10 August 2018

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-0504

Dear Ranking Member Feinstein:

Thank you for your letter of August 6, 2018, requesting that I reconsider the position set forth in my August 2, 2018, letter to Minority Leader Schumer concerning NARA’s interpretation of and practice under section 2205(2)(C) of the Presidential Records Act (PRA), 44 U.S.C. § 2205(2)(C).

As discussed in my letter to the Minority Leader, we sought further legal guidance on this issue from the Department of Justice, and DOJ confirmed our legal interpretation of section 2205(2)(C). My August 2 letter also noted NARA’s longstanding and consistent practice of responding only to requests from committee chairs under this section.

Accordingly, I am not in a position to change our understanding of the law or our practice in this particular instance.

Sincerely,

David S. Ferriero
The Archivist of the United States

cc: The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary