

From: [Elizabeth D. Horton](#)
To: [Director of OGE](#); [Shelley K. Finlayson](#); [Dale A. Christopher](#); [Nelson Cabrera Jr.](#)
Cc: [Matthew A. Marinec](#)
Subject: FW: OGE FOIA FY 17-101
Date: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 9:40:25 AM

Please also search your text messages for the word “Trump” between Oct. 15, 2016 and January 13, 2017. Thank you.

From: Elizabeth D. Horton
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 9:27 AM
To: Director of OGE; Shelley K. Finlayson; Dale A. Christopher; Nelson Cabrera Jr.
Cc: Matthew A. Marinec
Subject: OGE FOIA FY 17-101

Good morning.

OGE has received a FOIA request seeking “emails and text messages sent or received by Walter M. Shaub, Dale 'Chip' Christopher, Nelson Cabrera and Shelley Finlayson that mention ‘Trump’ ‘DJT’ ‘DT’ or ‘president elect’ between Oct. 15, 2016 and January 13, 2017 and any emails or texts sent or received by these people between January 1 to January 12, 2017 that mention ‘Brookings Institute’.”

You have searched your email accounts and provided responsive emails with the word “Trump” for previous FOIA requests through December 3, 2016, so please search your email accounts for the word “Trump” from December 3, 2016 through January 13, 2017. Additionally please conduct a new search for all emails and text messages containing the additional search terms (DJT, DT or president elect) between October 15, 2016 and January 13, 2017 and for “Brookings” between January 1 and January 12, 2017.

Please search your email account and text messages for any records responsive to this request and provide any responsive records by COB January 31, 2017.

If you do not have any responsive records for this most recent FOIA request, please reply with a “no records” response.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.

Lix

Elizabeth D. Horton
Assistant Counsel, Legal, External Affairs and Performance Branch
Program Counsel Division
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
(202) 482-9211
Elizabeth.Horton@oge.gov

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From: [Elizabeth D. Horton](#)
To: [Director of OGE](#); [Shelley K. Finlayson](#); [David J. Apol](#); [Seth Jaffe](#); [Deborah J. Bortot](#); [Heather A. Jones](#); [Matthew A. Marinec](#)
Subject: OGE FOIA FY 17-104
Date: Tuesday, January 17, 2017 4:14:58 PM

Good afternoon.

OGE has received a FOIA request seeking “all Office of Government Ethics emails regarding Director Walter Shaub’s speech on Wednesday, Jan. 11, at the Brookings Institution. Please also provide copies of internal emails regarding Donald Trump’s ethics plan for his businesses, which was announced at a press conference on Wednesday, Jan. 11.”

Please search your email account for any records responsive to this request and provide any responsive records by COB January 24, 2017.

If you do not have any responsive records for this FOIA request, please reply with a “no records” response.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.

Liz

Elizabeth D. Horton
Assistant Counsel, Legal, External Affairs and Performance Branch
Program Counsel Division
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
(202) 482-9211
Elizabeth.Horton@oge.gov

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From: [Elizabeth D. Horton](#)
To: [Director of OGE](#)
Cc: [Matthew A. Marinec](#)
Subject: OGE FOIA FY 17-108
Date: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 10:21:17 AM

Good morning Walt.

In order to cover the emails sought in FOIA request 17-108 (beyond those sought in request 17-101), please expand the search of your emails for the word "Trump" from December 3, 2016 through the present. Thank you.

Liz

Elizabeth D. Horton
Assistant Counsel, Legal, External Affairs and Performance Branch
Program Counsel Division
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
(202) 482-9211
Elizabeth.Horton@oge.gov

Visit OGE's website: www.oge.gov
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From: [Kelsey D. Phipps](#)
To: [Agency Wide: News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Thursday, January 26, 2017
Date: Thursday, January 26, 2017 11:20:06 AM

The House and Senate are not in session.

Legislative Branch Ethics and Related News

AJC.com reports on Sen. Isakson's thoughts on the President's conflicts of interest. [What Senate ethics chief Johnny Isakson makes of Trump's conflict of interest plans](#)

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

Multiple sources report that President Donald Trump and his hotel and real estate business on Wednesday separately named ethics counselors. [White House, Trump Organization name ethics advisers](#) [Trump's Family Business Gets Two New Ethics Overseers, Source Says](#) [Trump's company picks GOP lawyer, own attorney for ethics team](#) [Trump announces new White House ethics team](#) [Trump announces White House ethics team](#) [Trump Organization Names Two Lawyers to Handle Ethics Concerns](#) [Trump Organization names ethics overseers](#) [Trump company names ethics advisers, but critics call it an 'impossible spot'](#) [Trump And His Organization Lawyer Up For The Ethics War Ahead](#)

Multiple sources report on the President's conflicts of interest. ['It Is Unacceptable': Ethics Doubts Swirl as Trump Club Doubles Fee](#) [Can Groups Sue Over Trump's Business Conflicts Even If They Weren't Harmed?](#) [Lawsuit Claims Trump Conflicts of Interest Violates U.S. Constitution](#)

Financial Times reports on Carl Icahn's conflicts of interest and "Norman Eisen, a former legal ethics adviser for Barack Obama, said Mr Icahn's title, responsibilities and involvement in personnel choices make him a 'de facto special government employee' subject to conflicts rules preventing work on matters relating to his investments." [Trump adviser Carl Icahn gains as markets see biofuel rule change](#)

PR Watch reports on potential conflict of interest of Betsy DeVos. [Betsy DeVos Ethics Report Reveals Ties to Student Debt Collection Firm](#)

The Washington Free Beacon reports that Elizabeth Warren failed to report a home equity line of credit on her financial disclosure forms. [The Time Elizabeth Warren Used Loophole to Avoid Disclosing \\$1.3M Line of Credit](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: January 26-27; February 9-10

Senate: February 20-24

Kelsey D. Phipps
Assistant Counsel, Legal, External Affairs and Performance Branch
Program Counsel Division
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
(202) 482-9318

kelsey.phipps@oge.gov

Visit OGE's website: www.oge.gov

Follow OGE on Twitter: @OfficeGovEthics

From: [Brandon A. Steele](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#)
Cc: [News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Tuesday, January 24, 2017
Date: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 2:45:56 PM

The Senate reconvened at 10:45 a.m.

The Senate reconvenes at 10:45 a.m. and will be in a period of morning business. The Senate will recess from 12:30-2:15 p.m. for weekly caucus lunches. Confirmation votes are possible.

The House reconvened at 12:00 p.m.

The House reconvenes at noon for legislative business. The chamber is expected to consider a bill (HR 7) that would permanently prohibit the use of federal funds and resources to provide for abortion or abortion coverage and prohibit individuals and small businesses from receiving federal subsidies under the 2010 health care overhaul to purchase health care plans that cover abortions. The chamber is also expected to consider measures under suspension of the rules.

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

Multiple outlets discuss President Trump purportedly resigning from his businesses. [Has Donald Trump resigned from his businesses? Here's what we know.](#) [Trump claims he resigned from 400 businesses](#) [Trump Files Documents To Shift Management Of Businesses To His Sons](#)

Various sources discuss different aspects of the Dir's meeting. [Donald Trump Never Gave Business Documents To Ethics Office, Democrat Says](#) [U.S. Ethics Official Slammed For 'Unethical' Donald Trump Tweets](#) [Head of Ethics Office Receives Bipartisan Rebuke From Congress](#) [Chaffetz on meeting with ethics watchdog: 'Everybody's blood pressure is coming down here'](#) [Lawmakers admonish ethics official over tweets about Trump](#) [Walter Shaub Receives Bipartisan Condemnation For "Highly Unethical" Actions](#) [Ethics chief says Trump plan to divest holdings is insufficient](#) [Closed-Door Meeting with Top Government Ethics Official](#) [Ethics Office Chief Reportedly Never Received Trump Business Documents](#)

Various outlets discuss the transition. [The Status Of Trump's Cabinet: Where Everyone Is In The Process And How It Works](#) [Trump retains FBI Director James Comey, sources say](#) [Mulvaney defends nanny tax lapse, tangles with Democrats on budget](#) [Nikki Haley clears committee vote](#) [DeVos paid legal fees, but not election fine, for Ohio school choice group](#) [Commerce committee gives Chao the nod](#) [Banking Committee approves Ben Carson's HUD nomination](#)

Federal Agency and Related News

Fed Smith discusses the hiring freeze. [Details Announced About Trump's Hiring Freeze](#)

Politico opines that the "White House is installing senior aides atop major federal agencies to shadow the administration's Cabinet secretaries, creating a direct line with loyalists who can monitor and shape White House goals across the federal bureaucracy." [Trump assembles a shadow Cabinet](#)

International Ethics and Related News

ACNS reports that Kenya's Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission has a new chair. [Former Archbishop sworn in as head of ethics body](#)

New Europe reports on Swedish measures to address the revolving door between public service and the private sector. Among the steps proposed, parliament would set “quarantine periods” and approve jobs taken by former ministers. [Sweden aspires to block political revolving door to the private sector](#)

Transparency International reports that it will release its 22nd annual Corruption Perceptions Index on January 25, 2017. [CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX TO BE LAUNCHED ON 25 JANUARY 2017](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: January 26-27

Senate: February 20-24

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From: [Jim Robertson](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Wednesday, January 25, 2017
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 12:58:33 PM

The Senate is not in session.

The House is not in session.

Legislative and Related News

The Huffington Post reports that the House Oversight Committee voted against an amendment to the committee's rule that would have prohibited the committee from approving any legislation that could directly benefit President Trump and his business empire. [GOP Committee Members Take First Vote To Protect Trump's Conflicts of Interest](#)

The Washington Post editorial board opines that Representative Price's trading activities while a member of the House demonstrate why congressional ethics requirements are too lax. [Tom Price is Exhibit A for congressional ethics reform](#)

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

The Washington Post reports that some senators and watchdog groups believe there remain important unanswered questions about the financial interests that Education Secretary nominee Betsy DeVos will continue to hold. [Betsy DeVos's ethics review raises further questions for Democrats and watchdogs](#) However, according to *CNN*, the chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor & Pensions rejected the ranking member's request for a second hearing with Betsy DeVos. [Democrats won't get a second hearing with Betsy DeVos, Trump's education pick](#)

The Washington Post reports that three nominees were confirmed by the Senate this week but others will have to wait for confirmation until the Senate returns next week. [Three Trump nominees confirmed, but still no deal for the others](#)

Reuters reports that the recent emoluments lawsuit filed against President Trump by the Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington is part of a larger strategy by the group to highlight its concerns and put political pressure on the White House. [U.S. ethics lawsuits against Trump part of groups' political strategy](#) *The Hill* reports that President Trump views the lawsuit as being "without merit." [Trump: Ethics lawsuit 'without merit'](#)

Politico reports that President Donald Trump's company has hired an outside lawyer and promoted one of its own attorneys as part of its plan to address the president's potential conflicts of interest. [Trump's company picks GOP lawyer, own attorney for ethics team](#)

CITYA.M. reports that the *Economist Intelligence Unit* has downgraded the United States in its recently released Democracy Index. Erosion of public trust in the government and elected officials moved the U.S. system of government from a "full democracy" to a "flawed democracy." [US labelled a "flawed" democracy over collapsing public trust](#)

The Washington Examiner reports that the Secret Service is investigating possible Hatch Act

violations by one of its employees in connection with the employee's Facebook postings.
[Senior Secret Service agent suggests she wouldn't take 'a bullet' for Trump](#)

International and Related News

Deutsche Welle reports that Transparency International has published its annual Corruption Perceptions Index and, in connection with that publication, has expressed fears that a global rise of populism risks undermining the fight against corruption. [Rise in populism risks worsening corruption, warns transparency watchdog](#) View the full report [here](#).

Voice of America reports that broader issues of public trust made an appearance at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. [Elites Gather in Davos; Some Worry About Plunging Public Trust](#)

[Next Scheduled Recess:](#)

House: [January 26-27](#)

Senate: [February 20-24](#)