

her intention."<sup>104</sup> The final version of the memorandum omitted the language regarding extreme pressure, but retained the language that the pressure was "perhaps unknown to the First Lady."<sup>105</sup>

**D. The Watkins Memorandum Was Not Disclosed to This Office or Congress Until January 1996.**

Despite its responsiveness to requests from this Office and the Congress, the Watkins Memorandum was not produced to Congress until January 3, 1996 or this Office until January 4, 1996, more than two years after its preparation.<sup>106</sup> As part of its jurisdiction, this Office was charged with investigating possible obstruction of the Congressional investigation and was authorized to investigate any obstruction of justice arising out of its own investigation. Because the Watkins Memorandum appeared to confirm the First Lady's role in the Travel Office firings and because the Congress and this Office had requested documents related to the firings, this Office investigated the circumstances surrounding the failure to produce any form of the document until January 1996.

Suffice it to say, the delayed production of this memorandum until 1996 deprived Congress and other investigations of crucial evidence into the causes of the firings. The particulars of the discovery of the Watkins Memorandum are contained in Appendix D.

**V. FACTUAL SUMMARY**

With the background related to the alleged violations in mind, this section extensively summarizes evidence related to the actual firing of the Travel Office employees, which bears on the analysis of the alleged violations set forth in Section VI, beginning on page 216.

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<sup>104</sup> GJ 95-2 Exh. 69-O at 3, 10.

<sup>105</sup> GJ 95-2 Exh. 69-T at 3.

<sup>106</sup> See H.R. Rep. No. 104-849, at 157 (1996).