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## **Mueller Firing News Advisory Instructions for Hosts**

Thank you for inspiring us to keep fighting!!

For questions on the advisory, how to send it, etc. please email Diane Russell - <u>dianerussell207@gmail.com</u>. Or, find Diane on Twitter: <u>@MissWrite</u> or <u>Facebook/MissWrite</u>

If you are having difficulty logging into your host account, please email <a href="mailto:help@moveon.org">help@moveon.org</a> and someone will be in touch shortly!

Below, you will find two news advisories for use by the leaders of each protest event.

The first advisory alerts the local press to the plan if and when Robert Mueller is fired. That first advisory should be sent to your local reporters as your event planning comes together. The second advisory should go to your local press on the day Mueller is fired, and should include the information below it. We will have social media graphics for "the plan" soon.

Please check back here on the day of the firing for updated information. We will do our best to keep information here as it becomes available. The latest instructions on media will be here.

#### **Key Pointers**

- The GOP have some great quotes in support of special counsel Robert Mueller. Some support his appointment while others oppose efforts to fire him.
- Only one news release should go out per event to avoid multiple contacts.
- Copy and paste the advisories below into your own editable document, either Microsoft Word, Pages
  or Google Docs. (This document is not editable.)
- Replace all highlighted text with your local information. And then remove the highlight itself!

- If you take the time now to change all the local information, it will save you time later on.
- If you don't know who your local reporters are, call the news editor or news desk and ask for the email address and contact person to forward the release to. Keep that information in a spreadsheet for later use!
- Reporters rarely want to receive Word documents because the formatting is often off and they can spread viruses. Once your news advisory is ready to go, copy and paste the final text (remove the highlights!) into your email. Feel free to add a quick "hello!" note from you at the top to personalize it, especially if you know the reporter(s).
- The first advisory is just an FYI about what will happen locally if Mueller is fired. Reporters everywhere are trying to get a handle on this, and letting them know now that you'll be their point of contact if it happens makes their job easier.
- The second advisory will include key information on the Russian investigation. Most local reporters are following along at home, but like most of us aren't quite clear on exactly what happened and when. Here is a timeline of events from Politifact that you can offer as background.
- Feel free to modify the quotes so they are personal to you. We included suggested quotes for each advisory, relevant to each purpose. Please keep the message consistent, but definitely put it in your own words so it's unique.

#### **On-Site, Social Media Details**

We will be doing our best to push out photos through our national social media networks, but we need your help! We won't be able to share everything or every event, but you can help us find great material quickly!

- Please use the hashtag #NotAboveTheLaw with all photos.
- If possible, use Facebook Live and Periscope for live videos, and be sure to ask people to share them locally!
- All social media event pages, and email invites (not social media graphics b/c it's too much text) must contain the following language: "Everyone participating in this Event will be required to abide by all applicable laws and lawful orders of authorities. This Event will be nonviolent and will not involve any civil disobedience or other violation of law."

#### **NEWS ADVISORY**

For Immediate Release: Insert Date Here

Contact: Insert Your Contact Information Here

# **Emergency National Protests Planned if**

# Trump Fires Mueller, Rosenstein or Sessions What will happen if Mueller is fired?

As the nation watches to see if President Trump fires Special Counsel Robert Mueller, Attorney General Jeff Sessions, or Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein, activists across the country are gearing up for a nationwide response - with more than 150,000 people signed up to take the street in more than 700 locations within hours of Trump firing Mueller. [Insert State Here] is no different. Local organizers are already making contingency plans for protests in our [insert city/town here].

If Mueller is fired before 2:00 p.m. local time, organized protests will ensue beginning at 5:00 p.m. local time. If he is fired after 2:00 p.m. local time, organized protests will ensue at 12:00 Noon local time.

WHAT: Protest Opposing Mueller Firing

WHO: [Insert Local Organizing contact + Contact information]

WHERE: [Insert planned location address + City here]

HASHTAG: #NotAboveTheLaw

A protest advisory will be sent day of with additional details, including a timeline of events regarding the Russian Investigation.

"We call on [insert your local Members of Congress here] to do everything in their power to prevent President Donald Trump from firing special counsel Robert Mueller," said [insert your name and organization if any here]. "Americans deserve full and truthful answers to ensure the security and sanctity of our election system is never compromised again. We can only do that with a full, thorough investigation, free from interference."

# **Emergency Protest Against Mueller Firing TODAY/TOMORROW**

[Insert State Name] Leaders call on Congress to Respond Quickly and Forcefully

Emergency protests are planned across the country [today/tomorrow] at [time] in response to President Trump's decision to fire special prosecutor Robert Mueller. The unjustified firing undermines the investigation into Russian interference the 2016 election and possible collusion by the Trump campaign. More than [Insert RSVP count here] people have signed up to attend the event.

Leaders are calling on Congress to respond quickly and forcefully to this clear obstruction of justice.

WHAT: Protest Opposing Mueller Firing

WHO: Sponsoring organizations:

WHERE: [Insert location address + City here]

WHEN: [Date] [Time]

ON-SITE CONTACT: [Insert event leader name, email + phone here]

HASHTAG: #NotAboveTheLaw

"[MEMBER] and his colleagues must put country before party and act swiftly and forcefully against this blatant abuse of power by President Trump," said [Insert local leader name + role here]. "The firing of Robert Mueller is a completely unjustified outrageous attempt to undermine the Russia investigation. The firing is part of a long and disturbing series of actions undertaken by the Trump Administration to interfere with any attempt to investigate this Russian attack on our democracy and possible collusion by the Trump campaign itself."

Additional details about the Russian investigation, including a brief timeline of events, are attached with.

## Talking Points for if/when Trump fires Mueller

No one is above the law, not even the President of the United States. We need elected officials who will be accountable to the American people and their constitutional duties. President Trump has taken another step showing he is more interested in protecting himself than getting to the truth of Russia's interference in the 2016 election.

To get the truth, an independent investigation must continue. President Trump may have fired Robert Mueller, but we can't let him shut down the entire independent investigation. We The People must demand the independent investigation continue under an independent Special Counsel office. Regardless if President Trump cares about it or not, we deserve to know the truth. This is our country and our government, and we will not stand idly by while the president protects himself and undermines our democracy.

Enough is enough. It's time for Congress to put Country Over Party and hold President Trump accountable. Now is the time for members of Congress from both parties to come together to protect our democracy and fulfill their constitutional duties. It' clear that President Trump overstepped his bounds and abused the power of the presidency. Speaker Ryan and the House Judiciary Committee must immediately begin hearings into abuse of power and obstruction of justice by President Trump. Senators must move immediately to create a Watergate-style Select Committee to investigate Russia's interference and Trump's obstruction of justice.

When a foreign government interferes in our elections, it weakens our democracy. America is based on one simple, radical, and revolutionary idea: one-person, one-vote. Our democracy is supposed to be about We The People, not Putin. When a foreign government tries to intervene and influence our elections, it weakens all of our votes and voices.

For the sake of democracy, Congress must act. At the end of the day, this isn't just about Donald Trump or Vladimir Putin. This is about protecting the very core of American democracy. Russia's interference in the 2016 election could just be the start. Next time it could China, North Korea, or Iran. It could happen to either party and any candidate. We need the full truth and real facts. We need to know how to prevent this. It's time Congress gets serious, hold President Trump accountable, and ensure a truly independent investigation continues.

## Sample Letter to the Editor

1. Using this sample, write up a letter (under 250 words) in your own voice. Feel free to change what you think is necessary or make it more applicable to your community and opinions. Feel free to email me if you would like us to review it for you!

We deserve to know the truth about Russia's role in electing Donald Trump. However, Robert Mueller, the special counsel charged with investigating the 2016 election, has been under constant threat since his appointment.

If Mueller is fired, it would destroy the democratic ideals that are necessary to preventing tyranny - transparency and accountability. Our presidents must always be held to the highest standards, so they must be subject to fair and independent review. Another Saturday Night Massacre, with firings calculated to halt Mueller's investigation, would signal the American people that the presidency needs far stronger oversight.

This investigation must continue. Our elected officials must support Mueller against President Trump's threats. Americans need to know that our lawmakers support shedding light on what happened in 2016 and upholding democratic principles.

If Mueller is fired, pledge to join hundreds of people in {CITY} and more than 180,000 people signed up to attend events in more than 800 locations nationwide who will rally to demand an accountable government at <a href="https://www.trumpisnotabovethelaw.org">www.trumpisnotabovethelaw.org</a>.

- Search online for your local papers and "letter to the editor." It is really important that these don't get published only in national papers, but putting a lot of focus on local papers that your legislators are more likely to read.
  - a. Some papers will give you an email to submit your letter to, some will have a form that you will need to fill out.
  - b. Submit to a few local papers, dailies, weeklies or even monthly community magazines.
- 3. Call the paper and ask for the editorial desk. Ask them if they received your letter, and if they will be able to publish it this week.

### Russia 101

US intelligence agencies including the FBI, CIA, and NSA have concluded that the Russian government orchestrated an attack on our election to help Donald Trump win. Hackers backed by Russian intelligence broke into the email system of the Democratic National Committee and the personal email of Hillary Clinton's campaign chairman John Podesta. The stolen emails were released by Wikileaks and Guccifer 2.0 in a timed effort to create a media frenzy and damage the Democrats.

The crux of the multiple ongoing Trump-Russia investigations is to determine whether anyone from the Trump campaign colluded with the Russian government on the hacking or distribution of the stolen documents. Evidence of such collusion is mounting. In June 2016, days before the DNC announced its system was hacked, Donald Trump Jr. organized a meeting with Russian operatives to obtain information about Hillary Clinton. The information was explicitly described as "part of the Russian government's support for Mr. Trump." The meeting was attended by then-campaign chairman Paul Manafort and Jared Kushner.

Additionally, those closest to Trump have been caught lying about contacts with the Russians during the campaign and transition. Trump's first National Security Adviser Michael Flynn resigned after reports he failed to disclose five phone calls with the Russian ambassador the day the Obama administration placed sanctions on Russia. Trump's son-in-law and senior adviser Jared Kushner failed to report meeting with the Russian ambassador and asking to establish a secret backchannel to communicate with the Kremlin, a meeting with a Putin-appointed Russian state bank CEO, as well as over 100 other foreign contacts. Attorney General Jeff Sessions was forced to recuse himself from the Russia investigation because he lied in his confirmation hearing about his own meetings with the Russian ambassador during the campaign.

Currently, the special counsel led by former FBI Director Robert Mueller, the House Intelligence Committee, the Senate Intelligence Committee, the House Oversight Committee, and the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism are all investigating the Trump-Russia scandal. Mueller took over the investigation for the FBI after Trump abruptly fired FBI Director James Comey and admitted he did it because of the Russia investigation.

It is clear Trump is feeling the heat. He threatened to fire Mueller-something even many Republicans say would be a mistake-and repeatedly sought to undermine the credibility of the investigation. Nevertheless, reports state Mueller is looking at whether Trump obstructed justice by firing Comey, Trump's decades-long financial ties to Russia, Manafort's possible laundering money from Russian interests, and Trump Jr.'s meeting with Russian operatives.

# **Sample Chant Sheet Document**

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