

April 4, 2017

Doc Hastings, Chairman
David Skaggs, Co-Chairman
Office of Congressional Ethics
U.S. House of Representatives
425 3rd Street, S.W.
Suite 1110
Washington, DC 20024

Re: Request for Inquiry into Rep. Nunes' possible violations of House Ethics Rules

Dear Chairman Hastings and Co-Chairman Skaggs:

Democracy 21 and Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW) are writing to supplement our March 28, 2017 letter requesting the Office of Congressional Ethics (OCE) to undertake a preliminary inquiry into whether Representative Devin Nunes, Chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, violated House Ethics Rule 23, cl. 13, by disclosing classified information to the public.

According to recent published reports, Representative Adam Schiff, the ranking member of the House Intelligence Committee, was provided access by the White House to the same documents that were viewed earlier by Chairman Nunes. After viewing the documents, Representative Schiff said in a statement, "It was represented to me that these are precisely the same materials that were provided to the Chairman over a week ago."

According to a report in *Politico*, "Schiff, in his statement Friday, declined to weigh in on Nunes' characterization of the materials, saying he 'cannot discuss the contents of the documents' because they're classified." A. Wright, "Schiff slams White House after reviewing controversial intelligence," *Politico* (March 31, 2017).

As we noted in our March 28 letter, Chairman Nunes also described the documents at issue as classified. But Chairman Nunes, unlike Representative Schiff, then discussed the contents of the documents and made certain characterizations about the contents. Nunes claimed that his public discussion of the classified documents did not involve classified information.

The fact that Representative Schiff has viewed the same documents as Chairman Nunes, described them as classified, and then, unlike Chairman Nunes, stated that he could not discuss the contents of the documents because of their classified nature, underscores the need for OCE to conduct an inquiry into whether Chairman Nunes improperly disclosed classified information in discussing the classified documents, in violation of Rule 23, cl. 13.

We again request OCE to undertake a preliminary investigation to determine whether there is reasonable basis to believe that the statements made by Chairman Nunes to the public, that were based on information in classified documents, revealed any classified information in violation of House ethics rules.

Verification

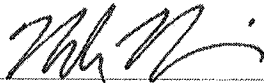
The individual submitting this information is listed below and acknowledges that section 1001 of title 18 United States Code applies to the information being provided.

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