

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

CHRISTOPHER R. HIXON, STAFF DIRECTOR
MARGARET E. DAUM, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

August 27, 2018

The Honorable Carol F. Ochoa
Inspector General
General Services Administration
1800 F Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20405

Dear Inspector General Ochoa:

I respectfully write to request information about the General Services Administration Office of Inspector General's (GSA OIG) report entitled "Review of GSA's Revised Plan for the Federal Bureau of Investigation Headquarters Consolidation Project." I appreciate your assistance with this request.

I appreciate the work of inspectors general in rooting out waste, fraud, and abuse in the Executive Branch. Based on a staff briefing from GSA OIG staff, I have questions about the process and nature of the GSA OIG's review.¹ I respectfully request that you produce an unredacted copy of the report and the entire case file for the OIG's review, and provide the following information:

1. Please explain why the GSA OIG chose to conduct a review of the FBI headquarters consolidation project, rather than an audit, investigation, or inspection.
2. Please provide the GSA OIG's written standards governing a review, and explain how they differ from the standards governing an audit, investigation, or inspection.
3. Please explain how the GSA OIG incorporated comments from GSA and/or FBI into the final draft of the report, and whether the comment process for this review differed from the comment process for an audit, investigation, or inspection.
4. Please explain why the GSA OIG did not conduct, or seek the assistance of the Department of Justice OIG in conducting, formal interview(s) of senior FBI personnel about the FBI's decision-making process as it concerns the headquarters consolidation project.
5. Please explain what steps the GSA OIG is taking to investigate the premature leak of information about the draft report.²

¹ Briefing from GSA OIG staff (Aug. 17, 2018).

² See Jonathan O'Connell, *GSA chief may have misled Congress about White House involvement in FBI headquarters, according to draft of inspector general report*, Wash. Post (Aug. 7, 2018),

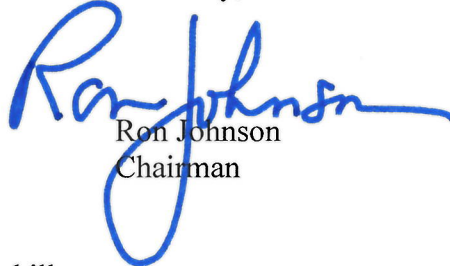
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Please provide this information as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on September 10, 2018.

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized by Rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate to investigate “the efficiency, economy, and effectiveness of all agencies and departments of the Government.”³ Additionally, S. Res. 62 (115th Congress) authorizes the Committee to examine “the efficiency and economy of all branches of the Government”⁴

If you have any questions about this request, please ask your staff to contact David Brewer of the Committee staff at (202) 224-4751. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Ron Johnson
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Claire McCaskill
Ranking Member

https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2018/08/07/gsa-chief-may-have-misled-congress-about-white-house-involvement-fbi-headquarters-inspector-general-finds/?utm_term=.ff87317a6b69.

³ S. Rule XXV(k); *see also* S. Res. 445, 108th Cong. (2004).

⁴ S. Res. 62 § 12(e)(1)(A), 115th Cong. (2017).