



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of entry 11/09/2018

(U) On 09/18/2018 Special Agents (SA) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Intelligence Analyst [REDACTED] Assistant Special Counsel L. Rush Atkinson, Senior Assistant Special Counsel (SASC) Andrew Goldstein and SASC Jeannie Rhee interviewed MICHAEL DEAN COHEN (COHEN) at his attorney's offices at 655 3rd Ave, New York, NY. Present were COHEN's legal counsel, Guy Petrillo, Amy Lester, and Philip Pilmar. Additionally, Assistant United States Attorney [REDACTED] and SA [REDACTED] from SDNY and FBI NY attended. In the presence of his attorney, COHEN reviewed and executed two proffer agreements, one from the Special Counsel's Office, attached, and one from SDNY, which was retained by SDNY. After being advised of the identities of the interviewing SAs and the purpose of the interview, COHEN provided the following:

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(U)

b5 Per DOJ/OIP

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] The TRUMP ORG wanted to terminate any deals that had to
[REDACTED]
of the Presidential Inauguration. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

b5 Per DOJ/OIP

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(U) COHEN found

[REDACTED] TRUMP TOWER MOSCOW

b5 Per DOJ/OIP

on the list. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Investigation on 09/18/2018 at New York, New York, United States (In Person)

File # [REDACTED] Date drafted 09/24/2018

by [REDACTED]

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Continuation of FD-302 of (U) Interview of Michael Cohen, On 09/18/2018, Page 2 of 15

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b5 Per DOJ/OIP

b5 Per DOJ/OIP

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b5 Per DOJ/OIP

Continuation of FD-302 of (U) Interview of Michael Cohen, On 09/18/2018, Page 3 of 15

[REDACTED] b5 Per DOJ/OIP

[REDACTED] b5 Per DOJ/OIP

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[REDACTED] b5 Per DOJ/OIP

(U) The use of the TRUMP ORG's "party line" with respect to Russia went earlier than the closing of TRUMP TOWER BATUMI and TRUMP TOWER MOSCOW.

[REDACTED] b5 Per DOJ/OIP

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(U) COHEN spoke to TRUMP about TRUMP TOWER MOSCOW and Russia as soon as news reports started to come out. The conversations with TRUMP were earlier than the February 2017 [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] b5 Per DOJ/OIP

Continuation of FD-302 of (U) Interview of Michael Cohen, On 09/18/2018, Page 4 of 15

b5 Per DOJ/OIP

b5 Per DOJ/OIP

(U) TRUMP asked COHEN in March or April 2016 if anything was happening with Russia.

b5 Per DOJ/OIP

b5 Per DOJ/OIP

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(U) TRUMP's July [27], 2016 statement was untrue. In July, COHEN spoke to TRUMP about the statement. TRUMP told COHEN they have no deals in Russia.

Continuation of FD-302 of (U) Interview of Michael Cohen , On 09/18/2018 , Page 5 of 15

COHEN thought TRUMP justified saying this because TRUMP TOWER MOSCOW was not a deal yet. TRUMP said, "Why mention it if it is not a deal?" b5 Per DOJ/OIP

b5 Per DOJ/OIP

(U) MEGAN TWOHEY - New York Times

(U) COHEN met MEGAN TWOHEY, a new reporter at the *New York Times*, thinking it was a friendly meeting for the two to get to know each other and not a sit down interview. They met at COHEN recalled MEGAN TWOHEY

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COHEN told TWOHEY the project ended in January 2016 and was not feasible.

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Continuation of FD-302 of (U) Interview of Michael Cohen, On 09/18/2018, Page 6 of 15

was part of the script TRUMP, HICKS, and KELLYANNE CONWAY (CONWAY) came up with months before. It was the party line to dismiss the notion.

b5 Per DOJ/OIP

COHEN previously talked about this script with TRUMP. COHEN did not tell TRUMP he thought the script was untrue because TRUMP already knew it was untrue.

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Continuation of FD-302 of (U) Interview of Michael Cohen , On 09/18/2018 , Page 7 of 15

[REDACTED] b5 Per DOJ/OIP

[REDACTED] b5 Per DOJ/OIP

[REDACTED] b5 Per DOJ/OIP

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[REDACTED] b5 Per DOJ/OIP

(U) The source for the August 2017 *Washington Post* article about TRUMP TOWER MOSCOW sounded like it came from COHEN. COHEN was holding to the script that it was abandoned in January 2016. [REDACTED]

b5 Per DOJ/OIP

[REDACTED] b5 Per DOJ/OIP

[REDACTED] b5 Per DOJ/OIP

[REDACTED] b5 Per DOJ/OIP

(U) It was not COHEN's idea to write a letter to congress about TRUMP TOWER MOSCOW. The statement was put out to piggyback off of JARED KUSHNER putting out a statement before. The release was to shape the narrative and to let other people who might be witnesses know what COHEN was saying to keep the same message. This was KUSHNER's approach to public messaging. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b5 Per DOJ/OIP

Continuation of FD-302 of (U) Interview of Michael Cohen, On 09/18/2018, Page 8 of 15

b5 Per DOJ/OIP

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(U) COHEN learned the message to have the Russia investigations end early from discussions with TRUMP, SEKULOW, [REDACTED] The discussions occurred shortly after, in the days or weeks following, the appointment of the Special Counsel. It would have been May or June [2017]. The discussion was to not worry, the investigation would not last and would be over by August -- August became December and the House and Senate investigations had not

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Continuation of FD-302 of (U) Interview of Michael Cohen, On 09/18/2018, Page 9 of 15

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b7B per DOJ/OIP

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Continuation of FD-302 of (U) Interview of Michael Cohen, On 09/18/2018, Page 10 of 15

b5 Per DOJ/OIP

(U) COHEN had a second conversation with TRUMP [REDACTED] in TRUMP's office very soon after Friday, July 22, 2016. TRUMP said to COHEN, [REDACTED]

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Continuation of FD-302 of (U) Interview of Michael Cohen, On 09/18/2018, Page 11 of 15

b5 Per DOJ/OIP

b5 Per DOJ/OIP

(U) In preparation for his Congressional testimony, COHEN's message had several components. COHEN had to keep TRUMP out of the messaging related to Russia and keep TRUMP out of the Russia conversation. One of these points to keep TRUMP out of was this UNGA TRUMP-Putin meeting, because he had discussed it on the HANNITY SHOW.

(U) In advance of testifying, there was a specific conversation about keeping TRUMP out of the UNGA narrative. COHEN was trying to be loyal. The investigation was not supposed to have taken us to where we are today. COHEN was told if he stayed on message, the President had his back, the President loves you.

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Continuation of FD-302 of (U) Interview of Michael Cohen, On 09/18/2018, Page 12 of 15

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Continuation of FD-302 of (U) Interview of Michael Cohen, On 09/18/2018, Page 13 of 15

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Continuation of FD-302 of (U) Interview of Michael Cohen , On 09/18/2018 , Page 14 of 15

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Continuation of FD-302 of (U) Interview of Michael Cohen, On 09/18/2018, Page 15 of 15

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