

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

<http://oversight.house.gov>

March 20, 2018

Mr. Randolph D. Alles
Director
United States Secret Service
950 H Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20332

Dear Director Alles:

I am writing to request documents and information relating to John McEntee, President Trump's former personal assistant, who was fired and immediately rushed out of the White House last week because of an unspecific security issue, according to multiple press reports.

On March 13, 2018, the *Wall Street Journal* reported that Mr. McEntee, a close, long-serving aide to President Trump who was "a constant presence at Mr. Trump's side for the past three years," "was escorted out of the White House on Monday." According to this report, he "was removed from the White House grounds on Monday afternoon without being allowed to collect his belongings," and he "left without his jacket." Mr. McEntee reportedly "indicated to colleagues that it was an issue in his background."¹

I am writing to inquire about whether the Secret Service was involved in either investigating Mr. McEntee or in the decision to escort Mr. McEntee out of the building immediately—and whether the seriousness of the allegations against him influenced the timing and process of his removal.

It has been reported that White House Chief of Staff John Kelly "told aides during a Friday morning staff meeting that there are tentative discussions about finding a role for McEntee in the administration."² If these reports are true, it is imperative that we understand the status of any investigation regarding Mr. McEntee—including whether the Secret Service has received any pressure to rush, terminate, or drop the investigation of Mr. McEntee.

More broadly, I am requesting information about the vetting of White House employees' potential security issues, the timing and circumstances of how the Secret Service learned of

¹ *Trump's Personal Assistant is Fired*, Wall Street Journal (Mar. 13, 2018) (online at www.wsj.com/articles/trumps-personal-assistant-is-fired-1520945928). See also *Longtime Trump Aide Fired Over Security Clearance Issue*, CNN (Mar. 13, 2018) (online at www.cnn.com/2018/03/13/politics/john-mcentee-white-house-security-clearance/index.html).

² *White House Weighs Rehiring Fired Trump Aide McEntee*, Politico (Mar. 17, 2018) (online at www.politico.com/story/2018/03/17/john-mcentee-white-house-return-trump-468674).

information regarding Mr. McEntee's security risks, whether and how it shared that information with others in the White House, and how and when the Secret Service removes staffers from the White House complex.

Request for Information

For these reasons, I request that you produce, by April 3, 2018, the following documents and information:

1. documents sufficient to show the Secret Service's involvement or role in any investigation of Mr. McEntee, the decision to escort him off campus for security reasons, and the actual removal of Mr. McEntee on March 12, 2018;
2. all documents and communications referring or relating to Mr. McEntee, including documents and communications between the Secret Service and any other government entity, including the White House and the Internal Revenue Service, but not including any documents related to an ongoing criminal investigation;
3. all documents and communications between the Secret Service and any other government entity, including the White House and the Internal Revenue Service, that refer or relate to discussions about Mr. McEntee's continued employment at the White House, his access to the White House campus, the decision to remove him from campus on March 12, 2018, and any decision to re-hire him into the Trump Administration;
4. all documents and communications referring or relating to the decision to terminate, revoke, or modify any White House staffer's access to the White House complex, including discussions about whether, when, and how to remove any White House staffer from the complex;
5. all documents and communications referring or relating to any White House official who resigned or was terminated due to a criminal investigation, security risk, failure or inability to obtain a security clearance, revocation of clearance to be on the White House campus, or any other reason.

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

Sincerely,



Elijah E. Cummings
Ranking Member

Director Randolph D. Alles

Page 3

cc: The Honorable Trey Gowdy, Chairman
House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform