

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 10, 2025

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

The Honorable Pete Hegseth
Secretary
Department of Defense

Dear Secretary Hegseth:

In July 2022, Chairman Grassley began a congressional investigation into Arctic Frost which was the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) investigation into the Trump campaign.¹ Arctic Frost eventually became Special Counsel Jack Smith's electoral case against President Trump. Since then, we have made whistleblower records public that have exposed how partisan FBI agents and Department of Justice (DOJ) prosecutors opened, approved, and advanced the investigation against President Trump.² Whistleblower documents have also exposed that the Biden FBI expanded the scope of Arctic Frost to include at least 92 Republican groups and individuals, including Charlie Kirk's Turning Point USA.³ The records we've made public show that Arctic Frost was a politically motivated fishing expedition to investigate Republican groups and individuals.⁴

¹ Letter from Senator Charles E. Grassley, Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary to Attorney General Merrick Garland, Department of Justice and Director Christopher Wray, Federal Bureau of Investigation, (Jul. 18, 2022) https://www.grassley.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/grassley_to_justice_dept_fbi_-_political_bias.pdf.

² Press Release, *Grassley, Johnson Make Public Whistleblower Records Revealing DOJ and FBI Plot to Pin Trump in Jack Smith Elector Case*, (Jan. 30, 2025) <https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/press/rep/releases/grassley-johnson-make-public-whistleblower-records-revealing-doj-and-fbi-plot-to-pin-trump-in-jack-smith-elector-case>; Floor Statement, *Grassley Underscores FBI Supervisor Misconduct in Trump-Targeted Arctic Frost Investigation*, (Feb. 3, 2025) <https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/press/rep/releases/grassley-underscores-fbi-supervisor-misconduct-in-trump-targeted-arctic-frost-investigation>; Opening Statement, *Grassley Opening Statement on Kash Patel's Nomination to be FBI Director* (Jan. 30, 2025) <https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/press/rep/releases/grassley-opening-statement-on-kash-patels-nomination-to-be-fbi-director>; Press Release, *Grassley, Johnson Release Records Showing FBI Obtained Trump, Pence Cell Phones, Conducted Sweeping Interviews to Advance Anti-Trump Arctic Frost Investigation*, (Mar. 14, 2025) <https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/press/rep/releases/grassley-johnson-release-records-showing-fbi-obtained-trump-pence-cell-phones-conducted-sweeping-interviews-to-advance-anti-trump-arctic-frost-investigation>; Press Release, *Grassley, Johnson Release Additional Arctic Frost Records Detailing Sweeping Anti-Trump Investigation*, (Apr. 8, 2025) <https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/press/rep/releases/grassley-johnson-release-additional-arctic-frost-records-detailing-sweeping-anti-trump-investigation>; Press Release, *Grassley Opens Senate Judiciary FBI Oversight Hearing, Releases Additional Records Demonstrating Political Weaponization and Misconduct at Biden FBI*, (Sep. 16, 2025) <https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/press/rep/releases/grassley-opens-senate-judiciary-fbi-oversight-hearing-releases-additional-records-demonstrating-political-weaponization-and-misconduct-at-biden-fbi>.

³ Josh Christenson, *FBI 'Arctic Frost' probe targeted nearly 100 GOP groups – including Charlie Kirk's TPUSA*, (Sep. 16, 2025) NY Post, <https://nypost.com/2025/09/16/us-news/fbi-arctic-frost-probe-targeted-nearly-100-gop-groups-including-charlie-kirks-tpusa-docs/>

⁴ See Floor Statement, *Grassley on Arctic Frost: I Won't Give Up Until I've Followed All the Facts and Accountability is Delivered*, (Oct. 8, 2025) <https://www.grassley.senate.gov/news/remarks/grassley-on-arctic-frost-i-wont-give-up-until-ive-followed-all-the-facts-and-accountability-is-delivered>.

Recent revelations have further underscored the clear political motivations of Arctic Frost. On October 6, 2025, FBI Deputy Director Dan Bongino informed us that as part of Arctic Frost, in 2023, officials in the FBI's Washington Field Office obtained tolling data from the personal phones of at least nine Members of Congress—despite none of these members being a target of an investigation.⁵ This is an outrageous and obviously unconstitutional breach by the Biden DOJ.

Section IV of Volume I of Special Counsel Smith's Final Report states that as part of their investigative process "in the Election Case," the Special Counsel's Office obtained records from "the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia, and other federal agencies, including the National Archives, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Defense, and Office of the Director of National Intelligence."⁶

Accordingly, we request that you provide us with all records that your agency provided to Special Counsel Jack Smith's Office as part of its Election Case in unredacted form no later than October 24, 2025.⁷

Transparency brings accountability. Thank you for your prompt review and responses. If you have any questions, please contact our Committee staff.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary



Ron Johnson
Chairman
Permanent Subcommittee
on Investigations

⁵ See Press Release, *Biden FBI Spied on Eight Republican Senators as Part of Arctic Frost Investigation, Grassley Oversight Reveals*, (Oct. 6, 2025) <https://www.grassley.senate.gov/news/news-releases/biden-fbi-spied-on-eight-republican-senators-as-part-of-arctic-frost-investigation-grassley-oversight-reveals>.

⁶ Special Counsel Jack Smith, *Final Report of the Special Counsel Under 28 C.F.R. § 600.8* at 93, (Jan. 7, 2025) <https://www.justice.gov/storage/Report-of-Special-Counsel-Smith-Volume-1-January-2025.pdf>.

⁷ "Records" include any written, recorded, or graphic material of any kind, including letters, memoranda, reports, notes, electronic data (emails, email attachments, and any other electronically created or stored information), calendar entries, inter-office communications, meeting minutes, phone/voice mail or recordings/records of verbal communications, and drafts (whether they resulted in final documents).