



Office of the Attorney General  
Washington, D. C. 20530

June 10, 2017

The Honorable Richard Shelby  
Chairman  
Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Shelby:

I previously accepted an invitation to testify on behalf of the Department of Justice before the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees about the Department's FY18 budget, which funds the Department's efforts in several important areas such as combatting the opioid crisis and violent crime. Some members have publicly stated their intention to focus their questions on issues related to the investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election, from which I have recused, and for which the Deputy Attorney General appointed a Special Counsel.

In light of reports regarding Mr. Comey's recent testimony before the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, it is important that I have an opportunity to address these matters in the appropriate forum. The Senate Intelligence Committee is the most appropriate forum for such matters, as it has been conducting an investigation and has access to relevant, classified information. Therefore, I am pleased to accept the invitation to appear before members of that committee on June 13th.

Accordingly, Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein, who has operational and budget responsibilities for the Department, will appear before the Senate and House Appropriations Subcommittees on Tuesday.

I firmly believe in the mission of the Department of Justice, and I believe that appropriations hearings are an important way for both Congress and the American people to learn about the vital work that dedicated Department employees do every single day to ensure the fair administration of justice. I appreciate your commitment to our efforts.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Sessions".

Jeff Sessions  
Attorney General

JS:ph