



Archivist of the
United States

February 2, 2023

The Honorable Ron Johnson
Ranking Member
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary

Dear Senators Johnson and Grassley:

I write in response to your letter of January 23, 2023, requesting information about the National Archives and Records Administration's "involvement, knowledge and role with respect to the existence of [Biden Vice Presidential] classified and unclassified documents." As a general matter, NARA treats all of its communications with the White House, DOJ, and the representatives of the former Presidents (and Vice Presidents) as presumptively confidential. Within that general limitation, please see our responses to each of your questions:

1. A timeline of NARA's interactions relating to the discovery of records, including those marked classified, from Joe Biden's vice presidency with the White House, Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Homeland Security, NARA Office of Inspector General, Penn Biden Center for Diplomacy and Global Engagement, Joe Biden's attorneys, and any other federal or private entity involved.

Answer: NARA was contacted on November 2, 2022, and informed that some boxes in the Penn Biden center might contain classified information. NARA picked up the identified boxes on November 3, 2022. When NARA confirmed that the boxes contained classified information, NARA referred the matter to our OIG, who referred the matter to DOJ on November 4. Since then, DOJ has been in control of this issue. On January 12, 2023, the Attorney General appointed a Special Counsel to conduct the investigation of this issue. NARA has had no involvement in the subsequent searches of President Biden's residence.

2. How many documents were stored at the Penn Biden Center? Has NARA requested to review all of the other documents at this location or at any other? If not, why not?

Answer: Please contact the Department of Justice with respect to their ongoing investigation of this matter.

3. Are there other locations where President Joe Biden has stored records from his time as vice president? If so, has NARA requested to review those records? If not, why not?

Answer: Please contact the Department of Justice with respect to their ongoing investigation of this matter.

4. Has there been any other instance in which NARA was apprised of or discovered that records marked classified from Joe Biden's vice presidency were located outside a government facility? If so, please provide all details.

Answer: No.

5. Has NARA requested the White House to provide all documents that include the pseudonyms and email addresses listed below that then-Vice President Biden used?

- a) "RobinWare456@gmail.com";
- b) "Robert.L.Peters@pci.gov";
- c) "JRB Ware"; and
- d) "67stingray".

Answer: NARA has requested that the representatives of former Presidents and Vice Presidents assess whether any materials previously assumed to be personal might contain Presidential or Vice Presidential records subject to the PRA, whether classified or unclassified.

Sincerely,



Debra Steidel Wall
Acting Archivist of the United States

cc:

The Honorable Jon Ossoff
Chairman
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, Committee
on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary

Dr. Brett M. Baker
Inspector General
National Archives and Records Administration