



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

February 16, 2018

The Honorable Christopher Wray  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Justice  
935 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Mr. Wray:

Two days ago, the country was left stunned and horrified when Nikolas Cruz, a 19-year old former student from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, murdered 17 students, teachers, and school officials and injured many others at his former school. In the wake of this tragic shooting, Cruz's past has been sifted through to determine whether there were warning signs that he was capable of such monstrous actions. There were.

On January 5, 2018, the FBI received a tip about Cruz. This person "provided information about Cruz's gun ownership, desire to kill people, erratic behavior, and disturbing social media posts, as well as the potential of him conducting a school shooting."<sup>1</sup> According to FBI's protocols, this information "should have been assessed as a potential threat to life."<sup>2</sup> In turn, this information should have been provided the FBI Miami field office, "where appropriate investigative steps would have been taken."<sup>3</sup> As your agency has acknowledged, those protocols were not followed.

The Committees are seeking to understand these protocols and why they were not followed in this case. Accordingly, the Committees request the FBI brief the Committees on the tip, protocols, and FBI's actions before and after the incident as soon as possible, but no later than March 2, 2018.

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<sup>1</sup> FBI, FBI Statement on the Shooting in Parkland, Florida, (Feb. 16, 2018), *available at* <https://www.fbi.gov/news/pressrel/press-releases/fbi-statement-on-the-shooting-in-parkland-florida>.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

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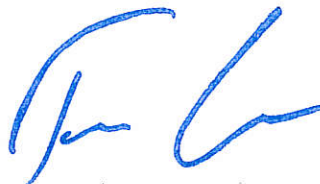
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Please contact Robert Parmiter of the House Committee on the Judiciary at (202) 225-3951 and Sean Brebbia of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform at (202) 225-5074 with any questions about this request. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Bob Goodlatte  
Chairman, House Judiciary Committee



Trey Gowdy  
Chairman, House Oversight and  
Government Reform Committee

cc: Ranking Member Jerrold Nadler  
Ranking Member Elijah Cummings