

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

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September 2, 2026

The Honorable Kash Patel
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Director Patel:

The Committee on the Judiciary is conducting oversight of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) operation, codenamed Round River, during the 2020 presidential election. Recently released information reveals that the operation categorized prominent Republicans and conservative organizations as "conduits" of Russian disinformation, while certain Democrats such as President Joe Biden and his son, Hunter Biden, were "targets" of such disinformation.¹ In response to this information, you issued a statement suggesting that Round River was used as political lawfare to suppress evidence tying the Biden family to corruptive business dealings with Burisma, a Ukrainian energy company, rather than offering a complete picture of potential foreign threats.² We appreciate your continued transparency, and we write to request additional information regarding Round River.

According to public reporting, the FBI's Foreign Influence Task Force (FITF), which was based at FBI Headquarters, initiated Round River to address "malign foreign influence" during the 2020 presidential election.³ Round River extended to the FBI's Pittsburgh Field Office to allegedly disrupt an investigation led by the U.S. Attorney's Office that tied the Biden family to corrupt business dealings in Ukraine.⁴ On August 12, 2026, President Donald Trump's Government Transparency Task Force released a declassified document from the Office of the

¹ See e.g. John Solomon and Steven Richards, *FBI had 14 informants on Biden corruption but rain secret op to dismiss evidence as disinformation*, JUST THE NEWS (Aug. 12, 2026); Breccan F. Thies, *FBI Decided Biden-Ukraine Scandal Was 'Russian Disinformation' Without Even Running An Investigation*, FEDERALIST (Aug. 12, 2026).

² Statement from the Honorable Kash Patel, Dir., Fed. Bureau of Investigation, to the White House Transparency Task Force (Aug. 12, 2026). See also John Solomon and Steven Richards, *FBI had 14 informants on Biden corruption but rain secret op to dismiss evidence as disinformation*, JUST THE NEWS (Aug. 12, 2026).

³ John Solomon and Steven Richards, *FBI had 14 informants on Biden corruption but rain secret op to dismiss evidence as disinformation*, JUST THE NEWS (Aug. 12, 2026).

⁴ See e.g. John Solomon and Jerry Dunleavy, *Trump targeted by four FBI code-named counterintel probes that ensnared hundreds of Americans*, JUST THE NEWS (Mar. 13, 2026); Margot Cleveland, *'Round River' FBI Op Was A Deep State Conspiracy To Thwart Investigation Into Biden Family Corruption*, FEDERALIST (Mar. 13, 2026).

Director of National Intelligence, listing over 70 organizations and individuals, both domestic and foreign, that were associated with the “2019 impeachment proceedings of President Trump” or the “Biden family Ukraine scandal.”⁵ Specifically, the document categorized certain Democrats, including President Joe Biden, as “targets” of Russian disinformation, and other notable Republicans as “conduits” of such disinformation.⁶ On her first day in office, former Attorney General Pam Bondi disbanded the FITF to “end risks of further weaponization and abuses of prosecutorial discretion.”⁷

According to your office, as a part of the Round River operation, the FBI recruited 53 confidential human sources (CHS), and of these sources, 14 of them provided “derogatory information on [President] Joe Biden.”⁸ Subsequent reporting indicates that one CHS expressed concerns to U.S. intelligence officials about Burisma hiring Hunter Biden as early as 2015 while Joe Biden served as Vice President, and another CHS reported that the Biden-Burisma connection was “part of a larger corruption scheme in Ukraine where Burisma purportedly paid figures through fake contracts.”⁹ A third CHS who had direct contact with Hunter Biden and discussions about Burisma corruption presented his information to intelligence officials during the 2019 partisan Democrat impeachment investigation, which concerned allegations of Biden influence peddling in Ukraine.¹⁰

We also appreciate that the FBI is examining how Round River affected congressional oversight of the Wray FBI and the FITF. You have stated that the FBI is “investigating whether the FITF used information learned from the Round River assessment to undermine or influence ongoing investigations by only focusing on the subset of CHS involving the Bidens.”¹¹ Specifically, you highlighted that some of the defensive briefings to Congress during the 2020 election “may have been overly focused on just Biden and Ukraine rather than the balanced picture of all foreign threats.”¹²

In light of this new information, you stated that the Bureau has “identified tens of thousands of responsive pages” of documents.¹³ Accordingly, to advance our oversight, we respectfully request that the FBI produce the following documents and information:

⁵ John Solomon and Steven Richards, *FBI had 14 informants on Biden corruption but rain secret op to dismiss evidence as disinformation*, JUST THE NEWS (Aug. 12, 2026)

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ Ken Dilanian, *Pam Bondi ends FBI effort to combat foreign influence in U.S. politics*, CBS NEWS (Feb. 6, 2025).

⁸ John Solomon and Steven Richards, *FBI had 14 informants on Biden corruption but rain secret op to dismiss evidence as disinformation*, JUST THE NEWS (Aug. 12, 2026)

⁹ *Id.*

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ Statement from the Honorable Kash Patel, Dir., Fed. Bureau of Investigation, to the White House Transparency Task Force (Aug. 12, 2026). *See also* John Solomon and Steven Richards, *FBI had 14 informants on Biden corruption but rain secret op to dismiss evidence as disinformation*, JUST THE NEWS (Aug. 12, 2026)

¹² *Id.*

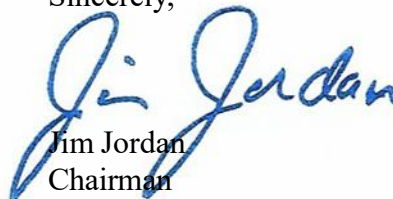
¹³ *Id.*

1. All documents and communications referring or relating to the FBI's Round River investigation, including but not limited to communications between FBI Headquarters, FBI Pittsburgh Field Office, and the Department of Justice;
2. All documents and communications referring or relating to reporting from the 53 CHSs who provided information for the Round River operation, including but not limited to the 14 CHSs who provided derogatory information on President Joe Biden and his family's business dealings with Ukraine;
3. All Quarterly Source Status Reports (QSSRs) and communications between FBI Headquarters and the field offices handling the 14 CHSs identified by the Round River operation who were providing derogatory information on President Joe Biden and his family's business dealings with Ukraine;
4. All Quarterly Source Status Reports (QSSRs) and communications between FBI Headquarters and the field offices handling the remaining 39 CHSs identified by the Round River Operation who were identified in the Round River operation; and
5. All documents and communications referring or relating to defensive briefings related to the Round River operation.

We respectfully ask that you provide the requested materials by 5:00 p.m. on September 16, 2026. Pursuant to the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Judiciary Committee is authorized to conduct oversight of the FBI.¹⁴ If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Jamie Raskin, Ranking Member

¹⁴ Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, R. X (2025).