

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

SEP 1 1 2017

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley Chairman Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein Ranking Member Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman and Senator Feinstein:

The Department of Justice is in receipt of your August 25, 2017, letter requesting interviews with Carl Ghattas, Executive Assistant Director of the FBI National Security Branch, and James Rybicki, the Chief of Staff and Senior Counselor to the FBI Director.

As a threshold matter, the scope of the Committee's inquiry has not been de-conflicted with Special Counsel Mueller's investigation. Therefore, in order to protect the integrity of the Special Counsel's investigation, as we have previously indicated, we will not be able to provide Mr. Ghattas or Mr. Rybicki for interviews at this time.

We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact this office is we may provide additional assistance regarding this or any other matter.

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Assistance Attorney General