Naki D. Frierson Deputy Constituent Services Director Office of U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen 111 Rockville Pike, Ste. 960 Rockville, MD 20850

Monday February 26, 2024

Subject: Continued Non-Responsiveness of DHS and DHS-OIG to Senator Van Hollen's Inquiries.

Dear Ms. Frierson,

Thank you for the update on Senator Van Hollen's inquiry to the Department of Homeland Security - Office of the Inspector General (DHS-OIG) on my behalf. Would it be possible to send me a copy of the correspondence Senator Van Hollen sent to DHS-OIG?

May I suggest that your office send out a reminder to DHS-OIG, and if DHS-OIG continues to be nonresponsive, or does not provide your office with either (1) a hard date for the public release of their investigation results or (2) agree to provide a synopsis of their ongoing investigation in the next semi-annual report to Congress, that Senator Van Hollen reach out to both the FBI and Department of Justice to ask they investigate why DHS-OIG has failed to act in this matter and fulfill their responsibility to the American Public. If the Secret Service will not police itself, and the Department of Homeland Security - Office of the Inspector General is unable or unwilling to police the United States Secret Service, then another higher authority must be called on to do so.

A number of whistleblowers have come forward from the United States Secret Service who have identified themselves as Special Agents. They have disclosed that Special Agent Ellen Ripperger, who is the focus of this DHS-OIG investigation, has since been promoted from a GS-13 to a GS-14, and then to a GS-15, all while at the center of an unresolved DHS-OIG investigation where she may have destroyed evidence. One of the Special Agents stated Special Agent Ripperger was promoted to the highest civil service rank with the specific intention of shielding her from this DHS-OIG investigation. Indeed, the Secret Service is now being sued by Special Agent Louis Fitzig because Special Agent Ellen Ripperger was chosen over him for a GS-14 position, <u>despite the fact that she only ranked 7<sup>th</sup> on the best qualified list</u>, and he alleges he was a better qualified minority.

Recall the focus of the DHS-OIG Investigation was the destruction of my polygraph audio file that was ordered produced by a judge. There were two written quality control reports signed by two USSS Special Agents stating my polygraph audio was clear and audible. Further, an Affidavit from the Layfette Software Company stated their polygraph machine had two failsafe's that ensure audio is recorded for each exam, a warn on low audio and volume recorded indicator. DHS-OIG admitted to myself and my attorney that they had sent my polygraph audio out for their own forensic analysis, and if the audio file had not intentionally been corrupted, DHS-OIG would have immediately closed this case. Given the fact that Special Agent Ellen Ripperger admitted under

deposition that only she had access to the polygraph audio file, and that she gained the most from its destruction given my allegations against her, what happened is self-evident.

For a similarly situated comparator, New Jersey State Trooper Michael Patterson disabled the digital recorder in his police car to prevent it from capturing a vehicle stop he conducted, so that he could make advances on the female motorist. After an investigation, <u>Patterson was sentenced to one year</u> in state prison without the possibility of parole. What the New Jersey State Police did not do was promote him to Superintendent to prevent his prosecution.

It would seem implausible that third world corruption by a federal law enforcement agency could happen in the United States, but it is happening, and thus far there has been no punishment, consequences, or accountability for it. Until such is demanded, the Secret Service will remain a law enforcement agency that routinely violates the laws it is paid to enforce.

Thank you so very much,

