



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 30, 2019

Statements of September 30, 2019

The Intel Community Whistleblower is entitled to anonymity. Law and policy support this and the individual is not to be retaliated against. Doing so is a violation of federal law.

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The concerns about an outdated Intelligence Community Inspector General complaint form are misguided. All Inspectors General and their staff – Intelligence Community or otherwise – must vet an incoming complaint. A complaint is not accepted merely on its face.

As we know, the ICIG initiated a preliminary investigation where the allegations were vetted through fact-finding via other, direct evidence. Thus, anyone suggesting otherwise lacks a fundamental understanding of the investigative process.

Andrew P. Bakaj, Esq.

Lead Attorney for the Intelligence Community Whistleblower

In my more than twenty years of representing national security whistleblowers, and fifteen years since the Office of the Director of National Intelligence was created, I have never known nor observed a policy that a whistleblower must have first-hand information to file a complaint.

My experiences have always been that whistleblower must provide evidence that can be substantiated, whether through documents or identification of witnesses. No whistleblower law I know of has any personal knowledge requirement.

I fully support and endorse the information set forth in the Intelligence Community Inspector General's press release that accurately explains the law and policy as the experts know it to be. Any assertion to the contrary, as argued by others is blatantly pure disinformation.

Mark S. Zaid, Esq.

Attorney for the Intelligence Community Whistleblower

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