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**United States Senate**  
COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND  
URBAN AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6075

June 17, 2021

Mr. Dave Uejio  
Acting Director  
Consumer Financial Protection Bureau  
1700 G Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20552

Dear Acting Director Uejio:

According to press reports, the political leadership of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) under the Biden administration has been taking unusual and possibly unlawful actions to push out top-level career civil servants at the CFPB in order to fill those civil service positions with hand-picked loyalists.<sup>1</sup> Such actions reportedly include offering employees extraordinary separation incentives to leave their posts and placing employees on administrative leave after opening up frivolous investigations against them—allegations that, if true, may violate employment and other laws.<sup>2</sup> Moreover, the CFPB notably declined to deny any of the detailed allegations in the report.<sup>3</sup>

In light of the seriousness of the allegations in this report, as well as the implication that these actions may have been undertaken to provide the administration's nominee for Director of the CFPB, Rohit Chopra, with the opportunity to hire a hand-picked team of loyalists for senior positions in the event that he is confirmed, I request that you provide complete answers to the following questions by no later than 10 a.m. on June 21, 2021:

1. Has the CFPB taken any steps between January 20, 2021, and the present to push out, replace, or encourage any career CFPB employees to leave their positions?
  - a. If so, what specific steps have been taken to push out, replace, or encourage career CFPB employees to leave their positions, and at whose direction were they taken?

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

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

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

- b. Have you or any other CFPB officials discussed with Mr. Chopra any plan or decision to push out, replace, or encourage any career CFPB employees to leave their positions?
2. Has the CFPB between January 20, 2021, and the present offered any career CFPB employees separation incentives to leave their positions?
  - a. If so, please provide a comprehensive list of all career CFPB employees offered separation incentives to leave their positions (identified by their position title) and the specific terms of the separation incentives they were offered.
  - b. Have you or any other CFPB officials discussed with Mr. Chopra any plan or decision to offer career CFPB employees separation incentives to leave their positions?
3. Has the CFPB between January 20, 2021, and the present opened an investigation into any career CFPB employee at the Associate Director or Assistant Director level?
  - a. If so, please provide a comprehensive list of all such individuals (identified by their titles) and the reason for opening the investigation.
  - b. Have you or any other CFPB officials discussed with Mr. Chopra any plan or decision to open an investigation into any career CFPB employees at the Associate Director or Assistant Director level?
4. Has the CFPB between January 20, 2021, and the present placed any career CFPB employees at the Associate Director or Assistant Director level on administrative leave?
  - a. If so, please provide a comprehensive list of all such individuals (identified by their titles) and the reason for placing them on administrative leave.
  - b. Have you or any other CFPB officials discussed with Mr. Chopra any plan or decision to place any career CFPB employees at the Associate Director or Assistant Director level on administrative leave?

In addition, to allow me and other members of the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee to fully evaluate this matter, I request that you provide the following records<sup>4</sup> by no later June 24, 2021:

1. All records created or generated between January 20, 2021, and the present relating to any effort to force out, replace, or encourage any career CFPB employees to leave their positions;

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<sup>4</sup> The term “records” means any written, recorded, or graphic matter of any nature whatsoever, regardless of how recorded or preserved, and whether original or copy.

2. All records created or generated between January 20, 2021, and the present relating to the offering of any separation incentives to any career CFPB employees to leave their positions;
3. All records created or generated between January 20, 2021, and the present relating to the opening of any investigation against a career CFPB employee at the Assistant Director level or above;
4. All records created or generated between January 20, 2021, and the present relating to the placement of any career CFPB employee at the Assistant Director level or above on administrative leave; and
5. All records created or generated between January 20, 2021, and the present relating to the separation or retirement of any career CFPB employee at the Assistant Director level or above.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Pat Toomey  
Ranking Member

cc: The Honorable Sherrod Brown, Chairman, Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs