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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE

September 8, 2025

The Honorable Tulsi Gabbard
Director of National Intelligence
1500 Tysons McLean Drive
McLean, VA 22102

Dear Director Gabbard:

We write with respect to the August 19th memorandum you authored that directed the revocation of the security clearances of 37 current and former U.S. government employees. Your memo, which was provided to the Committee after it was made public, alleges that the named individuals engaged in some or all of the following conduct: the “politicization or weaponization of intelligence”; the “failure to safeguard classified information”; the “failure to adhere to professional analytic tradecraft standards”; and “other conduct detrimental to the trust and confidence required for continued access to national security information.”

If there is evidence of misconduct to warrant revoking the clearances of these 37 individuals, some of whom were senior IC officers at the time of your memo, it would indicate a systemic issue in the granting of security clearances. It is hard to imagine an issue more deserving of congressional oversight and corrective action. If, however, these revocations occurred outside of established process and don’t reflect fundamental risk, an immense amount of IC knowledge and capability has been lost.

Some of the officers removed were deeply experienced and with skillsets and talents the IC badly needs. At least one individual in the memorandum was reportedly a covered officer at the Central Intelligence Agency and employed in a critical position. Another officer was leading the National Security Agency’s work on artificial intelligence, one of the highest priorities for both the intelligence community and the congressional intelligence committees. At least two of the individuals listed in the memo are currently employed as congressional staff, raising serious separation of powers concerns.

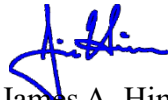
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Your move was therefore immensely consequential to the national security of the United States. Moreover, there is reporting (and widespread speculation) that many of these revocations were driven by politics. It is imperative that Congress be satisfied that you are not politicizing the work of the intelligence community or using the security clearance process for political ends. For an IC workforce already navigating reductions in staffing and the unexplained firing of its leaders, the chilling effect caused by potentially politically-driven action against employees is impossible to overstate.

In order for this Committee to determine whether there is a systemic issue with the granting of security clearances, we need written responses to the following questions no later than September 19th:

- For each of the 37 individuals, what was the specific evidence supporting the clearance revocation, what was the investigative process used to develop that evidence, and who was the official that directed it?
- For those individuals who were employed at a government agency at the time their clearance was revoked, did you inform or seek the concurrence of the relevant agency head prior to revocation? If not, why not? If so, how did their views inform your decision?
- For those individuals who were employed at a government agency at the time their clearance was revoked, did you consult with the relevant clearance adjudicators and security officials at that agency prior to revocation? If not, why not?
- Were established procedures for reviewing the clearance status and eligibility for access to classified information of the 37 individuals followed, or were exceptions made in any instance?
- Why did you choose to publish the identities of the 37 individuals? Before publishing names, did you take into consideration whether certain individuals were currently or previously operating under cover?
- Were the affected individuals given advance notice before the public release, were they furnished specific information supporting the revocation, and did they have an opportunity to appeal?
- For current IC officers who had their clearances revoked, did you consider the potential negative impact to the IC's mission?

Sincerely,

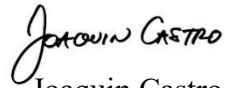


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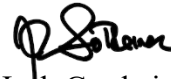
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cc: The Honorable Eric A. "Rick" Crawford, Chairman, House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence