

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

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June 22, 2021

Mr. Mark Bialek
Inspector General, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve and
Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
20th Street and Constitution Avenue NW
Mail Stop K-300
Washington, DC 20551

Dear Inspector General Bialek:

I am writing with extreme concern at recent reports the Biden Administration is targeting certain career civil servants in positions at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, and I ask for your immediate investigation.

According to a recent press report, CFPB has “offered separation incentives including early retirement and launched investigations into career senior executives to sideline them, targeting about a half-dozen of the highest-ranked non-political staffers at the bureau.”¹

After the baseless rhetoric regarding President Trump’s supposed efforts to create a patronage system² and to damage the federal workforce,³ this stands out as a monument to hypocrisy. Purging career employees who happened to serve under a previous administration specifically because they served under the previous administration could not be more counter to merit-system protection principles.

Given the severity of these allegations, please confirm you intend to investigate them by June 29, 2021.

¹ Eric Katz, *Biden Employs Aggressive Strategy to Sideline Top Career Officials at Consumer Protection Bureau* (June 14, 2021) available at <https://www.govexec.com/management/2021/06/biden-employs-aggressive-strategy-sideline-top-career-officials-consumer-protection-bureau/174711>

² Nicole Ogrysko, *New House bill would block future administrations from using Schedule F, or anything else like it* (January 14, 2021) available at <https://federalnewsnetwork.com/workforce/2021/01/new-house-bill-would-block-future-administrations-from-using-schedule-f-or-anything-else-like-it/>

³ Nicole Ogrysko, *Schedule F is gone, but the debate continues in Congress* (February 24, 2021) available at <https://federalnewsnetwork.com/workforce/2021/02/schedule-f-is-gone-but-the-debate-continues-in-congress/>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jody Hice". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jody Hice
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Government Operations

cc: The Honorable Gerald Connolly, Chairman, Subcommittee on Government Operations