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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6200

KOLAN DAVIS, STAFF DIRECTOR AND CHIEF COUNSEL
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May 3, 2019

Wayne LaPierre
Chief Executive and Executive Vice President
National Rifle Association of America
11250 Waples Mill Road
Fairfax, VA 22030

Dear Mr. LaPierre:

We are writing to request information related to public statements retired Lieutenant Colonel and former National Rifle Association President Oliver North recently made alleging financial improprieties at the NRA that could jeopardize the organization's nonprofit status. As the NRA's Chief Executive and Executive Vice President, we believe you are uniquely suited to shed light on any potential improper activity within the organization or any of its vendors.

On April 26, 2019, the *New York Times* reported that Col. North sought your resignation from the NRA over allegations of financial misconduct.¹ According to a statement read by Richard Childress on Col. North's behalf at the NRA's 2019 annual meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana, Col. North created an "NRA Crisis Management Committee" and issued a memo to the NRA Executive Committee on April 25, 2019 outlining his allegations.² In an April 25, 2019 letter addressed to the NRA Board, you wrote, "[North's] letter would contain a devastating account of our financial status, sexual harassment charges against a staff member, accusations of wardrobe expenses and excessive staff travel expenses."³

The Senate Finance Committee is charged with administration of matters relating to taxation, including oversight of tax-exempt organizations. Therefore, we request you provide the following:

1. A copy of the April 25, 2019 letter you submitted to the NRA Board of Directors and any related documentation, memos, or other supporting materials.
2. The April 25, 2019 memo Col. North provided to the NRA Executive Committee and any other letters or memos he provided to the NRA Board of Directors or the NRA Executive Committee related to allegations of financial misconduct or the organization's nonprofit status, and supporting materials.
3. Any internal or third party audits, reviews, or investigations conducted by or for the "NRA Crisis Management Committee."
4. Any findings, reports, or other conclusory materials produced by or for the Crisis Management Committee or any other NRA Committee related to alleged financial misconduct or the NRA's nonprofit status.

¹ *New York Times*, Insurgents Seek to Oust Wayne LaPierre in N.R.A. Power Struggle, April 26, 2019; www.nytimes.com/2019/04/26/business/nra-wayne-lapierre-oliver-north.html

² YouTube, Richard Childress Remarks, published April 27, 2019; www.youtube.com/watch?v=NcOCbYOcNEM

³ Wayne LaPierre letter to the NRA Board, April 25, 2019; <https://assets.documentcloud.org/documents/5979828/Wayne-LaPierre-NRA-board-letter.pdf>

Requested materials and any materials reasonably related to the requested materials should not be destroyed, altered, or otherwise made inaccessible to the Committee. Please provide these materials no later than May 16, 2019. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Finance Committee staff at (202) 224-4515.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Ron Wyden
Ranking Member



Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



Robert Menendez
United States Senator