



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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November 8, 2018

Acting Attorney General Matthew Whitaker
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Acting Attorney General Whitaker,

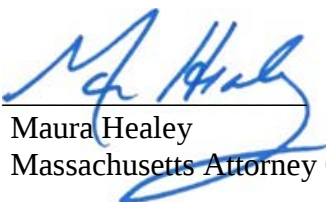
As chief law enforcement officers of our respective states, we ask that you recuse yourself from any role in overseeing Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation of Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election. Because a reasonable person could question your impartiality in the matter, your recusal is necessary to maintain public trust in the integrity of the investigation and to protect the essential and longstanding independence of the Department you have been chosen to lead, on an acting basis. *See, e.g.*, 5 C.F.R. 2635.502(d).

You must be aware that your public comments criticizing Mr. Mueller's investigation have been widely circulated. At various opportunities – in print, on television, and through social media – you have suggested cutting the Special Counsel's budget or limiting his authority to follow lines of inquiry. As prosecutors and law enforcement officials committed to the rule of law, we believe that the independent Special Counsel must have the full authority to investigate and, if warranted, prosecute any violations of federal law.

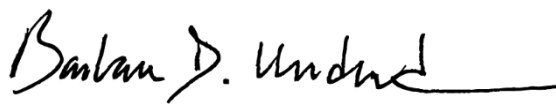
By all appearances, Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein has ably supervised the Special Counsel's investigation from its outset. He should continue to do so, as Mr. Mueller's work must proceed free from interference or supervision that would appear to many Americans to be biased.

An Attorney General's highest responsibility is to uphold the law and ensure public confidence in the impartial administration of justice by leading an empowered and independent Department. We hope you share that goal.

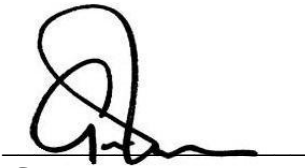
Sincerely,



Maura Healey
Massachusetts Attorney General



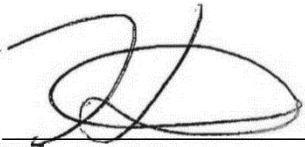
Barbara Underwood
New York Attorney General



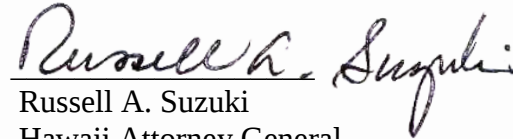
George Jepsen
Connecticut Attorney General



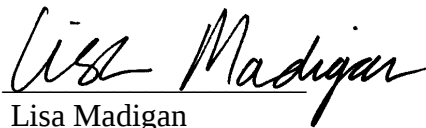
Matthew P. Denn
Delaware Attorney General



Karl A. Racine
Attorney General for the District of Columbia



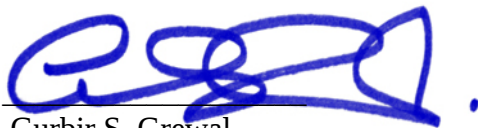
Russell A. Suzuki
Hawaii Attorney General



Lisa Madigan
Illinois Attorney General



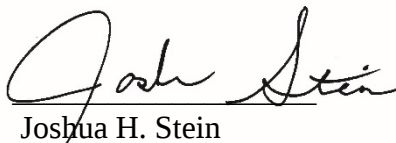
Lori Swanson
Minnesota Attorney General



Gurbir S. Grewal
New Jersey Attorney General



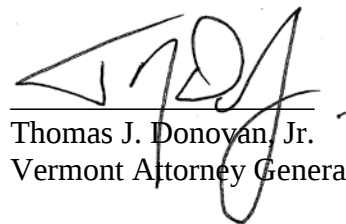
Xavier Becerra
California Attorney General



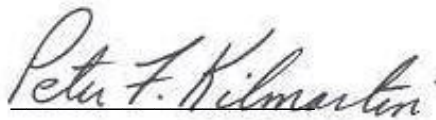
Joshua H. Stein
North Carolina Attorney General



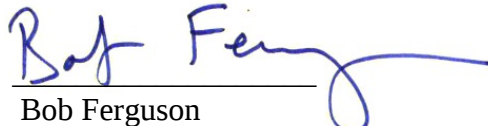
Ellen F. Rosenblum
Oregon Attorney General



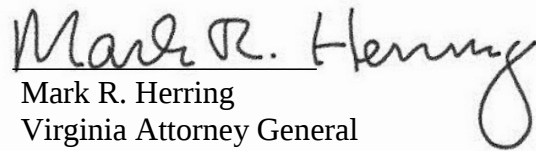
Thomas J. Donovan, Jr.
Vermont Attorney General



Peter F. Kilmartin
Rhode Island Attorney General



Bob Ferguson
Washington State Attorney General



Mark R. Herring
Virginia Attorney General



Hector Balderas
New Mexico Attorney General



Brian E. Frosh
Maryland Attorney General



Janet T. Mills
Maine Attorney General
(signature added November 9, 2018)

CC:

Deputy Attorney General Rod J. Rosenstein
U.S. Senator Richard M. Burr, Chairman, Senate Intelligence Committee
U.S. Senator Mark Warner, Ranking Member, Senate Intelligence Committee
U.S. Representative Mike Conaway, House Intelligence Committee
U.S. Representative Adam Schiff, House Intelligence Committee