

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
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September 14, 2022

The Honorable Christopher A. Wray
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Director Wray:

On July 27, 2022, we wrote to you about whistleblower disclosures that FBI officials were pressuring agents to reclassify cases as “domestic violent extremism” (DVEs) even if the cases do not meet the criteria for such a classification.¹ You have failed to acknowledge our letter or even begin to respond substantively. Since our letter, new publicly available information and additional protected whistleblower disclosures suggest the FBI’s actions are far more pervasive than previously known.

On August 2, 2022, a media organization obtained a copy, which new whistleblower disclosures have authenticated, of the FBI’s “Domestic Terrorism Symbols Guide” on “Militia Violent Extremists” (MVEs).² The FBI’s document included symbols like “2A” and states that “MVEs justify their existence with the Second Amendment, due to the mention of a ‘well regulated Militia,’ as well as the right to bear arms.”³ The document also includes “commonly referenced historical imagery or quotes,” like the “Betsy Ross Flag” and the “Gadsden Flag,” as symbols of so-called terrorists.⁴ Additionally, the FBI document includes a section labeled “symbols of militia networks some MVEs may self-identify with,” and describes one group, called American Contingency, as “[m]ainstream media, nationwide, mostly online activity, low history of violence.”⁵ American Contingency is a company founded by former U.S. servicemember Mike Glover, who has publicly rejected the FBI’s accusations that he is a

¹ Letter from Jim Jordan, Ranking Member, H. Comm. on the Judiciary, to Christopher A. Wray, Dir., Fed. Bureau of Investigation (July 27, 2022).

² Press Release, *FBI Whistleblower LEAKS Bureau’s ‘Domestic Terrorism Symbols Guide’ on ‘Militia Violent Extremists’ Citing Ashli Babbitt as MVE Martyr*, PROJECT VERITAS (Aug. 2, 2022). The FBI document states “[t]he use or sharing of these symbols should not independently be considered evidence of MVE presence or affiliation or serve as an indicator of illegal activity, as many individuals use these symbols for their original, historic meaning, or other non-violent purposes.” *Id.*

³ *Id.*

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ *Id.*

terrorist and has described American Contingency’s charitable work on behalf of communities devastated by natural disasters.⁶

The FBI’s recent characterization of American Contingency as a DVE organization is striking in light of new whistleblower disclosures that show that the FBI had concluded as recently as 2020 that the group was not a threat. According to whistleblower information, in July 2020, an FBI employee in northern Virginia flagged American Contingency as a “domestic terrorist group” because Glover “appears to be rallying individuals to ‘take action’” and “speaks about his distaste for how the government is handling the current situations in the US and encourages people to ‘join’ his cause.” Notes made in the FBI’s e-Guardian incident reporting system, reflected below, show how the FBI rifled through Glover’s life—obtaining his military records, his veteran’s disability rating, and even his monthly disability benefit—before concluding that American Contingency “desires to assist Americans in preparing themselves for catastrophic events and not to overthrow the United States Government. A background investigation and review of Glover’s social media failed to support the allegation that Glover is a threat to the United States or its citizens.”

Authorized	Administrative note for informational purposes.
Method:	
Description:	Glover is a decorated Veteran of the United States. His videos posted on Youtube.com and his military record attest to his patriotism for the United States. Glover desires to assist Americans in preparing themselves for catastrophic events and not to overthrow the United States Government. A background investigation and review of Glover's social media failed to support the allegation that Glover is a threat to the United States or its citizens. Therefore, it is requested captioned lead be closed for information only.
Status:	Completed
History:	
	08/26/2020 12:09:42 PM Created Note: Request lead be closed for information only

This whistleblower information suggests that the FBI opened an investigation into an American citizen—and deemed him a potential “threat”—simply because he exercised his First Amendment right to speak out in protest of the government. As the whistleblower commented:

It doesn’t take a First Amendment scholar to realize what is protected speech and what isn’t It seems clear that this is an instance where an FBI employee reported something because it didn’t align with their own woke ideology. . . . I think this is a primary example of how woke and corrupt the FBI has become.

Even after the FBI determined in 2020 that American Contingency was not a threat, the FBI still labeled the group as a violent extremist group in an official FBI alert. This disclosure comports with other whistleblowers who have described how the FBI is pressuring its employees to

⁶ American Contingency, <https://www.americancontingency.com/> (last accessed Aug. 18, 2022). The FieldCraft Survival Channel, I am NOT a terrorist, YouTube (Aug. 4, 2022), <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p4JBDCn7YFo>. See also American Contingency, How We Got Here, <https://www.americancontingency.com/how-we-got-here/> (last visited Aug. 18, 2022).

recharacterize cases as DVE cases to artificially pad its data and advance a misleading political narrative.

This whistleblower information further reinforces our concerns—about which we have written to you several times—about the FBI’s politicization. One whistleblower described the level of politicization within the FBI’s leadership as “rotted at its core.” As we have detailed, multiple whistleblowers have disclosed how the Biden FBI is conducting a “purge” of FBI employees holding conservative views. You have ignored these concerns and instead suggested the FBI is above any criticism or accountability.⁷ The front-line men and women of the FBI—many of whom have come forward as whistleblowers—deserve our respect and gratitude. But the FBI leadership in Washington is in desperate need of accountability and reform.

To inform our ongoing oversight of the FBI, please provide the following documents and information:

1. All documents and communications referring or relating to the FBI’s Domestic Terrorism Symbols Guide on Militia Violent Extremism, for the period of January 1, 2020, to the present; and
2. A full and complete explanation as to why the FBI’s Domestic Terrorism Strategic Unit did not include symbols, images, phrases, events, and individuals about left-wing violent extremists’ group in the FBI’s Domestic Terrorism Symbols Guide.

Please provide this information as soon as possible, but no later than 5:00 p.m. on September 28, 2022. In addition, our earlier requests made in the July 27 letter remain outstanding, and we once more reiterate these requests. We remind you that whistleblower disclosures to Congress are protected by law and that we will not tolerate any effort to retaliate against whistleblowers for their disclosures.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan
Ranking Member

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler, Chairman

⁷ Email from the Hon. Christopher A Wray, Dir., Fed. Bureau of Investigation (Aug. 11, 2022 2:26 PM). (“There has been a lot of commentary about the FBI this week questioning our work and motives. Much of it is from critics and pundits on the outside who don’t know what we know and don’t see what we see.”)