

**Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515**

June 8, 2022

The Honorable Zoe Lofgren
Chairperson
Committee on House Administration
1309 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bennie Thompson
Chairman
Select Committee to Investigate the
January 6th Attack on the US Capitol
2138 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairperson Lofgren and Chairman Thompson:

It has come to our attention that James Goldston, former president of ABC News, “has joined the committee as an unannounced adviser.”¹ We are requesting written confirmation that Mr. Goldston has been hired as an employee of the January 6th Select Committee and not as a consultant or in an unofficial capacity.

Pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 4301, “Committee chairs must submit a letter requesting approval of the Committee on House Administration along with a signed contract agreement and resume of the proposed consultant” and “no services pursuant to the proposed contract will commence prior to approval of the contract by the Committee on House Administration.”² To our knowledge, the Committee has not received or considered such a request.

In addition, CNN has reported that Mr. Goldston is working with the Select Committee “to help produce their upcoming hearings” and “helping the committee with the planning of the hearings and their presentation.”³ Pursuant to the Committees’ Congressional Handbook, committees may “obtain temporary or intermittent services of individual consultants or organizations, to advise the Committee with respect to matters within its jurisdiction” but that the “consultant is to act as an independent contractor and not an employee of the Committee. The Committee on House Administration will not approve a contract if the services to be provided by the consultant are the regular duties of Committee staff.” Planning, preparation, and production of hearings are unquestionably the “regular duties of Committee staff”.

We also want to ensure that Mr. Goldston is not providing his media and production services free of charge. Such an arrangement would violate House Rules and the House Ethics Manual regulations which clearly states that “no logical distinction can be drawn between the private

¹ June 6, 2022 Axios article “Scoop: Jan. 6 committee’s secret adviser”.

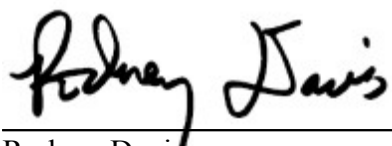
² Committees’ Congressional Handbook’s regulations on Consultants.

³ June 6, 2022 CNN article “Former ABC News executive working with January 6 panel on upcoming hearings.”

contribution of in-kind services and the private contribution of money, and that both perpetuate the very kind of unofficial office accounts and practices that are prohibited” by the rule.⁴

We await your prompt response on this important matter.

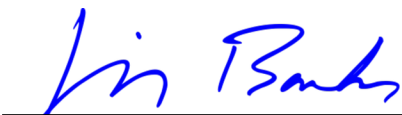
Sincerely,



Rodney Davis
Ranking Member
Committee on House
Administration



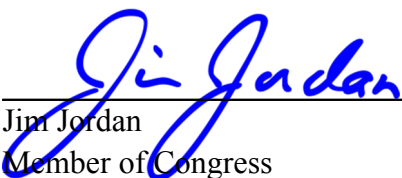
Kelly Armstrong
Member of Congress



Jim Banks
Member of Congress



Troy E. Nehls
Member of Congress



Jim Jordan
Member of Congress
Ranking Member, Committee
on the Judiciary

⁴ House Ethics Manual, p. 284-285.