



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

October 23, 2002

Mr. Robert G. Wright, Jr.
Special Agent
Federal Bureau of Investigation
219 South Dearborn Street
Chicago, Illinois 60604-1702

Dear Mr. Wright:

This is in furtherance of telephone conversations concerning a request by the Joint Intelligence Committee staff to interview you in connection with issues you have raised relating to your experiences investigating international terrorism matters in the FBI's Chicago Office. I understand that you object to the presence of an FBI representative during your meeting with congressional staff.

The Joint Intelligence Committee staff reports to both the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and is charged with investigating the Intelligence Community's readiness and response to the September 11th attacks. Director Mueller has pledged the FBI's full and complete cooperation with the Joint Committee's investigation and the Committee staff has had unprecedented access to FBI records and personnel. To date, this office has facilitated interviews of over 150 FBI employees by Committee staff. A representative from this office, and often the Department of Justice, Office of Legislative Affairs, has been present during every interview of an FBI employee discussing information contained in the FBI's files or information obtained as a result of FBI employment. We have encouraged you to meet with Committee staff and share with them your thoughts and experiences based on your involvement in the FBI's international terrorism program. Please be advised that Committee staff maintain 'Top Secret' security clearances and you may discuss with them classified information relating to their inquiry. You may not discuss classified information with individuals, including your personal representatives, who do not possess the appropriate security clearances.

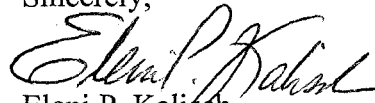
Our efforts to facilitate your interview began with a series of phone calls last week. On Friday, you asked that my staff discuss the Committee's request and the FBI's policy with respect to authorizing employee interviews with your attorney, Mr. David Schippers. At the conclusion of that telephone call, you agreed to meet with the Committee staff with an FBI representative present. Late on Friday afternoon, another attorney, Mr. Thomas Fitton, of Judicial Watch, Inc., contacted our office. Mr. Fitton left a telephone message advising that you were having second thoughts about having an FBI representative present during your interview. During telephone conversations on

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Tuesday with Mr. Fitton and with you, we reiterated the FBI's policy and explained that attendance by an FBI representative was not optional. As we've discussed, the FBI's interests in attending employee interviews is twofold: to ensure that the interview does not diverge into prohibited areas involving federal grand jury information, or matters sealed by a federal district court, and to be aware of information provided to the Committee by FBI employees that may form the basis for later reports and recommendations.

Representatives from Judicial Watch faxed a letter to our office on Tuesday afternoon suggesting that the presence of an FBI representative during your interview is not appropriate given on-going litigation between yourself and the FBI. In order to accommodate your concerns, I have asked the Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Legislative Affairs (OLA) to provide a representative for the scheduled interview. The FBI therefore authorizes your interview with Committee staff provided you agree to the presence of the DOJ, OLA representative. Please be assured that no adverse action will be taken against you for providing your candid assessment to Committee staff based on your experiences as an FBI employee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eleni P. Kalisch", written in a cursive style.

Eleni P. Kalisch

Section Chief

Government Relations

cc: Judicial Watch (via facsimile)