

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

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<https://oversight.house.gov>

September 22, 2020

The Honorable William P. Barr  
Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Barr:

I write to request a classified, Member-level briefing regarding investigations into, and intelligence of, “anti-fascist” activists and violence caused during the nationwide demonstrations over the past three months. Some of these activists have harmed hundreds of federal officers and damaged federal property.<sup>1</sup>

As you know, rioters have created chaos in Portland, Oregon for over 100 days.<sup>2</sup> This has resulted in the death of one person who was allegedly murdered by an Antifa supporter.<sup>3</sup> Additionally, rioters around the county have damaged post offices<sup>4</sup> and other federal property, including monuments in Lafayette Square Park across from the White House.<sup>5</sup> These rioters have also injured hundreds of federal police officers, including over 60 Secret Service officers protecting the White House.<sup>6</sup>

The incidents of rioting and violence around the country have not been random events. At a Senate subcommittee hearing last month a U.S. attorney you appointed to lead a task force on violent anti-government extremists testified the FBI “has opened more than 300 domestic

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<sup>1</sup> Marisa Schultz, *FBI has opened 300 ‘domestic terror’ investigations as a result of riots, attorney tells Capitol hearing on Antifa*, FOXNEWS, Aug. 4, 2020, available at <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/fbi-300-domestic-terror-investigations-antifa>.

<sup>2</sup> Jon Dougherty, *Leaked DHS email say Antifa is not loose confederation but ‘organized’ group*, BUSINESS & POLITICS REVIEW, Sept. 15, 2020, available at <https://www.bizpacreview.com/2020/09/15/leaked-dhs-email-says-antifa-is-not-loose-confederation-but-organized-group-972823>.

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

<sup>4</sup> Henry Pan, *What comes next for south Minneapolis’ recently destroyed post offices?*, MINN POST, Jun 10, 2020 available at <https://www.minnpost.com/metro/2020/06/what-comes-next-for-south-minneapolis-recently-destroyed-post-offices/>.

<sup>5</sup> Edmund DeMarche, *Trump issues warning amid vandalism, effort to topple Andrew Jackson statue in Lafayette Square Park*, FOX NEWS, Jun. 23, 2020, available at <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/trump-issues-warning-amid-vandalism-effort-to-topple-andrew-jackson-statue-in-lafayette-square-park>.

<sup>6</sup> [https://www.cnn.com/us/live-news/george-floyd-protests-05-31-20/h\\_cb459ab077b164295d8d61d80987e3fb](https://www.cnn.com/us/live-news/george-floyd-protests-05-31-20/h_cb459ab077b164295d8d61d80987e3fb)

terrorism investigations.”<sup>7</sup> Additionally, according to recently released emails from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Antifa is not a loosely structured organization, but instead is centrally organized.<sup>8</sup> This raises serious concerns about a concerted effort to harm federal officers and damage federal property.

The astonishing number of FBI investigations and DHS’s conclusion that the rioters are a structured organization raise questions about how these activities are coordinated around the country, how these “anti-fascist” groups are communicating with one another, what, if any, underlying funding apparatus are in place to support these riotous activities, and impacts to federal personnel and property as a result of Antifa rioting.

Please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-5074 to schedule this briefing by September 29, 2020. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this matter.

Sincerely,



Jody Hice  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Government Operations

cc: The Honorable Gerald Connolly, Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Government Operations

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<sup>7</sup> Schultz, *supra* note 1.

<sup>8</sup> Dougherty, *supra* note 2.