

Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Friday, September 21, 2018 10:00 AM
To: Whitaker, Matthew (OAG)
Subject: Fwd: Story response

Should have sent this to you last night

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)" <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Date: September 20, 2018 at 10:09:18 PM CDT
To: "Shine, Bill J. EOP/WHO" <William.J.Shine@who.eop.gov>
Cc: "Donaldson, Annie M. EOP/WHO" <Ann.M.Donaldson@who.eop.gov>, "Sanders, Sarah H. EOP/WHO" <Sarah.H.Sanders@who.eop.gov>
Subject: Re: Story response

Update: this is now set to post in the am.

(If the note about Elliot is to me, I don't think I know who that is referring to)

On Sep 20, 2018, at 10:01 PM, Shine, Bill J. EOP/WHO <William.J.Shine@who.eop.gov> wrote:

Thank you

Please share with Elliott ASAP.

On Sep 20, 2018, at 10:44 PM, Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov> wrote:

Annie: Boss calling Don re the below--if you think appropriate, share with Don.

Bill: we've sent a response from the DAG that's below and had someone in the room dispute the "wire" part noting the dag was being sarcastic.

The New York Times's story is inaccurate and factually incorrect. I will not further comment on a story based on anonymous sources who are obviously biased against the Department and are advancing their own personal agenda. But let me be clear about this: based on my personal dealings with the President, there is no basis to invoke the 25th Amendment.

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Goldman, Adam"
<adam.goldman@nytimes.com>
Date: September 20, 2018 at 3:47:54 PM
EDT
To: "Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)"
<Sarah.Isgur.Flores@usdoj.gov>
Cc: Michael Schmidt
<schmidtm@nytimes.com>
Subject: Story response

Sarah:

Mike Schmidt and I are preparing a story on deputy attorney general Rod Rosenstein. We have learned the follow things below. We'd like a response later this afternoon. Please give a shout if you have any questions. Many thanks, Adam and Mike

-In a meeting on May 16, 2017 with senior federal law enforcement officials in Rosenstein's office, Rosenstein raised the idea of wearing a device to record his conversation with the president. He specifically used the word "wire." He also said McCabe could wear a wire.

-In a separate conversation around that time, Rosenstein and acting FBI director Andrew McCabe discussed using the 25th amendment to remove President Trump. Rosenstein said that he may be able to get Sessions and Kelly to go along with the plan.

-In a conversation on May 12, 2017 in the command center of the Justice Department Rosenstein appeared "upset" and "emotional" over the Comey firing.

-In a conversation on May 14, 2017 Rosenstein asked McCabe to reach out to Comey to seek advice about appointing a special counsel. McCabe believed that was a bad idea.

-Rosenstein considered appointing Jim
Cole as the special counsel.

—
Adam Goldman
Reporter
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