Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

November 18, 2026

Mr. Scott A. Barshay
Chairman
Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP
1285 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10019

Dear Mr. Barshay:

We write about our ongoing investigation into President Donald Trump's assault on constitutional rights and the rule of law since he took office in January 2025. As part of that investigation, we are examining the President's abuse of executive authority to punish law firms for representing disfavored causes and individuals and to compel firms to provide free legal services to his Administration and organizations or interests favored by the President. The information and records we seek are necessary to determine the circumstances surrounding the agreements reached between law firms and the White House, as well as the potential implications of those arrangements for the independence and integrity of the legal profession, the administration of justice, and fundamental constitutional rights.

We have recently received substantial and profoundly troubling information that this corrupt bargain went much further than originally understood. Kirkland & Ellis LLP provided at least $11.8 million in free legal services to numerous federal agencies and entities engaged in questionable activities, including approximately $4 million to the U.S. Department of Commerce, $2.2 million to the U.S. Department of Defense, $1.6 million to the U.S. Postal Service, $2 million to the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation, and $1.8 million to represent an investment entity negotiated between the Trump Administration and Japan to create a $550 billion slush fund. The Trump Administration also unsuccessfully tried to involve Kirkland & Ellis in work supporting the President's political vanity projects, such as the renaming of the Kennedy Center or supporting the illegal construction of his triumphal arch in Washington, DC—raising serious questions of whether other firms acceded to these demands.[1]

As you know, we previously wrote to Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP (Paul, Weiss) on April 6, 2025, April 10, 2025, and September 24, 2025, seeking records and information related to the firm's reported $40 million agreement with President Trump, which was announced by the President on Truth Social on March 20, 2025. Paul, Weiss's responses, dated April 14, 2025, and October 7, 2025, failed to meaningfully address any of our requests. To date, Paul, Weiss has also failed to produce a single responsive record related to its agreement with the White House.

[1] Information on file with the Committees.

Accordingly, Paul, Weiss has failed to comply with the requests for records and information set forth in our prior correspondence, copies of which are enclosed for your reference. We expect that Paul, Weiss will produce all responsive materials—which your firm has now had over a year and half to compile and prepare—and provide all requested information to our offices no later than 5:00 p.m. on December 16, 2026.

We also ask that you provide all information responsive to the priority request below by 5:00 p.m. on December 2, 2026:

1. Records sufficient to show all requests for free or discounted legal services you have received from the White House, any executive branch agency, or any public or private associate of the President since entering into an agreement with the White House, including the nature of such request, the identity of the individual requesting the services, the services your firm has agreed to provide, and the hours and billable value of any services provided.

We appreciate your prompt attention to this serious matter and look forward to your response.

Very truly yours,

Jamie Raskin
Ranking Member
House Committee on the Judiciary

Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator
Ranking Member, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

Adam B. Schiff
United States Senator

Encl.

cc: The Honorable Jim Jordan, Chairman
House Committee on the Judiciary

The Honorable Ron Johnson, Chairman
Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations