

## U.S. Department of Justice

The Special Counsel's Office

Washington, D.C. 20530

July 5, 2017

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Rod J. Rosenstein

acting Attorney General

FROM:

Robert S. Mueller III

SUBJECT:

Status of the Investigation Pursuant to Order No. 39015-2017

Pursuant to 28 CFR § 600.8(a)(2), we briefed members of your staff on June 30, 2017, regarding the status the investigation I was appointed to conduct pursuant to Order No. 3915-2017 ("Order"). This memorandum provides highlights from that report. A budget request for the fiscal year commencing October 1, 2017 has been submitted to Assistant Attorney General for Administration Lee Lofthus.

Since my appointment on May 17, 2017, I have begun to assemble a team of attorneys to assist me in the investigation. Three individuals joined The Special Counsel's Office ("SCO") from private practice. The remaining eleven were detailed to the SCO from either a component of the Justice Department (eight), a United States Attorney's office (two), or the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) (one). In addition, working with the FBI I have assembled a team of agents and analysts who will be assigned to assist in the investigation. Most, but not all, were previously assigned to a matter within the scope of the investigation.

The SCO was initially located in the Patrick Henry Building. On June 26, 2017, we moved the office to FBI controlled space at Patriots Plaza One, 395 4<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Washington DC. The move was required by the fact that much of the information involved in the investigation is classified. The attorneys, agents and analysts are housed in a Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility (SCIF) at Patriots Plaza One. The efforts of the Department and the FBI in locating and fitting out our space have been exemplary and I am extremely grateful for their hard work and dedication.

Our investigation is proceeding. We received extensive briefings from the FBI and members of the intelligence community to inform us of the status of the investigation at the time of my appointment. We contacted the attorneys at the Department of Justice or the United States Attorney's Offices, who were conducting investigations likely within the scope of the Order, and we were briefed by them on the status of their investigations, and, where appropriate, brought those matters into the SCO for further investigation. We are utilizing standard investigative tools,

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including grand juries, to conduct our investigation.

I am committed to pursuing the investigation to which you appointed me with the speed and thoroughness it requires. At this early stage I am unable to provide a more detailed report on the investigation, but would be pleased to meet with you to answer, where possible and appropriate, questions you may have.



### U.S. Department of Justice

The Special Counsel's Office

Washington, D.C. 20530

June 29, 2018

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Rod J. Rosenstein

Acting Attorney General

FROM:

Robert S. Mueller III

SUBJECT:

28 C.F.R. 600.8(a)(2) Status of the Investigation Pursuant to Order No. 39015-2017

We have regularly briefed members of your staff regarding the status of the investigation I was appointed to conduct pursuant to Order No. 3915-2017 ("Order"). This memorandum provides highlights from those reports. A budget request for the fiscal year commencing October 1, 2018, has been submitted to Assistant Attorney General for Administration Lee Lofthus.

Since my appointment on May 17, 2017, I assembled a team of attorneys to assist me in the investigation. In addition, working with the FBI I assembled a team of agents and analysts who have been assigned to assist in the investigation.

Our investigation is proceeding. As of this date, the government has brought criminal charges against 23 individuals and entities arising from the investigation. *See* Appendix A (listing defendants and charges).

I am committed to pursuing the investigation to which you appointed me with the speed and thoroughness it requires. I would be pleased to meet with you to answer, where possible and appropriate, questions you may have.

#### APPENDIX A

### Criminal Charges Brought By The Special Counsel's Office As Of June 29, 2018

- On October 5, 2017, George Papadopoulos, who served as a foreign policy advisor to the Trump campaign, pleaded guilty in the District of Columbia to making false statements to the FBI, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1001, "about the timing, extent, and nature of his relationships and interactions with certain foreign nationals whom he understood to have close connections with Senior Russian government officials." Information, *United States v. Papadopoulos*, No. 17-cr-182-RDM (Oct. 3, 2017); see Statement of the Offense, (Oct. 5, 2017). Papadopoulos has not been sentenced.
- On October 27, 2017, a D.C. grand jury returned a 12-count indictment alleging that Paul J. Manafort, Jr. and Richard W. Gates III committed various crimes in connection with work they performed for Russia-backed political entities in Ukraine. On February 22, 2018, a grand jury in the Eastern District of Virginia returned a 32-count indictment alleging that Manafort and Gates committed various crimes in connection with the payments they received for work that they performed for Russia-backed political entities in Ukraine. On June 8, 2018, a D.C. grand jury returned a seven-count superseding indictment, which added charges of obstruction of justice and conspiracy to commit obstruction of justice against Manafort and Konstantin Kilimnik. Manafort has trials scheduled in the Eastern District of Virginia on July 25, 2018, and in the District of Columbia on September 17, 2018.\*
- On February 23, 2018, Gates pleaded guilty in the District of Columbia to a multi-object conspiracy and to making false statements; the remaining charges against Gates were dismissed. Gates has not been sentenced.
- On December 1, 2017, Lieutenant General Michael T. Flynn (Ret.), who served as "a surrogate and national security advisor" for the Trump campaign and as the National Security Advisor to President Trump, pleaded guilty in the District of Columbia to making false statements to the FBI, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1001, about communications with the Russian ambassador concerning a pending United States Security Council resolution and about U.S. sanctions against Russia and Russia's response to those sanctions. Flynn has not been sentenced.
- On February 12, 2018, Richard Pinedo pleaded guilty in the District of Columbia to identity
  fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1028, for having obtained bank account numbers, many
  created with stolen identities, to circumvent the security features of an online payment
  processor. Pinedo has not been sentenced.
- On February 16, 2018, a D.C. grand jury returned an indictment against 13 Russian nationals and three Russian entities accused of violating U.S. criminal laws in order to interfere with

<sup>\*</sup> This entry addresses only the first indictment and the indictments upon which Manafort will be tried, and otherwise omits the procedural history of the case.

U.S. elections and political processes. The indictment charges all of the defendants with conspiracy to defraud the United States in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371, three defendants with conspiracy to commit wire fraud and bank fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371, and five defendants with aggravated identity theft in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1028A. Concord Management has entered an appearance in the case through counsel. A trial has not yet been scheduled.

On February 20, 2018, Alex van der Zwann pleaded guilty in the District of Columbia to
making false statements to the FBI, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1001, about communications
with Richard W. Gates III and another person, and about destruction and concealment of
evidence from the Special Counsel's Office, all related to connections between Gates,
Paul J. Manafort, Jr., and Russia-backed politicians and operatives working in Ukraine. The
District Court for the District of Columbia sentenced van der Zwaan on April 3, 2018 to 30days imprisonment and a \$20,000 fine.



# U.S. Department of Justice

The Special Counsel's Office

Washington, D.C. 20530

April 19, 2019

The Honorable William P. Barr Attorney General of the United States Department of Justice Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Barr:

Pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 600.8(c), which states that, "[a]t the conclusion of the Special Counsel's work, he . . . shall provide the Attorney General a confidential report explaining the prosecution or declination decisions [] reached," I am transmitting my report on the investigation of (b) (6), (b) (7)(0)

Sincerely yours,

Robert S. Mueller, III

Special Counsel

Enclosure

### U.S. Department of Justice Attorney Work Product

This report is submitted to the Attorney General pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 600.8(c), which states that, "[a]t the conclusion of the Special Counsel's work, he . . . shall provide the Attorney General a confidential report explaining the prosecution and declination decisions [the Special Counsel] reached."

The Special Counsel's Office was authorized by the Acting Attorney General to investigate allegations that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) was an unregistered agent of a foreign government. See August 2, 2017, Memorandum from Rod J. Rosenstein to Robert S. Mueller III. The August 2 memorandum names the foreign government.

Title 18, United States Code, Section 951 criminalizes, *inter alia*, acting as an "agent of a foreign government" by agreeing "to operate within the United States subject to the direction or control of a foreign government or official."

The Special Counsel's Office closed its investigation of a foreign government in violation of Section 951 because there was not admissible evidence sufficient to obtain and sustain a conviction. Justice Manual § 9-27.220. The Office closed all matters pertaining to and, after consultation with the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, referred the remainder of the investigation to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia.