

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
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NRA

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May 24, 2019

The Honorable Ron Wyden
Ranking Member, Committee on Finance
United States Senate
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senator Wyden:

I am writing in response to your letter, dated May 3, 2019. Thank you for acknowledging the assistance and cooperation of the NRA, and, in particular, our voluntary production of more than 4,000 documents in connection with your inquiry.

The questions you raise appear to be derived from the documents we have sent you. Based on an internal review, the NRA can find no evidence whatsoever that any foreign funding made its way into our organization for use in the 2016 presidential election. The NRA takes rigorous steps to guard against any such event.

We believe your questions may reflect a widely held misunderstanding about the NRA's involvement, or lack thereof, in activities relating to Russia and, in particular, a trip in 2015 that involved certain NRA board members and friends.

As we have stated publicly, the 2015 trip that you reference was not an official NRA trip. When NRA Executive Vice President and CEO Wayne LaPierre became aware of certain details of the trip, he personally expressed his opposition to it. As a result, then-NRA President Allan Cors did not join the group. In addition, NRA staff members who were in Israel (for a trip that preceded the visit to Russia) did not join the trip to Russia.

In sum, certain NRA board members participated in the trip of their own accord. These individuals are not employees of the Association. As an accommodation to the board members who participated, the NRA assisted with logistical support and some travel-related expenses.

To the extent certain individuals, including NRA supporters and volunteers, pursued activities or relationships with Maria Butina, Alexander Torshin, or others, such activities were separate and apart from any official responsibilities or obligations to the Association.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John C. Frazer', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

John C. Frazer
Secretary and General Counsel