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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE

July 2, 2025

U.S. Capitol Building
HVC-304
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-4121

Griffin Decker
STAFF DIRECTOR

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The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States of America
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Mr. President,

Today, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) released an Internal Tradecraft Review entitled, "*Tradecraft Review of the 2016 Intelligence Community Assessment (ICA) on Russian Election Interference*".¹ I write to report to you that this review fails to disclose critical information, offers misleading judgements, and protects the deep state.

Mr. President, CIA has in its possession a House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI) staff report that exposes the truth about the politically driven Obama-era assessment that "*Putin and the Russian Government developed a clear preference for President-elect Trump*."² The report was produced during the 116th Congress under the leadership of Devin Nunes despite extraordinary restrictions imposed by CIA. Among those restrictions are a prohibition on transporting the final document to our secure spaces on Capitol Hill. As a result, very few people have been able to review it.

Once I assumed the Chairmanship of HPSCI, one of my first priorities was to get this staff report transferred to our possession. It is a congressional document related to a congressional investigation. It documents efforts within the CIA to manufacture the Trump-Russia collusion narrative and must not be locked away indefinitely. To that end and following extensive discussions with CIA, I wrote a letter to Director Ratcliffe seeking the immediate transfer of the congressional document to HPSCI (see attached). My letter was transmitted March 6, 2025. Despite repeated engagements, we still do not have our report.

¹ (U) Central Intelligence Agency, CIA-DA-CN-2025-20625, *Tradecraft Review of the 2016 Intelligence Community Assessment on Russian Election Interference*, June 26, 2025 (declassified July 2, 2025)

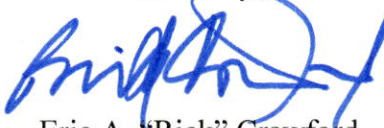
² (U) House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, 116th Congress Republican Staff Report, *The Analytic Tradecraft of the Intelligence Community Assessment (ICA) "Russia's Influence Campaign Targeting the 2016 US Presidential Election"*

As previously noted, earlier today the CIA publicly released a tradecraft review examining the role of the Intelligence Community in shaping the Russia collusion hoax narrative. While I am pleased to see CIA take the first step of acknowledging the political abuse and tradecraft problems associated with the 2016 ICA, I am disappointed that the Agency was permitted to whitewash the full extent of their problems. Our analytic tradecraft concerns are not limited to a single aspect of the 2016 ICA, and include matters under current investigation by HPSCI such as CIA's work on Anomalous Health Incidents and COVID.

Mr. President, given the differences between the CIA's self-assessment of the 2016 ICA process and that of the HPSCI, I urge you to read our report. In my view, public interest declassification is merited, as I have discussed and supported with CIA leadership. However, any decision on declassification should not impede the delivery of this congressional report to the HPSCI as soon as possible. I ask for your help in achieving this outcome.

If I can be of any assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Eric A. "Rick" Crawford
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Marco Rubio, Secretary of State and Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs

The Honorable Tulsi Gabbard, Director of National Intelligence

The Honorable John Ratcliffe, Director, Central Intelligence Agency

enc: Chairman Crawford Letter to Director John Ratcliffe, March 6, 2025