## UNITED STATES FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE COURT Washington, D.C.



February 15, 2018

Honorable Bob Goodlatte
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Goodlatte:

I write in response to your letter of January 16, 2018, in which you request that the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court provide you with certain documents and also release certain information to the public.

The Court appreciates the interest of the House Judiciary Committee in its operations and public confidence therein. As we have discussed with your staff, notwithstanding the existence of Rule 62(c)(2), the Court has never previously received a request from Congress for the contents of any specific FISA application or order, nor has the Court provided any to Congress. Thus, your requests — and others I have recently received from Congress — present novel and significant questions. The considerations involve not only prerogatives of the Legislative Branch, but also interests of the Executive Branch, including its responsibility for national security and its need to maintain the integrity of any ongoing law enforcement investigations.

Thank you for the courtesy of copying me on your February 1, 2018, letter to the Department of Justice and the FBI in which you made requests for information similar to those in your letter to us. Those agencies possess most, if not all, of the responsive materials the Court might possess, and we have previously made clear to the Department, both formally and informally, that we do not object to any decision by the Executive Branch to release any such

FISA materials to Congress. I expect that their handling of your requests will inform the Court as to how the Executive Branch perceives its interests and will assist us in our consideration of the full range of issues; therefore we have asked the Department of Justice to keep us informed regarding its response to your February 1 letter.

Sincerely,

Rosemary M. Collyer

Presiding land

**Presiding Judge** 

cc: Honorable Jerrold Nadler

**Honorable Jeff Sessions** 

**Honorable Christopher Wray**