

FIVE QUESTIONS SENATORS SHOULD ASK ATTORNEY GENERAL-NOMINEE BARR

After firing Attorney General Jeff Sessions, President Trump has nominated William Barr to serve in the position full-time. Given the legal shroud hanging over this presidency—and the fate of those previously tasked with overseeing investigations into Trump’s conduct—it is vital that the Senate receive clear assurances from Barr that, if confirmed, he will remain independent of the President and allow the Mueller investigation to continue unimpeded.

1. Barr has spelled out numerous concerns with the Russia investigation; how can he impartially oversee Robert Mueller’s work? Will he recuse himself from such oversight if the Justice Department ethics office recommends it?
2. Will Barr commit to ensuring the investigation can continue without interference from Department of Justice officials, including himself?
3. Will Barr commit to making public Mueller’s findings once the investigation is complete, so the American people can learn the truth?
4. Does Barr think presidential documents can be subpoenaed as the courts found when President Nixon tried to block subpoenas for his documents?
5. Legal scholars from both sides of the political aisle have said that a sitting President can be indicted. Does Barr agree?

The Senate should seek assurances that the next Attorney General will uphold the rule of law and put the interests of the American people before the President’s interests.