



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 31, 2019

STATEMENT ON SPECULATION OF WHISTLEBLOWER IDENTITY

[In correspondence dated October 22, 2019](#), the Counsel of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency made it clear that “Whistleblowers play an essential public service in coming forward” by reporting their reasonable belief of waste, fraud, abuse, and misconduct, and that whistleblowers “should never suffer reprisal or even the threat of reprisal for doing so.” Significantly, the letter quotes Senator Charles Grassley (R-IA), Chairman and co-founder of the U.S. Senate’s Whistleblower Caucus, who noted recently regarding this matter, that whistleblowers “ought to be heard out and protected” and “we should always work to respect whistleblowers’ requests for confidentiality.” Acting Director of National Intelligence Joseph Maguire — himself an appointee of President Trump — stated in his public testimony on September 26, 2019, that the whistleblower “[acted in good faith and followed the law every step of the way.](#)”

Members of the media have a similar role in protecting those who lawfully expose suspected government wrongdoing.

Accordingly, we neither confirm nor deny the identity of the Intelligence Community Whistleblower. Our client is legally entitled to anonymity. Disclosure of the name of any person who may be suspected to be the whistleblower places that individual and their family in great physical danger. Any physical harm the individual and/or their family suffers as a result of disclosure means that the individuals and publications reporting such names will be personally liable for that harm. Such behavior is at the pinnacle of irresponsibility and is intentionally reckless.

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