Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 29, 2023

Ms. Kimberly Cheatle Director United States Secret Service 245 Murray Ln SW – Bldg. T-5 Washington, DC 20223

Dear Director Cheatle:

Our Committees are continuing to conduct oversight of the programs and operations of the Department of Justice, Internal Revenue Service, and U.S. Secret Service (Secret Service) within their respective jurisdictions. Recent startling testimony from Internal Revenue Service whistleblowers raises serious questions about the federal government's commitment to evenhanded justice and the veracity of assertions made to Congress. In order to fully assess these allegations, testimony is required from several Secret Service employees. We expect your full cooperation as we arrange these transcribed interviews.

From recent testimony before the Ways and Means Committee, we believe Secret Service employees possess information concerning allegations of politicization and misconduct with respect to the Department of Justice's investigation of Hunter Biden. Specifically, the Committees seek to examine whistleblower claims that on December 7, 2020, a whistleblower was informed "that FBI headquarters had notified Secret Service headquarters, and the Biden transition team, about IRS CI's plan to interview Hunter." The whistleblower added, "this essentially tipped off a group of people very close to President Biden and Hunter Biden and gave this group an opportunity to obstruct the approach on the witnesses."

Furthermore, there is evidence that the Department of Justice's investigation of Hunter Biden was purposely slow-walked and subjected to improper and politically motivated interference.³ The Committees must obtain the first-hand testimony from Secret Service employees to fully assess the serious allegations raised by these brave IRS whistleblowers. Accordingly, we ask that you initially make all Secret Service employees who received the December 7, 2020 tip-off from FBI and all Secret Service employees who may have passed this information along to the Biden family or presidential transition team available for transcribed interviews before the Oversight and Accountability Committee promptly.

¹ See Transcribed interview of Gary Shapley, Internal Revenue Service (May 26, 2023) at 19.

 $^{^{2}}$ Id.

³ See Transcribed interview of Gary Shapley, Internal Revenue Service (May 26, 2023); Transcribed interview of Case Agent, Internal Revenue Service (June 1, 2023).

Director Kimberly Cheatle June 29, 2023 Page 2

We anticipate that we may require testimony from additional Secret Service employees as our oversight continues, and we expect your cooperation in facilitating these future interviews as well.

The Supreme Court has recognized that Congress has a "broad and indispensable" power to conduct oversight, which "encompasses inquiries into the administration of existing laws, studies of proposed laws, and surveys in our social, economic or political system for the purpose of enabling Congress to remedy them." Pursuant to Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on the Judiciary has jurisdiction over criminal justice matters in the United States. The Committee on Ways and Means is authorized to conduct oversight of the Internal Revenue Service and the administration of the Internal Revenue Code. The Committee on Oversight and Accountability may examine "any matter" at any time. The Committees' need to obtain first-hand testimony from Secret Service employees is vital for carrying out our oversight and for informing potential legislative reforms to the operations and activities of the Department.

To avoid any unnecessary delay, we ask that you please direct your staff to work with the Oversight and Accountability Committee staff to begin scheduling these transcribed interviews as soon as possible, but no later than 5:00 p.m. on July 13, 2023. Please be aware that the Committees will resort to compulsory process to obtain the required testimony. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

James Comer

Chairman

Committee on Oversight and Accountability

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Jason Smith

Chairman

Committee on Ways and Means

Jim Jordan

Chairman

Committee on the Judiciary

⁴ See, e.g., Trump v. Mazars LLP, No. 19-715 at 11 (U.S. slip op. July 9, 2020) (internal quotation marks and citations omitted).

⁵ Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, R. X (2023).

Director Kimberly Cheatle June 29, 2023 Page 3

cc: The Honorable Jamie Raskin, Ranking Member Committee on Oversight and Accountability

The Honorable Richard E. Neal, Ranking Member Committee on Ways and Means

The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler, Ranking Member Committee on the Judiciary