Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY
2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225–5074 MINORITY (202) 225–5051 https://oversight.house.gov

December 12, 2024

Mr. Joel C. Spangenberg Acting Director The Selective Service System National Headquarters Arlington, VA 22209-2425

Dear Acting Director Spangenberg:

The Committee on Oversight and Accountability (Committee) is investigating the Selective Service System's (Select Service or Agency) promotion of a social media post stating individuals are "stupid" if "they still believe military service will be voluntary," and to "[r]emember Germany 1936" mere days after Americans elected President Donald Trump to be the 47th President of the United States. The Committee is deeply disturbed that an independent federal agency, tasked with registering and maintaining a system of individuals potentially subject to military conscription if authorized by the President and Congress, would re-post a wholly unsubstantiated, false, and contemptible claim.

While the post is no longer available on the Select Service's X account, the Selective Service confirmed that an inappropriate post pertaining to the mandatory draft was posted on the Agency's account.³ Public reporting stated the post remained online for more than an hour.⁴ According to the Selective Service's post, the Agency has launched an investigation to determine what happened and to prevent it from occurring in the future.⁵

Federal agencies have great responsibility to honestly and credibly communicate with the Americans for whom they work. Federal agencies must maintain a strong commitment to truth and transparency. Although the Selective Service should continue to investigate this matter and ensure that this not happen again, the individual at fault for reposting such an inappropriate and disturbing message on an Agency X account should be terminated.

¹ Jim LaPorta (@JimLaPorta), X, https://x.com/JimLaPorta/status/1854284013881737465 (last visited Nov. 8, 2024).

² Selective Serv. Sys., About Selective Service (last visited Nov. 8, 2024); USAGov, Register for Selective Service (the draft) (last visited Nov. 8, 2024) ("The United States has not had a draft since 1973. Congress and the president would have to authorize a draft.").

³ Selective Service (@SSS_gov), X, https://x.com/SSS_gov/status/1854545789634171321 (last visited Nov. 8, 2024) ("Selective Service Tweet").

⁴ Greg Norman, Federal military draft agency reposts message suggesting US is becoming 1936 Nazi Germany: report, Fox News (Nov. 7, 2024).

⁵ Selective Service Tweet, *supra* note 2.

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To assist the Committee's investigation into this matter, we request the following documents and communications, as soon as possible but no later than December 27, 2024:

All documents and communications relating to the Selective Service's investigation into the inappropriate post on the Agency's X account.

In addition, to assist the Committee in investigating this matter, we request a briefing from the Selective Service with Committee staff. Please make arrangements to schedule a briefing with Committee staff on this matter as soon as possible, but no later than December 19, 2024. Please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-5074 to schedule the staff briefing.

The Committee on Oversight and Accountability is the principal oversight committee of the U.S. House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate "any matter" at "any time" under House Rule X. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this inquiry.

Sincerely,

James Comer

Chairman

Committee on Oversight and Accountability

cc: The Honorable Jamie Raskin, Ranking Member Committee on Oversight and Accountability