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April 14, 2025

By E-Mail

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal  
Ranking Member  
Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

The Honorable Jamie Raskin  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on the Judiciary  
Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Ranking Members Blumenthal and Raskin:

I write in response to your April 6, 2025 letter regarding Executive Order 14237 and the subsequent resolution between the President and Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison (“Paul, Weiss”). Thank you for the opportunity to provide additional context surrounding these events.

When President Trump issued the executive order targeting Paul, Weiss on March 14, 2025, it posed an unprecedented threat to our firm. The order restricted the ability of Paul, Weiss lawyers to enter federal buildings or to interact with federal employees. Moreover, the executive order required our clients that contract with the federal government to disclose to the Administration any business they do with Paul, Weiss, and required all federal agencies that contract with our clients to review such federal contracts and, to the maximum extent permitted by law, to terminate those contracts. Because so many of the matters we handle on behalf of our clients, across practice areas, require productive interaction and engagement with the federal government—and because so many of our clients also value a productive relationship with the federal government and have significant commercial relationships with the federal government—we immediately understood that the effects of the executive order would destroy the firm, even if we ultimately prevailed in court.

At the same time we faced this existential risk, we learned that the Administration would be open to negotiating a mutually agreed resolution. That resolution, which we negotiated on March 19 and 20, 2025, has three primary components: (1) reiterating our commitment to viewpoint diversity; (2) committing to follow federal law with respect to our employment policies and practices; and (3) dedicating \$40 million in pro bono services over the next four years to assist our nation's veterans, to combat anti-Semitism, and to promote the fairness of the justice system—three areas in which Paul, Weiss already does significant pro bono work. To be clear, the Administration will not determine what matters we take on. We obviously could not ethically have agreed to such a condition.

In making our decision to resolve this matter, we were guided by our fiduciary obligation to protect our clients' interests and to safeguard the livelihoods of the 2,500 lawyers and non-legal professionals who work at Paul, Weiss.

The resolution we reached with the Administration will have no material effect on our law firm's work. Paul, Weiss is known for taking on our clients' most consequential matters and we would never do anything to compromise our ability to advocate zealously and effectively on their behalf.

I appreciate the opportunity to address this matter.

Respectfully,  
  
Brad S. Karp

cc: The Honorable Ron Johnson  
Chairman  
Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

The Honorable Jim Jordan  
Chairman  
House Committee on the Judiciary