

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 9, 2025

Ambassador Jamieson Greer
United States Trade Representative
Executive Office of the President
600 17th St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20508

Mr. Jamieson Greer
Acting Special Counsel
U.S. Office of Special Counsel
1730 M St. NW
Washington, D.C. 200036

Mr. Jamieson Greer
Acting Director
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
250 E St. SW
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Ambassador, Acting Special Counsel, and Acting Director Greer:

We write to express our deep concern over your surreptitious appointments as Acting Special Counsel of the Office of Special Counsel (OSC) and Acting Director of the Office of Government Ethics while also serving as the United States Trade Representative (USTR) —a position that, by law, is “the principal advisor to the President on international trade policy”.¹ Since President Trump has launched a global trade war, it is critical that you remain focused on fulfilling the duties for which you were confirmed by the United States Senate, such as serving as “the chief representative for the United States” for trade negotiations.² Taking on at least two other jobs is misguided and a disservice to the public who expect a competent and effective USTR, OSC, and OGE. We urge you to immediately relinquish your roles as Acting Special Counsel, Acting Director, and any other positions.

The Senate confirmed you to the singular position of United States Trade Representative, and, in this moment, the stakes could not be higher. The ongoing reckless trade war has disrupted global supply chains, driven up costs for families, and jeopardized more than \$2.2 trillion in annual trade.³ Millions of Americans have witnessed their 401(k)s shrink as a result of these tariffs. Moreover, economists are predicting a recession that will impact every person who calls this country home. These actions disproportionately hurt workers, farmers, and small businesses while delivering nothing in terms of strategic gain. As USTR, you should be singularly focused on international trade policy, including ending the escalating economic conflict.

Instead, you have taken on multiple additional jobs overseeing the Office of Special Counsel and the Office of Government Ethics. The Office of Special Counsel is an independent agency responsible for protecting more than 2.2 million federal workers in the civil service from discrimination, political coercion, and retaliation for exposing wrongdoing. With the current onslaught of attacks, layoffs, and firings of government employees, OSC’s work has greatly

¹ 19 USC 2171(c)(1)(B)

² 19 USC 2171(c)(1)(C)

³ *Trump triggers trade war; price hikes with tariffs on Canada, China, and Mexico*, Reuters (March 5, 2025) (www.reuters.com/world/trade-wars-erupt-trump-hits-canada-mexico-china-with-steep-tariffs-2025-03-04/).

increased in significance and quantity. The Office of Government Ethics is responsible for leading ethics programs in more than 140 agencies in the Executive Branch and ensuring compliance by senior leaders. Since coming into the presidency, the Trump Administration has been the subject of dozens of ethics complaints that require serious attention. The millions of people who rely on these agencies deserve leaders that are committed and focused on their respective missions, not a figurehead who is juggling multiple positions in the Administration.

Further, there is a conflict of interest of your multiple roles since OSC's and OGE's jurisdictions include oversight of the Office of the United States Trade Representative, where cases of ethics disclosures, whistleblower reprisals, and mishandling of sensitive information may arise. These issues demand impartial investigation, something that is impossible to guarantee under your current triple appointment.

In fact, during the first Trump administration, reports revealed that senior political aides illegally sought the identities of whistleblowers to retaliate against them.⁴ Your concurrent leadership invites similar abuses of power, especially amid growing reports that the OSC may now be used to carry out political initiatives from the so-called "Department of Government Efficiency" (DOGE) – initiatives that intimidate federal employees, abuse private data, and dismantle essential services.

Given these concerns, we do not have confidence in your ability to impartially or effectively fulfill the demanding responsibilities of each office. We urge you to immediately resign as Acting Special Counsel and Acting Director. Anything less fails to meet the ethical and professional standards required to preserve the independence and effectiveness of both offices.

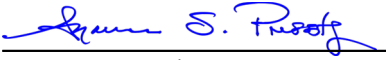
To better understand how you are managing three full-time roles, we request that you provide the following information by April 16, 2025:

1. In addition to your positions as USTR, Acting Special Counsel, and Acting Director, what other roles do you hold in the Trump Administration?
2. In the course of a normal day, how many hours are you spending working on USTR matters compared to OSC matters and OGE matters?
3. Have you recused yourself from any OSC or OGE investigations involving the Office of the United States Trade Representative? If not, why not? If so, who is responsible for handling those complaints?
4. Were ethics officials at any of the agencies consulted before you assumed multiple roles? If so, please provide a copy of any guidance or recommendations you received.
5. Has any information regarding OSC or OGE complaints related to DOGE been shared with DOGE staff?

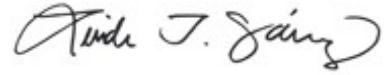
Thank you for your prompt response to this matter.

Sincerely,

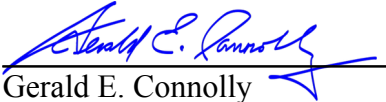
⁴ "Protect the Secretary": VA Chief Robert Wilkie Installs Political Aide at Watchdog Investigating His Inner Circle, Project on Government Oversight (Dec. 16, 2020) (www.pogo.org/investigations/protect-the-secretary-va-chief-robert-wilkie-installs-political-aide-at-watchdog-investigating-his-inner-circle).



Ayanna Pressley
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez
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