

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

June 26, 2025

The Honorable Rand Paul  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Homeland  
Security and Governmental Affairs  
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Gary Peters  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Homeland  
Security and Governmental Affairs  
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Paul and Senator Peters:

We write with grave concern regarding President Trump’s nomination of Paul Ingrassia to lead the U.S. Office of Special Counsel (OSC). The OSC plays a critical role in defending federal whistleblowers and ensuring that ethics laws—including the Hatch Act—are enforced without fear or favor across presidential administrations. It is an independent guardian of accountability within the executive branch. Mr. Ingrassia’s loyalty to Donald Trump over the Constitution, his calls for imposing martial law and celebrating violent January 6th insurrectionists, and his close associations with antisemitic extremists all make it clear that he lacks the temperament, experience, and fundamental constitutional fidelity required to lead this office.<sup>1</sup> He is not simply unqualified—his confirmation would pose a direct threat to federal whistleblowers, the credibility of the OSC, and the integrity of our oversight institutions.

Mr. Ingrassia is unfit to serve as special counsel and his nomination is insulting to the American people. Although President Trump claims that Mr. Ingrassia is “a highly respected attorney and Constitutional Scholar,”<sup>2</sup> he graduated from law school just three years ago. Mr. Ingrassia was dismissed from his first Administration job after mere weeks. He proved unpalatable even to Attorney General Pam Bondi and her staff, who pushed him out of a role at the Department of Justice (DOJ). He described his DOJ role as serving as President Trump’s “eyes and ears” at the DOJ and ensuring that only candidates with “exceptional loyalty” to President Trump were hired.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Trump Nominates a Former Far-Right Podcast Host to Head an Ethics Watchdog*, New York Times (May 29, 2025) (online at [www.nytimes.com/2025/05/29/us/politics/ingrassia-office-special-counsel.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2025/05/29/us/politics/ingrassia-office-special-counsel.html)).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> *Trump Nominates Former Podcast Host with History of Inflammatory Comments for Top Ethics Job*, NBC News (May 30, 2025) (online at [www.nbcnews.com/politics/trump-administration/trump-nominates-former-podcast-host-history-inflammatory-comments-top-rcna210041](https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/trump-administration/trump-nominates-former-podcast-host-history-inflammatory-comments-top-rcna210041)); *Trump Taps Extreme Jan. 6 Apologist for Key Watchdog Role. That Won’t End Well.*, MSNBC (June 2, 2025) (online at [www.msnbc.com/opinion/msnbc-opinion/trump-jan-6-podcast-paul-ingrassia-job-senate-rcna210246](https://www.msnbc.com/opinion/msnbc-opinion/trump-jan-6-podcast-paul-ingrassia-job-senate-rcna210246)); *Trump Nominates a Former Far-Right Podcast Host to Head an Ethics Watchdog*, New York Times (May 29, 2025) (online at [www.nytimes.com/2025/05/29/us/politics/ingrassia-office-special-counsel.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2025/05/29/us/politics/ingrassia-office-special-counsel.html)).

Mr. Ingrassia has made clear his disdain for the Constitution and the rule of law. In 2020, he called for martial law to overturn a free and fair democratic election—an authoritarian impulse that alone should disqualify him from any position of public trust.<sup>4</sup> He advocated for not only presidential pardons of the January 6th defendants, but also for \$1 million per family in reparations to those who beat police officers and attacked the Capitol.<sup>5</sup> Mr. Ingrassia also urged Congress to make January 6 a national holiday in order to commemorate the day “as a peaceful protest against a great injustice affecting our electoral system.”<sup>6</sup> He called for President Trump to “expressly name, in a public proclamation, any judge and prosecutor involved in the J6 scam – and call on them to resign from their offices, and pressure Congress to undertake impeachment proceedings against them if they do not cooperate.”<sup>7</sup>

Mr. Ingrassia has aligned himself with extremist ideologies and openly admired Nick Fuentes—a rabidly antisemitic right-wing leader, Holocaust denier, and white nationalist.<sup>8</sup> He is closely associated with Andrew Tate, a man who the Anti-Defamation League described as spouting “unabashedly antisemitic rhetoric, perpetuating Holocaust revisionism, spreading conspiracy theories about Israel, praising Hamas, performing Nazi salutes and encouraging people to embrace and openly engage in racism,” and who was also charged with rape and sex trafficking in multiple countries.<sup>9</sup> Mr. Ingrassia has repeatedly lauded Mr. Tate as “an extraordinary human being” and “the embodiment of the ancient ideal of excellence.”<sup>10</sup>

If confirmed, Mr. Ingrassia will be leading an office responsible for enforcing the Hatch Act—a law that Trump Administration officials have a history of violating. During President Trump’s first term, the OSC found that 13 of President Trump’s aides, including his son-in-law and chief of staff, campaigned illegally for his reelection in violation of the Hatch Act.<sup>11</sup> It is hard to imagine a nominee less likely to enforce the Hatch Act in a fair and even-handed way if an investigation implicated anyone close to the Trump Administration.

He would also be in charge of protecting the rights of whistleblowers whom Congress and the American people depend on to report waste, fraud, and abuse in the federal government.

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<sup>4</sup> *Trump taps right-wing lawyer to head U.S. Office of Special Counsel*, Washington Post (May 30, 2025) (online at [www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2025/05/29/paul-ingrassia-special-counsel-trump/](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2025/05/29/paul-ingrassia-special-counsel-trump/)).

<sup>5</sup> *Trump Taps Extreme Jan. 6 Apologist for Key Watchdog Role. That Won’t End Well.*, MSNBC (June 2, 2025) (online at [www.msnbc.com/opinion/msnbc-opinion/trump-jan-6-podcast-paul-ingrassia-job-senate-rcna210246](https://www.msnbc.com/opinion/msnbc-opinion/trump-jan-6-podcast-paul-ingrassia-job-senate-rcna210246)).

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> *Multiple Trump White House Officials Have Ties to Antisemitic Extremists*, NPR (May 14, 2025) (online at [www.npr.org/2025/05/14/nx-s1-5387299/trump-white-house-antisemitism](https://www.npr.org/2025/05/14/nx-s1-5387299/trump-white-house-antisemitism)).

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

<sup>10</sup> *Id.*; *Trump Appoints Paul Ingrassia, Staffer Linked to Nick Fuentes and Andrew Tate, to Senior Federal Watchdog Role*, Forward (May 30, 2025) (online at <https://forward.com/fast-forward/724429/trump-appoints-paul-ingrassia-staffer-linked-to-nick-fuentes-and-andrew-tate-to-senior-federal-watchdog-role>).

<sup>11</sup> *Trump Officials Illegally Campaigned While in Office, Watchdog Finds*, New York Times (Nov. 9, 2025) (online at [www.nytimes.com/2021/11/09/us/politics/trump-officials-illegal-campaigning.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/11/09/us/politics/trump-officials-illegal-campaigning.html)).

Our democracy depends on these whistleblowers. Their testimony and courage have been essential to exposing corruption and abuses of power that would otherwise remain in the shadows. When whistleblowers come forward, they are speaking truth to power. They do so at great personal risk to bring transparency where secrecy and misconduct might otherwise prevail. Yet Mr. Ingrassia has time and again made clear that he is blindly loyal to the President—a view that is utterly disqualifying for any position of public trust, but particularly one charged with defending the rights of whistleblowers.

Mr. Ingrassia's nomination is not about restoring integrity. It is part of a concerted effort by President Trump to traumatize the federal workforce and consolidate unchecked power. It emerges from a broader effort by this Administration to impose ideological purity tests in which devotion to one individual matters more than fidelity to the Constitution and to the American people. President Trump wants to appoint Mr. Ingrassia because he knows that this nominee will treat treasonous, secessionist rhetoric as acceptable political discourse; reward extremism instead of condemning it; and work to tear down, not build up, the democratic institutions we have sworn to protect. The ultimate victims of Mr. Ingrassia's installation as special counsel would be the brave civil servant whistleblowers, the credibility of the federal workforce and civil servants, and the American people they serve.

The OSC must not become a tool for authoritarianism, but must remain a bulwark against the corruption, chaos, and cruelty that has become the hallmark of this Administration. As Senators charged with the responsibility of evaluating and confirming President Trump's nominee to OSC, you must reject this extreme nomination.



Robert Garcia  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Oversight  
and Government Reform



Jamie Raskin  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Chairman  
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

The Honorable Jim Jordan, Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary