

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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December 4, 2018

The Honorable Gerald E. Connolly
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Government Operations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Ranking Member Connolly:

Thank you for your letter dated November 29, 2018, regarding our upcoming hearing entitled, "Oversight of Nonprofit Organizations: A Case Study on the Clinton Foundation."¹ As you know, I stand ready to work with any Member of Congress—Democrat or Republican—to conduct meaningful oversight and root out waste, fraud, and abuse wherever it occurs in the Federal Government.

I was dismayed by your casting of our upcoming hearing as "partisan," especially considering the exploitation of 501(c)(3) organizations for personal profit is an issue that affects all Americans. Because the tax-exempt status conferred upon these entities is in effect a subsidy of their operations from the Federal Government and therefore by American taxpayers, we all have an interest in ensuring those entities abide by the terms of their tax-exempt status. I was also dismayed by the partisan attacks on President Trump and members of the Trump Administration contained in your letter, as they are based on unsubstantiated allegations from media reporting and a lawsuit where the merits are yet to be tested in a court of law.

However, I am interested in having a full and frank discussion of all sides of this issue. Therefore, if you are interested in inviting the Chief Executive Officer of the Clinton Foundation to our upcoming hearing, I am happy to invite the Treasurer of the Trump Foundation or the Chief Financial Officer of the Foundation for Accountability and Civic Trust as you requested in your letter.

Sincerely,



Mark Meadows

Chairman

Subcommittee on Government Operations

cc: The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings

¹ Letter from Elijah E. Cummings, Ranking Member, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and Gerald E. Connolly, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Government Operations, to Mark Meadows, Chairman, Subcommittee on Government Operations (Nov. 29, 2018) (on file with the Committee).