



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT OF REASONS OF
COMMISSIONER ELLEN L. WEINTRAUB

In their Statement of Reasons in these matters,¹ my colleagues try to draw a comparison between these matters and another Commission decision where we found no probable cause to believe a violation had occurred.² But they gloss over a key distinction. In MUR 7271, the Commission agreed that *there had been no solicitation*.³ In contrast, the facts in the matters at issue here include the now infamous and unmistakable solicitation by then-President Trump to President Zelensky of Ukraine: “I would like you to do us a favor though”⁴

September 1, 2022

Ellen L. Weintraub

Date

Ellen L. Weintraub
Commissioner

¹ See Stmt. of Reasons of Chairman Allen J. Dickerson & Comm’rs Sean J. Cooksey & James E. “Trey” Trainor, III at 7-8, MURs 7645, 7663, and 7705 (Donald J. Trump, et al.) (Aug. 31, 2022).

² See Certification, MUR 7271 (DNC, et al.) (Apr. 8, 2021).

³ See Stmt. of Reasons of Comm'r Ellen L. Weintraub at 3, MUR 7271 (DNC, *et al.*) (June 15, 2021) ("[T]he email contains no solicitation"); Stmt. of Reasons of Vice Chair Allen Dickerson and Comm'rs Sean J. Cooksey and James E. "Trey" Trainor III at 2, MUR 7271 (DNC, *et al.*) (June 10, 2021) ("[T]he available evidence did not establish that Chalupa made a request to the official"); *id.* at 8 ("Among other considerations, the text of the email does not clearly indicate a request or solicitation for Poroshenko to take a certain action.").

⁴ Compl. Attachment, MUR 7663 (Nov. 18, 2019) (The White House, Memorandum of Telephone Conversation at 3 (July 25, 2019)).