

MARGOT J. CLEVELAND

April 17, 2026

Senator Charles E. Grassley
Chair Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
152 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Grassley,

I write in response to your letter of March 31, 2026, forwarding questions Senator Whitehouse posed to me following my March 24, 2026 testimony at the Committee's hearing on "Arctic Frost: A Modern Watergate."

Specifically, after noting that on July 16, 2025, The Federalist published an article I had written entitled, "EXCLUSIVE: Memo Reveals D.C. Judges Are Predisposed Against Trump Administration," Senator Whitehouse asked me to "produce a copy of that memo." Senator Whitehouse further questioned me, as follows:

Did you provide a copy of that memo to anyone at the Department of Justice? If so, to whom and when?

Did you provide a copy of that memo to anyone else outside The Federalist? If so, to whom and when?

Please inform Senator Whitehouse that I am appalled by his disregard for the protections of freedom of speech and of the press enshrined in the First Amendment and his efforts to abridge my rights by seeking source information. Senator Whitehouse would be well-served to instead join with the bipartisan group of senators seeking to protect the press through the recently introduced Protect Reporters from Exploitive State Spying (PRESS) Act—a bill cosponsored by the Ranking Member of the Judiciary Committee, Senator Dick Durbin.

Sincerely,

/s/ *Margot J. Cleveland*

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