

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 21, 2019

The Honorable Joseph Maguire
Acting Director
Office of the Director of National Intelligence
Washington, DC 20511

The Honorable Michael K. Atkinson
Inspector General of the Intelligence Community
Washington, DC 20511

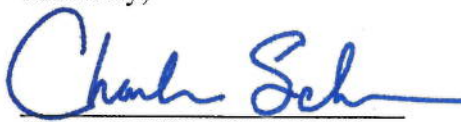
Dear Acting Director Maguire and Inspector General Atkinson:

I am writing to ask what specific steps you are taking to protect the security of the intelligence community whistleblower. As you know, on August 12, 2019, the whistleblower reported urgent, credible concerns about serious misconduct and abuse of power by President Trump. The whistleblower filed a complaint pursuant to 50 U.S.C. § 3033(k)(5)(A), and under the law is entitled to protection against retaliation.

Regrettably, however, President Trump has attacked the whistleblower as “a fraud,” referred to the complaint as “fake,” and even suggested that the whistleblower’s sources are spies who should be executed for “treason.” The President has also incorrectly stated that he has a right to “confront” the whistleblower, and has said that he is “trying to find out” the whistleblower’s identity -- notwithstanding the fact that whistleblower anonymity is protected by law.

In light of these ill-advised statements, the President’s lack of respect for the rule of law and his well-documented habit of condoning violence by his supporters, I am concerned that he may disclose the whistleblower’s identity or cause it to be disclosed. If that were to happen, the two of you must be prepared to protect the whistleblower from both workplace reprisal and threats to his or her personal safety. I understand that some security measures may already have been taken, but I fear that risks may increase in the event that the whistleblower’s identity is disclosed. I also note reports that one or more additional whistleblowers may be coming forward, creating added security concerns. I therefore ask that you inform me regarding your plans to ensure that these whistleblowers are adequately protected.

Sincerely,



CHARLES E. SCHUMER
United States Senator