

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 31, 2023

The Honorable Denis R. McDonough  
Secretary of Veterans Affairs  
810 Vermont Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20420

Dear Secretary McDonough,

I am writing to follow up on our exchange during Senate Veterans Affairs' Committee's May 17<sup>th</sup> hearing to review the Department's Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 budget. Specifically, I am inquiring about your involvement in a meeting on July 31, 2016, regarding the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Crossfire Hurricane investigation. According to then-FBI Director Jim Comey, you attended this meeting with then-National Security Advisor Susan Rice, then-Director of National Intelligence (DNI) James Clapper, then-CIA Director John Brennan, and then-Director of the National Security Agency Michael Rogers.<sup>1</sup>

Congress has a legitimate interest in obtaining information regarding the discussions that took place to ensure accountability and fully understand the Obama Administration's actions to initiate a criminal investigation into a political opponent's campaign based on meritless claims from disreputable sources, including personnel from Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign.

Specifically, we kindly request your response to the following questions by June 15, 2023:

- Were any orders or directives given to FBI officials during this meeting?
- Why was President Obama briefed on the Crossfire Hurricane investigation?
- What other meetings were you involved in about the Crossfire Hurricane investigation with or without President Obama?
- Were there any questions regarding the legal concerns of the Obama White House being involved in the Crossfire Hurricane investigation?

Sincerely,



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Marsha Blackburn  
United States Senator

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.justice.gov/storage/120919-examination.pdf>