

QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD
STEPHEN E. BOYD
NOMINEE TO BE ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN GRASSLEY

1. In your responses to Questions 1–3, you failed to provide a specific or clear impression of your intent or ability to ensure that Congress—and the Committee, in particular—receive prompt, substantive, and full responses to oversight letters. To better inform the Committee of your commitment to respond to congressional oversight, please provide detailed responses to Questions 1–3, and also provide the following information:

- a. What is your opinion of the Department’s and FBI’s delays in responding to the Committee’s oversight letters?

Response: I believe responding to Congress is an important part of the Department of Justice’s (Department) responsibilities. In my current capacity as the Chief of Staff for the Office of Legal Policy (OLP), I am not aware of the nature of any specific delays in responding to the Committee’s oversight letters. However, I have taken note of the list you submitted to me in your previous Questions for the Record (QFRs), as well as the concerns you expressed during our personal meeting. I take those concerns very seriously. If I am confirmed, it will be one of my priorities to work with others in the Department to determine the status of pending letters, and I will seek to respond in a manner consistent with the Department’s obligations and its law enforcement, litigation, and national security responsibilities. I will also maintain an open line of communication with the Committee about pending letters.

- b. What is your opinion of the Department’s and FBI’s lack of communication with the Committee with respect to the status of pending responses?

Response: In my current capacity as the OLP Chief of Staff, I am not aware of the process for communicating with the Committee regarding the status of pending responses to Committee inquiries. As a general matter, I agree with you that it is important to keep the Committee apprised of our efforts to be responsive, and I will make that a priority. If I am confirmed, I will work within the Office of Legislative Affairs, and with other Department components, to emphasize the importance of communicating with the Committee. I will also encourage components to assist the Office of Legislative Affairs in providing periodic updates regarding outstanding inquiries.

- c. What is your opinion of the Department’s and FBI’s failures to provide substantive and full responses to the Committee’s oversight letters?

Response: As stated in response to previous QFRs, I am currently serving as the OLP Chief of Staff. In this capacity, I am not familiar with the nature of the Department’s and the FBI’s previous responses to the Committee’s oversight letters. If I am confirmed, it

will be my intent to ensure that the Department responds to the oversight needs of the Committee in a manner consistent with the Department's obligations and its law enforcement, litigation, and national security responsibilities. In instances where we must balance the Committee's request and the Department's responsibilities, I will maintain an open line of communication with the Committee and will work toward a mutually acceptable solution.

d. What would you do differently to provide status updates to the Committee?

Response: See response 1b.

e. What would you do differently to maintain an open line of communication with the Committee, so that the Department and FBI and the Committee can work together effectively and efficiently?

Response: I agree that it is important for the Department and the Committee to communicate in a way that allows us to work together effectively and efficiently. In my capacity as the OLP Chief of Staff, I do not have a full understanding of the Department's existing practices regarding communicating with the Committee. If I am confirmed, I will listen to the Committee's feedback and work with others in the Department to determine whether we can improve communications. I will also make changes to practices and policies within the Office of Legislative Affairs if doing so will be helpful. Moreover, recognizing the importance of a clear line of communication, it will be my intent to promote dialogue between the Department and Congress, generally, and the Committee, specifically.

f. What would you do differently to ensure timely, substantive, and full responses to the Committee?

Response: See response 1c.

g. What would you do differently to engage in a genuine dialogue about issues that the Justice Department is unwilling to answer voluntarily?

Response: Although I am unfamiliar with the particular issue that you reference, as noted in my previous responses, if I am confirmed I will maintain open communication and dialogue with the Committee about pending correspondence and requests for information.

h. If confirmed, will you commit to providing an estimated date of completion and regular status updates for each of the outstanding letter responses listed in the Committee's Questions for the Record?

Response: Because I am not currently serving in the Office of Legislative Affairs, I do not have a full understanding of the Department's existing practices or policies regarding responses to congressional correspondence, and I am not in a position to opine about the specific length of time that a response to a particular inquiry may require. I recognize the importance of responding to Congress and will seek to respond in a manner consistent

with the Department's responsibilities. If I am confirmed, it would be my intent to work with the Committee to provide status updates for outstanding letters. As noted above, I will also work with others in the Department to determine whether we can improve existing correspondence procedures and make any changes that will be helpful.

2. You stated that you are not in a position to comment or commit to a particular course of action regarding a timeline for arranging the requested de-confliction meeting among Special Counsel Mueller and Senators Grassley, Feinstein, Graham, and Whitehouse.
 - a. Will you commit to working with the Department, FBI, and Congress to ensure the arrangement of this meeting?
 - b. Will you commit to maintaining open communication with the committee regarding the status of these arrangements?

Response: Although I am not familiar with the details, I recognize that this request is important to you. I also agree that it is important for the Department to maintain open lines of communication with the Committee. If I am confirmed, I will do all I can to promote dialogue between the Department and Congress, generally, and the Committee, specifically. Regarding a specific Committee request that may be pending at this time, I have not been involved with this matter and am not familiar with the extent to which Special Counsel Mueller's investigation may or may not engage with existing components of the Department. Therefore, I am not in a position to comment or to commit to a particular course of action at this time.

3. You stated that you are not in a position to comment or commit to a particular course of action regarding arranging a briefing by Mr. Rosenstein and/or Mr. McCabe for the full Judiciary Committee.
 - a. Will you commit to working with the Department, FBI, and the committee to ensure the arrangement of this briefing?
 - b. Will you commit to maintaining open communication with the committee regarding the status of these arrangements?

Response: Although I am not familiar with the details, I recognize that this request is important to you. I also appreciate you raising it directly with me, both in our personal meeting and during my confirmation hearing. I agree that it is important for the Department to maintain open lines of communication with the Committee. If I am confirmed, I will do all I can to promote dialogue between the Department and Congress, generally, and the Committee, specifically. Regarding a specific Committee request that may be pending at this time, in my current capacity, I have not been involved with this matter. Therefore, I am not in a position to comment or to commit to a particular course of action at this time.