

One Hundred Nineteenth  
Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION  
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February 7, 2025

The Hon. James E. “Trey” Trainor, III  
Vice Chair  
Federal Election Commission  
1050 First Street NE  
Washington, D.C. 20463

The Hon. Dara Lindenbaum  
Commissioner  
Federal Election Commission  
1050 First Street NE  
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The Hon. Shana M. Broussard  
Commissioner  
Federal Election Commission  
1050 First Street NE  
Washington, D.C. 20463

The Hon. Allen Dickerson  
Commissioner  
Federal Election Commission  
1050 First Street NE  
Washington, D.C. 20463

Commissioners:

As Ranking Member of the Committee of House Administration (the “Committee”), charged with oversight of the Federal Election Commission (the “Commission” or “FEC”), I write to request your attention to the matters discussed herein.

In 2023, consistent with several prior letters, the Committee provided commissioners with a set of questions regarding the Commission’s opportunities and challenges, and expressed an interest in being made aware of the Commission’s plans for preparing for the 2024 federal election cycle. The Committee is interested in updated information in response to our prior questions.

Enclosed are questions to the Commission. Please respond to each question and sub-question asked and transmit your responses by **March 4, 2025**.

Sincerely,



Joseph D. Morelle  
Ranking Member

Cc: Chairman Bryan Steil

## QUESTIONS

1. The Committee's August 28, 2023, letter and corresponding Commission response discussed the status of the General Counsel position, which has been staffed in an "acting" capacity since July 2013. The Commission noted that "[t]he vacancy announcement was extended and closed on July 28, 2023. Applications for this position have been reviewed for meeting the position's minimum qualifications, and the Agency recruited an external panelist to sit on the initial Hiring Panel. The initial Hiring Panel convenes this month to review the applicants who meet minimum qualifications, conduct interviews, and recommend their top candidates for the Commission to interview." Please provide any update on the status of the position search.
2. The Office of Inspector General's ("OIG") Management and Performance Challenges Facing the FEC for FY 2025 noted that the Commission has recently "been losing staff with decades' worth of institutional memory." In particular, "there have been 72 separations of FEC career staff from FY 2022 through FY 2024 that represent the loss of 1,035 years of experience. Additionally, 46 current FEC employees have served in the federal government for over 30 years, with 31 holding positions at GS-11 or above. Five of these long-serving employees are designated key personnel in the agency's September 2022 Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP). Collectively, these five individuals bring 163 years of institutional knowledge, including 65 years from OGC, 69 years from OSD, and 29 years from OCIO."
  - a. Please discuss the reason long-serving staff have left the Commission, as documented by the OIG?
  - b. What is the Commission doing to address the loss of long-term staff and institutional expertise and memory?
3. In FY 2024, the Commission was awarded an \$8.8 million package from the Technology Modernization Fund, a federal funding vehicle formed to support federal agency IT modernization projects, to update and transform FECFile. The projected completion deadline for this transformation was listed as 2027. Please share any updated information on this project.
4. According to Status of Enforcement—Fiscal Year 2024, Fourth Quarter (07/01/2024-09/30/2024), memorandum from the Office of General Counsel ("OGC"), as of November 6, 2024, there was a caseload of 229 enforcement cases, 90 active and 139 inactive.
  - a. How many enforcement cases are on the enforcement docket as of the date of this letter?
  - b. How many of those cases are awaiting Commission action? How long have those matters been awaiting Commission action?
  - c. The Status of Enforcement notes that the Office of General Counsel met its internal circulation goal for First General Counsel Reports ("FGCR") 54 percent of the time, which is down from prior quarters. What contributed to delayed circulation of FGCRs?

5. The Status of Enforcement—Fiscal Year 2024, Fourth Quarter (07/01/2024-09/30/2024), memorandum from the Office of General Counsel further provided that the Commission had seven ongoing investigations, with four investigations opened and one closed in FY 2024.
- a. How many ongoing investigations are there as of the date of this letter?
  - b. How many matters were filed with the Commission in FYs 2023 and 2024? Please provide separate figures for each fiscal year.
  - c. In FY 2024, how many matters did the Office of General Counsel recommend a reason to believe finding?
    - i. How many of these matters included a recommendation to authorize compulsory process or otherwise authorize an investigation?
    - ii. How many of these matters include a recommendation to engage in pre-probable cause conciliation?
    - iii. How many of the matters in which an investigation was recommended by OGC secured Commission approval?
    - iv. How many of the matters in which pre-probable cause conciliation was recommended by OGC secured Commission approval?
    - v. Please provide a chart with the relevant MUR information and votes by commissioner name.
  - d. In FY 2023, how many matters did the Office of General Counsel recommend a reason to believe finding?
    - i. How many of these matters included a recommendation to authorize compulsory process or otherwise authorize an investigation?
    - ii. How many of these matters include a recommendation to engage in pre-probable cause conciliation?
    - iii. How many of the matters in which an investigation was recommended by OGC secured Commission approval?
    - iv. How many of the matters in which pre-probable cause conciliation was recommended by OGC secured Commission approval?
    - v. Please provide a chart with the relevant MUR information and votes by commissioner name.
  - e. Please provide the total number, accompanied by an investigation-specific chart, of the following matters:
    - i. The total number of matters opened and the total number of investigations authorized in calendar year 2024. For the investigation-specific chart, please identify the Chairman during 2024 and list all matters in which OGC recommended an investigation, include the MUR number, the types of alleged violation(s) (*e.g.*, reporting, foreign national spending, etc.), whether the Commission approved the investigation along with votes by commissioner name, and if relevant, the number of days in investigation, and the resolution of the investigation.
    - ii. Please provide the same information for calendar years 2023, 2022, and 2021.

6. The Committee's August 28, 2023, letter and corresponding Commission response discussed enforcement matters filed with the Commission that involved President Trump, his committees, or his family members.
  - a. Please provide any updates to those figures, if any.
  - b. In this updated response, provide: (a) the number of matters in which OGC recommended reason to believe a violation occurred; and (b) the number of matters in which the Commission adopted a reason to believe finding.
  - c. The Committee's August 28, 2023, letter also asked the Commission to provide an updated list of each MUR number, name, identify OGC's recommendations, and how the Commission voted, and to provide votes by commissioner name. For the updated response, please again provide the material in a single chart.
  - d. Additionally, in a separate chart, please identify the matters included in the response to this question in which a vote occurred since quorum was restored in December 2020. Please provide the MUR numbers and votes by commissioner name.
7. Please share with the Committee the last two status reports for each division that prepares such reports.