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U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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One Hundred Seventeenth Congress

Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol

December 20, 2021

Representative Scott Perry
United States House of Representatives
2160 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Perry,

On June 30, 2021, the House adopted House Resolution 503, establishing the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol (the “Select Committee”). The Select Committee is investigating the facts, circumstances, and causes of the January 6th attack and issues relating thereto.

Among other topics, we are examining issues relating to an effort by former President Trump and others to install Mr. Jeffrey Clark in the days before January 6, 2021, as acting Attorney General of the United States. In the weeks before January 6th, then-President Trump’s appointees at the Justice Department informed the President repeatedly that his claims of election fraud were not supported by the evidence, and that the election was not, in fact, stolen. Then-President Trump considered appointing Jeffrey Clark as acting Attorney General, as Mr. Clark pressed his Department of Justice superiors to use agency authorities to challenge the election results.

We write on behalf of the Select Committee to seek information in your possession that will advance our investigation of this and other topics. The Select Committee has tremendous respect for the prerogatives of Congress and the privacy of its Members. At the same time, we have a solemn responsibility to investigate fully all of these facts and circumstances.

We have received evidence from multiple witnesses that you had an important role in the efforts to install Mr. Clark as acting Attorney General. Acting Attorney General Rosen and acting Deputy Attorney General Donoghue have provided evidence regarding these issues, and we have received evidence that others who worked with Mr. Clark were aware of these plans. We are also aware that you had multiple text and other communications with President Trump’s former Chief of Staff regarding Mr. Clark—and we also have evidence indicating that in that time frame you sent communications to the former Chief of Staff using the encrypted Signal app. Mr. Clark has informed us that he plans to invoke his 5th Amendment right against self-incrimination in anticipation of a deposition to be conducted by the Committee. When Mr. Clark decided to invoke his 5th Amendment rights, he understood that we planned to pose questions addressing his interactions with you, among a host of other topics.

In addition, we have information indicating that you communicated at various relevant times with the White House and others involved in other relevant topics, including regarding allegations that the Dominion voting machines had been corrupted.

At this time, the Select Committee seeks your voluntary cooperation in addressing each of these issues. We also ask that you provide us with all relevant electronic or other communications on these and other topics related to January 6th, including your communications with the Trump legal team, the former President himself, and others who were involved in planning the events of January 6th.

We would like to meet with you soon to discuss these topics, but we also want to accommodate your schedule. We propose meeting with you on December 28th, December 29th, January 3rd, or January 4th. Please let us know whether one of those dates will fit with your schedule. If you are unavailable during that time period, we can arrange a time during the week of January 10th. If it would be preferable to hold this meeting with you in your district, we would also be glad to explore travel arrangements to facilitate that option.

We aim to make informed recommendations taking account of all relevant facts. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bennie G. Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bennie G. Thompson
Chairman