



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
Office of Legislative Affairs

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Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

May 6, 2020

The Honorable Lindsey Graham  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Graham:

We write in response to your prior request for an unredacted copy of the August 2, 2017 memorandum from then Acting Attorney General Rod Rosenstein to Special Counsel Robert S. Mueller, III regarding “The Scope of Investigation and Definition of Authority” (“Scope Memo”).

In consideration of your request, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has undertaken a review of previously made redactions, and the Attorney General has determined that it is now in the public interest to release to Congress the enclosed unclassified version of the Scope Memo with limited redactions to protect national security interests. This accommodation is based on extraordinary and unique circumstances, and should not be construed as precedent setting in any regard. This production does not waive any applicable privilege.

We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact this office if we may provide additional assistance regarding this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. Boyd", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Stephen E. Boyd  
Assistant Attorney General

cc: The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
Ranking Member

Enclosure



U. S. Department of Justice


Office of the Deputy Attorney General

The Deputy Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

August 2, 2017

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Rod J. Rosenstein   
Acting Attorney General

TO: Robert S. Mueller, III  
Special Counsel

RE: The Scope of Investigation and Definition of Authority

On May 17, 2017, I issued an order entitled “Appointment of Special Counsel to Investigate Russian Interference with the 2016 Presidential Election and Related Matters,” appointing you to serve as Special Counsel for the United States Department of Justice. Order No. 3915-2017 (the Order). The Order authorized you to conduct “the investigation confirmed by then-FBI Director James B. Comey in testimony before the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence on March 20, 2017, including: (1) any links and/or coordination between the Russian government and individuals associated with the campaign of President Donald Trump; and (2) any matters that arose or may arise directly from that investigation” (the Investigation). Order ¶¶ (b)(i) and (ii).

The May 17, 2017 order was worded categorically in order to permit its public release without confirming specific investigations involving specific individuals. This memorandum provides a more specific description of your authority. The following allegations were within the scope of the Investigation at the time of your appointment and are within the scope of the Order:

- Allegations that Carter Page committed a crime or crimes by colluding with Russian government officials with respect to the Russian government’s efforts to interfere with the 2016 election for President of the United States, in violation of United States law;

Declassified by FBI - C58W88B61  
on 4/30/2020  
This redacted version only

[REDACTED]

- Allegations that Paul Manafort:
  - Committed a crime or crimes by colluding with Russian government officials with respect to the Russian government's efforts to interfere with the 2016 election for President of the United States, in violation of United States law;
  - Committed a crime or crimes arising out of payments he received from the Ukrainian government before and during the tenure of President Viktor Yanukovich;
  - Committed a crime or crimes arising out of his receipt of loans from a bank whose Chief Executive Officer was then seeking a position in the Trump Administration;
  
- Allegations that George Papadopolous:
  - Committed a crime or crimes by colluding with Russian government officials with respect to the Russian government's efforts to interfere with the 2016 election for President of the United States, in violation of United States law;
  - Committed a crime or crimes by acting as an unregistered agent of the government of Israel;
  
- Allegations that Michael Flynn:
  - Committed a crime or crimes by engaging in conversations with Russian government officials during the period of the Trump transition;
  - Committed a crime or crimes by making false statements to the FBI when interviewed about his contacts with the Russian government;
  - Committed a crime or crimes by failing to report foreign contacts and income on a Form SF-86 that he completed in anticipation of his being selected to serve as the National Security Adviser to President Trump;
  - Committed a crime or crimes by acting as an unregistered agent for the government of Turkey;

- [REDACTED]
  - [REDACTED]
  - [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

You therefore have authority to continue and complete the investigation of those matters, and additional matters described in 28 C.F.R. § 600.4(a). For additional matters that otherwise may have arisen or may arise directly from the Investigation, you should consult my office for a determination of whether such matters should be within the scope of your authority.

If you determine that additional jurisdiction is necessary in order to fully investigate and resolve the matters assigned, or to investigate new matters that come to light in the course of your investigation, you should follow the procedures set forth in 28 C.F.R. § 600.4(b).