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One Hundred Eighteenth
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

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September 18, 2024

Attorney General Tim Griffin
Attorney General
Arkansas
323 Center Street, Suite 200
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Attorney General Tim Griffin,

As Chairman of the Committee on House Administration, I am writing to refer for your consideration the findings of an investigation conducted by the Committee's legal team. This investigation focused on potential unlawful exploitation of unwitting "straw donors," whose identities may have been used to channel illicit funds into campaigns in your state.

The Committee's investigation included consultations with federal agencies, such as the Federal Election Commission (FEC), the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), and the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), as well as experts in money laundering, credit card fraud, and terrorism finance. Perhaps most important to our investigation are the whistleblowers, who came forward to report anomalies in FEC donor records.

To determine the accuracy of the reports received from whistleblowers, the Committee conducted extensive data analysis, reviewing over 200 million FEC records spanning the last 14 years. The data analysis compared donation patterns to open-source consumer data, voter rolls, and political profiling databases, with an emphasis on identifying suspicious trends, such as:

- Donations significantly disproportionate to an individual's net worth or previous giving history.
- Uncharacteristic donations from party-affiliated registered voters suddenly contributing to candidates of the opposing party.
- Unusually frequent donations from elderly individuals or first-time donors.

The final analysis produced a set of anomalous donor profiles, ranked by the severity of the inconsistencies. In reviewing this analysis, it became clear there is suspicious activity occurring that warrants further review.

To address some of the concerns raised by this information and to rebuild confidence in our campaign finance system, I introduced legislation, H.R. 9488, requiring new procedures and safeguards for online donations to U.S. political committees. This legislation has been passed out of Committee and I will continue to work to ensure it becomes law. However, further action on the activities revealed by this investigation fall outside of the Committee's jurisdiction.

This investigation has exposed potential criminal activity that should be investigated by an appropriate law enforcement agency, such as your office. The enclosed data provides detailed donor records to facilitate this process. Should you choose to pursue this matter further and have questions or would like

briefing by Committee staff, please contact the Committee on House Administration's General Counsel, T. March Bell, at March.Bell@mail.house.gov. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Steil".

Bryan Steil

Chairman

Committee on House Administration

Attachment(s)