – Office of the Director \[mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov\]](mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov)
To: [HOTLINE, OIG \(OIG\)](#)
Subject: [Hotline Submission] - DOJ Employee or Program
Date: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 4:48:04 PM

YOUR INFORMATION:

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERSON YOU ARE COMPLAINING ABOUT:

Name: William P. Barr
Job Title: Attorney General
Address Type: Business
Street Address: 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
City: Washington
State: District of Columbia
Zip Code:
Country: United States
Phone: 202-514-2000
Fax:

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPLAINT:

City Incident Occurred: Washington
State: District of Columbia
Zip Code:
Country: United States
Date and Time Incident Occurred: Mon., June 1 at approximately 6:30 p.m. EST
Department of Justice Component: conduct of Attorney General
Occurred at a Prison or Holding Facility?:
Is this a Civil Rights Violation?: on
Is this an Insider Threat?:

OTHER GOVERNMENT ENTITIES NOTIFIED:

The Attorney General

DESCRIPTION:

On Monday, June 1, 2020 at approximately 6:30 p.m. EST -- a full half-hour before a previously announced Washington, D.C. 7:00 p.m. curfew -- Attorney General William Barr personally ordered law enforcement officers with the Parks Service and/or possibly others to forcefully disperse peaceful protesters engaged in the lawful

exercising of their constitutionally protected rights of peaceful assembly and free speech.

Attorney General Barr is publicly on record admitting this unlawful order, expressly for the partisan political purpose of facilitating a photo opportunity for the President.

This blatant violation of the U.S. Constitution and flagrant disregarding of his oath of office disqualifies him to continue in the office of Attorney General.

I therefore request that your office immediately conduct a thorough investigation to confirm these already public facts, and then issue a recommendation for William Barr's immediate dismissal as Attorney General of the United States.

I look forward to your timely response.

This message was sent from:

<https://oig.justice.gov/hotline/contact-doj.htm>

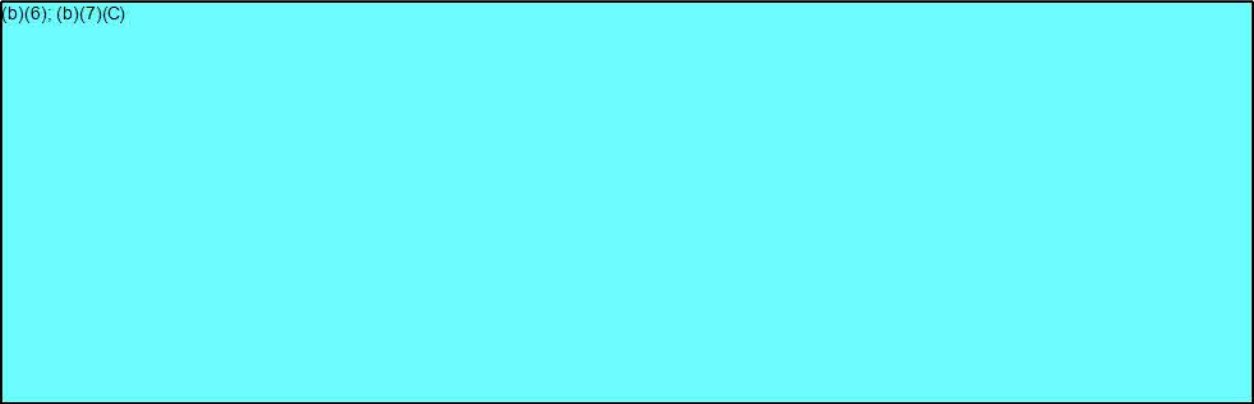
(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)



From: [COPS – Office of the Director \[mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov\]](mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov)
To: [HOTLINE, OIG \(OIG\)](#)
Subject: [Hotline Submission] - DOJ Employee or Program
Date: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 4:08:14 PM

YOUR INFORMATION:

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)



INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERSON YOU ARE COMPLAINING ABOUT:

Name: Attorney General William P. Barr
Job Title: Attorney General
Address Type: Business
Street Address:
City:
State:
Zip Code:
Country:
Phone:
Fax:
Email:

INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPLAINT:

City Incident Occurred: Washington DC
State: Washington DC
Zip Code: 20001
Country: USA
Date and Time Incident Occurred: 06/01/2020; 6:17pm
Department of Justice Component: Attorney General
Occurred at a Prison or Holding Facility?:
Is this a Civil Rights Violation?: on
Is this an Insider Threat?:

OTHER GOVERNMENT ENTITIES NOTIFIED:

DESCRIPTION:

On Monday June 1st, 2020, at approximately 6:17 pm, Attorney General William P. Barr organised the use of force against Americans who were protesting peacefully and posed no visible threat in Lafayette Square (Northern Edge, Pennsylvania Ave NW & 16th Street Northwest, Washington, DC 20001) to disperse peaceful protesters so that

President Trump could pose for a picture in front of St John's Church.

Video evidence showed that he engaged the US Military, The ACPD, The Secret Service and the US Park Police to use flash grenade, chemical spray, smoke, shield bearing riot officers and mounted police to use appalling and excessive force on the peaceful protesters. This took place 1000 feet from the symbol of American Democracy, The White House.

Attorney General William P. Barr who is our Chief Law Enforcement Officer of the Justice Department, violated the Civil Rights of Individuals, of Americans, he violated his Constitutional Duties. He violated his Oath to Protect and Defend The Constitution. He swore on Oath of Office. He violated the Right of The People peaceably to assemble.

This message was sent from:

<https://oig.justice.gov/hotline/contact-doj.htm>

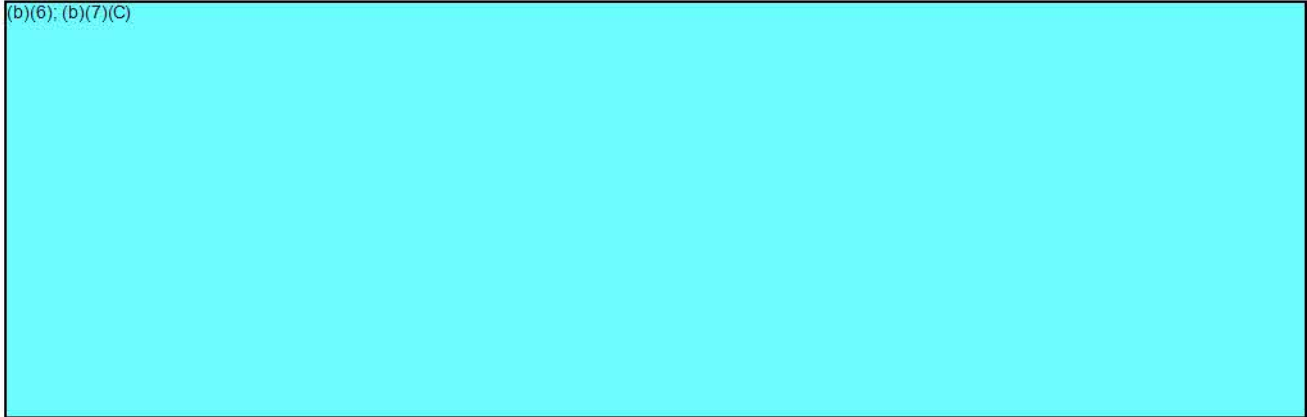
(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)



From: [COPS – Office of the Director \[mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov\]](mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov)
To: [General, Inspector \(OIG\)](#)
Subject: [Hotline Submission] - Violation of Civil Rights or Civil Liberties
Date: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 6:52:47 PM

YOUR INFORMATION:

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)



INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERSON YOU ARE COMPLAINING ABOUT:

Name: William Barr/Donal Trump
Job Title: Department of Justice/POTUS
Address Type:
Street Address: 1525 H Street NW
City: Washington
State: DC
Zip Code: 20005
Country: United States
Phone:
Fax:
Email:

INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPLAINT:

City Incident Occurred: Washington
State: DC
Zip Code: 20005
Country:
Date and Time Incident Occurred: 6:20 PM 6/2/2020
Department of Justice Component:
Occurred at a Prison or Holding Facility?:

OTHER GOVERNMENT ENTITIES NOTIFIED:

My congressman

DESCRIPTION:

Capitol Police forces and National Guard troops surged forward prior to DC curfew and assaulted church compound including clergy. This is a violation of the 1st and 5th amendment. This turned a place of worship into a battlespace as described by Joint Chiefs Chairman.

What law enforcement and security forces were present?

Did Secret service have tactical command?

Who Gave the order to advance on the Church?

Why wasn't the Church diocese asked for permission to enter their grounds?

Who was was the tactical commander on the ground responsible for the security forces at LAFayette Park? What was the role of the president and Attorney General? Both of whom were seen at the church minutes after the assault. What roles did the employees of the DOJ play in this event?

How can employees of the DOJ both investigate crimes against civil rights while other DOJ employees may perpetuate these crimes against clergy and civil rights law.

This message was sent from:

<https://oig.justice.gov/hotline/contact-civil.htm>

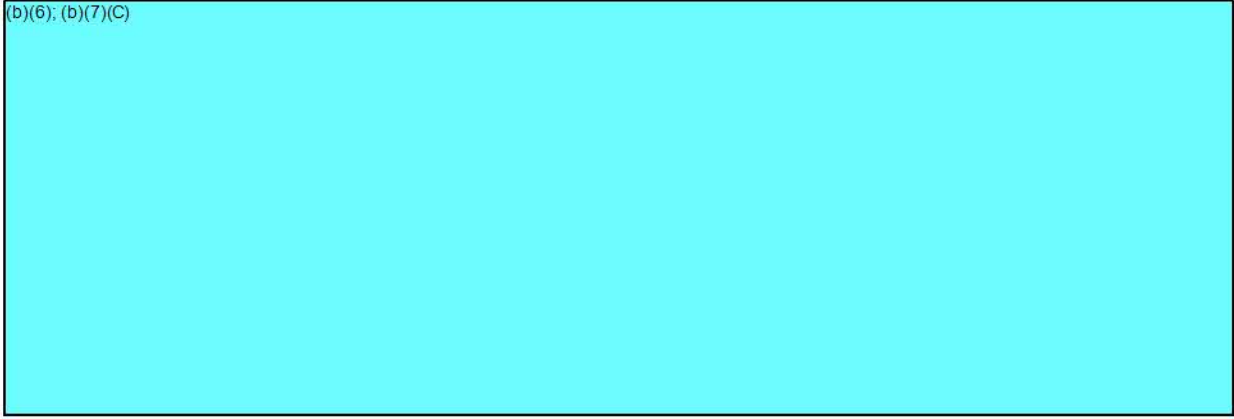
(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)



From: [COPS – Office of the Director \[mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov\]](mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov)
To: [General, Inspector \(OIG\)](#)
Subject: [Hotline Submission] - Violation of Civil Rights or Civil Liberties
Date: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 3:07:33 PM

YOUR INFORMATION:

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)



INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERSON YOU ARE COMPLAINING ABOUT:

Name: William Barr
Job Title: Attorney General of the United States
Address Type: Business
Street Address: 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
City: Washington
State: DC
Zip Code: 20530
Country: USA
Phone: 202-514-2000
Fax:
Email:

INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPLAINT:

City Incident Occurred: Washington
State: DC
Zip Code: 20005
Country: USA
Date and Time Incident Occurred: 06/01/20 6:30pm
Department of Justice Component:
Occurred at a Prison or Holding Facility?:

OTHER GOVERNMENT ENTITIES NOTIFIED:

DC Police, DC National Guard, US Park Police, US Secret Service, Arlington County Police, FBI

DESCRIPTION:

On/about 6:30pm June 1, 2020, Attorney General Barr violated the First Amendment rights of peaceful protestors in/around Lafayette Square Park and on/near the patio of St. John's Episcopal Church. Specifically, he approved/ordered a late-notice, too-swift, dispersal of peaceful assembly that was, therefore, violent (smoke, tear/OC gas, rubber bullets/projectiles, noise grenades, etc.) in violation of the affected citizens' civil rights. By his own admission, he did not undertake this action because anyone was in danger, but rather and merely to "clear

the park" and "clear the way." Barring injury or trauma, he violated the citizens' rights of free speech, protest, and assembly. In the events of injury and trauma (both ensued), he committed assault and battery, as did the officers and troops under his command.

This message was sent from:

<https://oig.justice.gov/hotline/contact-civil.htm>

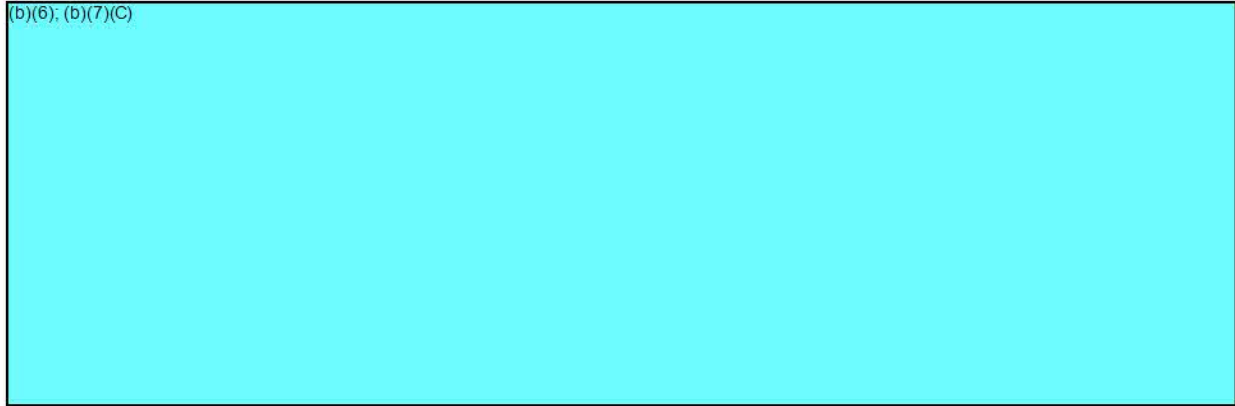
(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)



From: [COPS – Office of the Director \[mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov\]](mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov)
To: [HOTLINE, OIG \(OIG\)](#)
Subject: [Hotline Submission] - DOJ Employee or Program
Date: Tuesday, June 2, 2020 8:22:20 PM

YOUR INFORMATION:

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)



INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERSON YOU ARE COMPLAINING ABOUT:

Name: William Barr
Job Title: Attorney General
Address Type: Business
Street Address: 950 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
City: Washington
State: DC
Zip Code: 20530
Country:
Phone:
Fax:
Email:

INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPLAINT:

City Incident Occurred: Washington
State: DC
Zip Code: 20500
Country: USA
Date and Time Incident Occurred: Monday, June 1, 2020, approximately 5:00pm
Department of Justice Component: Barr Ordered Illegal Clearance of Protestors
Occurred at a Prison or Holding Facility?:
Is this a Civil Rights Violation?: on
Is this an Insider Threat?:

OTHER GOVERNMENT ENTITIES NOTIFIED:

DESCRIPTION:

Per press and other reports, William Barr, the Attorney General of the United States, did illegally order the forceful removal of peaceful protestors from Lafayette Park near the White House for purposes of enabling President Donald Trump to walk through the park to reach the St. John Church. This was a violation of the protestors' constitutional

rights to free assembly and grotesque overreach on the part of the AG. Further information is contained in this report: https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/barr-personally-ordered-removal-of-protesters-near-white-house-leading-to-use-of-force-against-largely-peaceful-crowd/2020/06/02/0ca2417c-a4d5-11ea-b473-04905b1af82b_story.html

I expect that DOJ will carry out a full investigation of this incident and hold Mr. Barr fully accountable for his illegal and unconscionable action. This was an affront to American values and to the justice for which your department USED to stand. All Americans will be watching how you handle this.

This message was sent from:

<https://oig.justice.gov/hotline/contact-doj.htm>

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)



From: [COPS – Office of the Director \[mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov\]](mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov)
To: [HOTLINE, OIG \(OIG\)](#)
Subject: [Hotline Submission] - DOJ Employee or Program
Date: Tuesday, June 2, 2020 6:41:16 PM

YOUR INFORMATION:

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERSON YOU ARE COMPLAINING ABOUT:

Name: William Barr
Job Title: Attorney General
Address Type: Business
Street Address: 950 Pennsylvania Ave NW
City: Washington
State: DC
Zip Code: 20530
Country: United States
Phone:
Fax:
Email:

INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPLAINT:

City Incident Occurred: Washington
State: DC
Zip Code: 20500
Country: United States
Date and Time Incident Occurred: 06/01/2020 6:15 PM
Department of Justice Component: AG
Occurred at a Prison or Holding Facility?:
Is this a Civil Rights Violation?: on
Is this an Insider Threat?: on

OTHER GOVERNMENT ENTITIES NOTIFIED:

FBI on the website

DESCRIPTION:

AG W Barr ordered the forceful and violent moving of hundreds of 100% Peaceful Demonstrators in order to clear a path for the President's Photo Opportunity in front of a church. Tear Gas, rubber bullets and horses were used by various uniformed police officers on the demonstrators. This is in violation of their Civil Rights and First

Amendment Rights.

This message was sent from:

<https://oig.justice.gov/hotline/contact-doj.htm>

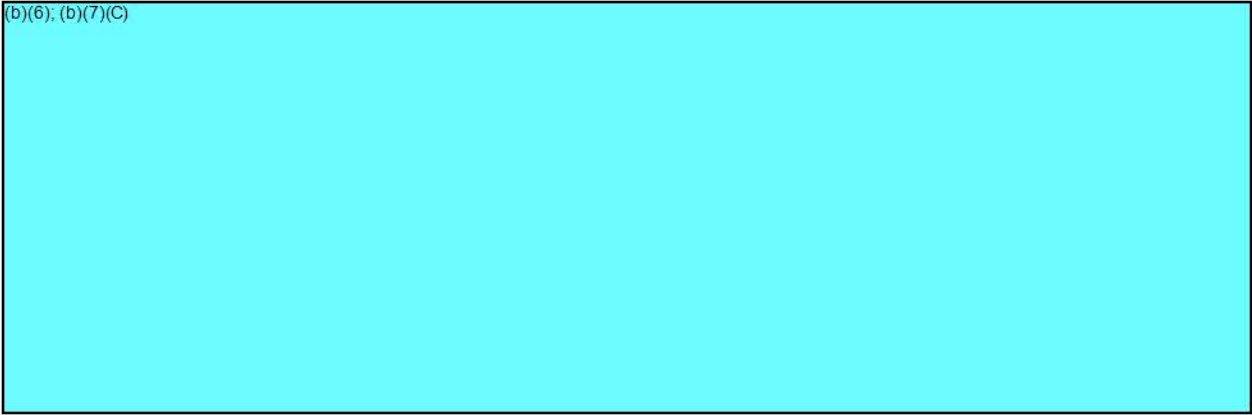
(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)



From: [COPS – Office of the Director \[mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov\]](mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov)
To: [HOTLINE, OIG \(OIG\)](#)
Subject: [Hotline Submission] - DOJ Employee or Program
Date: Tuesday, June 2, 2020 6:22:39 PM

YOUR INFORMATION:

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)



INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERSON YOU ARE COMPLAINING ABOUT:

Name: William Barr
Job Title: Attorney
Address Type: Business
Street Address: 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW,
City: Washington,
State: DC
Zip Code:
Country:
Phone: (202) 514-3435
Fax:
Email: info@doj.gov

INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPLAINT:

City Incident Occurred: Washington DC
State: DC
Zip Code: same as above
Country: same as above
Date and Time Incident Occurred: June 1, 2020 @ 4:00PM
Department of Justice Component: Wm. Barr
Occurred at a Prison or Holding Facility?:
Is this a Civil Rights Violation?: on
Is this an Insider Threat?:

OTHER GOVERNMENT ENTITIES NOTIFIED:

DESCRIPTION:

The abovenamed Barr did cause violence to be inflicted on innocent pedestrians, protestors, and clergy.

This entire attack was broadcast live on all major TV outlets in America, social media, and national news media.

Since then, Barr has gone on national media and unequivocally taken full credit for issuing orders to federal officers who perpetrated violence and injury. There can be no mistake as to his incitement to violence.

Mr. Barr, by his actions, violated the 1st Amendment rights of Americans, desecrated a Church, and injured innocent civilians by his orders to use of tear gas, flash grenades, batons, rubber bullets, and all manner of weapons, including bayonets and lethal weaponry.

You know where you can find this man. And he should immediately be taken into custody without bail as he has committed domestic terrorism and is a threat to civilized Americans everywhere.

This message was sent from:

<https://oig.justice.gov/hotline/contact-doj.htm>

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)



From: [COPS – Office of the Director \[mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov\]](mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov)
To: [General, Inspector \(OIG\)](#)
Subject: [Hotline Submission] - Violation of Civil Rights or Civil Liberties
Date: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 7:23:33 AM

YOUR INFORMATION:

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERSON YOU ARE COMPLAINING ABOUT:

Name: William Barr
Job Title: Attorney General
Address Type:
Street Address:
City:
State:
Zip Code:
Country:
Phone:
Fax:
Email:

INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPLAINT:

City Incident Occurred: Washington
State: District of Columbia
Zip Code:
Country:
Date and Time Incident Occurred: Late afternoon EDT, Monday, June 1, 2020
Department of Justice Component:
Occurred at a Prison or Holding Facility?:

OTHER GOVERNMENT ENTITIES NOTIFIED:

DESCRIPTION:

At least according to multiple news reports, the AG was the person who ordered an entirely peaceful and legal protest demonstration to be cleared out with flashbang bombs, tear gas canisters, pepper balls, batons, and officers on horseback.

This violates the right of the people to peaceably assemble as guaranteed by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

This message was sent from:

<https://oig.justice.gov/hotline/contact-civil.htm>

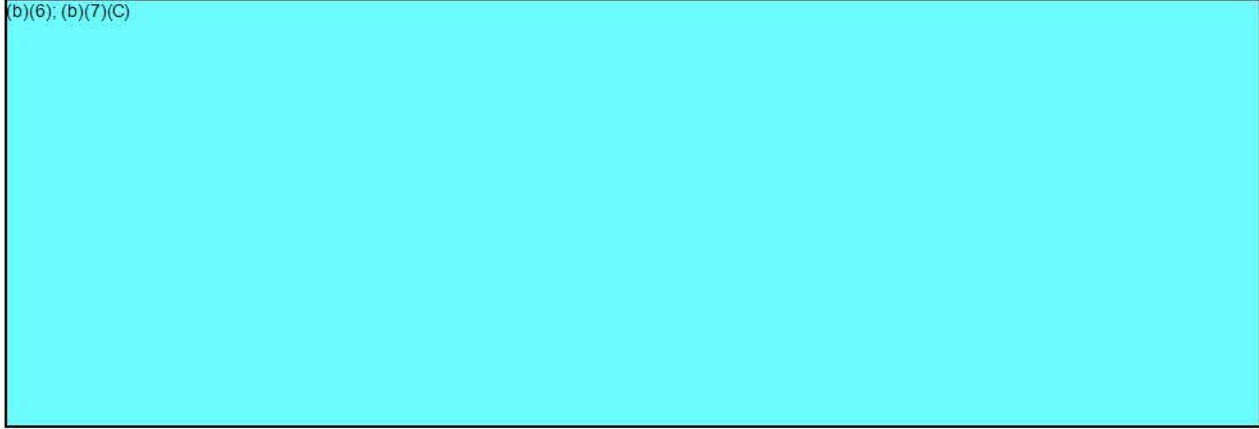
(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)



From: [COPS – Office of the Director \[mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov\]](mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov)
To: [General Inspector \(OIG\)](#)
Subject: [Hotline Submission] - Violation of Civil Rights or Civil Liberties
Date: Tuesday, June 2, 2020 3:32:15 PM

YOUR INFORMATION:

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)



INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERSON YOU ARE COMPLAINING ABOUT:

Name: William Barr
Job Title: Attorney General
Address Type:
Street Address:
City:
State:
Zip Code:
Country:
Phone:
Fax:
Email:

INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPLAINT:

City Incident Occurred: Washington DC
State: District of Columbia
Zip Code:
Country:
Date and Time Incident Occurred: June 1, 2020 between 6:30 and 7:00 pm
Department of Justice Component: Administration
Occurred at a Prison or Holding Facility?:

OTHER GOVERNMENT ENTITIES NOTIFIED:

DESCRIPTION:

News sources claim AG Barr issued order to fire tear gas and rubber bullets at persons exercising their First Amendment right to protest without provocation. The incident occurred on the streets and sidewalks across from the Lafayette Park, from which protestors had been excluded, to St. John's Church. It is my understanding that the protest was a legal and non-violent exercise of fundamental constitutional rights and protestors were harmed and deprived of their right to assemble and petition the government by unlawful order of an attorney general.

Training is deficient.

This message was sent from:

<https://oig.justice.gov/hotline/contact-civil.htm>

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)



Democracy 21 Fax

2000 Massachusetts Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20036

Phone 202.355.9600

Fax 202.355.9606

Date: June 12, 2020

**To: Michael Horowitz
Inspector General
U.S. Department of Justice
Suite 4706
950 Pennsylvania Ave N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530**

Fax: 202-616-9881

From: Democracy 21

**Re: Democracy 21 Complaint Regarding Attorney General
William Barr and US Attorney John Bash**

Page #: 6 (including cover)

Please confirm receipt of this document.



June 11, 2020

Michael Horowitz
Inspector General
U.S. Department of Justice
Suite 4706
950 Pennsylvania Ave N.W.
Washington, DC 20530

Robin C. Ashton
Counsel
Office of Professional Responsibility
U.S. Department of Justice
Suite 3529
950 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20530

Re: Democracy 21 complaint requesting investigation of Attorney General Barr's appointment of U.S. Attorney John F. Bash to lead criminal investigation into "unmasking" of Michael Flynn

Dear Inspector General Horowitz and Counsel Ashton:

Democracy 21 requests that you conduct an investigation of Attorney General William Barr's appointment of U.S. Attorney John F. Bash to lead a criminal investigation into the "unmasking" of Michael Flynn by Obama Administration officials, and Bash's failure to recuse himself from the appointment in light of his apparent conflict of interest in doing so.

The appointment of Bash to lead the investigation fails to comply with the conflict of interest rules of the Justice Department and the Department's norms, standards and core mission to provide "fair and impartial justice for all Americans."

John Bash is the U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Texas. He was nominated by President Trump and sworn into that position on December 11, 2017. Prior to his appointment, Bash served in the White House as Special Assistant to President Trump and Associate White House Counsel.

An individual who has worked as a Trump Special Assistant and White House Counsel has no public credibility to head a criminal investigation about the "unmasking" of Michael Flynn by Obama Administration officials. President Trump has been attacking

the “unmasking” as part of his undefined and unexplained assertions about “Obamagate,” which appears to be nothing more than a label created for the purpose of damaging his presidential opponent, Joe Biden, who served as Vice President in the Obama Administration.

It is plainly inappropriate to name a former Special Assistant and Associate White House Counsel to Trump to conduct this politicized investigation, all the more so just months before a presidential election in which Trump is a candidate.

Attorney General Barr’s appointment of Bash was announced on May 28, 2020 by DOJ spokesperson Kerri Kupec as part of an appearance on Sean Hannity’s television show on Fox News. This is not the way such appointments are normally announced.

According to a report in *The Washington Post*, Kupec said, “The attorney general determined that certain aspects of unmasking needed to be reviewed.” According to *Politico*, she added, “Obviously, we know that unmasking inherently isn’t wrong but certainly the frequency, the motivation and the reasoning behind unmasking can be problematic.”

“Unmasking” is the process by which a national security official can request that the identity of a person mentioned in an intelligence report be revealed to the official. According to *Politico*, the practice is “common. For example, last year alone, U.S. spy agencies were asked 7,724 times to reveal the identities of Americans mentioned in those intercepts.”

Kupec, the Department’s spokesperson, characterized the new “unmasking” investigation initiated by Attorney General Barr as an offshoot of the Department’s ongoing investigation, also initiated by Barr, into the origins of the Justice Department’s Russia investigation. The ongoing investigation is being led by U.S. Attorney John Durham. According to *Kupec*, “The attorney general determined that certain aspects of unmasking needed to be reviewed separately as a support to John Durham’s investigation.”

The Durham investigation into how the Obama Administration initiated the Russia investigation, and the new Bash investigation into the admittedly lawful and common practice of unmasking, are highly politicized and driven by President Trump. The first grew directly out of President Trump’s repeated, though discredited, claims that the Russia investigation was a “hoax” and that the Department engaged in a “witch hunt” of himself, his campaign and his associates. The second grew out of recent claims that Trump’s former national security adviser, Michael Flynn, was improperly investigated, prosecuted, and convicted by the Department. As *Politico* notes,

Bash’s new investigative role with the Justice Department comes as the president and congressional Republicans have escalated their attacks on former senior officials within President Barack Obama’s administration who might have been involved in efforts that unmasked Michael Flynn, Trump’s first national security adviser.

The “unmasking” matter has gained further attention in the wake of the Department’s recent controversial change of position on the Flynn guilty plea, a decision that has led to “intense criticism from congressional Democrats and former Justice Department officials who charge that the attorney general is abusing the powers of his office to settle the president’s partisan vendettas.”

In order to defend the Department’s highly unusual action to seek dismissal of the Flynn charges post-conviction, President Trump and his supporters have challenged the origin of the Flynn prosecution. They have claimed that Flynn was unfairly targeted by officials in the Obama Administration who may have improperly unmasked his identity and then leaked his involvement in the conversations with a Russian diplomat, Sergey Kislyak, that eventually led to his indictment and conviction.

But according to press reports, the whole premise of this claim – that Flynn’s name was masked in the first place – may well be wrong. According to *The Washington Post*,

It was the FBI, not the NSA, that wiretapped Kislyak’s calls and created the summary and transcript, the former officials said.

“When the FBI circulated [the report], they included Flynn’s name from the beginning” because it was essential to understanding its significance, said a former senior U.S. official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe sensitive intelligence. “There were therefore no requests for the unmasking of that information.”

This set of allegations relating to Flynn, along with other unsubstantiated claims, has been packaged by President Trump under the specious and unexplained label of “Obamagate.” In this context, the Bash investigation into unmasking by Obama officials, initiated by Attorney General Barr, has an undeniably political and partisan cast.

The fact that Attorney General Barr has opened this investigation at all plays into Trump’s use of the pejorative “Obamagate” label and furthers Trump’s efforts to discredit the Flynn investigation by Obama Administration officials, despite the fact that Flynn pleaded guilty and admitted his guilt under oath on multiple occasions.

Any Department investigation of such a politically charged matter should not be opened at all just months before the presidential election, but if it is, the investigation must be undertaken in a manner that leaves no room for questioning the fairness, impartiality and credibility of the investigation or the investigators.

In this light, Attorney General Barr’s appointment of U.S. Attorney Bash to lead the investigation and Bash’s acceptance of the assignment is self-evidently improper, and in direct conflict with the Department’s core mission “to ensure fair and impartial administration of justice for all Americans.”

There is no way that an individual who worked in this Administration as Special Assistant and Associate White House Counsel for President Trump can have any public credibility in conducting part of a criminal investigation demanded by President Trump and being used by Trump for partisan political purposes to damage his opponent in the 2020 presidential election.

In selecting U.S. Attorney Bash, the Attorney General has chosen a prosecutor who creates the appearance that he has been chosen to serve the partisan re-election objectives of his former boss.

This selection is not only contrary to the core mission of the Department but also apparently fails to comply with DOJ conflict of interest rules.

The DOJ recusal regulations at 26 C.F.R. § 45.2 state:

- (a) no employee shall participate in a criminal investigation or prosecution if he has a personal or political relationship with:
 - (1) Any person or organization substantially involved in the conduct that is the subject of the investigation or prosecution; or
 - (2) Any person or organization which he knows has a specific and substantial interest that would be directly affected by the outcome of the investigation or prosecution.

28 CFR § 45.2(a). The regulation further defines the term “political relationship” to mean “a close identification with an elected official, a candidate (whether or not successful) for elective, public office, a political party, or a campaign organization, arising from service as a principal adviser thereto or a principal official thereof.” *Id.* § 45.2(c). A Special Assistant to the President and Associate White House Counsel is a principal adviser to the President.

Further, under 28 CFR § 42.5(b) any prosecutor falling within the scope of subsection 45.2(a) must have his participation in an investigation reviewed, and may participate in the investigation only if a supervisor determines in writing:

- ... after full consideration of all facts and circumstances, that:
 - (1) The relationship will not have the effect of rendering the employee’s service less than fully impartial and professional; and
 - (2) The employee’s participation would not create an appearance of a conflict of interest likely to affect the public perception of the integrity of the investigation or prosecution.

As explained above, the allegation that Obama Administration officials engaged in improper unmasking of Flynn is part of President Trump's use of the pejorative and unexplained label "Obamagate," which Trump repeatedly wields in an attempt to damage the presidential campaign of his opponent, Vice President Biden.

This unmasking allegation is publicly associated with President Trump and his allies, and with Trump's efforts to damage and defeat Vice President Biden. Trump thus has a "specific and substantial" political interest in how the investigation of that allegation is undertaken and resolved, within the scope of the Justice Department's conflict of interest and recusal rules.

Thus, under DOJ conflict of interest rules, Bash has a "political relationship" with President Trump, and Trump has a "direct and substantial" interest in the conduct and outcome of the unmasking investigation. Therefore, Bash's participation in the unmasking investigation is precluded by subsection (a) of the Department's conflict of interest rules. Bash's participation is also precluded by subsection (b) of the same rules.

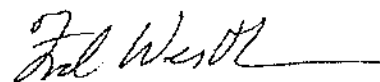
Bash's role as Special Assistant and Associate White House Counsel to President Trump means his service to lead the unmasking investigation is "less than fully impartial" within the scope of subsection (b)(1), particularly given the highly politicized context in which any investigation of the unmasking allegation would occur. For the same reason, Bash's involvement in the investigation would create "an appearance of a conflict of interest likely to affect the public perception of the integrity of the investigation or prosecution," within the scope of subsection (b)(2).

Under DOJ conflict of interest rules, Barr should not have appointed Bash to lead this investigation and Bash should never have accepted the position. Bash is prohibited from conducting the "unmasking" investigation and must withdraw immediately from doing so.

The decision to appoint Bash, with his close ties to President Trump, to lead an investigation initiated just months before a presidential election – an investigation that serves Trump's partisan political aim of damaging his opponent in the coming presidential election – could not be more improper and in apparent violation of the Justice Department rules.

Democracy 21 strongly urges you to open an immediate investigation of this matter and to take appropriate action to have U.S. Attorney Bash comply with the Justice Department's recusal rules and to hold Attorney General Barr and Bash accountable for their apparent violation of the Department's conflict of interest rules.

Sincerely,



Fred Wertheimer
President

From: [COPS – Office of the Director \[mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov\]](mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov)
To: [General, Inspector \(OIG\)](#)
Subject: [Hotline Submission] - Violation of Civil Rights or Civil Liberties
Date: Monday, June 8, 2020 10:14:16 AM

YOUR INFORMATION:

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C); (b)(3):5 U.S.C. App. 3 Section 7(b) (Inspector General Act of 1978)

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERSON YOU ARE COMPLAINING ABOUT:

Name: William Barr
Job Title: Attorney General of the United States
Address Type: Business
Street Address: 950 Pennsylvania Ave NW
City: Washington
State: DC
Zip Code: 20530
Country: USA
Phone:
Fax:
Email:

INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPLAINT:

City Incident Occurred: Washington
State: DC
Zip Code: 20530
Country: USA
Date and Time Incident Occurred: June 1, 2020, 6:00-7:00 p.m. (approximately), EDT
Department of Justice Component: Office of the Attorney General
Occurred at a Prison or Holding Facility?:

OTHER GOVERNMENT ENTITIES NOTIFIED:

DESCRIPTION:

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C); (b)(3):5 U.S.C. App. 3 Section 7(b) (Inspector General Act of 1978)

This complaint is regarding Attorney General William P. Barr's apparent (1) violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 241, 242, 2, (2) gross mismanagement of the Department of Justice, (3) gross waste of funds, (4) abuse of authority, and (5) causation of substantial and specific danger to public health and safety.

According to the White House spokesperson and various news reports, on June 1, 2020, Mr. Barr gave orders to clear Lafayette Square in Washington, D.C., of individuals who were protesting the death of Mr. George Floyd, a Black man who was killed by police officers during his arrest in Minneapolis in May 2020, the death of Ms. Breonna Taylor, a Black woman who was killed by police officers in her home in Louisville in March 2020, as well as systemic racism in this nation's criminal justice system. The protesters were exercising their constitutional rights to speak freely, assemble peaceably, petition the government, and exercise their religion freely. The protesters enjoyed the right to be free from unwarranted seizure by the government.

According to news reports, Mr. Barr's actions and the direct consequences of his actions were as follows: On June 1, 2020, before President Donald Trump was to walk from the White House to St. John's Episcopal Church in Washington, D.C., for a photo opportunity session, Mr. Barr arrived at Lafayette Square at about 6:08 p.m., saw where the protesters were located, and ordered that the protesters be cleared and the security perimeter that surrounded the White House be pushed out further toward the protesters. In carrying out Mr. Barr's orders, federal and local law enforcement officers violently suppressed and dispersed an ongoing peaceful protest. Officers in riot gear used smoke and flash grenades, rubber bullets, and chemical spray to disperse the protesters, among whom were clergypersons expressing their right to free exercise of religion in speaking prophetically against the evils of police brutality and systemic racism in the criminal justice system. Apparently, Mr. Barr's order was an attempt to better facilitate the President's walk to St. John's Episcopal Church. According to news reports, law enforcement agencies that participated in the clearing of protesters from Lafayette Square included members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Marshals Service, Bureau of Prisons, U.S. Parks Service, and U.S. Secret Service. Since June 1, although Mr. Barr has denied giving specific "tactical" orders as to how the protests should be disrupted and dispersed, he has not denied giving orders to forcibly move the security perimeter toward the peaceful protesters and admitted to members of the news media that the dispersal of the protesters "had to be done" and that his attitude was to "get it [dispersal of protesters] done."

In making this complaint, I am relying on the news media accounts of the events described above, the statements of the White House and Department of Justice spokespersons (as reported in the news media), and the statements Mr. Barr made to the news media since the events. I am not a percipient witness to the events described above. I have not learned any facts about the events described above, directly or indirectly, from any percipient witness to the events described above. I am not aware of any classified or legally restricted information in my possession that is relevant to the events described above.

It appears that Mr. Barr's above-described acts on June 1, 2020 were in violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 241, 242, 2 (conspiracy to deprive, and deprivation of, rights under color of law, and aiding and abetting and causing deprivation of rights under law). Mr. Barr may have violated 18 U.S.C. § 242, on June 1, in that (1) the victim protesters were inhabitants of United States states, districts, and territories when the violation of their rights occurred; (2) Mr. Barr acted under color of law as the Attorney General of the United States; (3) Mr. Barr's conduct deprived the victim protesters of rights secured and protected by the First and Fourth Amendments of the U.S. Constitution, namely, the rights to speak freely, assemble peaceably, petition the government, exercise their religion freely, and be free from unwarranted seizure by the government; and (4) Mr. Barr acted willfully with the purpose to violate protected constitutional rights of the victim protesters. In so acting, it appears that Mr. Barr also aided and abetted and caused the deprivation of rights of the victim protesters, in

violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2. He further appears to have conspired with one or more other individuals in injuring, oppressing, threatening, and intimidating the victim protesters in the free exercise and enjoyment of their First and Fourth Amendment rights and privileges, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 241.

In ordering members of the FBI, the ATF, the DEA, the USMS, and the BOP (all agencies under the Department of Justice) to violently suppress and disperse protesters and cause deprivation of rights of the protesters, it appears that Mr. Barr engaged in gross mismanagement of the Department's resources. Mr. Barr's orders and participation in the deprivation of rights of the protesters also appears to have represented gross waste of funds and abuse of authority. Mr. Barr's conduct also appears to have caused substantial and specific danger to public health and safety, particularly the health and safety of the protesters.

Mr. Barr's conduct of June 1, 2020 also appears to have violated the oath he took to support and defend the Constitution he took when he became the Attorney General of the United States on February 14, 2019. By his apparent actions, he has irreparably harmed the constitutional integrity of the Department of Justice and substantially interfered with the ability of the members of the Department to seek justice, promote law and order, and ensure public safety and national security.

At the same time, I believe that every individual suspected of engaging in a criminal activity should be accorded full protections under the Due Process Clause, even if that individual appears to have violated numerous rights of many others. Mr. Barr deserves such protections in the course of the OIG's investigation into his potential criminal violations of the civil rights and civil liberties of the protesters at Lafayette Square on June 1, 2020.

Below I include links to various news media accounts describing the events described in this complaint:

AG Barr ordered protesters to be cleared from park before Trump visit: Officials:

<https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/ag-barr-ordered-protesters-cleared-park-trump-visit/story?id=71026258>

Barr personally ordered removal of protesters near White House, leading to use of force

against largely peaceful crowd: https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/barr-personally-ordered-removal-of-protesters-near-white-house-leading-to-use-of-force-against-largely-peaceful-crowd/2020/06/02/0ca2417c-a4d5-11ea-b473-04905b1af82b_story.html

Barr says he didn't give tactical order to clear protesters:

<https://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2020/06/05/us/politics/ap-us-america-protests-attorney-general.html>

Barr again defends law enforcement's force in controversial removal of peaceful protesters in DC:

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/07/politics/barr-law-enforcement-force-dc-protests/index.html>

Barr seeks to dissociate himself from move on demonstrators outside Lafayette Square:

https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/barr-seeks-to-dissociate-himself-from-move-on-demonstrators-outside-lafayette-park/2020/06/05/47cb96b6-a78e-11ea-bb20-ebf0921f3bbd_story.html

This message was sent from:

<https://oig.justice.gov/hotline/contact-civil.htm>

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C); (b)(3); 5 U.S.C. App. 3 Section 7(b) (Inspector General Act of 1978)

From: [COPS – Office of the Director \[mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov\]](mailto:noreply@cops1.doj.gov)
To: [HOTLINE, OIG \(OIG\)](#)
Subject: [Hotline Submission] - DOJ Employee or Program
Date: Thursday, June 11, 2020 2:21:20 AM

YOUR INFORMATION:

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C); (b)(3):5 U.S.C. App. 3 Section 7(b) (Inspector General Act of 1978)

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERSON YOU ARE COMPLAINING ABOUT:

Name:
Job Title:
Address Type:
Street Address:
City:
State:
Zip Code:
Country:
Phone:
Fax:
Email:

INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPLAINT:

City Incident Occurred:
State:
Zip Code:
Country:
Date and Time Incident Occurred:
Department of Justice Component:
Occurred at a Prison or Holding Facility?:
Is this a Civil Rights Violation?:
Is this an Insider Threat?:

OTHER GOVERNMENT ENTITIES NOTIFIED:

DESCRIPTION:

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C); (b)(3):5 U.S.C. App. 3 Section 7(b) (Inspector General Act of 1978)

This complaint is regarding Attorney General William P. Barr's apparent (1) violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 241, 242, 2, (2) gross mismanagement of the Department of Justice, (3) gross waste of funds, (4) abuse of authority, and (5) causation of substantial and specific danger to public health and safety.

According to the White House spokesperson and various news reports, on June 1, 2020, Mr. Barr gave orders to clear Lafayette Square in Washington, D.C., of individuals who were protesting the death of Mr. George Floyd, a black man who was killed by police officers during his arrest in Minneapolis in May 2020, the death of Ms. Breonna Taylor, a black woman who was killed by police officers in her home in Louisville in March 2020, as well as systemic racism in this nation's criminal justice system. The protesters were exercising their constitutional rights to speak freely, assemble peaceably, petition the government, and exercise their religion freely. The protesters enjoyed the right to be free from unwarranted seizure by the government.

According to news reports, Mr. Barr's actions and the direct consequences of his actions were as follows: On June 1, 2020, before President Donald Trump was to walk from the White House to St. John's Episcopal Church in Washington, D.C., for a photo opportunity session, Mr. Barr arrived at Lafayette Square at about 6:08 p.m., saw where the protesters were located, and ordered that the protesters be cleared and the security perimeter that surrounded the White House be pushed out further toward the protesters. According to one news report, a member of the National Guard directly informed Mr. Barr that the protesters were peaceful even as Barr authorized law enforcement to clear the protesters.

In carrying out Mr. Barr's orders, federal and local law enforcement officers violently suppressed and dispersed an ongoing peaceful protest. Officers in riot gear used smoke and flash grenades, sting ball grenades, rubber bullets, and chemical spray and chemical grenades, including tear gas, to disperse the protesters, among whom were clergypersons expressing their right to free exercise of religion in speaking prophetically against the evils of police brutality and systemic racism in the criminal justice system. Some clergy were reportedly there to hand out water to the protesters. According to news reports, law enforcement agencies that participated in the clearing of protesters from Lafayette Square included members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Marshals Service, Bureau of Prisons, U.S. Parks Service, and U.S. Secret Service.

Since June 1, although Mr. Barr has denied giving specific "tactical" orders as to how the protests should be disrupted and dispersed, he has not denied giving orders to forcibly move the security perimeter toward the peaceful protesters and admitted to members of the news media that the dispersal of the protesters "had to be done" and that his attitude was to "get it [dispersal of protesters] done."

In making this complaint, I am relying on the news media accounts of the events described above, the statements of the White House and Department of Justice spokespersons (as reported in the news media), and the statements Mr. Barr made to the news media since the events. I am not a percipient witness to the events described above. I have not learned any facts about the events described above, directly or indirectly, from any percipient witness to the events described above. I am not aware of any classified or legally restricted information in my possession that is relevant to the events described above.

It appears that Mr. Barr's above-described acts on June 1, 2020 were in violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 241, 242, 2 (conspiracy to deprive, and deprivation of, rights under color of law, and aiding and abetting and causing deprivation of rights under law). Mr. Barr may have violated 18 U.S.C. § 242, on June 1, in that (1) the victim protesters were inhabitants of United States' states, districts, and territories when the violation of their rights occurred; (2) Mr. Barr acted under color of law as the Attorney General of the United States; (3) Mr. Barr's conduct deprived the victim protesters of rights secured and protected by the First and Fourth Amendments of the U.S. Constitution, namely, the rights to speak freely, assemble peaceably, petition the government, exercise their religion freely, and be free from unwarranted seizure by the government; and (4) Mr. Barr acted willfully with the purpose to violate protected constitutional rights of the victim protesters. In so acting, it appears that Mr. Barr also aided and abetted and caused the deprivation of rights of the victim protesters, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2. He further appears to have conspired with one or more other individuals in injuring, oppressing, threatening, and intimidating the victim protesters in the free exercise and enjoyment of their First and Fourth Amendment rights and privileges, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 241.

In ordering members of the FBI, the ATF, the DEA, the USMS, and the BOP (all agencies under the Department of Justice) to violently suppress and disperse protesters and cause deprivation of rights of the protesters, it appears that Mr. Barr engaged in gross mismanagement of the Department's resources. Mr. Barr's orders and participation in the deprivation of rights of the protesters also appears to have represented gross waste of funds and abuse of authority. Mr. Barr's conduct also appears to have caused substantial and specific danger to public health and safety, particularly the health and safety of the protesters. Mr. Barr's conduct of June 1, 2020 also appears to have violated the oath he took to support and defend the Constitution he took when he became the Attorney General of the United States on February 14, 2019. By his apparent actions, he has irreparably harmed the constitutional integrity of the Department of Justice and substantially interfered with the ability of the members of the Department to seek justice, promote law and order, and ensure public safety and national security.

This message was sent from:

<https://oig.justice.gov/hotline/contact-doj.htm>

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C); (b)(3); 5 U.S.C. App. 3 Section 7(b) (Inspector General Act of 1978)

June 12, 2020

Dear Inspector General Michael Horowitz,
Please investigate the use of chemical agents and rubber bullets on peaceful protesters in Lafayette Square on June 1, 2020. Please determine what role AG Barr or any DOJ employee played in this illegal action depriving Americans of their constitutional rights or physically injuring Americans lawfully exercising their rights. The details of your investigation must be shared with the American people.

Sincerely,

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

DOJ-20-1871-B-000036

June 14, 2020

Michael Horowitz, Inspector General
U.S. Dept. of Justice
Office of the Inspector General
Attn: Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Complaints
950 Pennsylvania Ave NW.
Washington DC 20530

Dear Inspector General Horowitz,

I am writing as a citizen to complain about the decision by Attorney General William Barr on Monday June 1, 2020, to use the National Park Police, the National Guard and the Federal Prison Special Operations forces to clear peaceful protestors from 16th Street (using tear gas, pepper bullets and direct physical force) in order to allow President Trump to use St. John's Episcopal Church as a political photo opportunity.

My late husband [REDACTED] and I would have been as horrified as I was to see this happen. Bishop Budde of the Washington Diocese has denounced it as the disgrace it is.

Mr. Barr's decision to employ military police against U.S. Citizens is reprehensible. The 1st Amendment clearly states "the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." I request, with all respect, that you open an investigation into whether Mr. Barr abused the power of his office.

Sincerely,

DEAR INSPECTOR GENERAL,

JUNE 13, 2020

PLEASE INVESTIGATE THE USE OF CHEMICAL AGENTS & RUBBER BULLETS ON PEACEFUL PROTESTORS IN LAFAYETTE SQUARE ON JUNE 1 OF THIS YEAR. HOW WAS A.G. BARR INVOLVED? WHY DID HE LIE ABOUT IT? WHAT IS THE JUSTIFICATION FOR THAT AGGRESSIVENESS FOR A PRESIDENTIAL PHOTO OP??

YOU WORK FOR ME! ANYONE LYING FOR THIS PRESIDENT (AND ADMINISTRATION) SHOULD BE PROSECUTED, AFTER INVESTIGATING FILE CHARGES - PEOPLE HAVE THE RIGHT TO PROTEST (PEACEFULLY), NOT TO BE ATTACKED!

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Dear Inspector General Horowitz,
I join over 1200 former federal
prosecutors, judges and department
officials asking you to investigate the
use of violence against peaceful
protesters in Lafayette Square and
the role of A.G. Barr in instigating
this illegal action.

Sincerely,

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

6/4/20

Dear Inspector General Horowitz:

I join with over 1200 post and present federal officials in asking you to investigate violence that was used against peaceful protesters in Lafayette Square, and AG Barr's role in investigating this illegal action.

Sincerely,

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Dear General Horowitz -

I join 1260 former federal prosecutors,
judges and department officials
and ask you to investigate and determine
AG Barr's role in the violent attack on
peaceful protesters in Lafayette Square.

Respectfully,

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Dear Inspector General Michael
Horowitz:

June 16, 2020

Please investigate the use of chemical agents and rubber bullets on peaceful protesters in Lafayette Square on June 1, 2020. Please investigate to determine what role AG Barr or any DOJ employee played in this illegal action depriving Americans of their Constitutional rights, or physically injuring Americans lawfully exercising their rights — and make the details of your investigation public. Thank you,

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

6-13-2020

Dear Inspector General Horowitz -

Please carry out a full investigation in the use of chemical agents and rubber bullets on the peaceful protestors in Lafayette Square in Jan. Please determine what role AG Barr or any DOJ employee played in this illegal action depriving Americans of their constitutional rights or physically injuring Americans lawfully exercising their rights. The details of your investigation must be shared with American people and justice must be pursued. Thank you

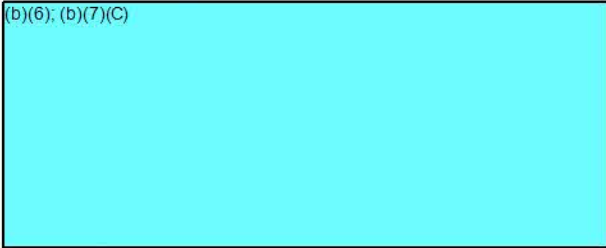
(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Dear Inspector General Michael Horowitz,

I join over 1200 former federal prosecutors, judges and department officials asking you to investigate the use of violence against peaceful protestors in Lafayette Square and the role of Attorney General Barr in instigating this illegal action.

Thank you for your attention.

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)



6/16/2020

Dear Inspector Gen.
Michael Horowitz:

Please investigate the use of chemical agents and rubber bullets on peaceful protesters in Lafayette Square on 1 June 2020. Please determine what role AG Barr or any DOJ employees played in this illegal action depriving Americans of their constitutional rights or physically injuring Americans lawfully exercising their rights.

The

must

Share
be pursued. sincerely -

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

6/14/20

Dear Inspector General Horowitz,

I am joining with the over 1,200 former federal prosecutors, judges & others to ask you to investigate the use of violence against peaceful protestors in Lafayette Square on June 1, 2020 & the role of Attorney General Barr in investigating this illegal action.

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Dear Mr. Horowitz:

We write to you as alumni of the United States Department of Justice (“DOJ” or the “Department”). Collectively, we have served in both career and high-ranking politically-appointed positions in both Republican and Democratic administrations. Some of us had careers that spanned decades and multiple administrations.

We are deeply concerned about the Department’s actions, and those of Attorney General William Barr himself, in response to the nationwide lawful gatherings to protest the systemic racism that has plagued this country throughout its history, recently exemplified by the brutal killings of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor by sworn law enforcement officers acting under the color of law. These unjustified killings are anathema to the fair administration of justice, and have rightly outraged Americans of all races and political persuasions, many of whom have chosen to exercise their First Amendment rights through public protest. In particular, we are disturbed by Attorney General Barr’s possible role in ordering law enforcement personnel to suppress a peaceful domestic protest in Lafayette Square on June 1, 2020, for the purpose of enabling President Trump to walk across the street from the White House and stage a photo op at St. John’s Church, a politically motivated event in which Attorney General Barr participated.

While the full scope of the Attorney General’s role is not yet clear, he has admitted that he was present in front of the White House before law enforcement personnel took action to disperse the crowd.¹ Department of Justice and White House personnel initially said that the Attorney General gave an order to law enforcement personnel to “get going” or “get it done.” A day later, the Attorney General told the Associated Press that he was “not involved in giving tactical commands.” If the Attorney General issued orders to officers of a variety of federal agencies, including U.S. Secret Service, U.S. Park Police, D.C. National Guard, and U.S. Military Police, it is unclear under what purported authority he did so. After the order was given, and before the start of a city-imposed curfew, federal law enforcement officers in riot gear reportedly fired rubber bullets, chemical gas,² smoke canisters, and stun grenades³ at peaceful protesters, and otherwise used excessive force, physically injuring many people, including journalists and an

¹ Matt Zapotosky, *Barr Seeks To Dissociate Himself From Move On Demonstrators Outside Lafayette Square*, Wash. Post (Jun. 5, 2020), https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/barr-seeks-to-dissociate-himself-from-move-on-demonstrators-outside-lafayette-park/2020/06/05/47cb96b6-a78e-11ea-bb20-ebf0921f3bbd_story.html.

² Rebecca Tan et al., *Before Trump Vows To End ‘Lawlessness,’ Federal Officers Confront Protesters Outside White House*, Wash. Post (Jun. 2, 2020), https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/washington-dc-protest-white-house-george-floyd/2020/06/01/6b193d1c-a3c9-11ea-bb20-ebf0921f3bbd_story.html.

³ Letter from House Committee Chairmen to Cabinet Members (Jun. 3, 2020), https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/washington-dc-protest-white-house-george-floyd/2020/06/01/6b193d1c-a3c9-11ea-bb20-ebf0921f3bbd_story.html.

DOJ employees. If the Attorney General or any other DOJ employee has directly participated in actions that have deprived Americans of their constitutional rights or that physically injured Americans lawfully exercising their rights, that would be misconduct of the utmost seriousness, the details of which must be shared with the American people.

Thank you for your consideration.

1,428 Former Department of Justice Employees (as of this mailing)

First Name	Last Name	Highest Department Position Held
Jonathan	Abernethy	Assistant United States Attorney
Donald	Abrams	Assistant United States Attorney; Organized Crime Strike Force Attorney
Thomas	Abt	Chief of Staff, Office of Justice Programs
Sandra	Acosta	Senior Trial Attorney
Sergio	Acosta	Chief, General Crimes Section, Criminal Civil Rights Coordinator, N.D. Ill.
Julien	Adams	Assistant United States Attorney
Jay	Adelstein	Senior Trial Attorney
Dennis	Aftergut	Assistant United States Attorney
Sam	Alba	First Assistant US Attorney, District of Utah
Christopher	Alberto	Chief, Justice Enforcement Team, Financial Litigation
Geraldine	Alexis	Legal Adviser, Office of Legal Counsel
Cynthia	Alksne	Assistant United States Attorney
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David	Allen	Trial Attorney
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Stephen	Andersson	Deputy Chief, N.D. Ill.
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Lindsay	Androski	Assistant United States Attorney
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William	Aronwald	Chief, Criminal Division, EDNY
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David	Askman	Senior Counsel, Environment and Natural Resources Division
Hannah	August	Press Secretary
Roy	Austin	Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Edna	Axelrod	Chief of Appeals, District of New Jersey
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Susan	Badger	Assistant United States Attorney
Steven	Baer	Senior Counsel, Environmental Enforcement Section
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Robert	Baker	Senior Trial Attorney
Wayne	Baker	Assistant United States Attorney, EDNY
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Thomas	Buck	Assistant United States Attorney
Samuel	Buell	Assistant United States Attorney
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Ronald	Kravitz	Attorney Adviser
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Patrick	McLaughlin	Assistant United States Attorney
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Marvin	Morse	Administrative Law Judge, Board of Immigration Appeals
Jack	Morse	Trial Attorney

Larry	Patton	United States Attorney, W.D. Okla.
Jeremy	Paul	Professor in Residence, Appellate Staff, Civil Division
Theresa	Pauling	Deputy Chief Counsel
David	Payne	Assistant United States Attorney, D.D.C.
Charles	Pazar	Immigration Judge
Thomas	Peebles	Overseas Prosecutorial Development Assistance and Training Regional Director
Paul	Pelletier	Principal Deputy Chief
Nina	Pelletier	Assistant Inspector General
John	Pensinger	Deputy General Counsel, Office of Justice Programs
Charles	Pereyra-Suarez	Assistant United States Attorney, Head of Civil Rights Unit
Hector	Perez	Assistant United States Attorney
Danya	Perry	Deputy Chief, Criminal Division, S.D.N.Y.
James	Peters	Assistant United States Attorney
Elizabeth	Peterson	Attorney, Appellate Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division
Barry	Pettinato	Immigration Judge
Nicholas	Phillips	Assistant United States Attorney
Louis	Pichini	Chief, Criminal Division, E.D. Pa.
Stephen	Pickard	Assistant United States Attorney
Cyrus	Picken	Trial Attorney
Harold	Pickenstein	United States Attorney, D. Conn.
Emily	Pierce	Former Acting Director, Office of Public Affairs
Sunny	Pietrafesa	Senior Trial Attorney
Brad	Pigott	United States Attorney
Veronica	Platt Longstreth	Trial Attorney, Torts Branch
Andrew	Plepler	Trial Attorney
Robert	Plotz	Assistant United States Attorney, Southern District of New York
James	Ponsoldt	Senior Trial Attorney
Richard	Poole	Senior Litigation Counsel
Amy	Pope	Deputy Chief of Staff and Counselor, Criminal Division
Allison	Porter	Trial Attorney
Mark	Posner	Special Counsel
Herbert	Posner	Special Attorney, Organized Crime & Racketeering Section, Newark Strike Force
Mary	Pougiales	Assistant United States Attorney
Ann	Powers	Assistant United States Attorney; Senior Trial Attorney, Land and Natural Resources Division
Lydia	Pozzato	Supervisory Special Agent
Allison	Price	Senior Spokesperson
Caryl	Privett	United States Attorney
Francesca	Procaccini	Attorney
Melanie	Proctor	Assistant United States Attorney
George	Proctor	United States Attorney, E.D. Ark.
Michael	Prozan	Special Assistant United States Attorney
Dan	Purdom	Assistant United States Attorney
Tim	Purdon	United States Attorney, District of North Dakota
Julio	Quinones	Assistant Special Agent in Charge
Susan	Raab	Assistant United States Attorney, Middle District of Florida
Daniel L.	Rabinowitz	Assistant United States Attorney
Judith	Rabinowitz	Assistant Director, Civil Division
Jesselyn	Radack	Legal Advisor, Professional Responsibility Advisory Office
Jill	Radek	Trial Attorney
Reba	Raffaelli	Line Attorney
Jodi	Raffin	Assistant United States Attorney, E.D. Cal.
Laura	Ramirez	Immigration Judge
Kurt	Ramlo	Assistant United States Attorney; Chief, Financial Litigation Unit
Stephen	Ramsey	Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section
Michael	Rand	Chief, Victimization Statistics, Bureau of Justice Statistics
Crandon	Randell	Senior Litigation Counsel
Carla	Raney	Associate Director, Office of Enforcement Operations, Criminal Division
Asha	Rangappa	Special Agent, FBI
Katherine	Ransel	Trial Attorney, Civil Rights Division
Arun	Rao	Chief, Southern Division, District of Maryland
Sonya	Rao	Assistant United States Attorney
Norman	Rave	Senior Attorney
Scott	Ray	Deputy Chief, Major Crimes
Paula	Ray	Assistant United States Attorney
Frances	Reddis	Assistant United States Attorney
Ann	Reed	Attorney Advisor
Carolyn	Reed	Attorney
Robert	Reed	Executive Assistant, E.D. Pa.
Samuel	Reich	First Assistant United States Attorney
Kenneth	Reich	Assistant Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section

Stuart	Rudnick	Special Attorney, Organized Crime and Racketeering Section, Criminal Division
Charlton	Rugg	Assistant United States Attorney
Jonathan	Rusch	Deputy Chief, Fraud Section, Criminal Division
Bob	Rush	Trial Attorney, Civil Rights Division
Tracy	Russo	Director of New Media
Allan	Ryan	Director, Office of Special Investigations, Criminal Division
Charles S.	Sabalos	Assistant United States Attorney, Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force
Mark	Sabath	Senior Attorney
Gerald	Sachs	Assistant United States Attorney
Robert	Sadowski	Health Care Fraud Coordinator
Ronald	Safer	Chief, Criminal Division, Northern District of Illinois
Joan	Safford	Deputy United States Attorney; First Assistant U.S. Attorney
Sanford	Sagalkin	Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Peter C.	Salerno	Deputy Chief, Civil Division, SDNY
Julie	Saltman	Trial Attorney
Stephen	Saltzburg	Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Joseph	Salus	Reviewer, Criminal Section, Tax Division
	Samberg-	
Sasha	Champion	Senior Attorney, Civil Rights Division, Appellate Section
Randall	Samborn	Assistant United States Attorney, Public Information Officer, N.D. Ill.
Stephen	Samuels	Assistant Section Chief
Luis Felipe	Sánchez	Assistant United States Attorney, N.D. Ill.
Harry	Sandick	Assistant United States Attorney
Leonard	Sands	Trial Attorney, Criminal Division, Organized Crime and Racketeering Section
R. Jerome	Sanford	Managing Assistant United States Attorney
Frank	Santoro	Senior Litigation Counsel
Daniella	Sapriel	Trial Attorney
Joseph F.	Savage	Chief of Public Corruption, D. Mass.
John	Sawyer	Economist
Keith	Saxe	Assistant Chief, Natural Resources Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division
Ellen	Sazzman	Trial Attorney
Michael	Scadron	Senior Trial Counsel
Terri	Scadron	Assistant Director
Edward	Scarvalone	Assistant United States Attorney, SDNY
Shira	Scheindlin	Chief, Official Corruption Unit
Arden	Schell	Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Peter	Schenck	First Assistant United States Attorney, E.D. Pa.
Howard	Scher	Attorney
James	Schermerhorn	Special Litigation Counsel
Lois	Schiffer	Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division
Tracy	Schmalzer	Director, Office of Public Affairs
Deborah	Schmall	Trial Attorney
Paul	Schmidt	Chairman, Board of Immigration Appeals
Thomas	Schneider	United States Attorney, E.D. Wis.
Susan	Schneider	Senior Attorney
Joshua	Schnell	Trial Attorney
Steven	Schooner	Trial Attorney
Vicki	Schultz	Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Robert	Schwartz	Trial Attorney
Wendy	Schwartz	Deputy Chief, Civil Division, SDNY
Melissa	Schwartz	Senior Public Affairs Officer
		Interim United States Attorney; First Assistant United States Attorney; Justice Attaché, United States Embassy, Kabul (SES)
David	Schwendiman	Senior Trial Attorney
Charles	Schwidde	Trial Attorney
Eric	Segall	Assistant United States Attorney, C.D. Cal.
David	Seide	Deputy Associate Attorney General
Ricki	Seidman	Chief, Organized Crime & Racketeering Section, EDNY
Thomas	Seigel	United States Attorney
Randy	Seiler	Trial Attorney
Steven	Semeraro	Chief, Criminal Division, Northern District of Illinois
Robert	Semmer	Assistant United States Attorney
Randal	Sengel	Trial Attorney
Christopher	Shaheen	Trial Attorney, Civil Division
Philip	Shaikun	Attorney-Advisor, Office of Legal Counsel
Peter	Shane	Contracting Officer's Technical Representative
John	Shannonhouse	Assistant United States Attorney
Jonathan	Shapiro	Assistant to the Solicitor General
Harriet	Shapiro	Deputy Chief, Computer Crime & Intellectual Property Section, Criminal Division
Andrea	Sharrin	

Lisa	Stark	Assistant United States Attorney, D.D.C.; Senior Counsel, Appellate Section, Civil Rights Division
Judson	Starr	Chief, Environmental Crimes Section
Katherine	Staton	Assistant United States Attorney
Joan E. T.	Stearns	Assistant United States Attorney, W.D. Tex.
Michalyn	Steele	Trial Attorney
Dodie	Steenland	Supervisory Administrative Specialist
Peter	Steenland	Chief, Appellate Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division
Elizabeth	Stein	Trial Attorney
Marshall	Stein	Assistant United States Attorney
Carolyn	Stein	Assistant United States Attorney
Stefan	Stein	Deputy Chief, Public Corruption & Government Fraud Section, C.D. Cal.
Joshua	Stein	Assistant United States Attorney
Robert	Steinberg	Senior Assistant United States Attorney
Deborah	Steiner	Assistant United States Attorney
Greg	Stejskal	Senior Resident Agent, FBI, Ann Arbor, Michigan
Michael	Stern	Assistant United States Attorney
Jonathan	Stern	Trial Attorney
Rebecca	Stewart	Deputy Press Secretary
Valerie	Stewart	Assistant United States Attorney
Marc	Stickgold	Assistant United States Attorney
R. Stephen	Stigall	Attorney-in-Charge, D.N.J.
Phil	Stiness	Deputy Executive Assistant, Land and natural Resources Division
Bette	Stockton	Immigration Judge
F. L. Peter	Stone	United States Attorney, District of Delaware
Thomas	Stout	Assistant United States Attorney
Barbara L.	Strack	Acting Executive Associate Commissioner, Policy & Planning, Immigration and Naturalization Service
William	Strassberger	Deputy Director, Public Affairs, INS
Pamela B.	Stuart	Assistant United States Attorney, District of Columbia
Shelley	Stump	Assistant United States Attorney
Herbert	Sturman	Assistant United States Attorney
Judry	Subar	Assistant Branch Director
Kevin	Sullivan	Lead Counsel, AT&T Divestiture, Antitrust Division
Paul	Summit	Assistant United States Attorney
M. McIntyre	Sundin	Supervisory Attorney-Advisor
Nikhel	Sus	Trial Attorney
Mark	Sussman	Trial Attorney
Jim	Sutherland	Civil Chief, District of Oregon
Leslie	Swain	Assistant United States Attorney
Carol	Swanson	Assistant United States Attorney
John	Sweeney	Former Chief, Criminal Division, N.D. Tex.
Thomas	Swegle	Senior Counsel, Law & Policy Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division
Judy	Swem	Investigator - GS13
Jeannette	Swent	Chief, Civil Division, District of Utah
Anna	Swerdel	Trial Attorney, Antitrust Division & Environment Division
Renée	Szybala	Deputy Associate Attorney General
Dennis	Szybala	Assistant United States Attorney
Michael	Tabak	Assistant United States Attorney, Branch Chief, Senior Litigation Counsel, S.D.N.Y.; Assistant United States Attorney, D. Mass.
Shahira	Tadross	Attorney Advisor, Executive Office for United States Attorneys; Litigation Counsel, Trial Attorney, Office of Immigration Litigation, Civil Division
Robert	Talbot-Stern	Litigation and Legislative Attorney
Thomas	Tamm	Trial Attorney
Andrew	Tannenbaum	Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General for National Security
Edward	Tarver	United States Attorney, Southern District of Georgia
Clare	Tayback	Assistant United States Attorney
Chip	Taylor	Trial Attorney
Laura	Tayman	Supervisory Assistant United States Attorney
Andrea	Tebbetts	Reviewer
Sharyn	Tejani	Former Deputy Chief, Employment Litigation Section, Civil Rights Division
David	Tennant	Assistant United States Attorney, Criminal Division, C.D. Cal.
Marla	Tepper	Assistant United States Attorney, Civil Rights, Eastern District of New York
Isabelle	Thabault	Deputy Chief, Housing and Civil Enforcement Section, Civil Rights Division
Barbara	Thawley	Senior Trial Attorney
Robert	Thomas	Assistant United States Attorney, D. Md.
Robert M.	Thomas, Jr.	Assistant United States Attorney, District of Maryland
Pamela	Thompon	Executive Assistant United States Attorney
Robert	Thomson	Deputy Director, Office of Special Investigations
Mac	Thornton	Trial Attorney, Criminal Division, Fraud Section

David	Weinstein	Chief, Public Integrity & National Security Section, S.D. Fla.
Charles	Weintraub	Special Attorney, Organized Crime and Racketeering Section
Alan	Weisberg	Assistant United States Attorney, Southern District of Florida
Richard	Weisberg	Assistant United States Attorney, SDNY
Robert	Weisel	Assistant Chief Immigration Judge
Anne	Weismann	Assistant Branch Director
Jack	Weiss	Assistant United States Attorney
Andrea		
Likwornik	Weiss	Deputy Chief, Criminal Division, S.D.N.Y.
James	West	United States Attorney, M.D. Pa.
Michelle	Weston	Program Manager, Office of Justice Programs
Leslie	Westphal	Chief, Asset Recovery Unit
David	Wiechert	Assistant United States Attorney, Central District of California
Howard	Wiener	Assistant United States Attorney
Stephen	Wigginton	Presidentially-Appointed United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois
Jonathan	Willens	Assistant United States Attorney
J. Carol	Williams	Assistant Chief
Jennifer	Williams	Assistant United States Attorney
Jill	Wine-Banks	Assistant Watergate Special Prosecutor
Katherine	Winfree	Chief, Public Corruption Section, District of Columbia
Susan	Winkler	Chief, Criminal Healthcare Fraud Unit, District of Massachusetts
Kenneth	Wirfel	Assistant United States Attorney, Eastern District of New York
Michael	Wise	Trial Attorney
Lewis	Wise	Assistant Director, Civil Division
stephen	wizner	Trial Attorney, Criminal Division
Marty	Woelfle	Trial Attorney
Katherine	Wohlgenant	Assistant to the Director of Public Affairs
Stephen	Wolfe	Chief of Trials, Integrity and Professional Responsibility
Jacob	Wolman	Honors Paralegal
Burke	Wong	Attorney-Adviser
Elizabeth	Woodcock	Assistant United States Attorney
James	Woods	Assistant United States Attorney
Charles	Work	Deputy Administrator, Law Enforcement Assistance Administration
Del	Wright	Trial Attorney
Heather	Wydra	Trial Attorney, Civil Rights Division
Henry	Wykowski	Assistant United States Attorney
John	Wyss	Attorney, Antitrust Division
Russell	Yankwitt	Assistant United States Attorney, SDNY
Gloria	Ybarra	Assistant United States Attorney
Kevin	Yeh	Trial Attorney
William	Yeomans	Acting Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division
Monique	Yingling	Trial Attorney
Cynthia	Young	Criminal Chief, District of Massachusetts
Rebekah	Young	Assistant United States Attorney
Diana	Younts	Senior Trial Counsel
Christopher	Yukins	Trial Attorney, Civil Division
Kinney	Zalesne	Counsel to the Attorney General
David	Zalesne	Assistant United States Attorney, E.D. Pa.
Daria	Zane	Assistant United States Attorney
Sharon	Zealey	United States Attorney, S.D. Ohio
Katherine	Zebell	Deputy Director, Office of Tribal Justice
Julie	Zebrak	Deputy Chief of Staff to the Deputy Attorney General
Peter	Zeidenberg	Deputy Special Counsel
Deborah	Zerwitz	Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division
Ken	Zimmerman	Senior Trial Attorney
Aaron	Zisser	Trial Attorney, Civil Rights Division
James	Zuba	Assistant United States Attorney
Bertha	Zuniga	Immigration Judge

Office of the Inspector General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

11 June 2020

Dear Sir/Ms.,

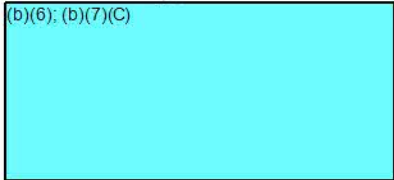
Thank you for your June 11 email acknowledging receipt of my formal complaint and request for investigation into the egregious misconduct of Attorney General Barr.

However, this minimal form letter is an insufficient response. I expect confirmation that your office has opened the required investigation, and that you will furnish me with periodic updates as to the course of the investigation.

I look forward to your timely confirmation.

Sincerely,

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)



Trump's Gestapo Boss



X-RAYED

JUN 15 2020

DOJ MAILROOM

Do your Job or are
You a coward too?

Michael E. Horowitz
Inspector General of
un-Justice Department
950 Pennsylvania Ave
Washington, DC 20530

Investigate Barr & His Storm Troopers

WARREN CALLS FOR DOJ PROBE INTO BARR'S ORDER

REMOVING PROTESTERS Sen. Elizabeth Warren called for an investigation following the violent dispersal of protesters near the White House amid reports Attorney General William Barr personally ordered federal officers to remove them. The Massachusetts Democrat wrote to the inspector general at the Department of Justice saying she was appalled after largely peaceful protesters gathered in Lafayette Park were confronted by federal police wielding tear gas and flash-bang grenades before Trump's stroll to a church for a photo op.

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of the Inspector General
Investigations Division
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20530

Mr. Horowitz:

Based on the media reports around the tactical clearing of peaceful protestors around Lafayette Park on June 1st, 2020 for the benefit of conducting a photo op at nearby St. John's Church, it would appear that Mr. Barr has violated his oath to protect and uphold the Constitution of the United States. Furthermore, it would appear that such orders certainly give the appearance of a federal government that serves the interest of administration officials of that of the citizens. Clearing peaceful protestors for a photo op would also seem to me to be a clear abuse of power - federal law enforcement officers are not personal security details that play to the whims of the powerful without consequence.

I have great respect for the Office of the Inspector General in our federal agencies, and believe that they serve as a bulwark against numerous opportunities for fraud and abuse in our government. I believe that when the AG makes such errors, it is on the IG to investigate such occurrences and if appropriate, make recommendations for ensuring such poor judgement does not yet again result in the oppression of our own constitutional rights. I would therefore encourage you to investigate Mr. Barr's actions to determine if in fact protestors' rights were violated by the given order, and get to the bottom of who ultimately is responsible if in fact Mr. Barr was not.

Respectfully,

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)



Dear Inspector General Horowitz
I join over 1200 former federal prosecutors,
judges & department officials asking you to
investigate the use of violence against peaceful
protestors in Lafayette Sp. & the role
of Attorney General Barr in instigating
this action

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Justice Dept IG Honoring -

You must investigate after law enforcement used chemical agents and rubber bullets to scatter a peaceful crowd in Lafayette Square. If atty Gen Barr directly participated in actions depriving Americans of their constitutional rights or physically injured them, that misconduct is of the utmost seriousness. Proceed with an investigation and determine Barr's role in this illegal action.

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

The outrageous behavior of the Attorney General and his misstatements and denials about his march to the wire fences... for a Photo Op, and cops and Guardsmen using tear gas and rubber bullets on helpless protestors is an affront to the Nation. If you don't see it.. Then your integrity is in question.

June 2, 2020

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of the Inspector General
Investigations Division
ATTN: OIG Hotline
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20530

To the Office of the Inspector General:

On Monday, June 1, 2020, the President of the United States, Donald John Trump, through the United States Attorney General, William Pelham Barr, unlawfully ordered the use of military force against peaceful protestors outside Lafayette Square here in Washington, DC. I emphasize again, the Attorney General of the US Department of Justice (DOJ) enabled and acting on behalf of the President of the United States to unconstitutionally order the use of violent lethal force against peaceful protestors.

The First Amendment to the US Constitution is clear in this regard, the government may not prohibit the free exercise of an individual's right to free speech or **"the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances"**. The Attorney General's order is a flagrant violation of these rights and clearly demonstrates his disregard to his duty by willfully ignoring the First law. Any forthcoming argument that it was necessary to clear the square is inaccurate and disingenuous. Barr ordered the military and police forces to attack protestors so that alongside the President he could stage a photoshoot holding a Bible outside St. John's Church. The pictures alone serves as evidence of Barr's presence, that there was no existing threat and that any risk were self-engineered and manufactured for an absolutely unnecessary instigating presence.

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C); (b)(3); 5 U.S.C. App. 3 Section 7(b) (Inspector General Act of 1978)

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C); (b)(3); 5 U.S.C. App. 3 Section 7(b) (Inspector General Act of 1978)

Barr abdicated that responsibility yesterday, because of him the historical record will be that the Department of Justice ordered the use of force against peaceful protestors outside the White House for an unnecessary campaign photo. Not only was the decision reckless for what it was simply for, it was disgusting that the Attorney General stood outside a sheltered church which did not invite them to use their place of worship with the Bible as a prop only to risk endangering their parishioners to any consequence to follow. This is not a misunderstanding of the law, tradition or civil practice.

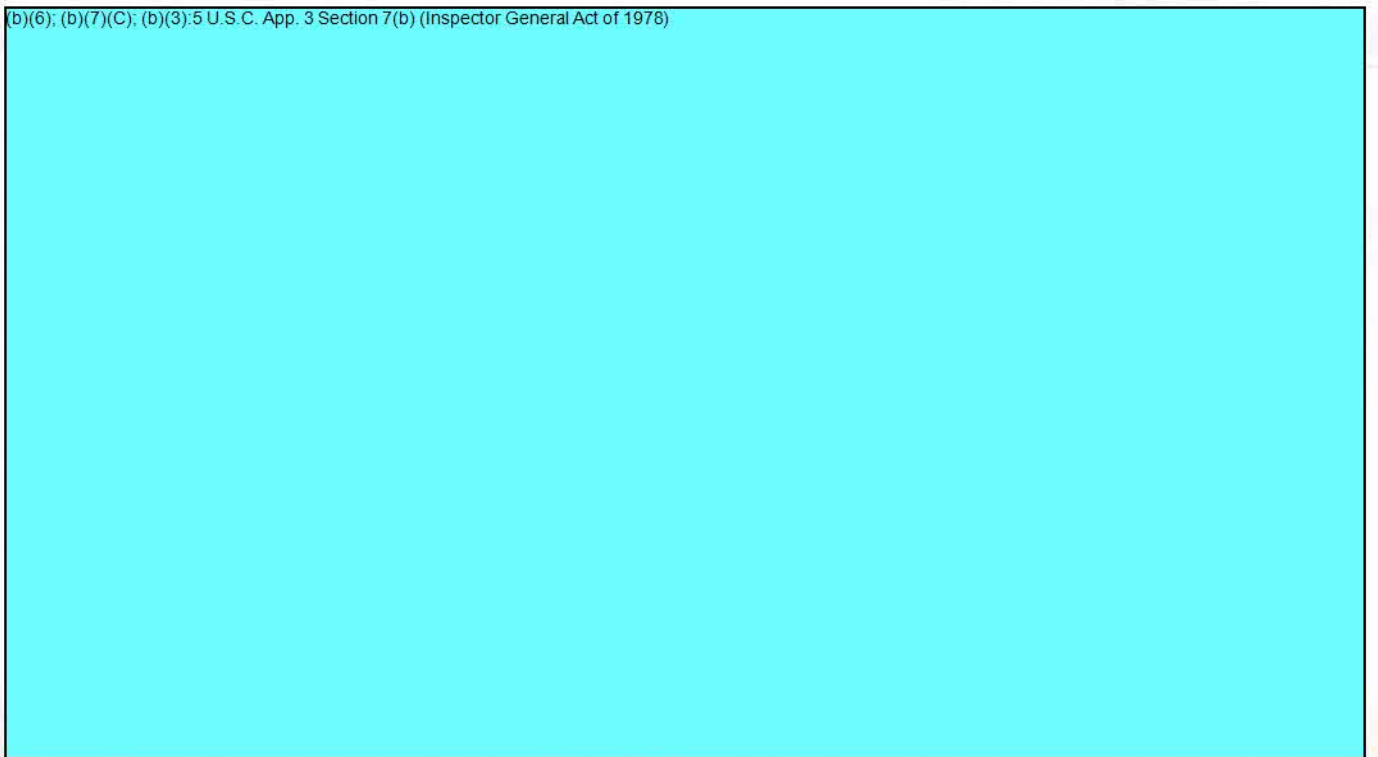
(b)(6); (b)(7)(C); (b)(3); 5 U.S.C. App. 3 Section 7(b) (Inspector General Act of 1978)

Barr understands his actions, on May 30, 2020 during a DOJ press conference Barr himself noted, "[w]ith the rioting that is occurring in many of our cities around the country, the voices of peaceful and legitimate protests have been hijacked by violent radical elements. Groups of outside radicals and agitators are exploiting the situation to pursue their own separate, violent, and extremist agenda". William Barr may not have known it when he said it

but he was speaking about himself as the voices of peaceful and legitimate protests were hijacked by his own violent radical dispositions to exploit a campaign photo-op.

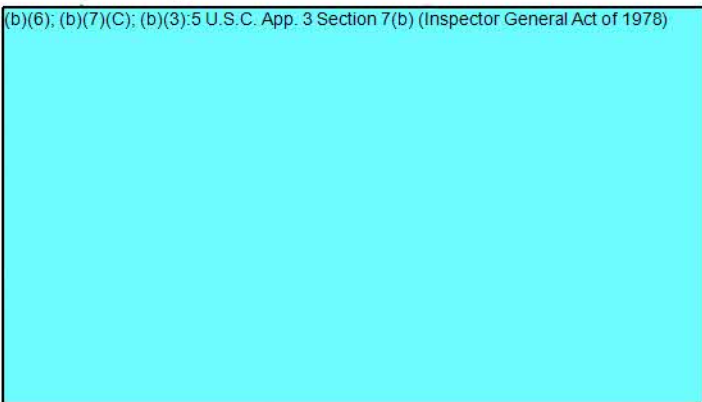
Under his leadership and failure to recuse himself when necessary, William Barr has unnecessarily weaponized the Department of Justice. Instead of acting as the top law enforcement officer in the country, Barr decided to simply act as the President's bag man and simultaneously set a tragic abhorrent example of law enforcement abuse...in a law enforcement abuse protest! Whether it was ignorance or arrogance, it does not matter. The Attorney General is supposed to uphold the rule of law and protect all Americans' constitutional rights even from a misinformed President. William Barr, in ordering the assault of unarmed American civilians has demonstrated that he is a threat not only to the credibility of this department but the American public's safety.

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C); (b)(3); 5 U.S.C. App. 3 Section 7(b) (Inspector General Act of 1978)



Respectfully,

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C); (b)(3); 5 U.S.C. App. 3 Section 7(b) (Inspector General Act of 1978)



near Inspector General Hornum -

Please investigate the use of
Chemical agents & rubber bullets
on peaceful protesters in
Lafayette Square on June 1, 2020.

- determine what role AC Bass
or any other DOS employee
played in this illegal action,
depriving Americans constitutional
rights. Thank you,

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

June 17, 2020

Dear Inspector General Horowitz,

Please rigorously investigate the use of force against the non-destructive protestors in Lafayette Square. I join the more than 1200 former Fed. prosecutors, judges, and department heads who denounce this arrogant and illegal abridgement of our constitution rights to gather and demand redress.

Thank you,

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

01/01/2020
Dear Inspector General Michael Horowitz:

Please investigate the use of chemical agents and rubber bullets on peaceful protesters in Lafayette Square on June 1, 2020. Please determine what role AG Barr or any DOJ employee played in this illegal action depriving Americans of their constitutional rights or physically injuring Americans lawfully exercising their rights. The details of your investigation must be shared with the American people, and justice must be pursued.

Thank you,

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Dear Inspector General Michael Horowitz,

I join over 1,200 former federal prosecutors, judges and department officials asking you to investigate the use of violence against peaceful protestors in Lafayette Square and the role of A.G. Barr in instigating this illegal action.

Sincerely,

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Inspector General,

BUFILE 142
JUN 15 2020 PM 5 L

Please investigate law

enforcement's use of chemical
Agents and Rubber bullets to
Scatter the peaceful crowd
Washington, DC in Lafayette
PARK.

The People Have The Right
to Peaceably Assemble

Defend Democracy

Please determine Attorney General

BARR's role in this illegal

and serious issue
with the American People.

X-RAYED

JUN 23 2020

DOJ MAIL ROOM

RECEIVED 21

Justice Dept Inspector General

Michael Horowitz

U.S. Dept of Justice
Office of The Inspector
General

950 Pennsylvania Ave,
NW

Washington, DC

20530-0001



CAPITAL T

Stand up to the Bull

Barr authorized troops to use
Tear gas, explosives with pellets,
and rubber bullets on Americans
exercising their Constitutional
Rights is an affront to all of US..

X-RAYED
JUN 29 2020
INSPECTED 21
DOJ MAIL ROOM



Michael Horowitz
Inspector General
The un-Justice Dept.
950 Penn. Ave
Washington, DC
20530-0001

Stand up to the Bully

The outrageous behavior of the Attorney General and his misstatements and denials about his march to the wire fences... for a Photo Op, and cops and Guardsmen using tear gas and rubber bullets on helpless protestors is an affront to the Nation. If you don't see it.. Then your integrity is in question.

6/18/20

Dear Mr. Horowitz,

1260 former federal prosecutors, judges, and DOJ officials have called for you to investigate Attorney General Barr's role in the use of chemical agents + rubber bullets to clear a group of peaceful protesters. If this action deprived Americans of their constitutional rights of speech + assembly, it must be investigated — and that role falls to you.

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Please investigate
the use of violence
against peaceful
protesters in
Lafayette Square
and the role of
A.G. Barr in
instigating
this illegal
action.

OAKLAND CA 945

27 JUN 2020 PM 6 L



I.G. Michael
Horowitz
U.S. DOJ Office
of Inspector Gen.
950 Pennsylvania
Ave. NW
Washington DC
20530-0001

X-RAYED

JUL 06 2020

DOJ MAIL ROOM

INSPECTED 7



I join over 1200 former
federal prosecutors, judges
and department officials
asking you to investigate
the use of violence
against peaceful
protesters in Lafayette
Square.

A.G. Barr
did he instigate
an illegal
action?

X-RAYED

JUL 06 2020

MAILROOM

Please investigate the use of chemical agents and rubber bullets on peaceful protesters in Lafayette Square on June 1, 2020. Please determine what role AG Barr or any DOJ employee played in this illegal action depriving Americans of their constitutional rights, or

fully

fuls
d.

7/28/20

Mr. Horowitz,
In responding to Congressional
investigate the use of federal
attack and disperse protestors
and Washington D.C.
conduct thorough, unbiased

Sincerely,

(b)(6);
(b)(7)(C)

Dear Inspector General,
Thank you for your
response to Congressional
requests to investigate
Trump's use of force
against peaceful protests
in WA DC and Portland.

This practice is
unacceptable. Please be
thorough.
Thank you.

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

(volunteer)



Michael E. Horowitz
Inspector General
Dept. of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington DC
20530

RAYED
AUG 05 2020
DOJ MAILROOM

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Dear Mr Horowitz,

AUG 05 2020

INSPECTED 28

Thank you for
investigating/ because of expression
request/ the use of force
against peaceful protestors in
Washington DC + Portland -
This is a threat to our democracy
Trump is not a dictator - and
we are better than this

DOJ MAIL ROOM

Michael E Horowitz
Inspector General
Dept of Justice
950 Pennsylvania
Ave NW
Washington, DC
20530

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mary howkins
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(b)(6);
(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);
(b)(7)(C)

United States Senate

June 15, 2020

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

Dear Inspector General Horowitz,

We write to request an immediate investigation into Attorney General William Barr's and the Department of Justice's (DOJ) roles in directing the use of force – including the use of tear gas or a similar gas, rubber bullets, pepper balls, and batons – to suppress peaceful protesters around Lafayette Square in Washington, D.C., on June 1, 2020.¹ This misuse of force is all the more alarming given that the Attorney General appears to have issued this order to allow President Trump to walk across the street from the White House for a political photo-op in front of St. John's Church.² Notably, Attorney General Barr was not only on the scene less than an hour before the use of force to clear peaceful protesters, but he also participated in President Trump's photo op, posing for pictures in front of the church.

We further ask that you investigate Attorney General Barr's and DOJ's roles in deploying federal law enforcement and security agencies to seemingly suppress protests and intimidate protesters throughout the country who are peacefully exercising their First Amendment rights.³ In the wake of the brutal murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery, Americans all across our country are calling for an end to police brutality and a transformation of systems that perpetuate injustice and inequality. In response, President Trump has vowed to “dominate” the protesters.

The Attorney General and his Justice Department appear to be following through on the President's vow by mobilizing agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI); the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP); the U.S. Marshals; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA); and possibly other agencies, against peaceful protests. Some of these federal agents appear to have participated in using force

¹ Carol D. Leonnig, Matt Zapotosky, Josh Dawsey and Rebecca Tan, *Barr personally ordered removal of protesters near White House, leading to use of force against largely peaceful crowd*, WASH. POST (June 2, 2020), https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/barr-personally-ordered-removal-of-protesters-near-white-house-leading-to-use-of-force-against-largely-peaceful-crowd/2020/06/02/0ca2417c-a4d5-11ea-b473-04905b1af82b_story.html.

² Matt Zapotosky, *Barr seeks to dissociate himself from move on demonstrators outside Lafayette Square*, N.Y. TIMES (June 5, 2020), https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/barr-seeks-to-dissociate-himself-from-move-on-demonstrators-outside-lafayette-park/2020/06/05/47cb96b6-a78e-11ea-bb20-ebf0921f3bbd_story.html.

³ Zolan Kanno-Youngs and Katie Benner, *Trump Deploys the Full Might of Federal Law Enforcement to Crush Protests*, N.Y. TIMES (June 3, 2020), <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/02/us/politics/trump-law-enforcement-protests.html>.

to remove protesters from the area around Lafayette Square on June 1, 2020. According to eyewitness accounts and video footage, federal agents from these agencies, and other agencies, advanced on peaceful protesters with smoke canisters, pepper balls, riot shields, batons, and officers on horseback, with little warning before the 7 p.m. curfew. They fired rubber bullets at protesters, even as the protesters were retreating. They dropped canisters of gas to explode within several feet of a hundred people or more. They pushed protestors over and even struck a news camera crew with batons. These actions warrant an immediate investigation.

Moreover, we are concerned by the deployment of federal agents who are trained to deal with prison riots, hostage situations, or other similar circumstances, but not adequately trained in protecting the constitutional rights of Americans engaged in peaceful protests. These concerns are amplified by the fact that some of the federal officers were deployed in generic riot gear without displaying any identifying insignia and refused to identify themselves when asked. The lack of identifying information undermines accountability and furthers the distrust of law enforcement.

We are also deeply troubled by reports that the Justice Department has temporarily expanded the authority of DEA to “conduct covert surveillance” and collect intelligence on Americans exercising their constitutional rights to protest the murder of George Floyd.⁴ According to Buzzfeed News, the Justice Department also authorized DEA to share intelligence with local and state law enforcement authorities and intervene in a law enforcement role at protests. This expansion of DEA authority appears to be a misuse of DOJ’s powers that warrants further investigation.

We believe that the concerning actions we have identified warrant immediate investigation by your office, as they raise serious questions about misconduct, abuse of power, and waste by the Justice Department. Moreover, there appears to be no question about your office’s jurisdiction in this matter.

Therefore, as detailed above, we urge your office to investigate the roles of Attorney General Barr and the Department of Justice in directing the use of force, including tear gas and rubber bullets, against peaceful protesters near Lafayette Square on June 1, 2020; deploying federal agents to suppress protests and intimidate peaceful protesters; and expanding the authority of DEA to conduct covert surveillance of protesters.

Sincerely,



Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator

⁴ Jason Leopold and Anthony Cormier, *The DEA Has Been Given Permission To Investigate People Protesting George Floyd’s Death*, BUZZFEED NEWS (June 3, 2020), <https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/jasonleopold/george-floyd-police-brutality-protests-government?bfsource=relatedmanual>.



Edward J. Markey
United States Senator

/s/ Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator

/s/ Thomas R. Carper
United States Senator

/s/ Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator



Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator



Kamala D. Harris
United States Senator

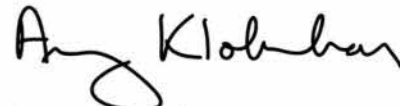
/s/ Tim Kaine
United States Senator



Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Bernard Sanders
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator

/s/ Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator

/s/ Sherrod Brown
United States Senator

/s/ Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator

/s/ Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patrick Leahy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names clearly legible.

Patrick Leahy
United States Senator

/s/ Mark R. Warner
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Coons". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names clearly legible.

Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator

/s/ Cory A. Booker
United States Senator

June 2, 2020

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

Dear Mr. Horowitz:

I am writing to seek an investigation of the involvement of Department of Justice (DOJ) leadership and law enforcement personnel in suppressing peaceful domestic protests in response to the unjust killing of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer on May 25, 2020. I am specifically concerned about DOJ personnel's involvement in last night's incidents outside the White House in which "federal law enforcement officers fired rubber bullets and chemical gas at peaceful protesters."¹ This "ambush" of American citizens who were protesting the killing of Mr. Floyd at the hands of a police officer was created to allow the President to partake in a blatantly political photo opportunity.² These attacks on peaceful American protesters steps from the White House were sickening and appalling.

According to a report in the Washington Post, "Attorney General William P. Barr personally ordered law enforcement officials on the ground to clear the streets around Lafayette Square ... a directive that prompted a show of aggression against a crowd of largely peaceful protesters."³ In addition, according to a DOJ press release, agency law enforcement personnel participating in activities in Washington, D.C. included the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Federal Bureau of Prisons, and the U.S. Marshals Service.⁴

The role of Attorney General Barr in ordering this attack and then participating in a political propaganda event with the President, and the potential roles of DOJ law enforcement personnel, raise troubling questions about how and why this attack against law-abiding citizens occurred.

¹ Washington Post, "Before Trump vows to end 'lawlessness,' federal officers confront protesters outside White House," June 2, 2020, https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/washington-dc-protest-white-house-george-floyd/2020/06/01/6b193d1c-a3c9-11ea-bb20-ebf0921f3bbd_story.html.

² *Id.*

³ Washington Post, "Barr personally ordered removal of protesters near White House, leading to use of force against largely peaceful crowd," June 2, 2020, https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/barr-personally-ordered-removal-of-protesters-near-white-house-leading-to-use-of-force-against-largely-peaceful-crowd/2020/06/02/0ca2417c-a4d5-11ea-b473-04905b1af82b_story.html.

⁴ Department of Justice, Attorney General William P. Barr's Statement on Protests in Washington, D.C., June 2, 2020, <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/attorney-general-william-p-barrs-statement-protests-washington-dc>.

To address these questions, I am requesting that you conduct an immediate investigation of the role of DOJ leadership and DOJ law enforcement personnel in the attack on peaceful protesters and the response to the nationwide protests of the killing of Mr. Floyd that began in May 2020. This investigation should address the following questions:

1. To what extent were DOJ law enforcement personnel involved in the attack on peaceful protesters in Lafayette Square the evening of on June 1, 2020? If they were involved:
 - a. What was the exact scope and nature of their involvement?
 - b. Under what legal authority were they operating?
 - c. Under what rules of engagement were they operating?
2. To what extent were and are DOJ law enforcement personnel involved in responding to ongoing protests in other locations in Washington D.C.? If they were or are involved:
 - a. What is the exact scope and nature of their involvement?
 - b. Under what legal authority are they operating?
 - c. Under what rules of engagement are they operating?
3. To what extent were and are DOJ law enforcement personnel involved in responding to ongoing protests in other cities throughout the country? If they were involved:
 - a. What is the exact scope and nature of their involvement?
 - b. Under what legal authority are they operating?
 - c. Which officials are providing orders to these personnel?
 - d. Under what rules of engagement are they operating?
4. What was the specific role of Attorney General Barr in the events at the White House and in Lafayette Square?
 - a. Did Mr. Barr give the order to clear Lafayette Square?
 - b. If so, what was the rationale for providing this order, and was this rationale legitimate?
 - c. What was the role of other officials in DOJ leadership?
 - d. What was the specific chain of command? Were other military or non-DOJ civilian law enforcement officials operating under the command of Mr. Barr or any other DOJ official?

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 27, 2020

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

Dear Inspector General Horowitz:

We write to request that you investigate an apparent pattern of political interference in Justice Department matters of personal or political interest to the President.

The Department's mission to "ensure fair and impartial administration of justice for all Americans" requires that its prosecutorial decisions be insulated from political influence, including interference from the White House. Yet when Attorney General Barr appeared before the Senate Judiciary Committee on May 1, 2019, he did not provide a clear answer when Senator Harris asked whether he had received or acted upon requests or suggestions from President Trump or the White House to open specific investigations.

The public record provides a number of reasons to believe that President Trump or other White House officials are seeking to influence the Justice Department's handling of certain investigations, civil lawsuits, and criminal prosecutions. For example:

- Attorney General Barr and other political appointees overruled the sentencing recommendation made by career prosecutors in the Roger Stone case. This caused all four career prosecutors to withdraw from the case, with one resigning from the Department.¹
- The Attorney General reportedly assigned an outside prosecutor to scrutinize career prosecutors' handling of the case against Michael Flynn, President Trump's former National Security Adviser. The President has repeatedly called Flynn's prosecution "unfair."²
- Former U.S. Attorney Jessie Liu reportedly pursued a case against former FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe even after a team of career prosecutors concluded they could not win a conviction. According to recent reports, the replacement of Liu with a new U.S.

¹ Matt Zapotosky, *et al.*, *Prosecutors quit amid escalating Justice Dept. fight over Roger Stone's prison term*, WASH. POST (Feb. 11, 2020), https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/justice-dept-to-reduce-sentencing-recommendation-for-trump-associate-roger-stone-official-says-after-president-calls-it-unfair/2020/02/11/ad81fd36-4cf0-11ea-bf44-f5043eb3918a_story.html.

² Aaron Blake, *Another case Trump meddled in. Another unorthodox intervention from Barr*, WASH. POST (Feb. 15, 2020), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2020/02/15/barr-told-trump-stop-meddling-legal-cases-it-sure-seems-have-worked/>.

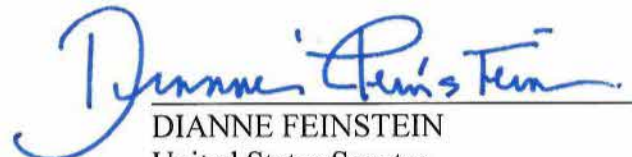
Attorney was related to her failure to indict McCabe—a frequent target of the President’s “deep state allegations.”³

These actions, along with those detailed in the attached appendix, suggest political interference in the Justice Department’s work. A number of Justice Department policies and regulations exist to prevent this from happening.⁴ Our concern is that politically motivated enforcement of federal law could become standard practice. This would permanently damage the integrity and independence of the Justice Department.

We therefore request that your office investigate whether these incidents are indicative of a pattern of abuse or misconduct in Department programs, or by Department employees.

Sincerely,


KAMALA D. HARRIS
United States Senator

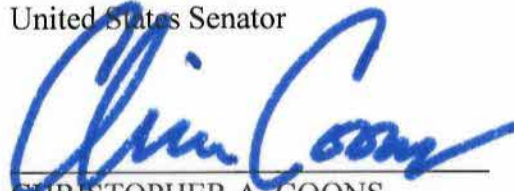

DIANNE FEINSTEIN
United States Senator


PATRICK LEAHY
United States Senator


RICHARD J. DURBIN
United States Senator

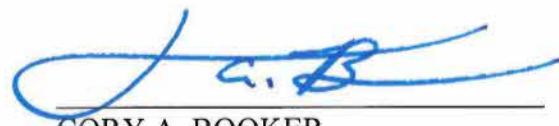

SHELDON WHITEHOUSE
United States Senator


AMY KLOBUCHAR
United States Senator


CHRISTOPHER A. COONS
United States Senator


RICHARD BLUMENTHAL
United States Senator


MAZIE K. HIRONO
United States Senator


CORY A. BOOKER
United States Senator

³ Katie Benner and Adam Goldman, *D.C. prosecutors’ tensions with Justice Dept. began long before Stone sentencing*, N.Y. TIMES (Feb. 23, 2020), <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/02/23/us/politics/justice-department-dc-prosecutors.html>.

⁴ See, e.g., Memorandum for Heads of Department Components, All United States Attorneys re: Communications with the White House and Congress (May 11, 2009), https://www.justice.gov/oip/foia-library/communications_with_the_white_house_and_congress_2009.pdf/download; U.S. Dep’t of Justice, Justice Manual § 1-7.400; 5 C.F.R. § 2635.101; 5 C.F.R. § 2635.501 – 503; 28 C.F.R. § 45.2.; U.S. Dep’t of Justice, Justice Manual § 1-4.010.

APPENDIX

President Trump's efforts to investigate his political rival, Hillary Clinton. Volume II of Special Counsel Robert Mueller's report on Russian interference in the 2016 election detailed three separate occasions on which President Trump asked or suggested that then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions investigate the president's former opponent, Hillary Clinton.⁵ The Special Counsel's report also described a series of tweets in which the president suggested or openly called for criminal investigations into Clinton. In November 2017, Sessions tasked U.S. Attorney John Huber with investigating allegations by Trump and his allies that the FBI had not adequately pursued investigations into the Clinton Foundation and Uranium One. The investigation reportedly concluded with no charges after Huber "found nothing worth pursuing."⁶

Prior to his confirmation, Attorney General William Barr claimed that there was a stronger predicate for investigating the Clinton Foundation and Uranium One than there was for investigating the Trump campaign's ties with Russia—although he was unable to detail that predicate during his confirmation hearing, instead referring to "smoke around the issue."⁷ The Office of the Inspector General recently completed an exhaustive investigation into whether the Crossfire Hurricane investigation had an adequate factual and legal predicate, and should similarly evaluate whether the Huber investigation was adequately predicated.

President Trump's efforts to investigate his political rival, Joe Biden. As documented in a rough transcript of a phone call released by the White House, on July 25, 2019, President Trump not only attempted to coerce the newly-elected president of Ukraine into assisting with investigations into his political rival—a scheme orchestrated by his personal attorney, Rudy Giuliani—but President Trump also suggested that he would work through the Justice Department and instruct Attorney General Barr to follow up with Ukrainian officials about the investigations. Despite receiving a criminal referral from the CIA General Counsel and the National Security Council's top lawyer, the Department quickly concluded "there was no campaign finance violation and that no further action was warranted."⁸

A Justice Department spokesperson later denied that the attorney general had knowledge of or spoke to the president about the July 25 call, but public reports subsequently established that he did in fact meet with individuals involved in the Ukraine scheme. In August 2019, Attorney General Barr met with two lawyers who, working with Giuliani, had reportedly offered to "fix" federal criminal investigations of Ukrainian oligarchs in exchange for the oligarchs' assistance in digging up dirt on President Trump's political rivals.⁹ The outcome of that meeting remains unknown.

⁵ U.S. DEP'T OF JUSTICE, SPECIAL COUNSEL ROBERT S. MUELLER, III, REPORT ON THE INVESTIGATION INTO RUSSIAN INTERFERENCE IN THE 2016 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION (2019) vol. II, at 107, 109.

⁶ Devlin Barrett and Matt Zapotosky, *Justice Dept. winds down Clinton-related inquiry once championed by Trump. It found nothing of consequence*, WASH. POST. (Jan. 9, 2020), https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/justice-dept-winds-down-clinton-related-inquiry-once-championed-by-trump-it-found-nothing-of-consequence/2020/01/09/ca83932e-32f9-11ea-a053-dc6d944ba776_story.html.

⁷ Transcript of Jan. 15, 2019 Senate Judiciary Committee Hearing.

⁸ Ken Dilanian and Julia Ainsley, *CIA's top lawyer made 'criminal referral' on complaint about Trump Ukraine call*, NBC NEWS (Oct. 4, 2019), <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/trump-impeachment-inquiry/cia-s-top-lawyer-made-criminal-referral-whistleblower-s-complaint-n1062481>.

⁹ Jo Becker, Walt Bogdanich, Maggie Haberman, and Ben Protess, *Why Giuliani singled out 2 Ukrainian oligarchs to help dig up dirt*, N.Y. TIMES (Nov. 25, 2019), <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/11/25/us/giuliani-ukraine-oligarchs.html>.

Efforts to exonerate President Trump's political allies.

- It appears that President Trump's personal and political interests influenced the Justice Department's sentencing recommendation for Roger Stone, a longtime adviser to President Trump. On February 10, 2020, career prosecutors filed a sentencing memorandum recommending that Stone be sentenced to seven to nine years in prison after a jury convicted him of seven felonies for obstructing Congress, lying under oath to investigators, and interfering with witness testimony related to his efforts to learn about hacked Democratic emails during the 2016 U.S. presidential election. On February 11, 2020, the morning after the sentencing memorandum was filed, President Trump criticized the proposed sentence on Twitter, saying "This is a horrible and very unfair situation. The real crimes were on the other side, as nothing happens to them. Cannot allow this miscarriage of justice!" Just hours after President Trump's disapproving tweet, a senior Justice Department official announced that the Department planned to overrule its career prosecutors and reduce the sentence recommendation.¹⁰ After the decision was announced, four career prosecutors who handled the case against Roger Stone withdrew from the case, and one resigned from the Department altogether.¹¹
- According to recent reports, Attorney General Barr has also intervened in the case against President Trump's former National Security Adviser Michael Flynn, whose prosecution Trump has repeatedly criticized as "unfair."¹² Flynn pleaded guilty in 2017 to lying to the FBI but moved to withdraw his guilty plea in January 2020. On January 7, 2020, prosecutors filed a memorandum recommending a prison sentence between zero and six months. The Department weakened that recommendation in a new filing on January 29, which indicated that a sentence of probation would be "reasonable."¹³ Earlier this month, it was reported that Barr had assigned U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri Jeff Jensen to review the handling of Flynn's case, which was prosecuted by career attorneys on the Special Counsel's team and in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia.¹⁴

Rudy Giuliani wields undue influence over the actions of the Justice Department.

- **Giuliani peddles his influence at the Justice Department as leverage in his smear campaign against President Trump's political rival, Joe Biden.** As documented in a rough transcript of a phone call released by the White House, on July 25, 2019, President Trump attempted to coerce the newly-elected president of Ukraine into assisting with investigations into his political rival—a

¹⁰ Matt Zapposky, *et al.*, *Justice Dept. to reduce sentencing recommendation for Trump associate Roger Stone, official says, after president calls it 'unfair'*, WASHINGTON POST (Feb. 11, 2020), https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/justice-dept-to-reduce-sentencing-recommendation-for-trump-associate-roger-stone-official-says-after-president-calls-it-unfair/2020/02/11/ad81fd36-4cf0-11ea-bf44-f5043eb3918a_story.html.

¹¹ Matt Zapposky, *et al.*, *Prosecutors quit amid escalating Justice Dept. fight over Roger Stone's prison term*, WASHINGTON POST (Feb. 11, 2020), https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/justice-dept-to-reduce-sentencing-recommendation-for-trump-associate-roger-stone-official-says-after-president-calls-it-unfair/2020/02/11/ad81fd36-4cf0-11ea-bf44-f5043eb3918a_story.html.

¹² Aaron Blake, *Another case Trump meddled in. Another unorthodox intervention from Barr*, WASH. POST (Feb. 15, 2020), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2020/02/15/barr-told-trump-stop-meddling-legal-cases-it-sure-seems-have-worked/>.

¹³ Carol E. Lee, Ken Dilanian and Peter Alexander, *Barr takes control of legal matters of interest to Trump, including Stone sentencing*, NBC NEWS (Feb. 11, 2020), <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/justice-department/barr-takes-control-legal-matters-interest-trump-including-stone-sentencing-n1135231>.

¹⁴ Charlie Savage, Adam Goldman and Matt Apuzzo, *Barr installs outside prosecutor to review case against Michael Flynn, ex-Trump adviser*, N.Y. TIMES. (Feb. 14, 2020), <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/02/14/us/politics/michael-flynn-prosecutors-barr.html>.

scheme orchestrated by his personal attorney, Rudy Giuliani. In August 2019, Attorney General Barr met with two lawyers who, working with Giuliani, had reportedly offered to “fix” federal criminal investigations of Ukrainian oligarchs in exchange for the oligarchs’ assistance in digging up dirt on President Trump’s political rivals.¹⁵ The outcome of that meeting remains unknown.

- **Giuliani provides Ukrainian propaganda and misinformation to the Justice Department.** On February 11, 2020, Attorney General Barr confirmed a claim made by Senator Lindsey Graham that the Justice Department has “created a process that Rudy could give information [about President Trump’s desired investigation into former Vice President Biden and his son Hunter Biden] and they would see if it’s verified.” A Justice Department official later confirmed that Giuliani—who is currently being investigated in the Southern District of New York—had “recently” shared information obtained from multiple Ukrainian officials related to former Vice President Joe Biden and his family through this “process.”¹⁶
- **President Trump pressures the Justice Department to drop cases against Giuliani’s clients.** Reports suggest that efforts by allies of the president to influence federal criminal investigations are not limited to Ukraine. For example, it was reported that, during a 2017 Oval Office meeting with President Trump and then-Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, Giuliani sought to secure the release of his jailed client, an Iranian-Turkish gold trader named Reza Zarrab, as part of a potential prisoner swap with Turkey.¹⁷ According to reports, President Trump urged Tillerson to pressure the Justice Department to drop its case against Giuliani’s client.¹⁸

Improper communications between the Justice Department and the White House. President Trump has not acted alone in improperly suggesting that the Justice Department be used to settle his personal and political scores. During Matthew Whitaker’s tenure as Chief of Staff to former Attorney General Jeff Sessions, he reportedly “frequently spoke by phone with both [President] Trump and Chief of Staff John Kelly” and “privately provided advice to the president . . . on how the White House might be able to pressure the Justice Department to investigate the president’s political adversaries.”¹⁹ Mr. Whitaker was reportedly “seen by Department officials as a partisan and a White House spy”²⁰ who was “counseling the White House on how the President and his aides might

¹⁵ Jo Becker, Walt Bogdanich, Maggie Haberman, and Ben Protess, *Why Giuliani singled out 2 Ukrainian oligarchs to help dig up dirt*, N.Y. TIMES (Nov. 25, 2019), <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/11/25/us/giuliani-ukraine-oligarchs.html>.

¹⁶ Matt Zapotosky & Devlin Barrett, *Barr acknowledges Justice Dept. has created ‘intake process’ to vet Giuliani’s information on Bidens*, WASHINGTON POST (Feb. 10, 2020), https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/barr-acknowledges-justice-dept-has-created-intake-process-to-vet-giulianis-information-on-bidens/2020/02/10/0fba553a-4c1e-11ea-bf44-f5043eb3918a_story.html.

¹⁷ Jo Becker, Maggie Haberman & Eric Lipton, *Giuliani pressed for Turkish prisoner swap in Oval Office meeting*, N.Y. TIMES (Oct. 10, 2019), <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/10/us/politics/giuliani-trump-rex-tillerson.html>.

¹⁸ John Santucci, *Trump pushed Tillerson to help Giuliani’s client out of DOJ probe: Source*, ABC NEWS, Oct. 10, 2019, <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/trump-pushed-tillerson-giulianis-client-doj-probe/story?id=66193540>.

¹⁹ Murray Waas, *Exclusive: Trump loyalist Matthew Whitaker was counseling the White House on investigating Clinton*, VOX (Nov. 9, 2018), <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/11/9/18080656/matthew-whitaker-trump-hillary-clinton-sessions-attorney-general>.

²⁰ Adam Goldman & Edward Wong, *Trump installs a critic of the Mueller investigation to oversee it*, N.Y. TIMES (Nov. 7, 2018), <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/07/us/politics/whitaker-mueller-trump.html>.

successfully pressure Sessions and [former Deputy Attorney General Rod] Rosenstein to give in to Trump's demands."²¹

Targeting states that use their sovereign powers to minimize the damage of President Trump's regressive policies and positions. President Trump has repeatedly expressed an animus toward the state of California,²² and that animus appears to have played a role in the Department's decisions to challenge the state's carbon-cutting pact with Quebec and open an antitrust inquiry into a deal California made with four automakers to reduce carbon emissions.²³

Targeting companies that President Trump dislikes. President Trump has repeatedly expressed his disdain for CNN, and in late summer 2017, President Trump reportedly ordered then-director of the National Economic Council Gary Cohn to pressure the Justice Department to intervene in AT&T's acquisition of Time Warner, which owns CNN.²⁴ The Department later filed suit to block the merger.

The Office of Legal Counsel's use of its power and status to insulate President Trump from accusations of wrongdoing. Over the past three years, OLC has provided questionable legal justifications and political cover for some of the Trump Administration's most controversial and politically fraught actions.

- **The Whistleblower:** On September 24, 2019, OLC issued a memorandum that overruled a decision made by the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community ("ICIG") that a whistleblower complaint outlining President Trump's misconduct was not an "urgent concern" as defined in the Intelligence Community Whistleblower Protection Act, 50 U.S.C. § 3033(k)(5)(G).²⁵ The complaint outlined President Trump's attempt to pressure the newly-elected president of Ukraine to announce investigations into President Trump's political rival and a debunked conspiracy theory that Ukraine—not Russia—had interfered in the 2016 election—serious accusations that ultimately resulted in President Trump's impeachment.

After OLC overruled the ICIG, the whistleblower complaint was referred to the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice for "appropriate review."²⁶ The OLC memorandum and subsequent actions taken by the Department of Justice were resoundingly criticized by dozens of Inspectors General, including yourself. You, and your fellow inspectors general, wrote, "OLC

²¹ Katie Benner & Maggie Haberman, *Matthew Whitaker, a Trump loyalist, is seen as ascendant amid Rosenstein chaos*, N.Y. TIMES (Sept. 26, 2018), <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/09/26/us/politics/matthew-whitaker-justice-department.html>.

²² Michael Grunwald, *Trump's war on California*, POLITICO (Feb. 21, 2019), <https://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2019/02/21/trump-california-attacks-economy-225191>

²³ Lisa Friedman & Katie Benner, *Justice Dept. sues California to stop climate initiative from extending to Canada*, N.Y. TIMES (Oct. 23, 2019) <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/23/climate/trump-california-climate-change.html>; Hiroko Tabuchi & Coral Davenport, *Justice Dept. investigates California emissions pact that embarrassed Trump*, N.Y. TIMES (Sept. 6, 2019), <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/09/06/climate/automakers-california-emissions-antitrust.html>.

²⁴ Jane Mayer, *The making of the Fox News White House*, NEW YORKER (Mar. 4, 2019), <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2019/03/11/the-making-of-the-fox-news-white-house>.

²⁵ "Urgent concern" determination by the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community, U.S. DEP'T OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL (Sept. 24, 2019), <https://www.lawfareblog.com/olc-issues-opinion-about-urgent-concern-determination-whistleblower-complaint-dni>.

²⁶ *Id.*

substituted its judgement and reversed a determination the statute specifically entrusted to the ICIG” and that the opinion was “wrong as a matter of law and policy.”²⁷

- **President Trump’s So-Called Border Wall:** OLC bowed to political pressure to legitimize President Trump’s decision to invoke a national emergency to secure funding for a border wall. Despite the fact that OLC lawyers were “frustrated” and “skeptical” of the decision, OLC “ultimately gave its blessing, people familiar with the matter said.”²⁸
- **President Trump’s Tax Returns:** OLC again bowed to political pressure when it provided a legal justification for Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin’s refusal to produce President Trump’s tax returns—despite a contrary legal opinion issued by the Internal Revenue Service—and cautioned the judicial branch that intervention in the dispute would be inappropriate.²⁹
- **Online Gambling:** In January 2019, bowing to political pressure and political donors, OLC released an opinion that restricted online gambling. The opinion appears to have been influenced in part by Sheldon Adelson, a casino owner and political donor who spent millions of dollars to elect President Trump.³⁰

²⁷ Gordon Ahl, *Inspectors general criticize OLC whistleblower opinion*, LAWFARE (Oct. 25, 2019), <https://www.lawfareblog.com/inspectors-general-criticize-olc-whistleblower-opinion>.

²⁸ Matt Zapotosky & Josh Dawsey, *How President Trump came to declare a national emergency to fund his border wall*, WASHINGTON POST (Feb. 15, 2019), https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/how-president-trump-came-to-declare-a-national-emergency-to-fund-his-border-wall/2019/02/15/3e9f4348-3152-11e9-8ad3-9a5b113ecd3e_story.html.

²⁹ Devlin Barrett & Matt Zapotosky, *Justice Dept. issues memo backing Mnuchin’s refusal to give Trump’s tax returns to Congress*, WASHINGTON POST (June 15, 2019), https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/justice-dept-issues-memo-backing-mnuchins-refusal-to-provide-trumps-tax-returns-to-congress/2019/06/14/3c8b3376-8ee7-11e9-b08e-cfd89bd36d4e_story.html.

³⁰ Tom Hamburger, *Justice Dept. decision to issue legal opinion long sought by casino magnate Sheldon Adelson draws criticism*, WASHINGTON POST (Feb. 7, 2019), https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/justice-department-decision-to-issue-legal-opinion-long-sought-by-casino-magnate-sheldon-adelson-draws-criticism/2019/02/07/fb705da6-2ae8-11e9-b011-d8500644dc98_story.html; Tom Hamburger, Matt Zapotosky, & Josh Dawsey, *Justice Dept. issues new opinion that could further restrict online gambling*, WASHINGTON POST (Jan. 14, 2019), https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/justice-department-issues-new-opinion-that-could-further-restrict-online-gambling/2019/01/14/a501e2da-1857-11e9-8813-cb9dec761e73_story.html; *Reconsidering whether the Wire Act applies to non-sports gambling*, U.S. DEP’T OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL (Nov. 2, 2018), <https://www.justice.gov/olc/file/1121531/download>.