

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 17, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

The Honorable Antony Blinken
Secretary
Department of State

Dear Secretary Blinken:

Since 2015, we have raised concerns about the State Department's compliance with federal records laws in light of Secretary Clinton's improper use of a non-government server for government business, in which she caused the mishandling of highly classified information yet was still exonerated by the Obama/Biden administration's FBI.¹ Since July 2021, we've also raised concerns about then-Vice President Joe Biden's use of non-government email and pseudonymous government email for official business and his compliance with federal records laws.² To-date, the Biden administration has failed to address Joe Biden's compliance with federal records laws.

Based on legally protected whistleblower disclosures to our offices, it's our understanding that then-Secretary of State John Kerry used the email address "SESTravel1@state.gov." We want to know whether then-Secretary Kerry properly complied with all federal records laws and regulations with respect to his official email communications and whether responses to relevant Freedom of Information Act requests have properly included that email address in productions to requestors.

From: "SESTravel1, User" <SESTravel1@state.gov>
To: Nuland, Victoria J <nulandvj@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Quint+P2 on Minsk
Date: Sat, 9 Jul 2016 18:37:15 -0400

Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 9, 2016, at 6:26 PM, Nuland, Victoria J <nulandvj@state.gov> wrote:

Boss, per your phone request just now. t

¹ Press Release, Charles E. Grassley, Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee, *Grassley Reiterates State Department Document Request, Seeks Inspector General Involvement In Special Government Employee Inquiry* (Mar. 20, 2015), <https://www.grassley.senate.gov/news/news-releases/grassley-reiterates-state-department-document-request-seeks-inspector-general>; Ron Johnson, Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs to Steve Linick, Inspector General, Department of State (Mar. 18, 2015) <http://www.hsgac.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/imo/media/doc/2015-03-18%20RHJ%20to%20State%20IG%20re%20Clinton%20Emails.pdf>.

² Press Release, *Grassley, Johnson Continue Two-Year Inquiry Into Joe Biden's Use of Pseudonyms And Personal Email Addresses For Official Government Business* (Aug. 31, 2023), <https://www.grassley.senate.gov/news/news-releases/grassley-johnson-continue-two-year-inquiry-into-joe-bidens-use-of-pseudonyms-and-personal-email-addresses-for-official-government-business>.

In addition, as you are aware, on May 22, 2024, we wrote to you about then-Secretary Kerry's extensive, consistent, and successful interference and obstruction of the FBI's efforts to arrest Iranian terrorists because of his desire to cement the failed Iran Nuclear Deal between the Obama/Biden administration and the Iranian government.³ On May 5, 2021, Senator Grassley also raised questions about Kerry's potential mishandling of classified information in communications with Iran's Foreign Minister, Mohammad Javad Zarif, after leaving office.⁴ Accordingly, please answer the following questions no later than July 1, 2024:

1. Was the email address "SESTravel1@state.gov" used by then-Secretary Kerry?
2. Provide all records from, to, or cc'ing the email address "SESTravel1@state.gov."
3. Did then-Secretary Kerry comply with all federal records laws and regulations? If so, please explain, in detail, the process used to store and archive his government email records.
4. Have all FOIA requests properly included the email address "SESTravel1@state.gov" in responses?
5. Did then-Secretary Kerry only use the "SESTravel1@state.gov" address for official business during his time as Secretary of State? If not, provide the other email addresses that were used, to include personal email. Provide all records.
6. Was the email address "SESTravel1@state.gov" used to communicate with foreign government officials? If so, did any information include classified information? Provide all records.
7. Was the email address "SESTravel1@state.gov" used to communicate information relating to the Iran Nuclear Deal? If so, was any information classified? Provide all records.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Budget



Ron Johnson
Ranking Member
Permanent Subcommittee
on Investigations

³ Press Release, *Grassley, Johnson Uncover Obama-Biden State Department's Politically-Motivated Obstruction Of FBI Law Enforcement Efforts* (May 22, 2024), <https://www.grassley.senate.gov/news/news-releases/grassley-johnson-uncover-obama-biden-state-departments-politically-motivated-obstruction-of-fbi-law-enforcement-efforts>.

⁴ Press Release, Charles E. Grassley, Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee, *Grassley Calls On State Department And Its Inspector General To Investigate National Security Allegations Against John Kerry* (May 5, 2021), <https://www.grassley.senate.gov/news/news-releases/grassley-calls-on-state-department-and-its-inspector-general-to-investigate-national-security-allegations-against-john-kerry>.

cc: The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse
Chairman
Committee on the Budget

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal
Chairman
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

The Honorable Cardell K. Richardson
Inspector General
Department of State