



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Office of the Director

MAR 24 2022

Washington, D.C. 20535-0001

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

THROUGH: THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL *LM 3-28-22*

FROM: CHRISTOPHER A. WRAY *CW*
DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Approval to Open a Certain Sensitive Investigative Matter Investigation

PURPOSE: To obtain your signature authorizing the Washington Field Office (WFO) to open a full sensitive investigative matter (SIM) and, in doing so, convert the pending assessment of the same matter. This request is based on the recommendation of the Deputy Director, Executive Assistant Director National Security Branch, and the Assistant Director in Charge, WFO.

AG DECISION REQUESTED BY: Your certification is requested as soon as possible. Due to the nature of the SIM at issue and pursuant to DOJ guidance, WFO may not open this full investigation without your authorization.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] investigation involves a SIM as set forth in a Department of Justice Memorandum dated February 5, 2020, entitled "Additional Requirements for the Opening of Certain Sensitive Investigations" (DOJ Memo), your authorization is required before WFO may initiate this full investigation.

[REDACTED]

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Opening of this full investigation is governed by the DOJ Memo. The DOJ Memo requires written notification to and consultation with the Assistant Attorney General and U.S. Attorney with jurisdiction over the matter and written approval of the Attorney General, through the Deputy Attorney General, prior the opening of any investigation of a declared candidate for president or vice president, a presidential campaign, or a senior presidential campaign staff member or advisor. It is assessed that the pool of potential subjects may include individuals who fall into one or more of these categories. Although members of the 45th Presidential administration are no longer in office, the DOJ Memo states that the scope of this policy should be broadly construed to ensure that Department leadership is made aware of the opening of matters that could potentially be disruptive to the democratic process if publicly disclosed prior to an election, encouraging the FBI to err on the side of caution or seeking approval if there could be any question as to whether such actions are required under this policy.

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The Assistant Attorney General for National Security has been consulted. The U.S. Attorney with jurisdiction over this matter has not yet been identified. To ensure compliance with the requirements of the DOJ Memo, once the appropriate U.S. Attorney is identified, we will consult with him/her and provide the required written notice.

CONSULTATION: NONE

OTHER STAKEHOLDERS: NONE

RECOMMENDATION: I recommend you approve the conversion of this assessment related to a SIM to a full investigation.

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APPROVE: *MG* 3-28-82

Concurring Component(s):
NONE

DISAPPROVE: _____

Non-concurring Component:
NONE

OTHER: _____

Attachment(s) NONE

Munde-
I recommend you approve.
LM 3/28/82