



INSPECTOR GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
4800 MARK CENTER DRIVE
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22350-1500

March 25, 2021

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on Judiciary
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Joni Ernst
U.S. Senator
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Cotton
U.S. Senator
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Grassley, Ernst, and Cotton:

On March 8, 2021 you wrote to the Department of Defense Office of Inspector General (DoD OIG) seeking a review of the NSA's placement of its General Counsel on administrative leave. In addition to your request, we received other congressional inquiries concerning the hiring process used to select Mr. Michael Ellis for the civil service position of General Counsel to the NSA. These matters have been and remain under our review.

Knowing of your interest, we will provide you the results of our review when it is complete. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (703) 604-8324.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael C. Zola".

Michael C. Zola, Esq.
Assistant Inspector General,
Legislative Affairs & Communications