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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6275

KOLAN L. DAVIS, *Chief Counsel and Staff Director*  
JENNIFER DUCK, *Democratic Staff Director*

May 26, 2017

### VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

The Honorable Daniel Coats  
Director of National Intelligence  
Office of the Director of National Intelligence  
Washington, D.C. 20511

Dear Director Coats:

The *Washington Post* recently reported that President Trump asked you in March to comment publicly on evidence of collusion during the 2016 election. The article also reported that “senior White House officials sounded out top intelligence officials about the possibility of intervening directly with Comey to encourage the FBI to drop its probe of Michael Flynn, Trump’s former national security adviser, according to people familiar with the matter.”

We are writing to ask that you confirm, in writing, whether President Trump asked you to speak publicly regarding the investigations of Russian interference in the 2016 election, including alleged connections between Trump associates and Russia. If so, please explain when any such conversations took place, who was involved, and what was discussed. Please also provide any documents related to these communications.

We also ask that you confirm, in writing, whether White House officials discussed with you or any other top ODNI officials the possibility of encouraging the FBI to drop its investigation of Michael Flynn. If so, please explain when these conversations took place, who was involved, and what was discussed. Please also provide any documents related to these communications.

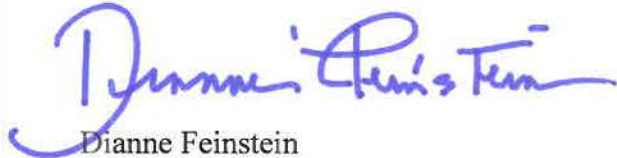
We appreciate your prompt attention to this important matter and ask that you respond as soon as possible, but no later than June 9, 2017.

If you have any questions, please contact Patrick Davis of Chairman Grassley's staff at (202) 224-5225, Heather Sawyer of Ranking Member Feinstein's staff at (202) 224-7703, Lee Holmes of Chairman Graham's staff at (202) 224-5972, or Lara Quint of Ranking Member Whitehouse's staff at (202) 224-2921.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Grassley  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary



Dianne Feinstein  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary



Lindsey O. Graham  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism  
Committee on the Judiciary



Sheldon Whitehouse  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism  
Committee on the Judiciary