



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535-0001

May 9, 2017

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Director Comey appeared before your Committee on May 3, 2017, and answered several questions regarding the review of e-mails found on a laptop computer belonging to former Congressman Anthony Weiner. This letter is intended to supplement that testimony to ensure that the Committee has the full context of what was reviewed and found on the laptop. This letter further seeks to clarify reporting concerning the Director's testimony concerning certain counterterrorism investigations.

Director Comey spoke of hundreds and thousands of e-mails being forwarded from Ms. Abedin to Mr. Weiner's laptop computer. This included e-mails transferred via backups as well as manual forwarding. Our investigation determined that Ms. Abedin commonly forwarded emails to others who would print documents for her. Although we do not know the exact numbers, based on its investigation, the FBI believes it is reasonable to conclude that most of the emails found on Mr. Weiner's laptop computer related to the Clinton investigation occurred as a result of a backup of personal electronic devices, with a small number a result of manual forwarding by Ms. Abedin to Mr. Weiner. Investigators identified approximately 49,000 e-mails which were potentially relevant to the investigation. All were reviewed with a particular focus on those containing classified information. Investigators ultimately determined that two e-mail chains containing classified information were manually forwarded to Mr. Weiner's account. Ten additional chains containing classified information also were found on the laptop computer as a result of backup activity. All twelve chains previously had been reviewed by investigators.

In addition, the Director's testimony concerning the number of counterterrorism investigations involving refugees appears to have been misinterpreted. During his testimony, Director Comey stated the FBI has approximately 1,000 investigations of suspected homegrown violent extremists (HVE) and another 1,000 investigations of individuals who are suspected of connections to ISIS. These 2,000 investigations are a subset of the FBI's total number of counterterrorism investigations, which is classified, and which involve subjects from a variety of terrorist groups.

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The FBI has approximately 300 open counterterrorism investigations of subjects who entered the U.S. as refugees. These 300 investigations are a subset of the FBI's total number of counterterrorism investigations. The 300 subjects come from approximately 25 different countries.

We appreciate the Committee's continued support of the FBI and its mission.

Sincerely,



Gregory A. Brower
Assistant Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

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