

ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115
Majority (202) 225-2927
Minority (202) 225-3641

September 20, 2016

The Honorable Marsha Blackburn
Chair
Select Investigative Panel
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Madam Chair:

I write in response to the letter that you sent this afternoon offering to consult with me regarding possible release of the May 11, 2016 deposition transcript. House deposition rules state that:

“The chair and ranking member *shall* consult regarding the release of depositions. If either objects in writing to a proposed release of a deposition or a portion thereof, the matter shall be promptly referred to the committee for resolution.”

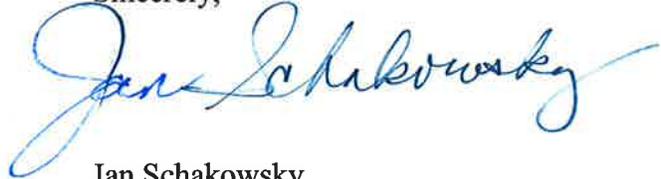
Yesterday, you issued a public notice scheduling a markup on release of this transcript without notifying or consulting with me. In so doing, you also released the name of the deponent, knowing that she has significant personal safety concerns and having been asked – before, during, and after her appearance – to safeguard her identity. Had you consulted with me as the rules require, I would have raised this issue with you before you released the deponent’s name. While there is no way to cure the damage done by your prior public releases of her identity, we can take steps now to prevent any further damage.

I therefore accept your invitation to consult and request a meeting to discuss conditions for possible release of this transcript. Any Panel consideration in advance of that meeting would be premature and I reserve the right to raise any applicable objections.

The Honorable Marsha Blackburn
Page 2

It is also my understanding that the Majority has never afforded the witness the opportunity to review a copy of the transcript and submit changes as is also required by the rules. Our consultation over possible release should occur after that review takes place so that we have a common understanding of the actual text being considered for release.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jan Schakowsky". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Jan Schakowsky
Ranking Member
Select Investigative Panel