



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 23, 2023

The Honorable James Comer
Chairman
House Committee on Oversight and
Accountability
Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C., 20515

Dear Chairman Comer:

I write in response to your letters of January 10, 2023, and January 13, 2023, addressed to me, and your letter of January 15, 2023, addressed to White House Chief of Staff Ronald A. Klain. I also wish to extend my congratulations to you on your new role as Chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

Since President Biden's personal lawyers found government records from the Obama-Biden Administration at the Penn Biden Center, the White House has fully cooperated with the National Archives and Records Administration and the Department of Justice (DOJ) to ensure that any documents with classification markings were promptly provided to the appropriate authorities.

The White House has continued to fully cooperate with DOJ following Attorney General Merrick Garland's appointment of a Special Counsel in this matter on January 12, 2023. On January 20, 2023, the Federal Bureau of Investigation conducted a thorough, consensual search of the President's Wilmington residence after the President's personal lawyers offered to provide prompt access to his home. Please note that the White House does not have possession of the documents that the National Archives and DOJ have taken possession of as part of this process.

As stated in our December 29, 2022, letter, the Biden Administration seeks to work cooperatively with Congress. We intend to follow the principles, policies, and practices first articulated by President Reagan in 1982, which have guided the Executive Branch's response to oversight requests from congressional committees for decades. We are reviewing your recent letters with the goal of seeking to accommodate legitimate oversight interests within the Committee's jurisdiction while also respecting the separation of powers and the constitutional and statutory obligations of the Executive Branch generally and the White House in particular. As I'm sure you are aware, these considerations include the critical need to protect the integrity and independence of law enforcement investigations.

The Biden Administration takes seriously the security and protection of government records, particularly classified information. We look forward to engaging in good faith with you and your staff regarding your requests. To that end, White House staff will reach out to Committee staff to arrange a time to discuss this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stuart F. Delery", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stuart F. Delery
Counsel to the President

cc: The Honorable Jamie Raskin, Ranking Member, House Committee on Oversight and Accountability