

**Statement From:**

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**Presented to:**

**The Select Subcommittee on the Weaponization of  
the Federal Government**

First and foremost, I appreciate your time and attention. My name is Johnathan Curtis Buma, and I am a Senior Special Agent (SA) in the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). I have been diligently working behind the scenes on some of the highest priority national security matters for many years. I'm here to inform you that I personally witnessed multiple instances of political bias that lead to selective suppression of intelligence reporting from high-value confidential informants I personally operated. I witnessed and experienced first-hand each and every event I will describe here, and I have preserved ample supporting documentation in a facility cleared to store classified documentation. I am here today because I realized the over arching problem is larger than just me. What is the problem? In essence, the FBI is in dire need of reform in order to restore its moral hegemony in law enforcement and its credibility.

After I submitted a protected federal whistleblower complaint in January of last year describing specific instances that I believed exemplified political bias through selective intelligence suppression concerning the matters I was reporting on, which were of national significance, my own colleagues retaliated against me for simply doing my job. Based on these recent events, it has become immediately apparent to me that reform is urgently needed to restore the integrity of the FBI as perceived by the American public, as well as the morale of the many people who work within the FBI. Why is it so important to preserve the FBI? While there are several other federal agencies that do an amazing job investigating alleged violations of a variety of federal criminal statutes and protect our country from national security threats, the FBI is unique among them, because it is the principal agency charged with investigating public corruption, which is the greatest threat facing this nation above all others. If the internal regulatory controls of the FBI become compromised, unchecked political bias will increase, and the vast intelligence collection capability of the bureau will easily be subverted and used as a political weapon for one party or another. If this is allowed to happen, our country will no longer be recognizable.

In order to establish my own credibility, I'll give you a little background about myself. Growing up, I always wanted to be a medical doctor, which is why in my first career I worked as a molecular biologist in the pharmaceutical research industry. After seeing a series of devastating terrorist attacks portrayed in the media, I became inspired to do what I could to protect and serve. I saw the FBI as a kind of immune system protecting the body of our country from illness and outside pathogens. In 2008, I was selected from among some of the brightest and most talented people in the country to attend the FBI Academy in Quantico, VA. Since becoming an FBI Agent about 15 years ago, I have served this country with passion.

I have served as the primary case agent on a variety of matters involving major financial crimes, trans-national organized crime, public corruption and foreign counterintelligence (FCI). I have also served in managerial positions both at headquarters in Washington D.C. and in the field. I served as a Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) Program Manager in the Counterintelligence Division (CD) at FBI Headquarters during the joint comprehensive plan of action (JCPOA) nuclear negotiations, where I took active measures to prevent the outflow of nuclear and ballistic missile technology to Iran and Russia and worked with numerous other agencies at the headquarters level, to include the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and various branches of the U.S. Military and U.S. Intelligence Community (USIC). I worked directly with the Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) pursuant to adding dozens of entities to the Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) list of sanctioned entities. Later, in the Los Angeles field office, I served as an SSA in charge of confidential human source (Informant) policy and

oversaw the Witness Protection Program covering an area of responsibility where more than 20 million Americans reside.

From my training and experience, FBI Headquarters (FBIHQ) designated me as a Subject Matter Expert (SME) and certified Adjunct Faculty for financial investigations involving proliferation of sensitive export-restricted technology and weapons of mass destruction (WMD). For more than 10 years, my area of focus has been in Russian FCI for which the bureau trained me to speak fluent Russian. To date, I have a clean record with no formal administrative inquiries and a proven track record of high-level performance. I only mention a few of my accomplishment here, because it is important to establish my credibility as it relates to the matters at hand.

My achievements within the bureau in my attempt to protect the American people did not come without scrutiny and sacrifice. For instance, since joining the bureau, I've moved my family 10 times and served in field offices in the mid-West, East and West Coast. The frequent moves and demanding work schedule put a great deal of stress on my family, which contributed to a divorce. After re-marrying, I now have a mixed family of five children, one of whom has Cerebral Palsy with special needs. I understand sacrifice; yet, I remain steadfast in effort to preserve this great democracy for my children and the betterment of all people. I only tell you these details about my personal life to remind you that we, FBI Agents, are not robots to be used as political cannon fodder and labeled as deep state drones. We are imperfect people who make real sacrifices to protect and serve this country; the vast majority of us are upstanding, accomplished and good people wanting the best for this country.

Now, with all of that said, I will succinctly summarize in general a few selected investigations that I personally worked on and the surrounding events that I directly witnessed. These events occurred while I diligently worked on matters concerning public corruption, organized crime and foreign influence over the past few years during this increasingly politically polarized period of time in our country. Unfortunately, my work culminated in me feeling compelled to file a complaint pursuant to the Protected Federal Whistleblower Statute.

In 2017, around the time when the Mueller Special Counsel investigation was formed with the intent to determine the extent of foreign influence over our politicians and mass media, I transferred to a Global Counterintelligence squad in the Los Angeles Field Office and started specifically focusing on FCI matters involving foreign influence, trans-national organized crime and public corruption. I identified and recruited several confidential informants with high-level direct access to some of the most powerful Russian and Ukrainian oligarchs, individuals in their co-opted trans-national organized criminal networks through which they operate and several U.S. citizens, some of whom were at the center of focus of the Special Counsel investigation. By virtue of the deep access my informants had, I regularly de-conflicted and collaborated closely with designated members of the Special Counsel based in Washington D.C. Through my work as the primary case agent, recruiter and handler of some of the most prolific and sensitive informants in the FBI, I became one of the top Agents working Russia / Ukraine matters specifically related to foreign influence over our elected officials.

From 2017 through 2022, the investigations that my reporting predicated and that I collaborated on with principal case agents had national impact. Some of my original reporting led to the resignation of compromised special agents, sanctioning of some of the most powerful Russian and Ukrainian oligarchs and the prosecution of some of the highest profile

political figures in our nation. My reporting described a vast trans-national criminal network operating at the behest of the Russian government that laundered billions of dollars, much of which flowed through the Russia-occupied Donbas region on the border of Russia and Ukraine. My work predicted and described in detail how the so-called "false flag operation" was developed and executed by operatives under the direction of the Russian Government for the purpose of creating justification for Russia's invasion of Ukraine last year. My original reporting described in detail how billions of dollars were embezzled by corrupt oligarchs from both the Russian and Ukrainian governments and laundered throughout the globe using this network and how hundreds of millions of dollars were laundered from Russia through this network into the U.S. in support an untold number of Russian Intelligence operations.

Federal agents should always investigate articulable and credible allegations of violations of federal criminal statutes with no concern for what side of the political spectrum the alleged perpetrators align themselves with. In my role as an FBI Agent, I have remained true to this expectation and have never provided special favors to anyone in return for money or targeted any entities by virtue of their political affiliation. Due to the high-profile nature of my reporting, my direct management became very uncomfortable with their workload of having to brief executive management about my work and potential liability involved with my high-impact reporting. As a result, I endured intense scrutiny of my work. Following the complaint that I filed, I have been made aware that my management has been unofficially investigating me in an apparent attempt to find derogatory information to be used to remove me from my position and discredit me, to no avail, because I never sold out to anyone.

I always have done what I felt was the right thing to do as an FBI agent. As an example of my evenhanded reporting, my very own informants were the first to provide the U.S. Government, directly through me, detailed supporting documentation concerning Hunter Biden's escapades in Ukraine with Burisma and how he used his position as the vice president's son to get a lucrative position; I collected this information and drafted this original reporting well before Joe Biden became the Democratic Presidential nominee. Because the truth is a double-edged sword, my reporting has made a lot of people angry on both sides of the political spectrum, and I received no fan fair or accolades during this time, from 2020 through 2022. But, I was tasked to collect this information on behalf of the U.S. Government, and I did my job well.

More specifically, I produced multi-source reporting on a Ukrainian oligarch gangster who is a co-opted agent of the Russian Intelligence Service, Pavel Fuks aka Pavlo Fuks. I demonstrated this in detail with my original reporting. Subsequently, Mr. Fuks had his representative, Andrei Telezhenko (now Sanctioned by OFAC) make contacts with U.S. politicians to establish access to our elected officials for Mr. Fuks. After I personally made sure Fuks' U.S. Visa was revoked, I have since submitted a recommendation to add him [Fuks] to OFAC's SDN list. I've tracked this Russian operative for several years; yet, he appears to continue to run his criminal network in Eastern Europe unopposed under the protection of the Russian FSB.

My work related to Fuks helped support OFAC's sanctioning of the most powerful oligarch in Ukraine, Igor Kolomoisky, and the recent Ukrainian state seizure of the largest oil and gas field in Ukraine – UkrnaftaBurenya. My reporting predicated an investigation that described in detail how hundreds of millions of dollars had been laundered into the U.S. from OFAC-sanctioned Russia-based oligarch, Sergei Kurchenko; as of April 2023, this investigation resulted in the indictment of two subjects in Tampa and Miami, Florida, which was announced by the DOJ just



last week. Even though Fuks helped artificially foment racial tensions in Ukraine, which constituted the false flag operation in Ukraine just prior to the war, he remains at large and still not sanctioned, living lavishly from his criminal spoils in the United Kingdom (UK). Why has this individual been an untouchable and my intelligence related to him and the U.S. persons he has been in contact with been suppressed? I think a reasonable person can assess why this is, based on whom he had been in contact with, which I can expand on later.

In late 2019, I received a lead from the White House, through the New York field office, which appeared to be a due diligence attempt to see if one of my key confidential informants ("Dynamo") was an FBI source. This was a concern for me, since Dynamo had direct access to and had reported on individuals connected to the White House. Around this same time, the FBI Headquarters-based Foreign Influence Task Force (FITF) recommended that I close Dynamo as an FBI informant out of their concern he/she had been in contact with agents of disinformation; the recommendation was baseless, as Dynamo had actually provided substantial information to combat and sanction many of these agents of disinformation. In fact, Dynamo was my most prolific and validated informant at that time, with numerous high impact successes related to countering foreign influence and public corruption on both sides of the political spectrum. When the FITF attempted to force closure of Dynamo, I was the Supervisory Special Agent in charge of Los Angeles confidential source policy. Ergo, my position allowed me to successfully argue continued operation of Dynamo. Over the following two years, Dynamo went on to expose vast corruption and Russian counterintelligence operations of epic proportions. It makes me shudder to think of what would have happened if I blindly followed the FITF's first attempt to end Dynamo's confidential relationship with the FBI. This is an example of the perils of centralized investigative oversight.

After my management told me they received a call from an unidentified supervisor in the New York field office who apparently took issue with my reporting and attempt to de-conflict and collaborate concerning overlapping investigative efforts, I was reprimanded for reporting on certain individuals who appeared to be off limits, despite credible allegations of wrongdoings. Around the same time, former Special Agent in Charge (SAC) of Intelligence in New York field office, Charles McGonigall, still had heavy influence over that office. He has since been prosecuted for taking money in return for trying to get sanctions lifted from the Russian oligarch, Oleg Derapaska. Nonetheless, I was dis-incentivized by my management from reporting on foreign influence matters related to specific people and specific matters, even though I had been closely coordinating my work with designated case agents in New York and the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Southern District of New York.

In an apparent effort to suppress and shut down my reporting, my direct management specifically told me, in writing, that I was no longer allowed to do any more reporting related to public corruption and organized criminal matters, even though my reporting was extensively corroborated and predicated a new sensitive investigative matter that exposed two special agents who had been conducting classified data base searches for commercial benefit. Yet, I was reprimanded and defamed by my management for my high impact work. That made no logical sense to me at the time, but I know understand what was going on. My honest reporting was inconvenient and opposed their agenda.

Within a few months leading up to and just following Russia's invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, the FITF, in a much more aggressive manor, again recommended I close Dynamo

and any other informants with any connection to him/her, and there were many other high impact informants of mine in this category, including informants physically located in Ukraine who had predicted Russia's invasion and were continuing to report on relevant events as they unfolded in real-time during the invasion. My management effectively used the FITF as a top cover tool to justify their suppressive actions and forced me to close all of my most prolific informants who were reporting on matters considered inconvenient to their agenda, despite there having been extensive corroboration of illegal activity. These informants took several years for me to identify, recruit, train and vet; yet, they were ordered closed in one fell swoop from a bias and uninformed vein of middle management. I believed, and I still do, that I was mandated to report knowledge of any violation of federal crimes being committed. My management and the FITF were effectively burying their heads in the sand at a time of war and obstructing justice!

Unbelievably, my management specifically, and in writing, forbade me from reporting on public corruption and criminal matters, even while my whistleblower complaint was still active alleging intelligence suppression under the watch of these same managers. I believed, and I still do, this is a form of corruption and obstruction of justice – managers putting their fingers on the scale of an investigating agent's honest pursuit of the truth. This was a conspiracy from within, because it involved collusion of more than just one person. My management then claimed they only wanted me to focus on Russian FCI, for which they admitted that I had 'a unique skill set'. When I explained to them that, based on my more than 10 years of experience working Russian FCI, it is impossible to effectively work Russian FCI in isolation without also reporting on public corruption and organized crime, nobody could argue with my logic while they still forced their bias and arbitrary requirements upon only me and no other agents on my squad.

At a meeting I attended during which the FITF was attempting to suppress my reporting, which had proven to be highly corroborated and successful in blunting foreign influence, the FITF's Section Chief, who is an analyst and not a sworn federal agent and has never attempted to personally develop a confidential informant, told me that I was not the only field agent whom they were asking to close their informants. I held my tongue during the meeting, but I was horrified that they admitted there was a national suppressive effort supported by the FITF. The FITF claimed they relied on information from NSA, which claimed to have collected relevant signal intelligence information, but they refused to share it with me despite me asking to review it, notwithstanding my apparent need to know and possessing the same level of security clearance (TS-SCI). I pointed out to them that their collections had no insider source context, and my reporting actually did. This made no difference to them, and they even admitted they had no evidence of any wrongdoing and no example of any false information provided by my informants. Inexcusably, this was at a time of war when solicitations from FBI Headquarters had been disseminated to all FBI agents requesting reporting on Russia / Ukraine matters!

I thought to myself, either this was an incompetent management structure representing the ultimate example of risk aversion that rendered our intelligence collection efforts useless at a time of war, or the FITF was subverted and being used as a tool to justify a politically biased management's effort to suppress reporting that they considered unsavory or opposed to their preferred political faction or agenda. In spite of me expressing my concerns to my management and the FBI Inspection Division pursuant to my whistleblower complaint alleging political bias, I was mandated to close all of my sources.

When I was at my wits end, on January 7, 2022, I filed a protected federal whistleblower complaint. My complaint documented in detail what I believe to be political bias among certain managers in my direct chain of command. It described how biased middle managers selectively suppressed my intelligence reporting on public corruption allegations at a time when I was reporting on matters of the highest national interest. After filing my complaint, the selective suppression of my intelligence reporting intensified and I experienced bitter retaliation in a blatant violation of my protected status under the federal whistleblower statute. Even now, I continue to work on a squad I was forcibly moved to, which does not allow me to do any original source reporting, except for daily physical surveillance logs. That is when I realized the internal controls of the FBI – the Inspection Division that is supposed to work hand in hand with the Inspector General (IG) of the Department of Justice (DOJ) – are compromised, which means the entire agency is compromised and vulnerable to subversion by a few biased people placed in key positions.

As required pursuant to the whistleblower statute, I reported this illegal suppression, retaliation and discrimination against me. When they could not block my reporting and hide its significance, they did what they could to defame and undercut my character by encumbering me with additional administrative burdens in excess of what my direct peers had to comply with. They carefully kept my situation off of the radar by not levying any formal administrative proceedings against me, because I was careful enough to avoid making any major administrative mistakes. My reporting of suppressive acts, retaliation and character defamation that occurred following the submission of my complaint went on for a year, while I still found a way to do my work for the sake of our country, dodging the many traps set for me and encumbrances that my direct management concocted to suppress my reporting.

Much to my dismay, despite the detailed supporting documentation in my update reports that I submitted contemporaneously to the FBI's Inspection Division, to my knowledge, not a single measurable inquiry or action was ever taken, not even a phone call or an honest interview of me and the involved parties was conducted. Instead, the biased individuals chiefly responsible for this pattern of suppression, retaliation and discrimination were given rewards and promoted to higher positions, which emboldened and empowered them to sabotage my career further and send me to a position that required me to drive an additional four hours per day, be continuously in the field and only have two administrative days in the office per month, which, by their apparent design, would not allow me any time to write any more reports or work any more informants. This was in fact a clandestine assassination of my professional career.

A punitive non-voluntary squad transfer was forced on me within weeks after my politically biased manager was promoted to a position that gave him the authority to do this unilaterally, notwithstanding the fact that the whistleblower statute specifically lists punitive transfers as a prohibited act by a bias party named in the complaint. I reported this fact to the Inspection Division and the Assistant Director in Charge of LA, but nothing was done to stop it. This is the same manager mentioned in my complaint as having committed politically biased suppression of my reporting; he effectively made it physically impossible for me to do any more intelligence reporting and also be present at home long enough to care for my family and my special needs daughter. This devastated my whole family, and I made sure in writing that he was well aware of this. This person was the Acting Special Agent In Charge (A/SAC) of the Intelligence Division of the LA Field Office – the same position former SAC McGonagall held in the New York field office, who was recently indicted for acts he committed during the same time frame I was being suppressed for my own intelligence reporting in Los Angeles. Due to the blatant violation

of my protected status as a whistleblower and the clandestine (unofficial) assassination of my established career as one of the top Russian counterintelligence Agents in the country, I had no choice but to file an Equal Opportunity Employment (EEO) complaint for which I had to hire an attorney.

When I heard former Special Agent Nicole Parker's testimony a few months ago, I was shaken, and I knew I also had to speak out in a more overt way than I previously had done through my official complaints. This is because she described the division of the criminal and national security branches of the FBI and how certain factions have figured out how to subvert and weaponize the intelligence being collected and retained by the agency. I realized that having worked on the intelligence side of the bureau, my situation was almost certainly worse than Mrs. Parker's nightmare she experienced, yet, she courageously led the way by proactively leaving the agency when she realized she was no longer the Agent they wanted her to be. I have experienced this same attack. Nevertheless, I continue to persist from within, because the FBI is all we have to hold back the floodgates of corruption, and I still have hope that perhaps telling my story can effect positive reform to ensure that what happened to me doesn't continue to happen to other agents.

In summary, the internal regulatory controls within the FBI have been compromised by political bias; this is significant, given this agency is chiefly responsible for holding back the floodgates of corruption. I believe in truth, however deep it cuts, and the FBI is the agency charged with finding out the truth and protecting Americans. My experience is a story about harmful, selective intelligence suppression, honestly reporting these bias and suppressive acts through designated channels and then experiencing retaliation and character assassination as a result. When I reported the blatant violation of my protected status under the law, I was muzzled while those corrupted managers were promoted and rewarded. To my horror, I realized this meant my stressful experience was much bigger than just me, it meant the entire FBI was compromised, which could lead to the fall of this modern day Rome, if reform is not enacted.

To close, it is important to note that I am writing this draft statement on 04/20, which is Holocaust Remembrance Day observed within the FBI. It is serendipitous that upon graduation from the FBI Academy, my class of new special agents was taken to the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. The message was that the FBI is the only agency that works public corruption and holds individuals entrusted with the most powerful positions accountable to the same laws as any other citizen. What happened in Germany in WWII was illegal according to German law; the holocaust happened as a result of the unwillingness of law enforcement officers to hold accountable the individuals who usurped power illegally and committed the most terrible atrocities.

The usurpers in Germany didn't seize unchecked power for themselves all at once overtly; it happened bit by bit through the process of ideological subversion that played out in popular culture and in secret until the German people were carefully eased into a hellish situation. I say this because this country in recent years has been following a similar pattern of not holding our elected officials to the same level of accountability as any other citizen. My effort to hold those accountable was met with selective suppression of intelligence driven by the personal political bias of middle managers. Most importantly, when I reported these matters through appropriate and designated channels, I experienced the most bitter retaliation, discrimination and false character attacks.

I present myself for the purpose of fulfilling my duty to serve my country. I am willing to testify under oath and in detail to the information in this document and to my full experience as a Special Agent of the FBI. I ask the House Select Subcommittee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government to allow my full testimony and to depose me to the fullest extent.

Respectfully Submitted,



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