



## **Chairman John Carter**

*Subcommittee on Homeland Security  
House Committee on Appropriations*

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### **FY 2016 Budget Hearing - U.S. Secret Service March 17, 2015 Opening Statement As Prepared**

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Today we welcome Joe Clancy, the recently appointed Director of the U. S. Secret Service, in his very first appearance before our Subcommittee. Director Clancy, welcome. We appreciate you being here and thank you for your willingness to serve DHS and our Nation.

The fiscal year 2016 budget for Secret Service is \$1.9 billion, an increase of \$273 million above fiscal year 2015. This increase is due in large part to preparations for the upcoming Presidential campaign cycle, the development of the former-Obama detail, and additional funds based on recommendations of the Mission Panel that reported out in December on the need for significant reform to the Service.

Director, we look forward to discussing these increases with you and learning whether you plan to address the many recommendations contained in the various reviews of your Service that have occurred over the past few months.

Before ending, however, I want to address an incident that was in the news last week. According to report, two senior Secret Service agents on the President's protective detail arrived at a White House Complex checkpoint in a government car after allegedly consuming alcohol. As the agents proceeded towards the checkpoint, they drove through the scene of an active investigation. The violation of standing rules of behavior was not reported headquarters until days later.

For an agency trying to restore its reputation three years after a well-publicized scandal, this incident brings embarrassment and renewed scrutiny to the Secret Service. Simply put, this kind of conduct should not be tolerated and Congress is disappointed to see it on display again. Director, I look forward to hearing your comments on this issue.

First, I would like to recognize Mrs. Roybal-Allard, our new distinguished Ranking Member, for any remarks she'd like to make.

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