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# United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6200

CHRIS CAMPBELL, STAFF DIRECTOR  
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May 10, 2016

The Honorable Edward Murray  
Wyoming Secretary of State  
2020 Carey Avenue  
Suites 600 and 700  
Cheyenne, WY 82002-0020

Dear Secretary Murray,

The Senate Committee on Finance is charged with overseeing many Treasury Department functions, including efforts related to financial crimes and terrorist financing, as well as administration of the tax code. As Ranking Member of the Committee, I have become increasingly concerned about the use of anonymous shell companies as vehicles for terrorist financing, tax evasion, and fraud targeting major government programs within the Committee's jurisdiction. Recent reports indicate that over twenty four Wyoming business entities are linked to the Panamanian law firm Mossack Fonseca and its registered agent M.F. Corporate Services.<sup>1</sup> Your office confirmed this relationship and the initiation of review of these entities.<sup>2</sup> To assist my review in the matter, please provide the following information:

1. For the twenty four Wyoming business entities that have been linked to Mossack Fonseca, please provide all documents filed with the Secretary of State related to each entity, including, but not limited to, documents related to the articles of organization for each entity and any other documents related to the registration, maintenance and operation of the entity.
2. Press reports and your office's press release indicated that in April, the Secretary of State conducted an initial audit of the twenty four Wyoming companies linked to Mossack Fonseca. What were the findings of this audit? Please provide any official documents or correspondence related to this audit.
3. Does the Secretary of State, or any other agency, collect a list of the beneficial owners of entities registered in Wyoming? If so, please provide the beneficial ownership information for each entity identified in item 1.

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<sup>1</sup> Trevor Brown, *Wyoming Launches Investigation into Group Tied to "Panama Papers,"* Wyoming Tribune Eagle (April 7, 2016) [http://www.wyomingnews.com/news/wyoming-launches-investigation-into-group-tied-to-panama-papers/article\\_e594eca4-fc51-11e5-92c6-ab6e7c9b09d7.html](http://www.wyomingnews.com/news/wyoming-launches-investigation-into-group-tied-to-panama-papers/article_e594eca4-fc51-11e5-92c6-ab6e7c9b09d7.html)

<sup>2</sup> Press Release, Wyoming Secretary of State, Wyoming Secretary of State Responds to the Release of the "Panama Papers," (April 6, 2016) [http://soswy.state.wy.us/media/2016/WY\\_SOS\\_Ed\\_Murray\\_Responds\\_to\\_Release\\_of\\_Panama\\_Papers\\_04\\_06\\_2016.pdf](http://soswy.state.wy.us/media/2016/WY_SOS_Ed_Murray_Responds_to_Release_of_Panama_Papers_04_06_2016.pdf).

4. Please describe the process for reviewing and approving the operation of a commercial registration agent in the State of Wyoming. Does the State of Wyoming conduct any additional audits or oversight of commercial registration agents? If so, how many such audits have been conducted in the past three years? How many registration agents have been found to be in violation of Wyoming licensing requirements?

I would appreciate your response to these questions by June 3, 2016. If you have any questions, please have your staff contact Dan Goshorn at (202) 224-4515.

Sincerely,



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Ron Wyden  
Ranking Member