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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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July 16, 2007

Mr. Patrick J. Fitzgerald
Special Counsel
United States Department of Justice
Bond Building
1400 New York Avenue, Ninth Floor
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Fitzgerald:

On March 16, 2007, the Committee held a hearing that examined the leak of the employment status of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) officer Valerie Plame Wilson that resulted in the permanent termination of the CIA's ability to use Ms. Wilson as a covert officer and the endangerment of CIA sources and information connected to Ms. Wilson during the course of her career.

I continue to have questions about the circumstances surrounding this leak of classified national security information by personal advisors to the President and Vice President. In particular, I am interested in understanding what went wrong that allowed the leak to occur, whether the White House took adequate steps to address the leak and sanction the individuals involved, and what actions are needed to ensure that such leaks of classified information by the White House do not occur in the future.

In considering these questions, I am mindful of the fact that your office conducted an extensive criminal investigation into the leak and gathered a large amount of documentary and testimonial evidence, most of which has not been released to the public. Although your investigation clearly had a different purpose, I believe that some of the information gathered is relevant to the Committee's separate and distinct questions. In order to minimize the impact of its investigation on witnesses and agencies, I am requesting that you provide the Committee with all information which you are legally able to provide that would assist the Committee in its inquiry.

Specifically, I request that you produce the following documents in the possession or control of the Office of Special Counsel:

1. Documents relating to the existence of systems or practices at the White House to ensure that classified information would be protected, such as any systems or practices of informing White House personnel of (a) the classified status of information; (b) how to treat such information; or (c) how to treat information originating from the CIA.
2. Documents describing the transmission of information about Valerie Plame Wilson's CIA employment status to or from any official at the White House, Office of the Vice President, Central Intelligence Agency, or State Department, including documents describing whether the recipient was made aware that the information was classified, confidential, sensitive, or not subject to public disclosure.
3. Documents relating to whether the disclosure of Ms. Wilson's identity was inadvertent or deliberate, the result of an systemic failure in the White House security procedures or practices, or part of a concerted effort or common understanding among one or more individuals to disclose Ms. Wilson's CIA employment status to the media.
4. Documents relating to any internal investigation, inquiry, evaluation, informal fact gathering, or other action by the White House Security Office or any other entity or individual within the Executive Office of the President or Office of the Vice President in response to the leak of Ms. Wilson's CIA employment status to the media, including but not limited to actions taken to (1) consider sanctions individuals for breach of security clearance obligations; or (2) consider corrective action to address systemic flaws in the White House security procedures.
5. Documents reflecting any analysis or assessment of the adequacy of existing laws and requirements governing the handling of classified information and the sanctioning of individuals for disclosing such information.
6. Transcripts, reports, notes, and other documents relating to any interviews outside the presence of the grand jury of any of the following individuals:
 - a. President George W. Bush
 - b. Vice President Dick Cheney
 - c. Andrew Card
 - d. Stephen Hadley
 - e. Karl Rove
 - f. Dan Bartlett
 - g. Scott McClellan

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7. All e-mails sent to or from personnel of the White House or Office of the Vice President relating to the disclosure of Ms. Wilson's CIA employment status or any internal White House investigation into that leak.

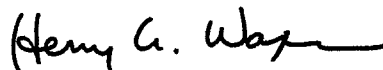
In requesting this information, the Committee is not seeking any transcripts or notes relating to witness testimony before the grand jury. The Committee also is not seeking any information on whether or how any documents or information subject to this request were presented to or used by the grand jury.

The Committee requests that you provide the requested information on a rolling basis, with all responsive documents to be produced as expeditiously as possible.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee in the House of Representatives and has broad oversight jurisdiction as set forth in House Rule X. An attachment to this letter provides additional information on how to respond to the Committee's request.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact David Rapallo or Theodore Chuang of the Committee staff at (202) 225-5420.

Sincerely,



Henry A. Waxman
Chairman

cc: Tom Davis
Ranking Minority Member