

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

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March 9, 2022

The Honorable Christopher A. Wray
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Director Wray:

We have received a whistleblower disclosure from a senior FBI special agent concerning the investigation into the pipe bombs placed near the headquarters of the Democratic National Committee and Republican National Committee on January 5, 2021.¹ According to the special agent, on February 7, 2022—over a year after the placement of the bombs—the FBI’s Washington Field Office asked FBI field offices to canvass all confidential human sources nationwide for information about the individual and the crime.² In part, the message asked that the canvass “include sources reporting on all [types of] threats” because the suspect’s “motive and ideology remain unknown.”³ The special agent explained that the WFO request was “unusual” because it was transmitted more than a year after the FBI had begun the investigation, and it raises questions about the progress and extent of the FBI’s investigation.

In addition to this whistleblower disclosure, we have learned that the FBI has failed to sufficiently answer questions posed by Rep. Bill Posey about the status of the investigation. On September 2, 2021, Rep. Posey wrote to you requesting a briefing on the status of the pipe bomb investigation, citing concerns for his office’s safety, for the residences of many Members of Congress, and for the public at large.⁴ The FBI, however, has not fully responded to Rep. Posey’s request, explaining that it was exclusively providing information to the partisan Democrat-led Select Committee investigating the events of January 6, 2021.⁵

The FBI’s decision to provide information on a partisan basis is antithetical to the FBI’s purported impartiality and it further erodes public confidence in the FBI’s senior leadership. The

¹ Press Release, *FBI Washington Field Office Releases Video and Additional Information Regarding the Pipe Bomb Investigation*, Fed. Bureau of Investigation (Sept. 8, 2021).

² Fed. Bureau of Investigation e-mail (Feb. 7, 2022).

³ *Id.*

⁴ Letter from Bill Posey, Member of Congress, to Christopher A. Wray, Director, Fed. Bureau of Investigation (Sept. 2, 2021).

⁵ Letter from Jill C. Tyson, Assistant Director, Fed. Bureau of Investigation, to Bill Posey, Member of Congress (Sept. 17, 2021).

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Committee on the Judiciary is the FBI's authorizing committee, responsible for conducting oversight of the FBI's activities. To support Rep. Posey's request, and in light of the whistleblower disclosure we have received, we ask that you direct your staff to provide a briefing to the Committee and Rep. Posey about the status and extent of the pipe bomb investigation.

Please provide this briefing as soon as possible, but no later than March 23, 2022. In addition, we remind you that whistleblower disclosures to Congress are protected by law and that we will not tolerate any effort to retaliate against whistleblowers for their disclosures. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Jordan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jim Jordan
Ranking Member

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler
Chairman