

United States Senate

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

GABRIELLE D'ADAMO SINGER, STAFF DIRECTOR
DAVID M. WEINBERG, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

October 31, 2019

The Honorable David S. Ferriero
Archivist of the United States
U.S. National Archives and Records Administration
700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20408

Dear Archivist Ferriero:

I write to request email communications between former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and President Obama. In January 2018, I requested the Department of Justice (DOJ) produce emails Secretary Clinton sent to President Obama while she was located in the “territory of a sophisticated adversary.”¹ On April 11, 2018, DOJ responded, “[t]he referenced email is not a Department document and contains equities of other executive branch entities. We are not in a position to provide the email to you at this time.”²

During the FBI’s investigation of classified information on former Secretary Clinton’s private email server, the FBI possessed and reviewed emails sent and received between Secretary Clinton and President Obama. Specifically, on June 28, 2016, FBI Special Agent Peter Strzok communicated the following message to FBI Director James Comey’s Chief of Staff, James Rybicki:

Peter Strzok: “Jim – I have the POTUS – HRC emails D³ requested at end of briefing yesterday. I hesitate to leave them, please let me know a convenient time to drop them off”⁴

Based on this communication, it appears that multiple emails exist between Secretary Clinton and President Obama. Given that DOJ acknowledged that they “are not in a position” to produce emails to the Committee that contain “equities of other executive branch entities,” I ask that, pursuant to the Presidential Records Act, you please provide all email communications between Secretary Clinton and President Obama.

Please provide these documents as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 14, 2019.

¹ Letter from Ron Johnson, S. Comm. on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs, to Rod Rosenstein, Dep’t of Justice (Jan. 31, 2018).

² Letter from Stephen Boyd, Dep’t of Justice, to Ron Johnson, S. Comm. on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs (Apr. 11, 2018).

³ “D” most likely refers to FBI Director James Comey.

⁴ FBI000742.

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.”⁵ Additionally, Senate Resolution 70 (116th Congress) authorizes the Committee to examine “the efficiency and economy of operations of all branches of the Government[.]”⁶

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ron Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ron Johnson
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Gary Peters
Ranking Member

⁵ S. Rule XXV; *see also* S. Res. 445, 108th Cong. (2004).

⁶ S. Res. 70, 116th Cong. § 12(e)(1)(A) (2019).