BRENDAN P. SHIELDS REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR

JASON STEINBAUM



One Hundred Sixteenth Congress U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs

2170 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 www.foreignaffairs.house.gov

May 22, 2020

The Honorable Brian Bulatao Under Secretary of State for Management United States Department of State 2201 C Street NW Washington, D.C., 20520

## Dear Under Secretary Bulatao:

Congress is conducting an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the firing of Steve A. Linick as Inspector General for the U.S. Department of State. As Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, I write pursuant to that investigation to request your participation in a voluntary transcribed interview on **June 11, 2020, at 10 AM.** 

This interview will be conducted jointly by the staff of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, and the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, and the interview transcript will be shared between the Committees.

The Committees are investigating whether work being performed by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) – including investigations that touched directly on the conduct of Secretary Pompeo himself – influenced the Secretary's recommendation that President Trump terminate Mr. Linick as Inspector General of the State Department. The Committees are deeply concerned that Secretary Pompeo may have been motivated by a desire to cover up evidence of his own wrongdoing that the OIG had uncovered.

Given your involvement in these matters, we believe that you may have information relevant to specific matter under investigation.

The Honorable Brian Bulatao May 22, 2020 Page Two

Please contact staff of the House Foreign Affairs Committee no later than **5 PM on Thursday, May 28**, to indicate whether you will comply voluntarily with this request.

Sincerely,

ELIOT L. ENGEL

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Chairman

CC:

Chairwoman Carolyn B. Maloney, House Committee on Oversight and Reform Ranking Member Robert Menendez, Senate Foreign Relations Committee Ranking Member Michael T. McCaul, House Committee on Foreign Affairs Ranking Member Jim Jordan, House Committee on Oversight and Reform Chairman James Risch, Senate Foreign Relations Committee