



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Federal Bureau of Investigation

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*Washington, D.C. 20535-0001*

April 17, 2017

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This responds to your letter dated March 28, 2017 to Director Comey requesting information concerning Deputy Director Andrew McCabe's involvement in the FBI's investigation into the Russian Government's efforts to interfere in the 2016 U.S. Presidential election and, specifically, whether Mr. McCabe should recuse himself from participation in that matter.

As the Deputy Director of the FBI, Mr. McCabe is ultimately responsible for supervising all of the FBI's investigative activities, including the investigation referenced in your letter. Mr. McCabe's involvement in this particular investigation began at its inception and has included the types of briefings, reviews, and approvals that would typically include the Deputy Director regarding a highly sensitive and important matter.

With respect to the questions you raised regarding Mr. McCabe recusing himself from participation in this investigation, the FBI has assessed that there is no basis in law or in fact for such a recusal. Because this sensitive investigation is ongoing, additional details of Mr. McCabe's involvement, including whether he communicated with anyone else within the executive branch about this investigation, cannot be disclosed at this time. Moreover, any such communications may be privileged from disclosure. Finally, Mr. McCabe has not spoken to the media about this investigation.

As for your questions that may pertain to any pending investigation by the Department of Justice's Office of the Inspector General, please understand that FBI must respectfully decline to comment on the details of the same due to the ongoing nature of any investigation.

Honorable Charles E. Grassley

We appreciate your continued support for the FBI and its mission. Please contact this office if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Gregory A. Brower  
Assistant Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

① - Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510