



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

SEP 21 2018

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As a follow-up to our letter of May 23, 2017, in response to the Committee's letter of March 30, 2017, we would like to provide you with an update on the status of former Secretary Clinton's security clearance and the ongoing administrative review pertaining to former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and other current and former Department officials.

At her request, former Secretary Clinton's security clearance was administratively withdrawn on August 30, 2018. On September 20, 2018, security clearances were administratively withdrawn for Cheryl Mills, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. As we previously informed the committee, these individuals had been granted access to classified information through a request made by Secretary Clinton designating them as researchers, per E.O. 13526, Sec. 4.4(a)(2).

With regard to the administrative review we described in our May 2017 letter, the Department has received tens of thousands of documents in that process, and those documents have been reviewed for classified content. A subset of documents identified as containing classified information was then reviewed by Diplomatic Security. All identified and valid security incidents contained in those documents have been forwarded to the Bureau of Diplomatic Security's Office of Personnel Security and Suitability (DS/PSS), to be placed in the official security file of individuals identified in that review as having valid security incidents. All valid security incidents are reviewed by DS and taken into account every time an individual's eligibility for access to classified information is considered.

The Department's Bureau of Administration (A) is completing its extensive FOIA review of the remaining documents received from the FBI. There is a court order to finish the production of these documents by September 28, 2018.

The A Bureau reviews the records before DS because they identify agency records and determine the current classification of documents. These records have been released on a monthly basis on the Department's FOIA website. We have been providing a link to these documents to your staff as they are posted and will continue to do so.

After the A Bureau completes its review and assessment of the current classification of the remaining records, DS will begin the investigative process to determine if they are valid security

incidents. This is a two-step process. The first step – the contemporaneous classification review – will begin upon receipt of the last set of emails. The second step – DS's review and adjudication process – will begin once the contemporaneous classification review is completed.

We request that you protect the information in this letter, as it is not public and generally not appropriate for public release. Therefore, we note that the public release of any portion of the enclosed information is not authorized by this communication and, should you wish to disclose any portions thereof, we ask that you provide the Department with a reasonable opportunity to inform the Committee of any sensitive information that should be safe-guarded.

The Department will provide your Committee with further updates on the ongoing administrative review as it progresses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charles S. Faulkner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Charles S. Faulkner
Acting Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

Cc: The Honorable Dianne Feinstein