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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6275

February 19, 2014

The Honorable James B. Comey, Jr.
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Director Comey:

On January 23, 2014, the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York announced the indictment of Dinesh D'Souza for violating federal campaign laws. In its coverage of the indictment, *The Washington Post* and other news outlets reported that the U.S. Attorney's Office said that the investigation that led to the indictment began as a result of a "routine review by the FBI of campaign filings with the FEC of various candidates after the 2012 election."¹

The articles, however, did not provide any details regarding the scope and methodology of these routine reviews. Harvard Law School Professor Alan Dershowitz has said, "I can't help but think that [D'Souza's] politics have something to do with it.... It smacks of selective prosecution." To dispel this sort of public perception that Mr. D'Souza may have been targeted because of his outspoken criticisms of the President, it is important for the FBI to be transparent regarding the precise origin of this investigation.

During your confirmation hearing, you pledged that you would carry the values of transparency and try to spread them as far as you could within the FBI. To explain the details of these routine reviews and provide context to those who may be skeptical of the origins of this investigation, please provide answers to the following questions regarding FBI's regular review of campaign filings:

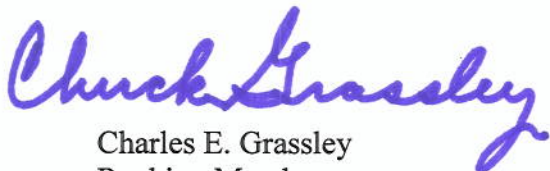
1. It appears from U.S. Attorney's Office comment that the FBI conducts regular, perhaps random reviews of campaign filings. Is this correct? If so, what methodology does the FBI use to conduct these reviews?
2. Please identify and describe all methods by which a review of campaign filings may be initiated.
3. Please identify all other government entities involved in the FBI's review of campaign filings and describe their involvement.

¹ Conservative author and pundit Dinesh D'Souza charged in campaign finance case, *The Washington Post*, Tom Hamburger and Alice Crites, January 23, 2014.

4. How and why was this particular review initiated?
5. What criteria involved in this particular review led to the suspicion that warranted further inquiry?
6. What are the guidelines under which the FBI conducts its reviews of campaign filings?
7. Please describe how the FBI's reviews of campaign filings are conducted.
8. How many campaign filings has the FBI reviewed in each year from 2008 to the present?
9. On average, how long does it take to complete a review of a campaign filing?
10. How many agents are assigned, per case, to review campaign filings?
11. On average, how many man hours are spent reviewing campaign filings?
12. When did the FBI begin routinely reviewing campaign filings?

We would appreciate an individual response to each of these questions by March 5, 2014.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary



Jeff Sessions
U.S. Senator



Ted Cruz
U.S. Senator



Mike Lee
U.S. Senator