

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM  
2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5074  
MINORITY (202) 225-5051  
<https://oversight.house.gov>

June 24, 2026

Mr. John Cafaro  
Green Water Solutions LLC  
6874 Strimbu Drive  
Brookfield, OH 44403

Dear Mr. Cafaro:

As the nation grapples with a historic affordability crisis and a costly and failed war in the Middle East, President Trump is failing to protect our national treasures while wasting taxpayer dollars through poorly executed pet projects. In the latest example of stunning waste, fraud, and abuse, the Trump Administration skirted standard contracting practices to award non-competitive contracts to Trump donors and acquaintances—including yourself—to beautify the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting pool.<sup>1</sup> Now, as the Reflecting Pool's new paint flakes off in chunks and water is consumed by algae, it appears those taxpayer dollars have been flushed down the drain. While Americans struggle to afford basic necessities amid the economic turmoil sowed by the Trump Administration, I demand information and documents to understand how this egregious waste of taxpayer dollars was allowed to occur.<sup>2</sup>

The National Park Service, within the Department of the Interior (DOI), bypassed the competitive-bidding process that is typically required and awarded your firm a non-competitive \$1.7 million contract for algae removal.<sup>3</sup> Records show that you have donated extensively to President Trump's campaign and to Trump-linked groups, giving \$250,000 to the Trump Victory fundraising committee in 2020, and that your firm has experience with only one other federal contract—another non-competitive award granted by the Trump Administration last year.<sup>4</sup> The Reflecting Pool award was quickly followed by another contract, now valued at over \$14 million, to another firm tied to President Trump to repaint the Pool—also awarded after

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<sup>1</sup> *Firm Tied to Trump Donor Got No-Bid Contract to Clean Reflecting Pool*, New York Times (June 18, 2026) (online at <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/06/18/us/politics/trump-donor-contract-reflecting-pool.html>).

<sup>2</sup> House Committee on Appropriations, Democrats, *Press Release: Trump Administration Spent Tens of Millions in Taxpayer Funds on Ballroom and then Lied About It* (June 16, 2026) (online at <https://democrats-appropriations.house.gov/news/press-releases/trump-administration-spent-tens-millions-taxpayer-funds-ballroom-and-then-lied>).

<sup>3</sup> *Firm Tied to Trump Donor Got No-Bid Contract to Clean Reflecting Pool*, New York Times (June 18, 2026) (online at <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/06/18/us/politics/trump-donor-contract-reflecting-pool.html>).

<sup>4</sup> *Company Owned by Trump Donor Won \$1.7 Million No-Bid Reflecting Pool Cleaning Contract*, CBS News (June 22, 2026) (online at <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/company-trump-donor-cafaro-reflecting-pool-no-bid-contract/>).

bypassing the competitive bidding process designed to protect taxpayer dollars from waste and abuse.

President Trump's mismanagement of taxpayer dollars for the Reflecting Pool project yielded abysmal results for taxpayers. Initial estimates for the Reflecting Pool contract work started at roughly \$1.5 million but overall costs are now tracking to exceed \$15 million.<sup>5</sup> On June 20, 2026, the *Washington Post* reported that after completing over \$14 million in repairs just earlier this month, algae has aggressively rebloomed and newly-applied paint is peeling and floating to the surface.<sup>6</sup>

The American people deserve better management of their tax dollars. They also deserve to know how the contractors selected to do this work were vetted, and how they plan to address their shoddy work moving forward. To get answers, I request that you provide the following materials related to your contract(s) involving the Reflecting Pool with DOI by July 8, 2026:

1. The scope of work, including equipment specifications, unit placement, and installation, testing, and commissioning dates;
2. Contract performance standards and benchmarks for water quality and algae control, including any considerations made to ensure nontoxicity to wildlife;
3. An explanation for the system's apparent failure to prevent algae growth or improve water quality;
4. Communications with National Park Service, DOI, Atlantic Industrial Coatings LLC, or other parties regarding project performance, deficiencies, or remediation;
5. Corrective actions taken or planned; and
6. Amounts invoiced and paid, including modifications, subcontractor costs, and anticipated expenses.

Please produce all relevant contracts, proposals, technical and design documents, testing and water-quality records, maintenance materials, invoices, photographs, analyses, and communications with your submission by July 8, 2026. Green Water Solutions is also directed to preserve all records relating to the project, including pertinent electronic communications maintained on personal devices or accounts used for official business.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee Democratic staff at (202) 225-5051. Thank you for your prompt attention to this request.

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<sup>5</sup> *Reflecting Pool Saga Becomes Unwelcome Distraction for Trump*, The Hill (June 23, 2026) (online at <https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/5935054-reflecting-pool-algae-dead-duck/>).

<sup>6</sup> *The Blue Paint Is Peeling Off the Reflecting Pool. Trump Says Vandals Targeted It*, Washington Post (June 20, 2026) (online at <https://www.washingtonpost.com/style/2026/06/19/blue-paint-is-peeling-off-reflecting-pool/>).

Mr. John Cafaro  
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Garcia', written over a horizontal line.

Robert Garcia  
Ranking Member

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Chairman