



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 25, 2022

Debra Steidel Wall
Acting Archivist of the United States
National Archives and Records Administration
700 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20408

Dear Ms. Wall:

I write in response to your communication of March 22, 2022, informing us that former President Trump has made claims of executive privilege with regard to a subset of documents requested by the House Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol (the “Select Committee”) that you provided to the White House for review on March 7, 2022. You have requested President Biden’s views with respect to the disclosure of those documents to the Committee and on the former President’s claims of privilege.

As I have previously noted, the White House has reached an accommodation with the Select Committee to prioritize documents related to certain custodians. Identifying numbers for the prioritized documents in this set have been provided by my staff. I understand that NARA has determined that some of these prioritized records, including some records subject to the former President’s assertion of executive privilege, are not responsive to the Select Committee’s request and therefore NARA has removed them from the notification. Additionally, there are some records within the prioritized set for which the White House has not yet completed its review. Identifying numbers for those records have been provided by my staff as well.

As to the remaining prioritized records, President Biden has considered the former President’s claims, and I have engaged in consultations with the Office of Legal Counsel at the Department of Justice. The President has determined that an assertion of executive privilege is not in the best interests of the United States, and therefore is not justified. As I wrote in my letter to you on October 8, 2021:

[T]he insurrection that took place on January 6, and the extraordinary events surrounding it, must be subject to a full accounting to ensure nothing similar ever happens again. Congress has a compelling need in service of its legislative functions to understand the circumstances that led to . . . the most serious attack on

the operations of the Federal Government since the Civil War. . . . Constitutional protections of executive privilege should not be used to shield, from Congress or the public, information that reflects a clear and apparent effort to subvert the Constitution itself.

Accordingly, President Biden does not uphold the former President's assertions of privilege as to any of the records within the prioritized set for which review is complete. He therefore instructs you, in accord with Section 4(b) of Executive Order 13489, to provide to the Select Committee the prioritized records identified as privileged by the former President for which the White House's review is complete and that have not been deemed nonresponsive upon further review. In light of the urgency of the Select Committee's need for the information, the President further instructs you to provide those records 15 days after your notification to the former President, unless prohibited by court order. If the 15-day period expires on a weekend or holiday, you should provide the records to the Select Committee on the next business day.

Consistent with my prior instructions, non-responsive content in otherwise responsive records should be redacted as appropriate in any documents produced to the Select Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dana Remus', written in a cursive style.

Dana A. Remus
Counsel to the President