



U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Information Policy
Suite 11050
1425 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Telephone: (202) 514-3642

July 3, 2017

William Marshall
Judicial Watch
425 Third Street SW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20024
bmarshall@judicialwatch.org

Re: DOJ-2017-000657 (AG)
DOJ-2017-000674 (DAG)
D.D.C. No. 17-cv-421
VRB:ACS

Dear Mr. Marshall:

This is an interim response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request seeking records pertaining to a meeting on June 27, 2016, between then-Attorney General Loretta Lynch and former President Bill Clinton. Because your request was not specifically addressed to this Office, your letter was initially sent to the FOIA/PA Mail Referral Unit (MRU), Justice Management Division, for appropriate routing and was received by this Office on November 8, 2016. This response is made on behalf of the Offices of the Attorney General (OAG) and Deputy Attorney General (ODAG).

As we advised by letters dated December 8, 2016 and June 1, 2017, we conducted searches in OAG and ODAG and located records responsive to your request which require consultations with other entities. At this time, those consultations are partially complete, and I have determined that ninety-eight pages are appropriate for release with limited excisions made pursuant to Exemption 6 of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6), which pertains to information the release of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of third parties. For your information, the withheld material includes certain personal contact information. Where the redaction of contact information has concealed the identity of an individual, we have added a text box stating that individual's identity, for your reference.

Please be advised that we are continuing to process and conduct consultations on additional material that is responsive to your request. We will respond to you again once our work on those records is complete.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. *See* 5 U.S.C. § 552(c) (2015) (amended 2016). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

If you have any question regarding this response, please contact Jason Lee of the Department's Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch, at 202-514-3367.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'V-R-B' followed by a horizontal flourish.

Vanessa R. Brinkmann
Senior Counsel

Enclosures

Levine, Mike

From: Levine, Mike
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2016 1:18 PM
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Cc: Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)
Subject: Re: Bill Clinton meeting?

(b) (6)

> On Jun 28, 2016, at 1:17 PM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov> wrote:

>

> What's your number?

>

>> On Jun 28, 2016, at 1:14 PM, Levine, Mike <Mike.Levine@abc.com> wrote:

>>

>> Hey guys, wanted to address something ASAP... Apparently our affiliate in Phoenix is hearing that the AG met with Bill Clinton on a plane last night for close to an hour. They seem to think it's somehow connected to the Benghazi report released today (I'm not sure what the connection would be). But hoping I can provide them some guidance ASAP. Thanks

>>

>> --Mike

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>>

>>

Levine, Mike

From: Levine, Mike
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2016 1:32 PM
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Subject: Re: Bill Clinton meeting?

Sounds good thx

> On Jun 28, 2016, at 1:29 PM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov> wrote:

>

> I'm not but heading back. I'll call you.

>

>> On Jun 28, 2016, at 1:24 PM, Levine, Mike <Mike.Levine@abc.com> wrote:

>>

>> Are you in your office? I can by in like 15 or so

>>

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>>

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>>>>

>>>> --Mike

>>

Dean, Matthew

From: Dean, Matthew
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2016 10:28 AM
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Subject: Re: Trasncrypt from media avail

Thanks, Melanie

Matt Dean
Department of Justice & Federal Law Enforcement Producer
Fox News Channel
(b) (6) Mobile)
202.789.0261 (DOJ)
matthew.dean@foxnews.com
@MattFirewall

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA) <Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2016 10:26:15 AM
To: Dean, Matthew
Subject: Trasncrypt from media avail

Matt,

As I mentioned on the phone, this question was asked in yesterday's media availability in Phoenix. I've included the transcript of the one exchange on this topic, as well as a link to the one report that mentions the exchange.

<http://cronkitenews.azpbs.org/2016/06/28/ag-loretta-lynch-praises-phoenix-police-training/>

REPORTER: Sources say that you met last night with former president Bill Clinton. Did the topic of Benghazi come up at all, or can you tell us what was discussed?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: No. Actually, while I was landing at the airport, I did see President Clinton at the Phoenix airport as I was leaving, and he spoke to myself and my husband on the plane. Our conversation was a great deal about his grandchildren. It was primary social and about our travels. He mentioned the golf he played in Phoenix, and he mentioned travels he'd had in West Virginia. We talked about former Attorney General Janet Reno, for example, whom we both know, but there was no discussion of any matter pending before the department or any matter pending before any other body. There was no discussion of Benghazi, no discussion of the state department emails, by way of example. I would say the current news of the day was the Brexit decision, and what that might mean. And again, the department's not involved in that or implicated in that.

Melanie R. Newman
Director, Office of Public Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
Direct: 202-305-1920
Cell: (b) (6)
@MelanieDOJ

This message and its attachments may contain legally privileged or confidential information. It is intended solely for the named addressee. If you are not the addressee indicated in this message (or responsible for delivery of the message to the addressee), you may not copy or deliver this message or its attachments to anyone. Rather, you should permanently delete this message and its attachments and kindly notify the sender by reply e-mail. Any content of this message and its attachments that does not relate to the official business of Fox News or Fox Business must not be taken to have been sent or endorsed by either of them. No representation is made that this email or its attachments are without defect.

Reid, Paula

From: Reid, Paula
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2016 5:19 PM
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Subject: Everyone asking me about this Lynch/clinton meeting

What say you?

Newman, Melanie (OPA)

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2016 5:30 PM
To: ReidP@cbsnews.com
Subject: Transcript of AG Lynch's Q&A from Press Conference in AZ Yesterday (6/28)
Attachments: Transcript- AG Press Conference in AZ 28JUN.docx; ATT00001.htm

See the fourth question below.

June 28, 2016

Press Conference with Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch

Phoenix, Arizona

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: So let me first thank the mayor of this great city, Mayor Stanton as well as the police chief of this outstanding department, Chief Joe Yahner. They have welcomed me to the city; they have opened the doors of this department to me, and we've seen some truly outstanding police work going on here. I want to thank them for their service and for their dedication to the people of Phoenix. I am here in Phoenix today as a part of a six city community policing tour. It began earlier this year in 2016 and I have already had the pleasure of visiting Miami and around Florida, Portland, Oregon, Indianapolis, Indiana, and Fayetteville, North Carolina. Tomorrow, I'll be concluding the tour in Los Angeles, California. And in each stop along the way in each of these cities I'm highlighting one of six pillars of community policing, identifying the final report of the President's task force on 21st century policing. You'll recall this came out a little over a year ago. But the report contains a number of common sense adaptable recommendations for communities seeking to create a more collaborative approach to law enforcement and to public safety. And on this stop, what has brought me to Phoenix today, we're focusing on training and education, vital components of any successful law enforcement agency and an area where the Phoenix police department does indeed excel. From the (INAUDIBLE) police department's introduction of de-escalation training to their creation of a specially trained mental health crisis intervention squad. The Phoenix police department is ensuring that their office have the tools that they need to respond to the unique challenges of contemporary law enforcement. And just those two issues alone are some of the most pressing challenges facing 21st century policing today. Now, earlier today, I had a chance to actually witness a de-escalation training session in the Arizona Law Enforcement Academy. I was tremendously impressed by the comprehensive instruction that the officers received here, and that we will be highlighting going forward as an example to other departments across the country. As you know, this is a topic of great concern. We look at certain issues and cases, and people within the community often have questions about how officers are trained, about when and how they employ de-escalation, and I saw, frankly, thoughtful, substantive, effective approach to a number of different scenarios. And let me commend the training officers as well as the officers who go through this training here. We in the Department of Justice are determined to do our part, however, to work with our state and local partners to improve their educational capacity, particularly in this regard of training. We offer a wide range of grants, we offer training sessions, we offer technical assistance through our office of Community Oriented Policing Services of

COPS, our Office of Justice Programs, our Bureau of Justice Assistance, our Civil Rights Division and our U.S. Attorneys' Offices among other components. Now we intend to continue looking for ways to provide assistance and support officers and the communities that we all serve and protect. Now as the Attorney General, I am committed in highlighting this work, such as the Blue Courage training and the de-escalation training that I saw today, as ways to keep both officers and the community safe, healthy and whole. Now of course, in addition to the work that we're doing with our state and local partners who are so important to us, we in the department are also committed to ensuring that our own personnel are well-trained in the core principles and best practices of community policing. And to that end, I am proud to say that the Department of Justice is now requiring all of its law enforcement components and Assistant U.S. Attorneys to undergo implicit bias training, something that has been rolled out at the local level for the past several years. This is an important step in our ongoing efforts to ensure that our administration of justice is as fair and impartial as possible, as an example of the Justice Department's commitment to holding itself to the same high standard. And let me, at this time, thank the Deputy Attorney General, Sally Yates, and her team, for their leadership on this issue, and we look forward to implementing this training in the weeks ahead at the federal level as well. So again, thank you for joining me. I'm delighted to be here in Phoenix, and I'm happy to take some questions.

REPORTER: So I have a question. President Obama, of course, will be supporting Hillary Clinton. To what extent does his support for Hillary Clinton affect, in any way, your role as Attorney General of the ongoing FBI investigation of candidate Clinton (INAUDIBLE) her emails.

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: So the investigation into how the State Department emails are being handled is being handled by career lawyers and agents. They are handling that matter in the way that they handle every investigation: independently and fairly. They follow the facts and evidence and when they are done they will come up with a recommendation. We do not discuss any case with anyone at the White House, so the endorsement by the President does not impact any of the case that we're working on.

REPORTER: Will that be completed before the election?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: I can't give you a timing report on that because, again, I want to let them finish their work. I want to let them complete their review and come up with recommendations which will be reviewed. So I'm not able to give you timing on that, but I will tell you that people are working expeditiously.

REPORTER: What are you doing with your findings here? Are you presenting them to (INAUDIBLE) police departments as a way of saying, "Look at what these people are doing, implement the same strategies." Is that the purpose?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: We are going to be doing a report on my Community Policing Tour. We're going to be highlighting the best practices that we've seen in the various departments. In fact, we'll be having - we're hoping to have that done by the time - the first week in August, when we are highlighting our Community Policing Awards, an award that we are inaugurating this year to a rank-and-file police officer who excels at community policing. They can be nominated by the department or by the community, and we are still renewing those as well. So that will - what will be available to departments, but specifically in response to your question, we do often get outreach from police departments who come primarily to our COPS office, and they will request technical training or assistance, they will ask us to review different policies - for example, when a police department may say, "Can you take a look at my use of force policy?" - and see if we need to do anything with that, to provide assistance. We provide that assistance as part of the work of the Department, not necessarily as part of an investigation, although it does

come up in those manners as well. We also post through the COPS office - we post information online, and we urge police departments who have questions or concerns about training and situations they might be facing, to look on our website and find departments that are in fact working in these areas. Because our goal is, for example, to be able to match up a police department who may say, you know, "We'd really like to work on our de-escalation training, is there a department out there we can consult with?" We would refer them to Phoenix, for example. And that does happen, and we will be looking to the Phoenix Police Department for that. We also, through our investigative work, published all of our consent decrees on Civil Rights Division's website. And we urge law enforcement officers and departments to look at those as well, and to look at the situations that have led many jurisdictions into problematic situations and see if they feel themselves trending in a particular way, to reach out for assistance before an incident occurs or before the relationship becomes so frayed that they're not able to recover from an incident. So we're trying to reach out and be proactive in a number of different ways, and we will be using the Phoenix Police Department as an example and hoping to match them in other departments also.

REPORTER: Sources say that you met last night with former president Bill Clinton. Did the topic of Benghazi come up at all, or can you tell us what was discussed?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: No. Actually, while I was landing at the airport, I did see President Clinton at the Phoenix airport as I was leaving, and he spoke to myself and my husband on the plane. Our conversation was a great deal about his grandchildren. It was primary social and about our travels. He mentioned the golf he played in Phoenix, and he mentioned travels he'd had West Virginia. We talked about former Attorney General Janet Reno, for example, whom we both know, but there was no discussion of any matter pending for the department or any matter pending for any other body. There was no discussion of Benghazi, no discussion of the state department emails, by way of example. I would say the current news of the day was the Brexit decision, and what that might mean. And again, the department's not involved in that or implicated in that.

REPORTER: So what can you tell communities here, communities of color, and others that are concerned about policing, what can you tell them that is different in the way that Phoenix P.D. is doing its job today versus how it did it a year ago or five years ago?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: You know I think what we can say to communities here in Phoenix and other communities that are also looking for ways to work with their police departments is that the phoenix police department has been very involved in community policing. That is to say they have reached out to the community and sought input, which we find to be a very important component to building a trusting relationship. The Phoenix Police Department has also emphasized the training that I mentioned earlier. The de-escalation for example really takes a situation and talks officers through a way to find the myriad ways you can resolve a situation before resulting in the ultimate use of force. That results obviously in safer communities, safer people coming into interaction with the police, and safer police officers. So what I'll say to communities is you look at the examples of the cities that we have visited that there have been situations where cities have in fact come back from a very (INAUDIBLE) relationship between law enforcement and the community, and it can be done. It takes work and commitment on both sides and we're happy to work with community leaders and community members to also give them the examples of things that we have seen and pair them with other communities who had very positive progress in this regard.

REPORTER: Do you have any update on the Justice Department's investigation of the Maricopa County Recorder's Office in the March Presidential Primary election?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: No, I don't. I know that that's an area of concern here locally but I don't have any information for you about that.

REPORTER: Attorney General, thank you so much for your visit, we appreciate you visiting our town as well. What about the encouragement- do you feel very encouraged by some of the things that you saw today?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: You know, what I thought was tremendously encouraging was not just the de-escalation training that I saw but also the Blue Courage training that I saw. This is the second time that I've had the ability to watch the Blue Courage training, which focuses on making sure officers stay connected to the core of why they joined the force and why they became police officers – and is designed not only to keep them connected to the job and safe and healthy but also make them as responsive to the community as possible. And in the cities where we've seen this training in place, we've in fact seen positive community relationships as a result of that. I also think that the fact that the Phoenix Police Department is taking ownership of these issues and saying 'We're going to come up with the best training possible.' In fact, I also think that the Phoenix Police Department's dealing with mentally challenged individuals who may encounter in a law enforcement setting with the Crisis Intervention teams is a tremendous example of dealing with this issue. The issue of how we deal with suspects who present with mental illness or other forms of trauma is a tremendous challenge to law enforcement, because often the call comes from a friend or family member who cannot manage that person. Law enforcement intervenes, and we do not want that to be a tragic result. But we have to have ways of dealing with that.

The Phoenix Police Department has taken the proactive step of creating that particular crisis intervention team, which again, when we've seen that in jurisdictions across the country, has resulted in a much more positive relationship with the community overall. Also, with people who are involved in the mental health community, greater referrals to mental health providers, greater assistance to individuals who are traumatized, as opposed to pure law enforcement intervention.

So, it's really an example of the fact that policing, today, is about so much more about just responding to a call of a bad guy breaking into a house. They really have to be problem solvers. Police officers, today, really have to know their community. They have to know the problems and situations and concerns that their specific communities present and focus on how they can proactively interact with them. And that's what I find very encouraging about this department.

REPORTER: Thank you.

REPORTER: Very recently, perhaps in the last hour, there was a bombing at the Istanbul Airport. Have you been briefed on that yet? And, if so, are there any details that you can share with us?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: Well, I'm awaiting a briefing on that matter right now, so I'm not able to share details with you. But, certainly we'll be looking into it to see what, if (INAUDIBLE) to do with that.

REPORTER: Can I ask you one more question, last week Reuters reported that you were opposed to a White House-backed plan that allowed Guantanamo prisoners to plead guilty to terrorism charges in federal court by video conference. Is that something you can confirm and could you explain why you were opposed to that policy?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: Well, what I can tell you is that we're often asked to provide a view or an opinion as to the legal sufficiency of particular things that may be presented on the hill or otherwise. And so, we always provide the best independent legal advice to the White House or another agency that may ask us about that and we provide our opinion about the legal issues presented. And I think that that would be a similar situation there as well. We provide our opinion as to the legal issues so that when people are creating the policy or proposing legislation they can take that into consideration.

REPORTER: What was the issue there, what was the problem with video?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: Without going into specifics what I can say is that again as many situations we're often asked to look at potential issues involving criminal procedure, criminal policy to make sure that, in fact, we're going to do everything in compliance with the appropriate (INAUDIBLE UNTIL 15:10)

REPORTER: ... And the standards for new recruits are no longer above the state minimum they are now at the state level or do you have suggestions for us locally when we are having problems (INAUDIBLE)

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: You know I think that I would look at the overall training here for all of the positive things that it is providing. I don't have specific comment on the number of hours of training, but in terms of the substance of the training that I've seen, certainly with the de-escalation training, that is something that we will be recommending to other departments that they implement and take a look at. As I mentioned before a few minutes ago, this department does have the Crisis Intervention Team. The set-up and the operation of that kind of team is something that we do recommend that other departments look at. That often is a resource issue, we understand that municipalities are strapped, but again it has proven to be very, very effective. And, I think that this department's focus on making sure that officers are able to handle the variety of situations that they come into contact with and use a variety of tools to manage them is one that I think is consistent not just with 21st century policing, but good, smart policing.

UNIDENTIFIED: Did everyone get a question? Did you get a question in the back?

REPORTER: I did not. I know that we're talking about Phoenix police right here, but this community also is policed by Sheriff Joe Arpaio. Many of the communities, especially Latinos, feel like they're (INAUDIBLE) criminal charges stemming from a long-running racial profiling case. How would you respond to the community?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: There's an open ongoing matter involving the sheriff and some aspects of his administration so I'm actually not able to give you a comment on that now because there is an open and ongoing matter in federal court.

REPORTER: Would you have to sign off on any charges against the sheriff?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: You know, I'm not able to give you that information I think it's premature right now, and again because it is open I can't comment on where it is or what it's headed towards.

UNKNOWN: Alright, thank you so much.

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: Thank you all.

June 28, 2016

Press Conference with Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch

Phoenix, Arizona

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: So let me first thank the mayor of this great city, Mayor Stanton as well as the police chief of this outstanding department, Chief Joe Yahner. They have welcomed me to the city; they have opened the doors of this department to me, and we've seen some truly outstanding police work going on here. I want to thank them for their service and for their dedication to the people of Phoenix. I am here in Phoenix today as a part of a six city community policing tour. It began earlier this year in 2016 and I have already had the pleasure of visiting Miami and around Florida, Portland, Oregon, Indianapolis, Indiana, and Fayetteville, North Carolina. Tomorrow, I'll be concluding the tour in Los Angeles, California. And in each stop along the way in each of these cities I'm highlighting one of six pillars of community policing, identifying the final report of the President's task force on 21st century policing. You'll recall this came out a little over a year ago. But the report contains a number of common sense adaptable recommendations for communities seeking to create a more collaborative approach to law enforcement and to public safety. And on this stop, what has brought me to Phoenix today, we're focusing on training and education, vital components of any successful law enforcement agency and an area where the Phoenix police department does indeed excel. From the (INAUDIBLE) police department's introduction of de-escalation training to their creation of a specially trained mental health crisis intervention squad. The Phoenix police department is ensuring that their officers have the tools that they need to respond to the unique challenges of contemporary law enforcement. And just those two issues alone are some of the most pressing challenges facing 21st century policing today. Now, earlier today, I had a chance to actually witness a de-escalation training session in the Arizona Law Enforcement Academy. I was tremendously impressed by the comprehensive instruction that the officers received here, and that we will be highlighting going forward as an example to other departments across the country. As you know, this is a topic of great concern. We look at certain issues and cases, and people within the community often have questions about how officers are trained, about when and how they employ de-escalation, and I saw, frankly, thoughtful, substantive, effective approach to a number of different scenarios. And let me commend the training officers as well as the officers who go through this training here. We in the Department of Justice are determined to do our part, however, to work with our state and local partners to improve their educational capacity, particularly in this regard of training. We offer a wide range of grants, we offer training sessions, we offer technical assistance through our office of Community Oriented Policing Services of COPS, our Office of Justice Programs, our Bureau of Justice Assistance, our Civil Rights Division and our U.S. Attorneys' Offices among other components. Now we intend to continue looking for ways to provide assistance and support officers and the communities that we all serve and protect. Now as the Attorney General, I am committed in highlighting this work, such as the Blue Courage training and the de-escalation training that I saw today, as ways to keep both officers and the community safe, healthy and whole. Now of course, in addition to the work that we're doing with our state and local partners who are so important to us, we in the department are also committed to ensuring that our own personnel are well-trained in the core principles and best practices of community policing. And to that end, I am proud to say that the Department of Justice is now requiring all of its law enforcement components and Assistant U.S. Attorneys to undergo implicit bias training, something that has been rolled out at the local level

for the past several years. This is an important step in our ongoing efforts to ensure that our administration of justice is as fair and impartial as possible, as an example of the Justice Department's commitment to holding itself to the same high standard. And let me, at this time, thank the Deputy Attorney General, Sally Yates, and her team, for their leadership on this issue, and we look forward to implementing this training in the weeks ahead at the federal level as well. So again, thank you for joining me. I'm delighted to be here in Phoenix, and I'm happy to take some questions.

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be able to match up a police department who may say, you know, “We’d really like to work on our de-escalation training, is there a department out there we can consult with?” We would refer them to Phoenix, for example. And that does happen, and we will be looking to the Phoenix Police Department for that. We also, through our investigative work, published all of our consent decrees on Civil Rights Division’s website. And we urge law enforcement officers and departments to look at those as well, and to look at the situations that have led many jurisdictions into problematic situations and see if they feel themselves trending in a particular way, to reach out for assistance before an incident occurs or before the relationship becomes so frayed that they’re not able to recover from an incident. So we’re trying to reach out and be proactive in a number of different ways, and we will be using the Phoenix Police Department as an example and hoping to match them in other departments also.

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REPORTER: Thank you.

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UNKNOWN: Alright, thank you so much.

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: Thank you all.

Barrett, Devlin

From: Barrett, Devlin
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2016 5:52 PM
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Subject: bill clinton meeting

Hiya,

Are you guys saying anything more re: the bill clinton meeting in Phoenix? Watched the video of the presser where she talked about it.

--
Devlin Barrett
Wall Street Journal
o (202) 862-6624
c (b) (6)
t: @devlinbarrett

Newman, Melanie (OPA)

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2016 5:56 PM
To: devlin.barrett@wsj.com
Subject: Transcript of AG Lynch's Q&A from Press Conference in AZ Yesterday (6/28)
Attachments: Transcript- AG Press Conference in AZ 28JUN.docx; ATT00001.htm

June 28, 2016

Press Conference with Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch

Phoenix, Arizona

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: So let me first thank the mayor of this great city, Mayor Stanton as well as the police chief of this outstanding department, Chief Joe Yahner. They have welcomed me to the city; they have opened the doors of this department to me, and we've seen some truly outstanding police work going on here. I want to thank them for their service and for their dedication to the people of Phoenix. I am here in Phoenix today as a part of a six city community policing tour. It began earlier this year in 2016 and I have already had the pleasure of visiting Miami and around Florida, Portland, Oregon, Indianapolis, Indiana, and Fayetteville, North Carolina. Tomorrow, I'll be concluding the tour in Los Angeles, California. And in each stop along the way in each of these cities I'm highlighting one of six pillars of community policing, identifying the final report of the President's task force on 21st century policing. You'll recall this came out a little over a year ago. But the report contains a number of common sense adaptable recommendations for communities seeking to create a more collaborative approach to law enforcement and to public safety. And on this stop, what has brought me to Phoenix today, we're focusing on training and education, vital components of any successful law enforcement agency and an area where the Phoenix police department does indeed excel. From the (INAUDIBLE) police department's introduction of de-escalation training to their creation of a specially trained mental health crisis intervention squad. The Phoenix police department is ensuring that their office have the tools that they need to respond to the unique challenges of contemporary law enforcement. And just those two issues alone are some of the most pressing challenges facing 21st century policing today. Now, earlier today, I had a chance to actually witness a de-escalation training session in the Arizona Law Enforcement Academy. I was tremendously impressed by the comprehensive instruction that the officers received here, and that we will be highlighting going forward as an example to other departments across the country. As you know, this is a topic of great concern. We look at certain issues and cases, and people within the community often have questions about how officers are trained, about when and how they employ de-escalation, and I saw, frankly, thoughtful, substantive, effective approach to a number of different scenarios. And let me commend the training officers as well as the officers who go through this training here. We in the Department of Justice are determined to do our part, however, to work with our state and local partners to improve their educational capacity, particularly in this regard of training. We offer a wide range of grants, we offer training sessions, we offer technical assistance through our office of Community Oriented Policing Services of COPS, our Office of Justice Programs, our Bureau of Justice Assistance, our Civil Rights Division and our U.S. Attorneys' Offices among other components. Now we intend to continue looking for ways to provide assistance and support officers and the communities that we all serve and

protect. Now as the Attorney General, I am committed in highlighting this work, such as the Blue Courage training and the de-escalation training that I saw today, as ways to keep both officers and the community safe, healthy and whole. Now of course, in addition to the work that we're doing with our state and local partners who are so important to us, we in the department are also committed to ensuring that our own personnel are well-trained in the core principles and best practices of community policing. And to that end, I am proud to say that the Department of Justice is now requiring all of its law enforcement components and Assistant U.S. Attorneys to undergo implicit bias training, something that has been rolled out at the local level for the past several years. This is an important step in our ongoing efforts to ensure that our administration of justice is as fair and impartial as possible, as an example of the Justice Department's commitment to holding itself to the same high standard. And let me, at this time, thank the Deputy Attorney General, Sally Yates, and her team, for their leadership on this issue, and we look forward to implementing this training in the weeks ahead at the federal level as well. So again, thank you for joining me. I'm delighted to be here in Phoenix, and I'm happy to take some questions.

REPORTER: So I have a question. President Obama, of course, will be supporting Hillary Clinton. To what extent does his support for Hillary Clinton affect, in any way, your role as Attorney General of the ongoing FBI investigation of candidate Clinton (INAUDIBLE) her emails.

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: So the investigation into how the State Department emails are being handled is being handled by career lawyers and agents. They are handling that matter in the way that they handle every investigation: independently and fairly. They follow the facts and evidence and when they are done they will come up with a recommendation. We do not discuss any case with anyone at the White House, so the endorsement by the President does not impact any of the case that we're working on.

REPORTER: Will that be completed before the election?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: I can't give you a timing report on that because, again, I want to let them finish their work. I want to let them complete their review and come up with recommendations which will be reviewed. So I'm not able to give you timing on that, but I will tell you that people are working expeditiously.

REPORTER: What are you doing with your findings here? Are you presenting them to (INAUDIBLE) police departments as a way of saying, "Look at what these people are doing, implement the same strategies." Is that the purpose?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: We are going to be doing a report on my Community Policing Tour. We're going to be highlighting the best practices that we've seen in the various departments. In fact, we'll be having - we're hoping to have that done by the time - the first week in August, when we are highlighting our Community Policing Awards, an award that we are inaugurating this year to a rank-and-file police officer who excels at community policing. They can be nominated by the department or by the community, and we are still renewing those as well. So that will - what will be available to departments, but specifically in response to your question, we do often get outreach from police departments who come primarily to our COPS office, and they will request technical training or assistance, they will ask us to review different policies - for example, when a police department may say, "Can you take a look at my use of force policy?" - and see if we need to do anything with that, to provide assistance. We provide that assistance as part of the work of the Department, not necessarily as part of an investigation, although it does come up in those manners as well. We also post through the COPS office - we post information online, and we urge police departments who have questions or concerns about training and situations they might be facing, to look on our website and find departments that are in fact

working in these areas. Because our goal is, for example, to be able to match up a police department who may say, you know, "We'd really like to work on our de-escalation training, is there a department out there we can consult with?" We would refer them to Phoenix, for example. And that does happen, and we will be looking to the Phoenix Police Department for that. We also, through our investigative work, published all of our consent decrees on Civil Rights Division's website. And we urge law enforcement officers and departments to look at those as well, and to look at the situations that have led many jurisdictions into problematic situations and see if they feel themselves trending in a particular way, to reach out for assistance before an incident occurs or before the relationship becomes so frayed that they're not able to recover from an incident. So we're trying to reach out and be proactive in a number of different ways, and we will be using the Phoenix Police Department as an example and hoping to match them in other departments also.

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UNKNOWN: Alright, thank you so much.

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: Thank you all.

June 28, 2016

Press Conference with Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch

Phoenix, Arizona

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ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: You know I think what we can say to communities here in Phoenix and other communities that are also looking for ways to work with their police departments is that the phoenix police department has been very involved in community policing. That is to say they have reached out to the community and sought input, which we find to be a very important component to building a trusting relationship. The Phoenix Police Department has also emphasized the training that I mentioned earlier. The de-escalation for example really takes a situation and talks officers through a way to find the myriad ways you can resolve a situation before resulting in the ultimate use of force. That results obviously in safer communities, safer people coming into interaction with the police, and safer police officers. So what I’ll say to communities is you look at the examples of the cities that we have visited that there have been situations where cities have in fact come back from a very (INAUDIBLE) relationship between law enforcement and the community, and it can be done. It takes work and commitment on both sides and we’re happy to work with community leaders and community members to also give them the examples of things that we have seen and pair them with other communities who had very positive progress in this regard.

REPORTER: Do you have any update on the Justice Department's investigation of the Maricopa County Recorder's Office in the March Presidential Primary election?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: No, I don't. I know that that's an area of concern here locally but I don't have any information for you about that.

REPORTER: Attorney General, thank you so much for your visit, we appreciate you visiting our town as well. What about the encouragement- do you feel very encouraged by some of the things that you saw today?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: You know, what I thought was tremendously encouraging was not just the de-escalation training that I saw but also the Blue Courage training that I saw. This is the second time that I've had the ability to watch the Blue Courage training, which focuses on making sure officers stay connected to the core of why they joined the force and why they became police officers and is designed not only to keep them connected to the job and safe and healthy but also make them as responsive to the community as possible. And in the cities where we've seen this training in place, we've in fact seen positive community relationships as a result of that. I also think that the fact that the Phoenix Police Department is taking ownership of these issues and saying 'We're going to come up with the best training possible.' In fact, I also think that the Phoenix Police Department's dealing with mentally challenged individuals who may encounter in a law enforcement setting with the Crisis Intervention teams is a tremendous example of dealing with this issue. The issue of how we deal with suspects who present with mental illness or other forms of trauma is a tremendous challenge to law enforcement, because often the call comes from a friend or family member who cannot manage that person. Law enforcement intervenes, and we do not want that to be a tragic result. But we have to have ways of dealing with that.

The Phoenix Police Department has taken the proactive step of creating that particular crisis intervention team, which again, when we've seen that in jurisdictions across the country, has resulted in a much more positive relationship with the community overall. Also, with people who are involved in the mental health community, greater referrals to mental health providers, greater assistance to individuals who are traumatized, as opposed to pure law enforcement intervention.

So, it's really an example of the fact that policing, today, is about so much more about just responding to a call of a bad guy breaking into a house. They really have to be problem solvers. Police officers, today, really have to know their community. They have to know the problems and situations and concerns that their specific communities present and focus on how they can proactively interact with them. And that's what I find very encouraging about this department.

REPORTER: Thank you.

REPORTER: Very recently, perhaps in the last hour, there was a bombing at the Istanbul Airport. Have you been briefed on that yet? And, if so, are there any details that you can share with us?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: Well, I'm awaiting a briefing on that matter right now, so I'm not able to share details with you. But, certainly we'll be looking into it to see what, if (INAUDIBLE) to do with that.

REPORTER: Can I ask you one more question, last week Reuters reported that you were opposed to a White House-backed plan that allowed Guantanamo prisoners to plead guilty to terrorism charges in federal court by video conference. Is that something you can confirm and could you explain why you were opposed to that policy?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: Well, what I can tell you is that we're often asked to provide a view or an opinion as to the legal sufficiency of particular things that may be presented on the hill or otherwise. And so, we always provide the best independent legal advice to the White House or another agency that may ask us about that and we provide our opinion about the legal issues presented. And I think that that would be a similar situation there as well. We provide our opinion as to the legal issues so that when people are creating the policy or proposing legislation they can take that into consideration.

REPORTER: What was the issue there, what was the problem with video?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: Without going into specifics what I can say is that again as many situations we're often asked to look at potential issues involving criminal procedure, criminal policy to make sure that, in fact, we're going to do everything in compliance with the appropriate (INAUDIBLE UNTIL 15:10)

REPORTER: ... And the standards for new recruits are no longer above the state minimum they are now at the state level or do you have suggestions for us locally when we are having problems (INAUDIBLE)

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: You know I think that I would look at the overall training here for all of the positive things that it is providing. I don't have specific comment on the number of hours of training, but in terms of the substance of the training that I've seen, certainly with the de-escalation training, that is something that we will be recommending to other departments that they implement and take a look at. As I mentioned before a few minutes ago, this department does have the Crisis Intervention Team. The set-up and the operation of that kind of team is something that we do recommend that other departments look at. That often is a resource issue, we understand that municipalities are strapped, but again it has proven to be very, very effective. And, I think that this department's focus on making sure that officers are able to handle the variety of situations that they come into contact with and use a variety of tools to manage them is one that I think is consistent not just with 21st century policing, but good, smart policing.

UNIDENTIFIED: Did everyone get a question? Did you get a question in the back?

REPORTER: I did not. I know that we're talking about Phoenix police right here, but this community also is policed by Sheriff Joe Arpaio. Many of the communities, especially Latinos,

feel like they're (INAUDIBLE) criminal charges stemming from a long-running racial profiling case. How would you respond to the community?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: There's an open ongoing matter involving the sheriff and some aspects of his administration so I'm actually not able to give you a comment on that now because there is an open and ongoing matter in federal court.

REPORTER: Would you have to sign off on any charges against the sheriff?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: You know, I'm not able to give you that information I think it's premature right now, and again because it is open I can't comment on where it is or what it's headed towards.

UNKNOWN: Alright, thank you so much.

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: Thank you all.

Newman, Melanie (OPA)

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2016 8:27 PM
To: Carrie Johnson
Cc: Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA); Iverson, Dena W. (OPA)
Subject: Re: AG and Bill Clinton

Nothing beyond statement at presser. Feel free to call my cell. (b) (6)

> On Jun 29, 2016, at 8:14 PM, Carrie Johnson <CJohnson2@npr.org> wrote:
>
> Are you saying any more about this beyond statements in Phoenix at press conf? An awful
appearance problem.
>
> Carrie Johnson
>
>
> Sent from my iPhone

Newman, Melanie (OPA)

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2016 8:56 PM
To: Carrie Johnson
Cc: Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA); Iverson, Dena W. (OPA)
Subject: Re: AG and Bill Clinton

LA Presser (Today, June 29):

REPORTER: Madame Attorney General, so was it appropriate for you to meet with former President Clinton while your agency is in the middle of an investigation of his wife's email server?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: Well, I did see the President at the Phoenix Airport the other night as I was landing, he was headed out. He did come over and say hello, and speak to my husband and myself, and talk about his grandchildren and his travels, and things like that. And so that was the extent of that. And no discussions were held into any cases or things like that. And he didn't raise anything – uh – about that.

REPORTER: You don't believe that gives off the appearance of any impropriety while your agency is investigating his wife.

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: My agency is involved in a matter looking at State Department policies and issues. It's being handled by career investigators and career agents, who always follow facts and the law, and do the same thorough and independent examination in this matter that they've done in all. So that's how that'll be handled.

Phoenix Presser (Tuesday, June 28):

REPORTER: Sources say that you met last night with former president Bill Clinton. Did the topic of Benghazi come up at all, or can you tell us what was discussed?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: No. Actually, while I was landing at the airport, I did see President Clinton at the Phoenix airport as I was leaving, and he spoke to myself and my husband on the plane. Our conversation was a great deal about his grandchildren. It was primary social and about our travels. He mentioned the golf he played in Phoenix, and he mentioned travels he'd had West Virginia. We talked about former Attorney General Janet Reno, for example, whom we both know, but there was no discussion of any matter pending for the department or any matter pending for any other body. There was no discussion of Benghazi, no discussion of the state department emails, by way of example. I would say the current news of the day was the Brexit decision, and what that might mean. And again, the department's not involved in that or implicated in that.

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Are you saying any more about this beyond statements in Phoenix at press conf? An awful appearance problem.

Carrie Johnson

Sent from my iPhone

Zapotosky, Matt

From: Zapotosky, Matt
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2016 9:06 PM
To: Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)
Subject: AG's meeting with Bill Clinton?

Hey Kevin--

Writing a short post about the attorney general's meeting with Former President Clinton, which I'm sure you know is getting pretty wide pickup. I see she addressed it at a presser in Arizona and said they talked about personal stuff (and not any active cases), but is there any other context I should know? Any statement from you or any background you can give? I'm at (b) (6) if you can call.

Best,

Matt Zapotosky

Zapotosky, Matt

From: Zapotosky, Matt
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2016 11:25 PM
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Subject: Re: Who did you email for comment for this story? And why not reach out to me?

Oh sure send along. I just figured he'd be better since he was with her (and on west coast time). I did say in graph 2 she acknowledged publicly and quoted her (there's all sorts of presser video out there).

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jun 29, 2016, at 11:23 PM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov> wrote:

>

> He is with her but he is staffing her, which means he's not always available. You could have called me before reporting a no comment. I have been sending everyone the full transcript from yesterday and today's press conferences, where she addressed this. No additional comment needed when you have her on the record. Happy to forward along.

>

>> On Jun 29, 2016, at 11:21 PM, Zapotosky, Matt <matt.zapotosky@washpost.com> wrote:

>>

>> Kevin. Isn't he with her? Do you have a comment? I can update.

>>

>> Sent from my iPhone

>>

>>> On Jun 29, 2016, at 11:20 PM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov> wrote:

>>>

>>> Attorney general meets with former president Clinton amid politically charged investigation into his wife's email - The Washington Post<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-nation/wp/2016/06/29/attorney-general-meets-with-former-president-clinton-amid-politically-charged-investigation-into-his-wifes-email/?utm_term=.293dbc4a2876> from Matt Zapotosky's Tweet<<https://twitter.com/mattzap/status/748344912182153216?refsrc=email&s=11>>

>>>

>>> Download<https://twitter.com/download?ref_src=MailTweet-iOS> the Twitter app

Zapotosky, Matt

From: Zapotosky, Matt
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2016 11:27 PM
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Subject: Re: Who did you email for comment for this story? And why not reach out to me?

Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jun 29, 2016, at 11:24 PM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov> wrote:

>

> LA Presser (Today, June 29):

>

> REPORTER: Madame Attorney General, so was it appropriate for you to meet with former President Clinton while your agency is in the middle of an investigation of his wife's email server?

>

> ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: Well, I did see the President at the Phoenix Airport the other night as I was landing, he was headed out. He did come over and say hello, and speak to my husband and myself, and talk about his grandchildren and his travels, and things like that. And so that was the extent of that. And no discussions were held into any cases or things like that. And he didn't raise anything - uh - about that.

>

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>

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>

> Phoenix Presser (Tuesday, June 28):

> REPORTER: Sources say that you met last night with former president Bill Clinton. Did the topic of Benghazi come up at all, or can you tell us what was discussed?

>

> ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: No. Actually, while I was landing at the airport, I did see President Clinton at the Phoenix airport as I was leaving, and he spoke to myself and my husband on the plane. Our conversation was a great deal about his grandchildren. It was primary social and about our travels. He mentioned the golf he played in Phoenix, and he mentioned travels he'd had West Virginia. We talked about former Attorney General Janet Reno, for example, whom we both know, but there was no discussion of any matter pending for the department or any matter pending for any other body. There was no discussion of Benghazi, no discussion of the state department emails, by way of example. I would say the current news of the day was the Brexit decision, and what that might mean. And again, the department's not involved in that or implicated in that.

>

>

> On Jun 29, 2016, at 11:23 PM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <mnewman@ind.usdoj.gov>mailto:mnewman@ind.usdoj.gov

> On Jun 23, 2016, at 11:23 PM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <mnewman@jmd.usdoj.gov<mailto:mnewman@jmd.usdoj.gov>> wrote:

>

> He is with her but he is staffing her, which means he's not always available. You could have called me before reporting a no comment. I have been sending everyone the full transcript from yesterday and today's press conferences, where she addressed this. No additional comment needed when you have her on the record. Happy to forward along.

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> Kevin. Isn't he with her? Do you have a comment? I can update.

>

> Sent from my iPhone

>

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>

> Attorney general meets with former president Clinton amid politically charged investigation into his wife's email - The Washington Post<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-nation/wp/2016/06/29/attorney-general-meets-with-former-president-clinton-amid-politically-charged-investigation-into-his-wifes-email/?utm_term=.293dbc4a2876> from Matt Zapotosky's Tweet<<https://twitter.com/matztap/status/748344912182153216?refsrc=email&s=11>>

>

> Download<https://twitter.com/download?ref_src=MailTweet-iOS> the Twitter app

Newman, Melanie (OPA)

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2016 11:38 PM
To: Zapotosky, Matt
Subject: Re: Who did you email for comment for this story? And why not reach out to me?

Really appreciate it. Thanks.

On Jun 29, 2016, at 11:37 PM, Zapotosky, Matt <matt.zapotosky@washpost.com> wrote:

I updated the last graph to take that out, reflect that you willingly provided transcripts and added a bit about career prosecutors. Thanks for reaching out -- next time I'll get at you directly. Again, just figured since Kevin was with her and operating three hours earlier than us he'd be better in this case.

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA) <Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2016 11:29:10 PM
To: Zapotosky, Matt
Subject: Re: Who did you email for comment for this story? And why not reach out to me?

All the video out there is edited for TV, which is why I've been sending the transcript. I would have also been happy to discuss by phone earlier. (b) (6)
(b) (6)

It would be much appreciated if you removed the "spox did not return calls for comment".

> On Jun 29, 2016, at 11:25 PM, Zapotosky, Matt <matt.zapotosky@washpost.com> wrote:

>

> Oh sure send along. I just figured he'd be better since he was with her (and on west coast time). I did say in graph 2 she acknowledged publicly and quoted her (there's all sorts of presser video out there).

>

> Sent from my iPhone

>

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>>> Sent from my iPhone

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>>>>

>>>> Attorney general meets with former president Clinton amid politically charged investigation into his wife's email - The Washington Post<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-nation/wp/2016/06/29/attorney-general-meets-with-former-president-clinton-amid-politically-charged-investigation-into-his-wifes-email/?utm_term=.293dbc4a2876> from Matt Zapotosky's Tweet<<https://twitter.com/mattzan/status/748344912182153216?refsrc=email&s=11>>

>>>>

>>>> Download<https://twitter.com/download?ref_src=MailTweet-iOS> the Twitter app

Reid, Paula

From: Reid, Paula
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 6:08 AM
To: Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)
Subject: Hey

Which airport was Lynch at when Clinton stopped by?

Sent from my iPhone

Newman, Melanie (OPA)

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 7:39 AM
To: (b) (6) Evan Perez email address
Subject: Transcripts

FYI:

LA Presser (Today, June 29):

REPORTER: Madame Attorney General, so was it appropriate for you to meet with former President Clinton while your agency is in the middle of an investigation of his wife's email server?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: Well, I did see the President at the Phoenix Airport the other night as I was landing, he was headed out. He did come over and say hello, and speak to my husband and myself, and talk about his grandchildren and his travels, and things like that. And so that was the extent of that. And no discussions were held into any cases or things like that. And he didn't raise anything – uh – about that.

REPORTER: You don't believe that gives off the appearance of any impropriety while your agency is investigating his wife.

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: My agency is involved in a matter looking at State Department policies and issues. It's being handled by career investigators and career agents, who always follow facts and the law, and do the same thorough and independent examination in this matter that they've done in all. So that's how that'll be handled.

Phoenix Presser (Tuesday, June 28):

REPORTER: Sources say that you met last night with former president Bill Clinton. Did the topic of Benghazi come up at all, or can you tell us what was discussed?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: No. Actually, while I was landing at the airport, I did see President Clinton at the Phoenix airport as I was leaving, and he spoke to myself and my husband on the plane. Our conversation was a great deal about his grandchildren. It was primary social and about our travels. He mentioned the golf he played in Phoenix, and he mentioned travels he'd had West Virginia. We talked about former Attorney General Janet Reno, for example, whom we both know, but there was no discussion of any matter pending for the department or any matter pending for any other body. There was no discussion of Benghazi, no discussion of the state department emails, by way of example. I would say the current news of the day was the Brexit decision, and what that might mean. And again, the department's not involved in that or implicated in that.

Levine, Mike

From: Levine, Mike
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 8:22 AM
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Subject: Re: Hey

(b) (6)

Thanks

> On Jun 30, 2016, at 8:16 AM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov> wrote:
>
> Of course they do. Here's the transcript of the two pressers, in case you need full comments. What's your cell? I can call you to provide additional context.
>
> LA Presser (Today, June 29):
>
> REPORTER: Madame Attorney General, so was it appropriate for you to meet with former President Clinton while your agency is in the middle of an investigation of his wife's email server?
>
> ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: Well, I did see the President at the Phoenix Airport the other night as I was landing, he was headed out. He did come over and say hello, and speak to my husband and myself, and talk about his grandchildren and his travels, and things like that. And so that was the extent of that. And no discussions were held into any cases or things like that. And he didn't raise anything - uh - about that.
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>

>

> On Jun 30, 2016, at 8:04 AM, Levine, Mike <Mike.Levine@abc.com<mailto:Mike.Levine@abc.com>> wrote:

>

> Hey, .com now wants me to write something up on the meeting. Anything in particular you think I should consider when writing? Anything more you want to add beyond what AG said at presser?

>

> Thanks

>

>

>

>

Tucker, Eric

From: Tucker, Eric
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 8:46 AM
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Subject: Re: Transcript

Thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jun 30, 2016, at 8:43 AM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov> wrote:

>

> Sorry. Here it is.

>

> LA Presser (Today, June 29):

>

> REPORTER: Madame Attorney General, so was it appropriate for you to meet with former President Clinton while your agency is in the middle of an investigation of his wife's email server?

>

> ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: Well, I did see the President at the Phoenix Airport the other night as I was landing, he was headed out. He did come over and say hello, and speak to my husband and myself, and talk about his grandchildren and his travels, and things like that. And so that was the extent of that. And no discussions were held into any cases or things like that. And he didn't raise anything - uh - about that.

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>

<
>
> On Jun 30, 2016, at 8:42 AM, Tucker, Eric <etucker@ap.org<mailto:etucker@ap.org>> wrote:
>
> Hi, so sorry to be a pest. Any update on a transcript? (I'm being asked about it).
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
>

Newman, Melanie (OPA)

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 9:51 AM
To: (b) (6) Evan Perez email
Subject: Transcript

LA Presser (Today, June 29):

REPORTER: Madame Attorney General, so was it appropriate for you to meet with former President Clinton while your agency is in the middle of an investigation of his wife's email server?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: Well, I did see the President at the Phoenix Airport the other night as I was landing, he was headed out. He did come over and say hello, and speak to my husband and myself, and talk about his grandchildren and his travels, and things like that. And so that was the extent of that. And no discussions were held into any cases or things like that. And he didn't raise anything – uh – about that.

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Newman, Melanie (OPA)

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 11:35 AM
To: Zapotosky, Matt; Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)
Subject: RE: more on Clinton meeting?

Will give you a call now.

Melanie R. Newman
Director, Office of Public Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
Direct: 202-305-1920
Cell: (b) (6)
@MelanieDOJ

From: Zapotosky, Matt [mailto:matt.zapotosky@washpost.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 11:33 AM
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA); Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)
Subject: more on Clinton meeting?

Hey Melanie and Kevin—

Any chance one of you could give me a call for another, hopefully quick, conversation on this AG-Clinton meeting? My editors are still pretty interested in it, and I'm hoping I can put it to rest by answering just a few more questions about how the meeting came about – who approached who, and how did they realize they were in the same place?

Many thanks,

Matt Zapotosky | The Washington Post
(b) (6) (cell)
(202) 334-5873 (office)

Newman, Melanie (OPA)

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 11:36 AM
To: Zapotosky, Matt; Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)
Subject: RE: more on Clinton meeting?

Story I referenced: <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/president-bill-clinton-loretta-lynch-meet-on-tarmac-in-phoenix/>

Melanie R. Newman
Director, Office of Public Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
Direct: 202-305-1920
Cell: (b) (6)
@MelanieDOJ

From: Zapotosky, Matt [mailto:matt.zapotosky@washpost.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 11:33 AM
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA); Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)
Subject: more on Clinton meeting?

Hey Melanie and Kevin—

Any chance one of you could give me a call for another, hopefully quick, conversation on this AG-Clinton meeting? My editors are still pretty interested in it, and I'm hoping I can put it to rest by answering just a few more questions about how the meeting came about – who approached who, and how did they realize they were in the same place?

Many thanks,

Matt Zapotosky | The Washington Post
(b) (6) (cell)
(202) 334-5873 (office)

Newman, Melanie (OPA)

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 11:37 AM
To: pete.williams@nbcuni.com
Subject: Transcripts

Phoenix Presser (Tuesday, June 28):

REPORTER: Sources say that you met last night with former president Bill Clinton. Did the topic of Benghazi come up at all, or can you tell us what was discussed?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: No. Actually, while I was landing at the airport, I did see President Clinton at the Phoenix airport as I was leaving, and he spoke to myself and my husband on the plane. Our conversation was a great deal about his grandchildren. It was primary social and about our travels. He mentioned the golf he played in Phoenix, and he mentioned travels he'd had West Virginia. We talked about former Attorney General Janet Reno, for example, whom we both know, but there was no discussion of any matter pending for the department or any matter pending for any other body. There was no discussion of Benghazi, no discussion of the state department emails, by way of example. I would say the current news of the day was the Brexit decision, and what that might mean. And again, the department's not involved in that or implicated in that.

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REPORTER: Madame Attorney General, so was it appropriate for you to meet with former President Clinton while your agency is in the middle of an investigation of his wife's email server?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: Well, I did see the President at the Phoenix Airport the other night as I was landing, he was headed out. He did come over and say hello, and speak to my husband and myself, and talk about his grandchildren and his travels, and things like that. And so that was the extent of that. And no discussions were held into any cases or things like that. And he didn't raise anything uh about that.

REPORTER: You don't believe that gives off the appearance of any impropriety while your agency is investigating his wife.

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: My agency is involved in a matter looking at State Department policies and issues. It's being handled by career investigators and career agents, who always follow facts and the law, and do the same thorough and independent examination in this matter that they've done in all. So that's how that'll be handled.

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Director, Office of Public Affairs
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Direct: 202-305-1920
Cel (b) (6)
@MelanieDOJ

Johnson, Kevin

From: Johnson, Kevin
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 11:50 AM
To: Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)
Subject: Hi, Kevin

Can you help with the meeting between the AG and frmr Pres Clinton?

Newman, Melanie (OPA)

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 12:03 PM
To: Johnson, Kevin
Subject: transcripts

Phoenix Presser (Tuesday, June 28):

REPORTER: Sources say that you met last night with former president Bill Clinton. Did the topic of Benghazi come up at all, or can you tell us what was discussed?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: No. Actually, while I was landing at the airport, I did see President Clinton at the Phoenix airport as I was leaving, and he spoke to myself and my husband on the plane. Our conversation was a great deal about his grandchildren. It was primary social and about our travels. He mentioned the golf he played in Phoenix, and he mentioned travels he'd had West Virginia. We talked about former Attorney General Janet Reno, for example, whom we both know, but there was no discussion of any matter pending for the department or any matter pending for any other body. There was no discussion of Benghazi, no discussion of the state department emails, by way of example. I would say the current news of the day was the Brexit decision, and what that might mean. And again, the department's not involved in that or implicated in that.

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Direct: 202-305-1920
Cel (b) (6)
@MelanieDOJ

Johnson, Kevin

From: Johnson, Kevin
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 12:37 PM
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Subject: RE: Hi, Melanie

Got it. Thanks.

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA) [mailto:Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 11:49 AM
To: Johnson, Kevin <kjohnson@usatoday.com>
Subject: RE: Hi, Melanie

Yes, will call you shortly. Best number? Also, transcripts from Tuesday and Wednesday pressers should be helpful.

Phoenix Presser (Tuesday, June 28):

REPORTER: Sources say that you met last night with former president Bill Clinton. Did the topic of Benghazi come up at all, or can you tell us what was discussed?

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Melanie R. Newman
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Direct: 202-305-1920
Cell: (b) (6)
@MelanieDOJ

From: Johnson, Kevin [<mailto:kjohnson@usatoday.com>]
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 11:48 AM
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Subject: Hi, Melanie

Can you help on the meeting between the AG and frmr Pres Clinton?

Thanks, Kevin

Newman, Melanie (OPA)

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 1:04 PM
To: (b) (6) Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA) Del Wilber email address
Subject: RE: Can I get statement on clinton meeting?

We have not issued a statement.

Here's the transcript from the AG's two press conferences:

Phoenix Presser (Tuesday, June 28):

REPORTER: Sources say that you met last night with former president Bill Clinton. Did the topic of Benghazi come up at all, or can you tell us what was discussed?

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Cel (b) (6)
@MelanieDOJ

-----Original Message-----

From (b) (6) [mailto: (b) (6)]
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 1:02 PM
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA); Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)
Subject: Can I get statement on clinton meeting?

Del Wilber
(b) (6) (cell)
202-824-8223 (w)
Twitter: @delwilber

Newman, Melanie (OPA)

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 1:17 PM
To: (b) (6) Del Wilber email address
Cc: Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)
Subject: RE: Can I get statement on clinton meeting?

Calling you now. or you can call me at my desk, number below.

Melanie R. Newman
Director, Office of Public Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
Direct: 202-305-1920
Cell: (b) (6)
@MelanieDOJ

From: (b) (6) [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 1:15 PM
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Cc: Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)
Subject: Re: Can I get statement on clinton meeting?

How did it come about? She bumped into him at terminal? Saw he was in Phoenix and invited him to the plane to chat? Or he saw her and wanted to say hi? This meeting would take some coordination.

Del Wilber
(b) (6) (cell)
202-824-8223 (w)
Twitter: @delwilber

On Jun 30, 2016, at 1:04 PM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov> wrote:

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Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 1:02 PM
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA); Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)
Subject: Can I get statement on clinton meeting?

Del Wilber
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Newman, Melanie (OPA)

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 1:18 PM
To: (b) (6) Del Wilber email address
Cc: Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)
Subject: RE: Can I get statement on clinton meeting?

Call me.

Melanie R. Newman
Director, Office of Public Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
Direct: 202-305-1920
Cell: (b) (6)
@MelanieDOJ

From: (b) (6) [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 1:16 PM
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Cc: Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)
Subject: Re: Can I get statement on clinton meeting?

Did Carrie break it?

Del Wilber
(b) (6) (cell)
202-824-8223 (w)
Twitter: @delwilber

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Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 1:22 PM
To: (b) (6) Del Wilber email address
Cc: Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)
Subject: RE: Can I get statement on clinton meeting?

I have tried both numbers for you. I would like to go out to get some food. Call my cell if you don't reach me at my desk.

Melanie R. Newman
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From: (b) (6) [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 1:02 PM
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA); Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)
Subject: Can I get statement on clinton meeting?

Del Wilber
(b) (6) (cell)
202-824-8223 (w)
Twitter: @delwilber

Newman, Melanie (OPA)

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 2:20 PM
To: Landler, Mark
Subject: Re: NYT Q on Lynch/Clinton meeting

Mark,

I'll call you in a bit. We have not issued a statement on this but I've included below the transcripts from the AG's two press conferences where this was addressed:

Phoenix Presser (Tuesday, June 28):

REPORTER: Sources say that you met last night with former president Bill Clinton. Did the topic of Benghazi come up at all, or can you tell us what was discussed?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: No. Actually, while I was landing at the airport, I did see President Clinton at the Phoenix airport as I was leaving, and he spoke to myself and my husband on the plane. Our conversation was a great deal about his grandchildren. It was primary social and about our travels. He mentioned the golf he played in Phoenix, and he mentioned travels he'd had West Virginia. We talked about former Attorney General Janet Reno, for example, whom we both know, but there was no discussion of any matter pending for the department or any matter pending for any other body. There was no discussion of Benghazi, no discussion of the state department emails, by way of example. I would say the current news of the day was the Brexit decision, and what that might mean. And again, the department's not involved in that or implicated in that.

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On Jun 30, 2016, at 2:16 PM, Landler, Mark <landler@nytimes.com> wrote:

On Jun 30, 2010, at 2:10 PM, Landler, Mark <mlandler@nytimes.com> wrote:

Hi Melanie,

I'm a White House correspondent at the NYT, and I've been pressed into service to write about the questions being raised by the Attorney General's meeting with Bill Clinton.

Could you let me know what DoJ and the AG have said specifically about this meeting, and whether she believes it constitutes a conflict of interest, given the ongoing email investigation?

(b) (6)

Thanks & Best,
Mark Landler

Press

From: Press
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 3:12 PM
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA); Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)
Cc: Stewart, Rebecca L. (PAO); James, Kelli D. (OPA)
Subject: FW: Details of AG's meeting with ex-POTUS

From: Chuck Ross [mailto:chuck@dailycaller.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 3:00 PM
To: Press
Subject: Details of AG's meeting with ex-POTUS

Hello,

I was wondering if DOJ has any additional detail to offer on the meeting between AG Lynch and Bill Clinton earlier this week.

Here are a few questions I have:

- Who contacted whom about the meeting? If Clinton made the reach out, how and when was Lynch notified of the request?
- Did DOJ have any plans to disclose this meeting?
- According to reports, the meeting was held on AG's airplane. Why was this necessary as opposed to holding it in a less secluded location?
- Lastly, where was the AG's airplane in relation to Clinton's? Did hers park next to his on the tarmac?

Thanks in advance for any help.

Regards,
Chuck Ross
The Daily Caller

(b) (6)

Newman, Melanie (OPA)

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 3:25 PM
To: Zapotosky, Matt; Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)
Subject: RE: more on Clinton meeting?

(b) (6)

Melanie R. Newman
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U.S. Department of Justice
Direct: 202-305-1920
Cell: (b) (6)
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From: Zapotosky, Matt [mailto:matt.zapotosky@washpost.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 3:23 PM
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA); Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)
Subject: RE: more on Clinton meeting?

(b) (6)

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA) [mailto:Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 11:36 AM
To: Zapotosky, Matt; Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)
Subject: RE: more on Clinton meeting?

Story I referenced: <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/president-bill-clinton-loretta-lynch-meet-on-tarmac-in-phoenix/> [cbsnews.com]

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Hey Melanie and Kevin—

Any chance one of you could give me a call for another, hopefully quick, conversation on this AG-Clinton meeting? My editors are still pretty interested in it, and I'm hoping I can put it to rest by answering just a few

more questions about how the meeting came about – who approached who, and how did they realize they were in the same place?

Many thanks,

Matt Zaptosky | The Washington Post

(b) (6) [REDACTED] cell)

(202) 334-5873 (office)

Newman, Melanie (OPA)

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2016 10:09 AM
To: rberman@theatlantic.com
Subject: FW: Confirm Lynch/Clinton reports?

On background from a Justice Department official regarding the ongoing investigation of the State Department's emails:

Determinations as to whether to charge any individual, as well as the findings of the investigation, will be made by career prosecutors and investigators who have been handling this matter since it's inception.

These determinations and findings will also be reviewed by senior career lawyers in the department, as well as by the FBI Director.

The Attorney General expects to receive and accept the determinations and findings of the Department's career prosecutors and investigators, as well as the FBI Director.

The Attorney General will discuss this matter during her live armchair discussion with Washington Post's Jonathan Capehart at the Aspen Ideas Festival [at 11 a.m. ET/9 a.m. MT.](#)

Melanie R. Newman
Director, Office of Public Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
Direct: 202-305-1920
Cell (b) (6)
@MelanieDOJ

From: Russell Berman [<mailto:rberman@theatlantic.com>]
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2016 8:24 AM
To: Press
Subject: Confirm Lynch/Clinton reports?

Hi,

Can someone confirm these reports that AG Lynch will announce that she plans to accept the recommendations of prosecutors and the FBI in the Clinton email case?

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/attorney-general-loretta-lynch-to-accept-officials-determination-on-clinton-email-1467372419>

<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/07/02/us/politics/loretta-lynch-hillary-clinton-email-server.html?hp&action=click&pgttype=Homepage&clickSource=story-heading&module=first-column-region®ion=top-news&WT.nav=top-news&r=0>

Thanks,

Russell

--

Russell Berman

Senior Associate Editor

The Atlantic

Desk: 646-539-6678

Cell: (b) (6)

rberman@theatlantic.com

www.theatlantic.com/russell-berman

Newman, Melanie (OPA)

From: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2016 10:24 AM
To: Mark Landler
Subject: RE: NYT Q on Lynch/Clinton meeting

Has the story been updated? Can you send me the language?

Melanie R. Newman
Director, Office of Public Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
Direct: 202-305-1920
Cell: (b) (6)
@MelanieDOJ

-----Original Message-----

From: Mark Landler [mailto:landler@nytimes.com]
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2016 9:54 AM
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA)
Subject: Re: NYT Q on Lynch/Clinton meeting

On my cell: (b) (6)

> On Jul 1, 2016, at 9:46 AM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov> wrote:

>

> What's your number. Can I call you?

>

>> On Jul 1, 2016, at 9:27 AM, Mark Landler <landler@nytimes.com> wrote:

>>

>> Also, Mark Halprin just tweeted that the AG reserves the right to
>> overrule a staff recommendation, which he says contradicts our story.
>> Matt is out of pocket. Can you clarify?

>>

>>> On Jul 1, 2016, at 9:25 AM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov> wrote:

>>>

>>> +Kevin, who is working on that in Aspen.

>>>

>>>> On Jul 1, 2016, at 9:23 AM, Mark Landler <landler@nytimes.com> wrote:

>>>>

>>>> Thanks, Melanie. On the pool camera, where would the feed be available?

>>>>

>>>>> On Jul 1, 2016, at 9:19 AM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov> wrote:

>>>>>

>>>>> I don't think they stream it. We are trying to get a pool camera. We will send out a transcript as soon as possible.

~~~~~

/////

>>>>>> On Jul 1, 2016, at 9:14 AM, Mark Landler <landler@nytimes.com> wrote:

>>>>>>

>>>>>> Hi Melanie,

>>>>>>

>>>>>> We don't have anybody in Aspen and we obviously need to cover AG

>>>>>> Lynch's remarks.

>>>>>>

>>>>>> Can you tell me when she's scheduled to speak, and whether Aspen

>>>>>> will stream her remarks?

>>>>>>

>>>>>> Many thanks,

>>>>>> Mark

>>>>>>

>>>>>>> On Jun 30, 2016, at 2:21 PM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov> wrote:

>>>>>>>

>>>>>>> Mark,

>>>>>>>

>>>>>>> I'll call you in a bit. We have not issued a statement on this but I've included below the transcripts from the AG's two press conferences where this was addressed:

>>>>>>>

>>>>>>> Phoenix Presser (Tuesday, June 28):

>>>>>>>

>>>>>>>> REPORTER: Sources say that you met last night with former president Bill Clinton. Did the topic of Benghazi come up at all, or can you tell us what was discussed?

>>>>>>>>

>>>>>>>> ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: No. Actually, while I was landing at the airport, I did see President Clinton at the Phoenix airport as I was leaving, and he spoke to myself and my husband on the plane. Our conversation was a great deal about his grandchildren. It was primarily social and about our travels. He mentioned the golf he played in Phoenix, and he mentioned travels he'd had West Virginia. We talked about former Attorney General Janet Reno, for example, whom we both know, but there was no discussion of any matter pending for the department or any matter pending for any other body. There was no discussion of Benghazi, no discussion of the state department emails, by way of example. I would say the current news of the day was the Brexit decision, and what that might mean. And again, the department's not involved in that or implicated in that.

>>>>>>>>

>>>>>>>> LA Presser (Wednesday, June 29):

>>>>>>>>

>>>>>>>>> REPORTER: Madame Attorney General, so was it appropriate for you to meet with former President Clinton while your agency is in the middle of an investigation of his wife's email server?

>>>>>>>>>

>>>>>>>>> ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: Well, I did see the President at the Phoenix Airport the other night as I was landing, he was headed out. He did come over and say hello, and speak to my husband and myself, and talk about his grandchildren and his travels, and things like that. And so that was the extent of that. And no discussions were held into any cases or things like that. And he didn't raise anything - uh - about that.

>>>>>>>>>

>>>>>>>>>> REPORTER: You don't believe that gives off the appearance of any impropriety while your agency is investigating his wife.

>>>>>>>>>>

>>>>>>>>>>> ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: My agency is involved in a matter looking at State Department



policies and issues. It's being handled by career investigators and career agents, who always follow facts and the law, and do the same thorough and independent examination in this matter that they've done in all. So that's how that'll be handled.

>>>>>>

>>>>>>

>>>>>> On Jun 30, 2016, at 2:16 PM, Landler, Mark <landler@nytimes.com<mailto:landler@nytimes.com>> wrote:

>>>>>>

>>>>>> Hi Melanie,

>>>>>>

>>>>>> I'm a White House correspondent at the NYT, and I've been pressed into service to write about the questions being raised by the Attorney General's meeting with Bill Clinton.

>>>>>>

>>>>>> Could you let me know what DoJ and the AG have said specifically about this meeting, and whether she believes it constitutes a conflict of interest, given the ongoing email investigation?

>>>>>>

>>>>>> (b) (6)

>>>>>>

>>>>>> Thanks & Best,

>>>>>> Mark Landler

>>

Levine, Mike

---

**From:** Levine, Mike  
**Sent:** Friday, July 01, 2016 12:01 PM  
**To:** Newman, Melanie (OPA); Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)  
**Subject:** More questions

I'm getting lots of questions about this... Any guidance you can offer? thanks

<http://hotair.com/archives/2016/07/01/reporter-fbi-ordered-no-photos-no-pictures-no-cell-phones-during-clintonlynch-meeting/>

---

Reporter: FBI ordered 'no photos, no pictures, no cell phones' during Clinton/Lynch meeting - Hot Air

hotair.com

If it was an innocent meeting, why no pictures?

---

**Newman, Melanie (OPA)**

---

**From:** Newman, Melanie (OPA)  
**Sent:** Friday, July 01, 2016 4:28 PM  
**To:** (b) (6) Ryan Lizza email address  
**Subject:** FW: Comment?

Just tried you. I'm at my desk. 202-305-1920

Melanie R. Newman  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Direct: 202-305-1920  
Cell: (b) (6)  
@MelanieDOJ

-----Original Message-----

From: Press  
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2016 4:27 PM  
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA); Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)  
Subject: FW: Comment?

-----Original Message-----

From: Ryan Lizza [mailto:(b) (6)]  
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2016 4:09 PM  
To: Press  
Subject: Re: Comment?

My deadline is 5 pm today. Thanks!

> On Jul 1, 2016, at 3:18 PM, Ryan Lizza (b) (6) wrote:

>

> I have a piece that will be posted this afternoon that includes the following reporting and I wanted to see if DOJ wanted to offer a comment. Thanks!

>

> Ryan Lizza

> The New Yorker

> (b) (6)

>

>

> "A Democrat who was briefed on the meeting [between Lynch and Bill Clinton] told me that it was over a hundred degrees outside and Lynch, who was immediately uncomfortable with the visit, felt like she couldn't shoo the sixty-nine-year-old former president, who has had heart problems in the past, back onto the tarmac. Lynch, according to this person, also insisted that her security detail remain at her side while Clinton was onboard her aircraft so that the ex-President and the Attorney General



her side while Clinton was onboard her aircraft so that the ex-President and the Attorney General would not be alone together."

>

**Newman, Melanie (OPA)**

---

**From:** Newman, Melanie (OPA)  
**Sent:** Friday, July 01, 2016 4:28 PM  
**To:** Press; Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: Comment?

Thanks.

Melanie R. Newman  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Direct: 202-305-1920  
Cell: (b) (6)  
@MelanieDOJ

-----Original Message-----

From: Press  
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2016 4:27 PM  
To: Newman, Melanie (OPA); Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)  
Subject: FW: Comment?

-----Original Message-----

From: Ryan Lizza [mailto:(b) (6)]  
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2016 4:09 PM  
To: Press  
Subject: Re: Comment?

My deadline is 5 pm today. Thanks!

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>

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>

> Ryan Lizza  
> The New Yorker

> (b) (6)

>

>

> "A Democrat who was briefed on the meeting [between Lynch and Bill Clinton] told me that it was over a hundred degrees outside and Lynch, who was immediately uncomfortable with the visit, felt like she couldn't shoo the sixty-nine-year-old former president, who has had heart problems in the past, back onto the tarmac. Lynch, according to this person, also insisted that her security detail remain at her side while Clinton was onboard her aircraft so that the ex-President and the Attorney General

her side while Clinton was onboard her aircraft so that the ex-President and the Attorney General would not be alone together."

>



**Richard Pollock**

---

**From:** Richard Pollock  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 02, 2016 10:59 PM  
**To:** Press  
**Subject:** Did AG ynch provide questions to Former President Bill Clinton

Dear sir/madam:

We have a received information from a source who is alleging that during the meeting with former President Bill Clinton in Phoenix, the Attorney General was able to provide some questions or several lines of questions concerning the meeting with the FBI today.

Given the seriousness of these charges, we are obligated to seek a comment from an responsible Justice spokesman.

Please forward a reply as soon as is possible.

Cordially,

Richard

--

Richard Pollock  
Senior Investigative Reporter  
The Daily Caller News Foundation

(b) (6)

**Newman, Melanie (OPA)**

---

**From:** Newman, Melanie (OPA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 05, 2016 9:40 AM  
**To:** Ryan Lizza  
**Subject:** Re: Comment?

None.

> On Jul 5, 2016, at 9:39 AM, Ryan Lizza (b) (6) wrote:

>

> So any word on what the 11 am Comey statement is about?

>

> Ryan Lizza

> The New Yorker

> (b) (6)

>

>> On Jul 1, 2016, at 4:27 PM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov> wrote:

>>

>> Just tried you. I'm at my desk. 202-305-1920

>>

>> Melanie R. Newman

>> Director, Office of Public Affairs

>> U.S. Department of Justice

>> Direct: 202-305-1920

>> Cell: (b) (6)

>> @MelanieDOJ

>>

>>

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Press

>> Sent: Friday, July 01, 2016 4:27 PM

>> To: Newman, Melanie (OPA); Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)

>> Subject: FW: Comment?

>>

>>

>>

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Ryan Lizza [mailto:(b) (6)]

>> Sent: Friday, July 01, 2016 4:09 PM

>> To: Press

>> Subject: Re: Comment?

>>

>> My deadline is 5 pm today. Thanks!

>>

>>> On Jul 1, 2016, at 3:18 PM, Ryan Lizza (b) (6) wrote:

>>>

>>> I have a piece that will be posted this afternoon that includes the following reporting and I wanted

/// I have a piece that will be posted this afternoon that includes the following reporting and I wanted to see if DOJ wanted to offer a comment. Thanks!

>>>

>>> Ryan Lizza

>>> The New Yorker

>>> (b) (6)

>>>

>>>

>>> "A Democrat who was briefed on the meeting [between Lynch and Bill Clinton] told me that it was over a hundred degrees outside and Lynch, who was immediately uncomfortable with the visit, felt like she couldn't shoo the sixty-nine-year-old former president, who has had heart problems in the past, back onto the tarmac. Lynch, according to this person, also insisted that her security detail remain at her side while Clinton was onboard her aircraft so that the ex-President and the Attorney General would not be alone together."

>



**Dean, Matthew**

---

**From:** Dean, Matthew  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 29, 2016 10:28 AM  
**To:** Newman, Melanie (OPA)  
**Subject:** Re: Transcript from media avail

Thanks, Melanie

Matt Dean  
Department of Justice & Federal Law Enforcement Producer  
Fox News Channel  
(b) (6) [Mobile]  
202.789.0261 (DOJ)  
matthew.dean@foxnews.com  
@MattFirewall

---

**From:** Newman, Melanie (OPA) <Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 29, 2016 10:26:15 AM  
**To:** Dean, Matthew  
**Subject:** Transcript from media avail

Matt,

As I mentioned on the phone, this question was asked in yesterday's media availability in Phoenix. I've included the transcript of the one exchange on this topic, as well as a link to the one report that mentions the exchange.

<http://cronkitenews.azpbs.org/2016/06/28/ag-loretta-lynch-praises-phoenix-police-training/>

**REPORTER:** Sources say that you met last night with former president Bill Clinton. Did the topic of Benghazi come up at all, or can you tell us what was discussed?

**ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH:** No. Actually, while I was landing at the airport, I did see President Clinton at the Phoenix airport as I was leaving, and he spoke to myself and my husband on the plane. Our conversation was a great deal about his grandchildren. It was primary social and about our travels. He mentioned the golf he played in Phoenix, and he mentioned travels he'd had in West Virginia. We talked about former Attorney General Janet Reno, for example, whom we both know, but there was no discussion of any matter pending before the department or any matter pending before any other body. There was no discussion of Benghazi, no discussion of the state department emails, by way of example. I would say the current news of the day was the Brexit decision, and what that might mean. And again, the department's not involved in that or implicated in that.

Melanie R. Newman  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Direct: 202-305-1920  
Cell: (b) (6)  
@MelanieDOJ

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ALABAMA

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United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0103

July 5, 2016

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(251) 694-4164
- 15 LEE STREET  
FMJ FEDERAL BLDG., SUITE 208  
MONTGOMERY, AL 36104  
(334) 223-7303
- 2005 UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD, SUITE 2100  
TUSCALOOSA, AL 35401  
(205) 759-5047

The Honorable Loretta E. Lynch  
Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20535-0001

Dear Attorney General Lynch:

I write to you to express my serious concerns over recent events that have cast a shadow on the commitment of the Obama Administration to fairly and impartially execute the rule of law. The American people are rightly concerned about the direction of this country when they see senior government officials being treated differently than lower level officials without powerful, partisan friends. Even if there was no inappropriate discussion when you recently met with former Secretary Hillary Clinton's husband in an exclusive section of the Sky Harbor International Airport, it is difficult to explain to American voters – who are purportedly equal under the law – just how they are supposed to exercise that equality should their spouse ever be accused of a crime.

FBI Director James Comey, commenting on the investigation of Secretary Clinton's use of her personal e-mail system on July 5, 2016, said that, of the 30,000 emails returned to the State Department, "110 e-mails in 52 e-mail chains have been determined by the owning agency to contain classified information at the time they were sent or received. Eight of those chains contained information that was Top Secret at the time they were sent; 36 chains contained Secret information at the time; and eight contained Confidential information... Separate from those, about 2,000 additional e-mails were "up-classified" to make them Confidential." These statements confirm that Secretary Clinton misled the American people and was extremely reckless in her handling of classified information both sent and received on her private e-mail server.

If a lower-level government employee with access to classified information had behaved in this manner, including at the Top Secret level, they would lose their security clearance immediately and would almost certainly lose their job. If that same employee had previously established their own personal unsecured email server in their home for the purpose of evading government oversight, they would rightly be charged with a crime.

While I appreciate and respect the hard work of the FBI, I strongly believe that all Americans should be held to the same standards and that your Department must restore the trust of average Americans through a thorough review of the evidence and statutes. Director Comey noted



multiple infractions and patterns of violation of the laws and policies guiding national security information. The Obama Justice Department has pursued charges against reporters, mid-level employees, and members of the military when confronted with the mishandling of classified information. As you review the evidence, I expect you to hold Secretary Clinton to the same standard.

The public knows that Secretary Clinton established a server in her home, that she conducted the public's business on that server, and that she mishandled highly classified information. The public will reach its own conclusions as to why she did so and about how the rules are applied to those in positions of power and influence. I expect you and the Department to apply the rule of law fairly in deciding whether to bring charges in this case, as well as to fully explain the determination.

Many in Alabama and America believe that some powerful public officials act as if rules and laws do not apply to them. As John Adams said, ours is a "government of laws, and not of men." The nation is counting on your application of this principle.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Shelby". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Richard C. Shelby

**Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)**

---

**From:** Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 29, 2016 11:48 PM  
**To:** Newman, Melanie (OPA)  
**Subject:** Re: Who did you email for comment for this story? And why not reach out to me?

Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 29, 2016, at 8:45 PM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <[mnewman@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:mnewman@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Story has been updated.

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Zapotosky, Matt" <[matt.zapotosky@washpost.com](mailto:matt.zapotosky@washpost.com)>  
**Date:** June 29, 2016 at 11:37:29 PM EDT  
**To:** "Newman, Melanie (OPA)" <[Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov](mailto:Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Who did you email for comment for this story? And why not reach out to me?

I updated the last graph to take that out, reflect that you willingly provided transcripts and added a bit about career prosecutors. Thanks for reaching out - next time I'll get at you directly. Again, just figured since Kevin was with her and operating three hours earlier than us he'd be better in this case.

---

**From:** Newman, Melanie (OPA) <[Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov](mailto:Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 29, 2016 11:29:10 PM  
**To:** Zapotosky, Matt  
**Subject:** Re: Who did you email for comment for this story? And why not reach out to me?

All the video out there is edited for TV, which is why I've been sending the transcript. I would have also been happy to discuss by phone earlier. (b) (6)  
(b) (6)

It would be much appreciated if you removed the "spox did not return calls for comment".

> On Jun 29, 2016, at 11:25 PM, Zapotosky, Matt <[matt.zapotosky@washpost.com](mailto:matt.zapotosky@washpost.com)> wrote:  
>  
> Oh sure send along. I just figured he'd be better since he was with her (and on west coast time). I did say in graph 2 she acknowledged publicly and quoted her (there's all sorts of presser video out there).  
>  
> Sent from my iPhone  
>  
>> On Jun 29, 2016, at 11:23 PM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <[Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov](mailto:Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov)>

wrote:

>>

>> He is with her but he is staffing her, which means he's not always available. You could have called me before reporting a no comment. I have been sending everyone the full transcript from yesterday and today's press conferences, where she addressed this. No additional comment needed when you have her on the record. Happy to forward along.

>>

>>> On Jun 29, 2016, at 11:21 PM, Zapotosky, Matt <[matt.zapotosky@washpost.com](mailto:matt.zapotosky@washpost.com)> wrote:

>>>

>>> Kevin. Isn't he with her? Do you have a comment? I can update.

>>>

>>> Sent from my iPhone

>>>

>>>> On Jun 29, 2016, at 11:20 PM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <[Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov](mailto:Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov)> wrote:

>>>>

>>>> Attorney general meets with former president Clinton amid politically charged investigation into his wife's email - The Washington

Post<[https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-nation/wp/2016/06/29/attorney-general-meets-with-former-president-clinton-amid-politically-charged-investigation-into-his-wifes-email/?utm\\_term=.293dbc4a2876](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-nation/wp/2016/06/29/attorney-general-meets-with-former-president-clinton-amid-politically-charged-investigation-into-his-wifes-email/?utm_term=.293dbc4a2876)> from Matt Zapotosky's

Tweet<<https://twitter.com/mattzap/status/748344912182153216?refsrc=email&s=11>>

>>>>

>>>> Download<[https://twitter.com/download?ref\\_src=MailTweet-iOS](https://twitter.com/download?ref_src=MailTweet-iOS)> the Twitter app



**Stewart, Rebecca L. (PAO)**

---

**From:** Stewart, Rebecca L. (PAO)  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 30, 2016 10:02 AM  
**To:** Press; Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: AG's meeting with President Clinton this week

+ Melanie

---

**From:** Press  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 30, 2016 10:02 AM  
**To:** Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)  
**Cc:** Stewart, Rebecca L. (PAO)  
**Subject:** FW: AG's meeting with President Clinton this week

**From:** Julian Hattem [<mailto:jhattem@thehill.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 30, 2016 9:58 AM  
**To:** Newman, Melanie (OPA); Press  
**Subject:** AG's meeting with President Clinton this week

Hi

I'm writing about some of the backlash to the AG's social meeting with former President Clinton in Phoenix on Monday. Lawmakers from [both parties](#) have raised questions about the meeting and whether it was appropriate.

Was the AG's meeting appropriate, given the ongoing investigation connected to Secretary Clinton? Does it have any effect on the outcome of that investigation?

Thank you

--  
Julian Hattem  
Staff Writer  
The Hill  
[@jmhattem](#)  
Office: 202.628.8568  
Cell: (b) (6)

**Stewart, Rebecca L. (PAO)**

---

**From:** Stewart, Rebecca L. (PAO)  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 30, 2016 10:03 AM  
**To:** Press; Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: Interview request

+ Melanie

---

**From:** Press  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 30, 2016 10:01 AM  
**To:** Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)  
**Cc:** Stewart, Rebecca L. (PAO)  
**Subject:** FW: Interview request

---

**From:** DelPriore, Samantha [<mailto:Samantha.DelPriore@FOXNEWS.COM>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 30, 2016 9:57 AM  
**To:** Press  
**Subject:** Interview request

Good morning – Would AG Lynch be available for an interview on our show *On The Record with Greta Van Susteren* on the Fox News Channel tonight to respond to the meeting she had with Bill Clinton? We air live during the 7pm/et hour but we are happy to pretape to accommodate her schedule. Please let me know if we can set something up. The interview would be one-on-one with Greta.

Thanks,  
Samantha

Samantha Del Priore-Fox  
FOX News Channel  
1211 Avenue of the Americas, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10036  
W: 212-301-5360  
C: (b) (6)  
[Samantha.DelPriore@foxnews.com](mailto:Samantha.DelPriore@foxnews.com)

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**Newman, Melanie (OPA)**

---

**From:** Newman, Melanie (OPA)  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 30, 2016 10:10 AM  
**To:** Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)  
**Subject:** Fwd: AG's meeting with President Clinton this week

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Julian Hattem <[jhattem@thehill.com](mailto:jhattem@thehill.com)>  
**Date:** June 30, 2016 at 10:06:12 AM EDT  
**To:** "Newman, Melanie (OPA)" <[Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov](mailto:Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Press <[Press@usdoj.gov](mailto:Press@usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: AG's meeting with President Clinton this week

Thank you

On Thu, Jun 30, 2016 at 10:02 AM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <[Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov](mailto:Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov)> wrote:

I'll refer you to the transcripts below from the AG's press conferences on Tuesday, in Phoenix, and Wednesday, in LA. We have no additional comment.

Phoenix Presser (Tuesday, June 28):

REPORTER: Sources say that you met last night with former president Bill Clinton. Did the topic of Benghazi come up at all, or can you tell us what was discussed?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: No. Actually, while I was landing at the airport, I did see President Clinton at the Phoenix airport as I was leaving, and he spoke to myself and my husband on the plane. Our conversation was a great deal about his grandchildren. It was primary social and about our travels. He mentioned the golf he played in Phoenix, and he mentioned travels he'd had West Virginia. We talked about former Attorney General Janet Reno, for example, whom we both know, but there was no discussion of any matter pending for the department or any matter pending for any other body. There was no discussion of Benghazi, no discussion of the state department emails, by way of example. I would say the current news of the day was the Brexit decision, and what that might mean. And again, the department's not involved in that or implicated in that.

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REPORTER: Madame Attorney General, so was it appropriate for you to meet with former President Clinton while your agency is in the middle of an investigation of his wife's email server?

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REPORTER: You don't believe that gives off the appearance of any impropriety while your agency is investigating his wife.

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On Jun 30, 2016, at 9:58 AM, Julian Hattem  
<[jhattem@thehill.com](mailto:jhattem@thehill.com)<mailto:[jhattem@thehill.com](mailto:jhattem@thehill.com)>> wrote:

Hi

I'm writing about some of the backlash to the AG's social meeting with former President Clinton in Phoenix on Monday. Lawmakers from both parties<<http://thehill.com/blogs/blog-briefing-room/news/286077-dem-lynch-should-have-steered-clear-of-bill-clinton>> have raised questions about the meeting and whether it was appropriate.

Was the AG's meeting appropriate, given the ongoing investigation connected to Secretary Clinton? Does it have any effect on the outcome of that investigation?

Thank you

--

Julian Hattem  
Staff Writer  
The Hill  
@jmhattem  
Office: 202.628.8568  
Cell: (b) (6)

--

Julian Hattem

Staff Writer

The Hill

@jmhattem

Office: 202.628.8568

Cell: (b) (6)

**Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)**

---

**From:** Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 30, 2016 11:56 AM  
**To:** Newman, Melanie (OPA)  
**Subject:** Re: Hi, Kevin

Thx

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 30, 2016, at 8:55 AM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <[mnewman@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:mnewman@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

I'm on with Kevin now.

Melanie R. Newman  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Direct: 202-305-1920  
Cell: (b) (6)  
@MelanieDOJ

---

**From:** Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 30, 2016 11:55 AM  
**To:** Johnson, Kevin  
**Cc:** Newman, Melanie (OPA)  
**Subject:** Re: Hi, Kevin

Adding Mel. I'm at an event in west coast.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 30, 2016, at 8:50 AM, Johnson, Kevin <[kjohnson@usatoday.com](mailto:kjohnson@usatoday.com)> wrote:

Can you help with the meeting between the AG and frmr Pres Clinton?



**Newman, Melanie (OPA)**

---

**From:** Newman, Melanie (OPA)  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 30, 2016 11:56 AM  
**To:** Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA); Johnson, Kevin  
**Subject:** RE: Hi, Kevin

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Melanie R. Newman  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Direct: 202-305-1920  
Cell: (b) (6)

@MelanieDOJ

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**To:** Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA); Johnson, Kevin  
**Subject:** RE: Hi, Kevin

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Melanie R. Newman  
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Can you help with the meeting between the AG and frmr Pres Clinton?

**Newman, Melanie (OPA)**

---

**From:** Newman, Melanie (OPA)  
**Sent:** Friday, July 1, 2016 9:54 AM  
**To:** Mark Landler  
**Subject:** Re: NYT Q on Lynch/Clinton meeting

Just tried you. I'm at 202-305-1920 or (b) (6)

> On Jul 1, 2016, at 9:27 AM, Mark Landler <landler@nytimes.com> wrote:

>

> Also, Mark Halprin just tweeted that the AG reserves the right to > overrule a staff recommendation, which he says contradicts our story.

> Matt is out of pocket. Can you clarify?

>

>> On Jul 1, 2016, at 9:25 AM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov> wrote:

>>

>> +Kevin, who is working on that in Aspen.

>>

>>> On Jul 1, 2016, at 9:23 AM, Mark Landler <landler@nytimes.com> wrote:

>>>

>>> Thanks, Melanie. On the pool camera, where would the feed be available?

>>>

>>>> On Jul 1, 2016, at 9:19 AM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov> wrote:

>>>>

>>>> I don't think they stream it. We are trying to get a pool camera. We will send out a transcript as soon as possible.

>>>>

>>>>> On Jul 1, 2016, at 9:14 AM, Mark Landler <landler@nytimes.com> wrote:

>>>>>

>>>>> Hi Melanie,

>>>>>

>>>>> We don't have anybody in Aspen and we obviously need to cover AG >>>>> Lynch's remarks.

>>>>>

>>>>> Can you tell me when she's scheduled to speak, and whether Aspen will >>>>> stream her remarks?

>>>>>

>>>>> Many thanks,

>>>>> Mark

>>>>>

>>>>>> On Jun 30, 2016, at 2:21 PM, Newman, Melanie (OPA) <Melanie.Newman@usdoj.gov> wrote:

>>>>>>

>>>>>> Mark,

>>>>>>

>>>>>> I'll call you in a bit. We have not issued a statement on this but I've included below the transcripts from the AG's two press conferences where this was addressed:

>>>>>>

>>>>>>> Phoenix Presser (Tuesday, June 28th)



\*\*\*\*\* Phoenix Presser (Tuesday, June 20):

>>>>>

>>>>> REPORTER: Sources say that you met last night with former president Bill Clinton. Did the topic of Benghazi come up at all, or can you tell us what was discussed?

>>>>>

>>>>> ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNCH: No. Actually, while I was landing at the airport, I did see President Clinton at the Phoenix airport as I was leaving, and he spoke to myself and my husband on the plane. Our conversation was a great deal about his grandchildren. It was primarily social and about our travels. He mentioned the golf he played in Phoenix, and he mentioned travels he'd had West Virginia. We talked about former Attorney General Janet Reno, for example, whom we both know, but there was no discussion of any matter pending for the department or any matter pending for any other body. There was no discussion of Benghazi, no discussion of the state department emails, by way of example. I would say the current news of the day was the Brexit decision, and what that might mean. And again, the department's not involved in that or implicated in that.

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>>>>>

>>>>>

>>>>> On Jun 30, 2016, at 2:16 PM, Landler, Mark <landler@nytimes.com<mailto:landler@nytimes.com>> wrote:

>>>>>

>>>>> Hi Melanie,

>>>>>

>>>>> I'm a White House correspondent at the NYT, and I've been pressed into service to write about the questions being raised by the Attorney General's meeting with Bill Clinton.

>>>>>

>>>>> Could you let me know what DoJ and the AG have said specifically about this meeting, and whether she believes it constitutes a conflict of interest, given the ongoing email investigation?

>>>>>

>>>>> (b) (6)

>>>>>

>>>>> Thanks & Best,

>>>>> Mark Landler

>

**Newman, Melanie (OPA)**

---

**From:** Newman, Melanie (OPA)  
**Sent:** Friday, July 01, 2016 10:09 AM  
**To:** Press; Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)  
**Cc:** Stewart, Rebecca L. (PAO)  
**Subject:** RE: Confirm Lynch/Clinton reports?

Got it.

Melanie R. Newman  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Direct: 202-305-1920  
Cell: (b) (6)  
@MelanieDOJ

---

**From:** Press  
**Sent:** Friday, July 01, 2016 9:52 AM  
**To:** Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA); Newman, Melanie (OPA)  
**Cc:** Stewart, Rebecca L. (PAO)  
**Subject:** FW: Confirm Lynch/Clinton reports?

**From:** Russell Berman [<mailto:rberman@theatlantic.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 01, 2016 8:24 AM  
**To:** Press  
**Subject:** Confirm Lynch/Clinton reports?

Hi,

Can someone confirm these reports that AG Lynch will announce that she plans to accept the recommendations of prosecutors and the FBI in the Clinton email case?

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/attorney-general-loretta-lynch-to-accept-officials-determination-on-clinton-email-1467372419>

<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/07/02/us/politics/loretta-lynch-hillary-clinton-email-server.html?hp&action=click&pgtype=Homepage&clickSource=story-heading&module=first-column-region&region=top-news&WT.nav=top-news&r=0>

Thanks,

Russell

--

Russell Berman  
Senior Associate Editor

The Atlantic

Desk: 646-539-6678

Cell: (b) (6)

[rberman@theatlantic.com](mailto:rberman@theatlantic.com)

[www.theatlantic.com/russell-berman](http://www.theatlantic.com/russell-berman)