

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 12, 2018

The Honorable Trey Gowdy
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
2157 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Elijah Cummings
Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
2471 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Gowdy and Ranking Member Cummings:

Since the beginning of the Trump administration, multiple reports have shed light on the ongoing problem of the White House senior staff's inability to obtain full security clearances. Most recently, Senior Advisor to the President Jared Kushner's security clearance was downgraded from an interim Top Secret/SCI to an interim Secret-level security clearance due to concerns over his financial ties and failure to thoroughly disclose his foreign contacts.

On February 15th, the Chairman sent a letter to the White House Chief of Staff requesting more information concerning the process by which Executive Branch staff interim security clearances are investigated and adjudicated, as well as a list of employees in the Executive Office of the President for whom a security clearance has either been pending or adjudicated since January 2017. While the White House did respond to this request, the information provided to the Committee provided no insight into the White House's process of investigating and adjudicating interim security clearances.

Despite these reports and the Chairman's request, no substantive information has been provided and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform has not held a single hearing to investigate the White House senior staff's continued problems with security clearances

With this in mind, we urge you to convene Committee hearings that address the following issues:

1. The harm that was caused by having senior staff working for over a year without the full clearances necessary to carry out their duties
2. The full extent of this problem throughout the executive branch

We thank you for your attention to this matter and look forward to working with you as we fulfill our mandate to provide necessary oversight across the federal government.

Sincerely,



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress