

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

SELECT SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

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June 23, 2023

Mr. John P. Rowley III
Counsel for Kristian Andersen, Ph.D.
SECIL Law PLLC
1700 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. Rowley:

The Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic (Select Subcommittee) is investigating the origins of COVID-19. An important aim of this investigation is to develop effective legislation to better predict and prevent potential pandemics, protect Americans' health and U.S. national security, and prepare the U.S. for future pandemics. The Select Subcommittee has identified Dr. Kristian Andersen as possessing information relevant to its investigation and helpful in informing future legislation.

Accordingly, we appreciate Dr. Andersen voluntarily participating in a transcribed interview on June 16, 2023,¹ and his willingness to answer more than eight hours of questions posed by both the Majority and Minority Select Subcommittee staff—including questions regarding the drafting and publication of the correspondence titled “The Proximal Origin of SARS-CoV-2.” We also appreciate Dr. Andersen’s voluntary production of documents.

During the transcribed interview, Dr. Andersen testified that he and the co-authors of the correspondence communicated primarily over Slack instant messaging, not e-mail, while drafting the piece.² He further testified that he personally owned the Slack channel.³ However, he also testified that he had not produced all Slack messages responsive to the Select Subcommittee’s inquiry, as had been requested, because not all participants approved of their release. He therefore indicated that the Select Subcommittee would need to compel production of those messages.⁴

Accordingly, attached to this letter is a subpoena that requires Dr. Andersen’s production of certain documents and information necessary for the Select Subcommittee to fulfill its duty. The subpoena has been issued by the Committee on Oversight and Accountability pursuant to

¹ Transcribed Interview of Kristian Andersen, Ph.D., Professor, Dep’t of Immunology and Microbiology, Scripps Research (June 16, 2023).

² *Id.*

³ *Id.*

⁴ *Id.*

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Rule XI.2(m)(1)(B) of the Rules of the House of Representatives, Rule 12(g) of the Committee's rules, and H. Res. 5(4)(a)(3)(A)(ii).

The Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic is authorized to investigate “the origins of the Coronavirus pandemic, including but not limited to the Federal Government’s funding of gain-of function research” and “executive branch policies, deliberations, decisions, activities, and internal and external communications related to the coronavirus pandemic” under H. Res. 5.

Sincerely,



Brad Wenstrup, D.P.M
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Raul Ruiz, M.D., Ranking Member
Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic