

March 13, 2017

The Honorable Joon H. Kim
Deputy U.S. Attorney
Southern District of New York
One St. Andrew's Plaza
New York, NY 10007

Dear Deputy U.S. Attorney Kim,

Democracy 21, Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW) and the Campaign Legal Center are writing to you in your new capacity as acting head of the office of the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York.

In light of the firing of U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara this past weekend, we are submitting to you in your new capacity the enclosed letter that our organizations sent to Mr. Bharara on March 8, 2017.

Our letter set forth facts on the public record that present a powerful case that The Trump Organization and related Trump business entities have received payments or other financial benefits from foreign governments that benefit President Donald Trump, as owner of the businesses, and that do not comply with the Constitution's "Foreign Emoluments Clause."

Our letter called on the Southern District office to conduct an investigation of these matters and to take whatever steps maybe necessary against The Trump Organization and related Trump businesses to prevent them from serving as a vehicle for foreign governments to provide payments or other financial benefits that benefit President Trump in violation of the Emoluments Clause.

Our letter stated that The Trump Organization has its headquarters in the Southern District of New York and, therefore, in under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York.

Since we sent our letter last week, published reports have stated that China has granted a new valuable financial benefit to President Trump's businesses in the form of "preliminary approval for at least 38 Trump trademarks for businesses ranging from hotels and spas to animal training and weather forecasting. . . ." ¹ This is an additional matter that should be examined.

¹ S. Denyer, "China grants Trump 38 trademarks, reopening debate about conflicts of interest," *The Washington Post* (March 9, 2017).

Preet Bharara and the office of the U.S. Attorney the Southern District have long been known for their independent, nonpartisan approach to law enforcement and for their willingness to follow the facts wherever they lead.

We urge you to continue this longstanding approach in dealing with The Trump Organization matter we have submitted to your office.

In this light, our organizations call on you as Deputy U.S. Attorney and as acting head of the Southern District office to expeditiously pursue an investigation of The Trump Organization and related Trump business entities. We urge you to take whatever steps are necessary to prevent these business entities from serving as a vehicle for illegal Emoluments provided by foreign governments to benefit President Trump.

We also urge you to inform the public if any efforts are made to impede or block an investigation or action of this matter by the Justice Department or the White House.

Respectfully,

/s/ Fred Wertheimer

Fred Wertheimer
President
Democracy 21

/s/ Norman L. Eisen

Ambassador (ret.) Norman L. Eisen, Chair
Richard Painter, Vice Chair
Noah Bookbinder, Executive Director
Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in
Washington

/s/ Paul M. Smith

Paul M. Smith
Vice President of Litigation and Strategy
Campaign Legal Center

