

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

(202) 225-6906
judiciary.house.gov

October 2, 2024

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Garland:

During your testimony before our Committee on June 4, 2024, Chairman Massie asked you a series of questions about Inspector General Michael Horowitz's forthcoming report on the Department of Justice's (DOJ) and its components' actions before, during, and in response to the events that occurred at the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021.¹ In response to these questions, you testified that Inspector General Horowitz is "independent" and "the determination of the release of Inspector General reports is up to the Inspector General."² You acknowledged that the Justice Department "give[s] them independence" because "Congress demands that we give them independence."³ We write to remind you of your commitment.

Last week, Inspector General Horowitz testified before the Select Subcommittee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government that his January 6-related report was in draft form and pending classification review with the Department.⁴ As Attorney General, you speak for the entire Department and we appreciate your commitment that DOJ will not attempt to exert control over Inspector General Horowitz with respect to this report. We expect that neither you nor anyone at DOJ will prevent Inspector General Horowitz from releasing this report in his

¹ *Oversight of the U.S. Department of Justice Hearing Before the H. Comm. on the Judiciary*, 118th Cong. at 76-77 (Jun. 4, 2024).

² *Id.*

³ *Id.* at 77.

⁴ *Hearing on the Weaponization of the Federal Government, Hearing Before the Subcomm. on the Weaponization of the Fed. Gov't*, 118th Cong. (Sep. 25, 2024), <https://judiciary.house.gov/committee-activity/hearings/hearing-weaponization-federal-government-11>

preferred manner and on his preferred timeline. As you stated on June 24, you cannot “stop [Inspector General Horowitz] from doing what the law requires.”⁵

Accordingly, if you or any of your subordinates, associates, deputies, or agents within the Department act to delay or interfere with the release of this report, Congress will hold you accountable. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



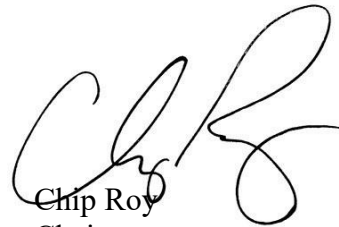
Thomas Massie
Chairman
Subcommittee on the Administrative
State, Regulatory Reform, and Antitrust



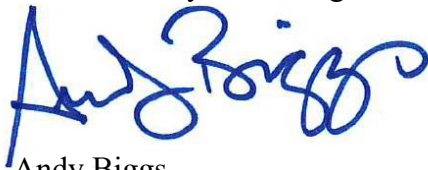
Jim Jordan
Chairman



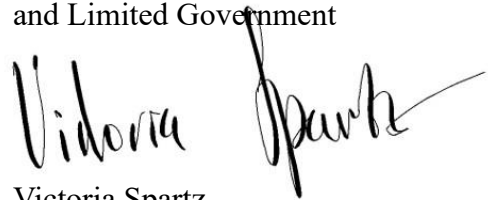
Ben Cline
Chairman
Subcommittee on Responsiveness and
Accountability to Oversight



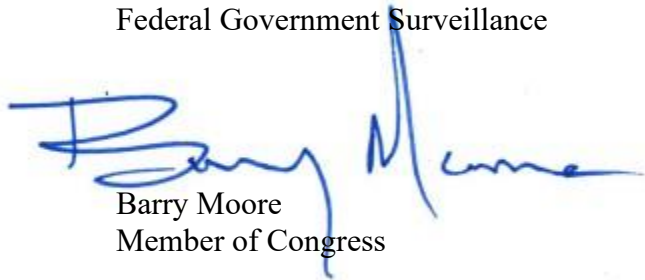
Chip Roy
Chairman
Subcommittee on the Constitution
and Limited Government



Andy Biggs
Chairman
Subcommittee on Crime and
Federal Government Surveillance



Victoria Spartz
Member of Congress



Barry Moore
Member of Congress



Dan Bishop
Member of Congress

⁵ Oversight of the U.S. Department of Justice Hearing Before the H. Comm. on the Judiciary, 118th Cong. at 77 (Jun. 4, 2024).

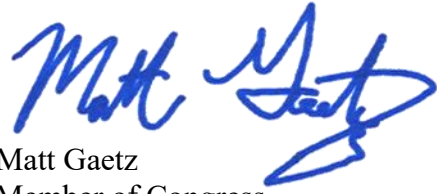
The Honorable Merrick B. Garland

October 2, 2024

Page 3



Harriet M. Hageman
Member of Congress



Matt Gaetz
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Lisa Monaco, Deputy Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice

The Honorable Jerrold Nadler, Ranking Member

The Honorable Lou Correa, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on the Administrative
State, Regulatory Reform, and Antitrust