

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3203

March 26, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump:

We have learned that members of your Cabinet recently convened a group chat on the commercial messaging app “Signal” to discuss active, highly classified military plans and operations, and that they mistakenly included the editor-in-chief of *The Atlantic* in this group. The group, which was titled “Houthi PC small group,” apparently encompassed at least 18 people including your Vice President; Secretaries of Defense, State, and Treasury; National Security Advisor; CIA Director; Director of National Intelligence; White House Chief of Staff; and several other senior appointees.

Over the course of several days, this group chat reportedly discussed operational plans, targets, and weapon systems for upcoming U.S. military strikes in Yemen, and provided after-action battlefield damage assessments. These messages allegedly provided detailed intelligence about the movements and future locations of specific military assets and personnel in active combat zones. The group chat also contained extremely sensitive conversations between the Vice President and Cabinet officials that could have a negative impact on our diplomatic efforts with foreign allies and partners, particularly in Europe. We are aware that the Director of National Intelligence, and possibly others, appears to have been overseas while this group chat was active, making the entire discussion more vulnerable to interception by foreign adversaries. Inexplicably, throughout the days-long chat conversation, the editor-in-chief of *The Atlantic* remained in the group chat and his presence was never questioned.

Let us be clear, if any American military servicemember, intelligence official, or law enforcement officer committed such an egregious breach of operational security and endangered the lives of their comrades downrange, they would be investigated and likely prosecuted.

We write to you with extreme alarm about the astonishingly poor judgment shown by your Cabinet and national security advisors. You have long advocated for accountability and transparency in the government, particularly as it relates to the handling of classified information, national security, and the safety of American servicemembers. As such, it is imperative that you address this breach with the seriousness and diligence that it demands.

Our committees have serious questions about this incident, and members need a full accounting to ensure it never happens again. Moreover, given that willful or negligent disclosure of classified or sensitive national security information may constitute a criminal violation of the Espionage Act or other laws, we expect Attorney General Bondi, copied here, to conduct a thorough and impartial investigation of the conduct of the government officials involved in improperly sharing or discussing such information. We also ask that you immediately direct relevant officials to preserve records of these communications and any other discussions of government business occurring on any messaging application. Some of the messages in the Signal chat were apparently set to

disappear after a certain period of time – a potential violation of both the Federal Records Act and the Presidential Records Act.

We hereby request answers to the following:

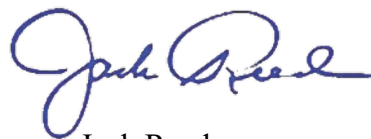
1. Please provide a complete and unredacted transcript of the “Houthi PC small group” chat for review by our appropriate committees in a secure setting.
2. Please provide a complete list of all personnel who participated in or had access to the “Houthi PC small group” chat.
3. What dates was the “Houthi PC small group” established and when was the last message transmitted to the Signal group chat?
4. Were there any other individuals, in addition to Jeffrey Goldberg, who were erroneously included in the “Houthi PC small group” chat?
5. Did any U.S. government personnel access the “Houthi PC small group” chat using personal communication devices?
6. Were any personnel who participated in or had access to the “Houthi PC small group” chat traveling overseas while the group chat was active? If yes, on which devices did group members operate while accessing the group chat?
7. Did any individuals transfer classified information, including operational war plans, from classified systems to unclassified systems, and if so, how?
8. Has the intelligence community conducted a damage assessment of the potential leakage of classified and sensitive information via the “Houthi PC small group” chat and subsequent reporting?
9. Are any Cabinet level officials, their deputies or other designees, or White House officials using Signal or other commercial products to discuss classified or sensitive information or any communications subject to statutory recordkeeping requirements?
10. If so, how is the Administration ensuring that it meets its statutory requirements with regard to these conversations?

You and your Cabinet are responsible for the safety and security of the American people, as well as our military servicemembers and intelligence personnel in the field. We expect your Administration to address this dangerous lapse in security protocol—whether intended or not—with the utmost seriousness, and to uphold the ethic of accountability that our nation holds sacred. We must work together to ensure this does not happen again, and we look forward to reviewing the forthcoming reports.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Schumer  
Democratic Leader



Jack Reed  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Armed Services



Mark A. Warner  
Vice Chairman  
Select Committee on Intelligence



Jeanne Shaheen  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Foreign Relations



Gary C. Peters  
Ranking Member  
Homeland Security & Government  
Affairs Committee



Richard J. Durbin  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary



Christopher A. Coons  
Ranking Member  
Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense

CC:

Peter Hegseth  
Secretary of Defense  
Department of Defense

John Ratcliffe  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency

Marco Rubio  
Secretary of State  
Department of State

Pamela Bondi  
Attorney General  
Department of Justice

Tulsi Gabbard  
Director of National Intelligence  
Office of the Director of National Intelligence