

Prepared Statement by U.S. Senator Chuck Grassley of Iowa
Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee
Executive Business Meeting
Thursday, July 28, 2022
[VIDEO](#)

I understand we've agreed to have a voice vote on Ms. Desai this morning. I have serious reservations about her nomination and will be reviewing her record more before voting on the floor.

I'd also like to discuss the [two oversight letters](#) that I made public this week. The letters relate to Assistant Special Agent in Charge Timothy Thibault. He's at the FBI's Washington Field Office.

This FBI official engaged in [active public partisanship](#) in his public social media content. He also posted partisan anti-Trump and anti-Attorney General Barr material to his Linked-In account.

The matters he posted about included matters under his purview at the FBI. He's now under investigation for potential Hatch Act violations.

According to allegations, Thibault was deeply involved in opening the investigation into the Trump campaign.

The Washington Post reported on that investigation this Tuesday. However, the Post didn't report that Thibault was a prime mover in opening it.

They missed that important data point.

According to allegations, that investigation was substantially based on liberal news articles and information derived from a left-wing nonprofit. And it was a full investigation, not preliminary.

Contrast that investigation with the allegation that the FBI received negative information on Hunter Biden from multiple sources over a period of years. That information involved potential criminal conduct.

What did Thibault do with that information and those sources? According to whistleblowers, he shut it down. And an FBI Headquarters team worked to falsely label the information as disinformation.

What these allegations show is this: The Justice Department and FBI greenlit an investigation into the Trump campaign – yet shut down investigative activity with respect to Hunter Biden.

Political bias has infected the Justice Department and FBI. Attorney General Garland and Director Wray must explain themselves to Congress and the American people.

