

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

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<https://oversight.house.gov>

October 3, 2024

The Honorable Steven Dettelbach  
Director  
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives  
99 New York Ave., NE  
Washington, DC 205226

Dear Director Dettelbach:

The Committee on Oversight and Accountability (Committee) is conducting oversight into potential collusion between the Biden-Harris Administration and the plaintiff in the pending litigation *City of Chicago v. Glock et al.*<sup>1</sup> The *Glock* lawsuit alleges that “Glock, Inc. has willfully sold pistols that can be converted into fully automatic weapons. . . [and that] Glock has turned a blind eye to the illegal alterations criminals make to many models of their pistol in violation of the National Firearms Act of 1934 (the NFA) and abetted these criminals by continuing to produce their pistols as is.”<sup>2</sup>

The Committee has learned that on December 20, 2023, the White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention met privately with representatives from Glock, during which the Administration requested that Glock change their pistol designs so that it would be harder to illegally modify Glock pistols to shoot continuously with a single trigger pull.

On March 19, 2024, the City of Chicago filed its initial suit against Glock, which was subsequently withdrawn and refiled with additional defendants on July 22, 2024. The same day that the plaintiff filed their initial suit against Glock, John Feinblatt, President of Everytown for Gun Safety, which represents the plaintiff, posted on his X account “Today Everytown Law + the City of Chicago announced a historic lawsuit against Glock Inc. to hold them accountable for the unconscionable decision to continue selling its easily modified pistols ever though it could fix the problem.”<sup>3</sup> Later in the post, Mr. Feinblatt said “[f]ederal Officials recently contacted Glock to discuss implementing new ways to modify Glock pistols to make it harder for Glock switches

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<sup>1</sup> *City of Chicago v. Glock, Inc., et al.*, No. 2024CH06875 (Ill. Cir. Ct. Cook Cnty.) filed July 22, 2024.

<sup>2</sup> Letter from James Comer, Chairman, Committee on Oversight and Accountability, to Steven Dettelbach, Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (June 14, 2024).

<sup>3</sup> John Feinblatt (@JohnFeinblatt), X, (March 19, 2024, 2:21 PM) *available at* <https://twitter.com/JohnFeinblatt/status/1770153622237851709>.

to be installed. Rather than help, Glock falsely insisted there is nothing they can do.”<sup>4</sup> Because the White House’s Office of Gun Violence Prevention meeting with Glock was private, Mr. Feinblatt appears to have had insider information regarding the meeting with Glock, raising questions about whether the White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention colluded with Everytown for Gun Safety to initiate their lawsuit against Glock.

Having been informed by a whistleblower that you communicate on a daily basis with White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention Deputy Director Rob Wilcox via mobile device(s), the Committee previously wrote to you requesting communications between you and Mr. Wilcox to determine whether these communications have been improperly used to coordinate and share information with plaintiff’s counsel.<sup>5</sup> The Committee requested that you provide these records by August 28, 2024.<sup>6</sup>

Given that you have so far refused to provide any information in response to the Committee’s records requests, the attached subpoena is being issued pursuant to the authority delegated to the Chairman of the Committee under Rule XI, clause 2(m)(1)(B) of the Rules of the House of Representatives and Rule 12(g) of the Committee’s Rules.

The Committee has oversight jurisdiction and “may at any time conduct investigations of any matter” notwithstanding concurrent jurisdiction maintained by another standing committee under House Rule X. In addition to determining whether the White House colluded with ideologically aligned outside groups to initiate lawfare against a politically disfavored private company, the records sought will inform the Committee as to whether legislation is necessary—and if so how to craft such legislation—to prevent conflicts of interest by federal officials related to their prior employers. Among the types of legislation being considered are provisions designed to ensure conflicts are adequately disclosed, and that prior employers are not receiving improper favors or leaks of information obtained by federal officials using their office or authorities over regulated third parties. The requested records will also assist the Committee in determining whether legislation is necessary to rein in abuses of power, such as when federal officials use their offices to obtain information or cooperation from regulated third parties that is then improperly leaked for the benefit of groups or individuals that are politically aligned with the White House. The records and information sought will also inform the Committee as to the specific methods and techniques used by individuals to shield their improper activities from scrutiny, thereby informing the means by which legislation could target and prevent those activities in the future.

Finally, to the extent that public officials are attempting to mask their improper activities from congressional or public scrutiny by evading federal recordkeeping requirements, the

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<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

<sup>5</sup> Letter from James Comer, Chairman, Committee on Oversight and Accountability, to Steven Dettelbach, Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (August 14, 2024).

<sup>6</sup> *Id.* at 1.

Director Dettelbach

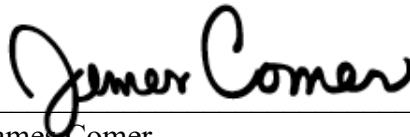
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records sought by the investigation will assist the Committee in determining if legislation is necessary related to federal recordkeeping. This is especially the case when federal officials use non-government communication devices to conduct business related to their official duties with the goal of shielding their actions from being memorialized in federal records.

As Chairman of the Committee, I urge you to cooperate speedily and in good faith with this subpoena. If you have any questions regarding this subpoena, please coordinate with Oversight Committee staff at (202) 225-5074.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Comer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "J" and "C".

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James Comer

Chairman

Committee on Oversight and Accountability