

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 4, 2019

The Honorable Carol F. Ochoa
Inspector General
General Services Administration
1800 F Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20405

Dear Ms. Ochoa:

On January 16, 2019, the General Services Administration Office of Inspector General's (GSA OIG) released a report titled, "Evaluation of GSA's Management and Administration of the Old Post Office Building Lease."¹ We write to request information and documents related to the GSA OIG's evaluation of this issue.

As the Ranking Members and Chairman, respectively, of the Committees with legislative jurisdiction over GSA, we appreciate the tireless efforts of your office to root out fraud, waste, and abuse on behalf of American taxpayers. In this instance, the GSA OIG conducted an evaluation lasting well over a year, interviewed over 24 employees, and reviewed more than 10,000 documents.²

The GSA OIG report cited no evidence of improper interference in GSA's decision-making process concerning the Old Post Office Building.³ GSA OIG noted in the report that the objective was not to make a determination of any violation of the Constitution or the lease with Trump Old Post Office LLC, but "rather, [GSA OIG] sought to determine whether there were any improprieties in GSA's decision-making process regarding these issues."⁴ However, the report includes a seven-page legal analysis of the Emoluments Clause of the U.S. Constitution, without accounting for relevant positions taken by the Department of Justice in ongoing litigation.⁵

¹ GENERAL SERVS. ADMIN., OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GEN., JE19-002, EVALUATION OF GSA'S MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE OLD POST OFFICE BUILDING LEASE (2019), https://www.gsaig.gov/sites/default/files/ipa-reports/JE19-002%20OIG%20EVALUATION%20REPORT-GSA%27s%20Management%20%26%20Administration%20of%20OPO%20Building%20Lease_January%2016%202019_Redacted.pdf.

² *Id.* at 4.

³ *Id.*

⁴ *Id.* at 1.


⁵ *See, e.g.*, Memorandum in Support of Defendant's Motion to Dismiss at 45-54, District of Columbia v. Trump, No. 8:17-cv-1596-PJM (D.M.D. filed Sept. 29, 2017); *see also* Defendant's Reply in Support of Motion to Dismiss at 14-29, District of Columbia v. Trump, No. 8:17-cv-01596-PJM (D.M.D. filed Dec. 1, 2017).

To allow us to better understand the GSA OIG's evaluation, we request the following information and documents:

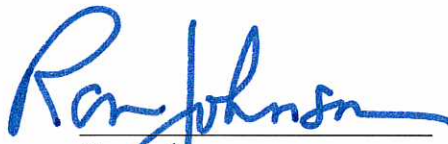
1. The case file supporting GSA OIG Report No. JE19-002, including but not limited to all documents gathered, reviewed, or used by GSA OIG during this evaluation and transcripts or summary memoranda of all witness interviews;
2. A complete description and account of how the GSA OIG incorporated comments from GSA into the final draft of this report;
3. A personnel and time log accounting for the GSA OIG officials involved with the constitutional law research required for this report;
4. A complete description and account of the GSA OIG's policies for issuing reports involving pending litigation matters.

Please provide this information as soon as possible, but not later than 5:00 p.m. on February 18, 2019. If you have any questions about this request, please ask your staff to contact James Lesinski of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform staff at (202) 225-5074, Courtney Allen of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs staff at (202) 224-4751, or Johanna Hardy of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure staff at (202) 225-9446. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan
Ranking Member
House Committee on
Oversight and Reform



Ron Johnson
Chairman
Senate Committee on Homeland
Security and Governmental Affairs



Sam Graves
Ranking Member
House Committee on
Transportation and Infrastructure



Mark Meadows
Ranking Member-designee
Subcommittee on Economic Development,
Public Buildings, and Emergency Management
House Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure

Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Government Operations
House Committee on Oversight and Reform

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cc: The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings
Chairman
House Committee on Oversight and Reform

The Honorable Gary C. Peters
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs

The Honorable Peter A. DeFazio
Chairman
House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

The Honorable Gerald E. Connolly
Chairman
Subcommittee on Government Operations
House Committee on Oversight and Reform