

Questions for FBI Director Christopher Wray
December 7, 2017, Hearing before the House Judiciary Committee

In light of the President's recent social media posts characterizing inquiry into Russian interference in the 2016 election as a "witch hunt," are you concerned about possible interference by the President in Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation?

- At your July confirmation hearing before the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, when you were asked about how you would support Special Counsel Robert Mueller's inquiry, you asserted you would "[consider any effort to tamper with Director Mueller's investigation unacceptable and inappropriate](#)" that would "[need to be dealt with very sternly and appropriately indeed.](#)" Is that called for now? What would you do if the President fired the Special Counsel? Would you resign?
- Since your confirmation as FBI Director, has the President ever contacted you regarding Special Counsel Mueller's inquiry? Has the Attorney General? White House Counsel? If yes, describe the nature of the communication and your response.
- In that time has anyone else in the White House or otherwise on behalf of the President contacted you requesting information or action regarding the Special Counsel's inquiry? If yes, describe the nature of this communication and your response.
- In response to a question at your July confirmation hearing about whether the President has the authority to fire the Special Counsel, you said you [did not know the law](#) on this but [would be happy to take a look at it](#). Based on your review of the law since your July 2017 testimony, what are your conclusions regarding the question of whether President Trump has authority to fire Special Counsel Mueller?
- Do you agree with the [statement](#) reportedly made by the President's attorney, John Dowd, that the President "cannot obstruct justice because he is the chief law enforcement officer under (the Constitution's Article II) and has every right to express his view of any case"?

Do you stand by your July 2017 testimony that you have no reason to doubt the intelligence community's conclusion that Russia interfered with the 2016 election, and what steps have you taken to prevent foreign interference in our future elections?

- Does anything you have learned since your confirmation provide basis for modifying your July [testimony](#) that you have no reason to doubt the intelligence community's conclusion that Russia interfered with the 2016 election?
- At your July confirmation hearing, you [testified](#) that you believe interference with elections by Russia is an [adversarial act](#) toward the United States. Do you believe that intentional action by U.S. citizens to assist an effort by Russia or other foreign countries in U.S. elections would constitute an adversarial act to the United States?
- What has the FBI done to prevent Russia and other foreign countries from interfering in the U.S. elections in 2017 and elections going forward?

What are your views on the President’s recent allegation that the FBI is “in tatters”?

- Do you agree with the President’s statement on the FBI that “[its reputation is in tatters](#)”? What is your personal reaction to this statement? How was it received by others at the FBI?
- Do you believe it was appropriate for the President to make this statement?
- Do you have any reason to believe that the FBI pulled any punches in investigating allegations relating to former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton’s email server?
- Recent news [reports](#) on Mueller’s removal of an FBI employee from his inquiry last summer state that the source of concern was text messages exchanged between that employee and another FBI employee. Do you have concerns that the content of internal text messages between FBI employees appears to have been shared with the press? What assurances can you provide that the FBI is conducting any internal investigations in compliance with applicable regulations and guidance?

What are your views on involvement by the President in pending or potential investigations?

- Do you think it is appropriate for the President to comment publicly on any pending investigation?
- Do you think it is appropriate for the President to publicly call for the investigation of specific individuals?
- Has the President ever contacted you to urge action in any pending investigation? What would you do if he did? Would you meet alone with the President if he asked? Have you? If he asked you to drop an investigation would you do so?
- Has the President ever contacted you to urge action to initiate an investigation?

How have you addressed questions concerning potential conflicts of interest relating to your former firm?

- Your former firm, King and Spalding, represents [Russian energy interests](#) and [other clients](#) that raise conflict of interest questions concerning your current position. What steps have you taken to identify potential conflict of interest issues raised by your former firm’s representations?
- Have you taken any remedial measures to address any conflicts of interest? If so what are they?

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Prepared by the Presidential Investigation Education Project, a joint initiative by the American Constitution Society and Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington. For further inquiries please contact Caroline Fredrickson, Kara Stein, or Kristin Amerling at 202-365-3343 or Norman Eisen, Noah Bookbinder, or Conor Shaw at 202-408- 5565. For additional information about the project, please visit <https://www.acslaw.org/PresidentialInvestigationEducationProject>.