

'The Insurance Policy'

A MAP SHOWING THE CONNECTIONS RELATED TO THE TRUMP DOSSIER

How did a piece of opposition research, described by former FBI Director James Comey as both "salacious and unverified," become the driving force behind the allegations that Trump colluded with Russian authorities? Research conducted by The Epoch Times, using public sources, shows a web of connections related to the dossier reaching the highest levels of the FBI, CIA, and the Obama administration.

Paid for by the Clinton Campaign and the DNC, and produced by Fusion GPS—whose other clients include the Russian government—the dossier appears to have been the basis for the FBI's investigation on Donald Trump. The FBI used the dossier, in part, to obtain a FISA warrant to spy on Trump's team, according to national security reporter Sarah Carter. Two of President Barack Obama's top officials also surveilled the

communications of Trump's team, both before and after the elections. The unverified allegations in the dossier were also actively spread to media organizations, both by Fusion GPS as well as other key players involved, to cast a shadow over Trump's run for president and his presidency. Many questions are being raised by the connections before us, such as, why was the FBI so willing

to accept the allegations made by Fusion GPS? And what did Obama obtain in monitoring the communications of Trump, the opponent of the candidate he supported? These matters are currently under investigation by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the Department of Justice (DOJ) inspector general, and possibly special counsel Robert Mueller.



HILLARY CLINTON
Democratic presidential candidate

During her 2016 presidential campaign, Hillary Clinton controlled both her own campaign as well as the Democratic National Committee (DNC). The Clinton campaign had paid tens of millions of dollars to the DNC, which was deeply in debt at the time, in exchange for full control, said Donna Brazile in a tell-all memoir published last year. Brazile was appointed as interim DNC chair in July 2016.



TERRY McAULIFFE
Governor of Virginia

McAuliffe is a close Clinton ally who donated to the wife of FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe.



JILL McCABE
Wife of Andrew McCabe

McCabe received nearly \$675,000 from groups connected to Virginia Gov. McAuliffe for her campaign for a seat in the Virginia state Senate. She received the payments after the FBI started its investigation on Hillary Clinton.

FBI

The FBI, under then-Director James Comey, conducted both the investigation into Clinton's sending of classified materials using a private email server and the allegations that Trump colluded with Russia. More than 9,500 text messages obtained by the inspector general revealed a strong bias in favor of Clinton and against Trump among some of the key people involved in the investigations.



ANDREW McCABE
FBI deputy director

McCabe was involved in both the Clinton email investigation and the FBI's investigation on Trump.



JAMES COMEY
FBI Director

As director of the FBI, Comey oversaw the investigations into Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server and into the allegations of collusion between the Trump campaign and Russia.



PETER STRZOK
Deputy assistant director, FBI Counterintelligence Division

Strzok oversaw both the investigation into Hillary Clinton's transmission of classified information using a private email server and the FBI's investigation on Trump.



LISA PAGE
FBI lawyer

Page worked directly for FBI Deputy Director McCabe. Text messages sent between her and Strzok reveal her bias in favor of Clinton and disdain for Trump.



KEY QUESTION

A key question that remains is what the exact relationship is between FBI officials and Fusion GPS. Did the FBI have advance knowledge of the production of the dossier, and did it have any hand in ordering its production? These questions could help explain why the FBI so willingly accepted the unverified allegations that it used to investigate Trump.

THE MEETING

Text messages sent between Strzok and Page, obtained by the Department of Justice inspector general, showed a potential plot against Trump. In one message, they described a meeting they had in McCabe's office, in which they discussed an "insurance policy" in case Trump was elected president.



Jeh Johnson
Secretary of Homeland Security

Based on instructions from Obama, Johnson ordered a review of state election systems. Actions taken by the DHS raised concerns among states of potential federal overreach into their election systems. The decentralized nature of America's election systems acts as a safeguard against large-scale fraud. Two weeks before the end of Obama's presidency, Johnson designated the election infrastructure as "critical infrastructure," overruling concerns about federal overreach.



GEN. MIKE FLYNN
Former national security adviser

Flynn was charged by special counsel Robert Mueller for lying to the FBI on Dec. 1, 2017. The interview with Flynn was overseen by FBI agent Strzok.



LORETTA LYNCH
Attorney general

Comey testified in June 2017 before the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence that Lynch had instructed him to refer to the Clinton investigation as a "matter" rather than a criminal investigation.



BARACK OBAMA
President of the United States

Unverified claims that Trump colluded with the Russian authorities made their way to Obama through the CIA. Obama used the claims to instruct Homeland Security Secretary Johnson to conduct an assessment of vulnerabilities of the electoral system. Several states, however, opposed Johnson's intervention, citing federal overreach. Two of Obama's top officials used their positions to request "unmasking" requests on the communications of members of Trump's team, both before and after the election, which provided them and Obama with critical insight into Trump's campaign as well as the transition process after he was elected. The White House also instructed key officials, such as Rice, to make public statements on the alleged Russian interference, thus influencing public opinion.



JAMES CLAPPER
Former director of national intelligence

Clapper oversaw the production of a joint intelligence report into alleged Russian interference in the election. Clapper later testified before Congress that the investigation had found no evidence of collusion between the Trump campaign and Russia.



SAMANTHA POWER
US ambassador to the UN

Power made dozens, if not hundreds, of unmasking requests for the identities of members of Trump's team collected in intercepted communications. She later testified before Congress that not all of the unmasking requests made in her name were directed by her.

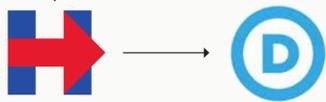


SUSAN RICE
National security adviser

Rice made multiple "unmasking" requests for the identities of members of Trump's team in intelligence reports. The surveillance of the communications of members of Trump's team took place before and after the elections. The House intelligence committee is investigating what the surveillance was used for.

GETTY IMAGES

GETTY IMAGES



CLINTON CAMPAIGN
An undisclosed amount of money—potentially millions—was paid by the Clinton campaign to Fusion GPS. The money was sent through law firm Perkins Coie and mislabeled in FEC filings to avoid detection.

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE
Just like the Clinton campaign, the DNC sent an undisclosed amount of money, potentially millions, to Fusion GPS through law firm Perkins Coie. The payments were mislabeled in FEC filings to avoid detection.



OTHER FINANCIERS
Besides the Clinton campaign and the DNC, there might have been other groups paying money to Fusion GPS related to the dossier. Obama's campaign Obama for America made \$972,000 in payments to Perkins Coie between April 2016 and August 2017, although it is unclear whether these payments were related to Fusion GPS.

PERKINS COIE

New York-based law firm Perkins Coie paid Fusion GPS millions on behalf of the Clinton campaign and DNC for its work on the Trump dossier.

FUSIONGPS



GLENN SIMPSON
Co-founder

PETER FRITSCH
Co-founder

Fusion GPS was co-founded by journalists Glenn Simpson and Peter Fritsch in 2011. The company is responsible for producing the Trump dossier.

RUSSIA

Fusion GPS produced the dossier on Trump using almost exclusively Kremlin-linked sources. The company was also hired by the Russian government for lobbying work against the Magnitsky Act.



NATALIA VESELNITSKAYA
Russian lawyer

According to a complaint to the DOJ, filed under the Foreign Agents Registration Act on July 15, 2016, Veselnitskaya was hired by Russian-owned Prevezon Holdings Ltd.—the same Russian entity Fusion GPS worked for—to lobby against the Magnitsky Act. Veselnitskaya was the lawyer who met with Donald Trump Jr. in a June 2016 meeting at Trump Tower. Court documents and emails reviewed by Fox News showed that she met with Fusion GPS co-founder Simpson on the same day, before and after the meeting with Trump Jr.



RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT

Russian-owned Prevezon Holdings hired Simpson, as well as Russian lawyer Veselnitskaya, to lobby on its behalf against the Magnitsky Act, according to a FARA complaint filed at the DOJ.



KREMLIN SOURCES

The Trump dossier relies almost exclusively on Kremlin-linked sources. These include a senior Kremlin official, a senior official in the Russian Foreign Ministry, and a former top-level Russian intelligence officer still active in the Kremlin.



JOHN MCCAIN
U.S. senator (R-Ariz.)

McCain had the Trump dossier delivered to him by his associate Kramer. McCain then delivered the report to then-FBI Director Comey.



DAVID KRAMER
Associate of Sen. John McCain

Kramer, a former State Department employee who now serves as a senior fellow at The McCain Institute, traveled to London in November 2016 to meet with former British spy Steele and request a copy of the Trump dossier.



ROBERT MUELLER
Former FBI director, special counsel

Mueller served as FBI director from 2001 to 2013. He was appointed as special counsel to investigate alleged Russian interference in the 2016 elections by Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein in May 2017. Mueller fired FBI agent Strzok after his anti-Trump bias was revealed in text messages obtained by the inspector general.



UK INTELLIGENCE

Former British spy Steele met with UK intelligence services to provide them with the Trump dossier. CNN reported on April 13, 2017, that British as well as European intelligence agencies had passed on intercepted communications of members of Trump's team to their counterparts in the United States.



CIA

The CIA prepared a confidential intelligence report for Obama on the allegations of Russian interference. Former CIA Director John Brennan has publicly said that the spy agency did not rely on the Trump dossier for its claims. However, many of the claims in its report closely resemble those made in the dossier. The wife of Fusion GPS co-founder Simpson, Mary Jacoby, wrote on Facebook that the CIA had "hopped to and immediately worked to verify [the dossier]." Tablet magazine reported based on screenshots of the posts. The CIA, under the so-called "Five Eyes" intelligence sharing agreement with the UK, would have had access to UK intelligence. However, it is unclear how reliable the information was, as Steele was also feeding information to British intelligence agents. The NSA was reluctant to consider the CIA's conclusion with high confidence, given the fact that it relied in part on intelligence from another country, The Washington Post reported.



NSA

The NSA, which intercepts and stores nearly all communications of every American, received multiple "unmasking" requests from top Obama officials for the identities of members of Trump's campaign and transition team.



TRUMP TEAM

Trump's campaign team as well as his transition team, including possibly Trump himself, had their communications monitored by the Obama administration. The access by Obama officials to sensitive campaign deliberations, as well as the forming of Trump's new government, is currently under investigation by the House intelligence committee.



JOHN BRENNAN
CIA director

Brennan provided Obama with the unverified claims that Trump colluded with Russian authorities. He set up a task force including CIA, FBI, and NSA agents that continued to feed information to Obama, The Washington Post reported. Brennan also briefed top congressional leaders on the unverified claims.



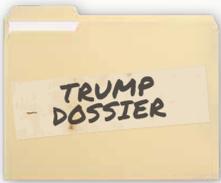
HARRY REID
Senate minority leader (D-Nev.)

After having been briefed by Brennan, Reid sent a letter to Comey, calling on him to take action. Reid's letter was published on his website, resulting in numerous media reports on the claims. While Reid did not make reference to the Trump dossier in the letter, the claims closely resembled those made in the dossier.



CHRISTOPHER STEELE
Former British spy, founding director of Orbis Business Intelligence

Steele was hired by Fusion GPS to work on a series of memos that became known collectively as the Trump dossier. It is unclear, however, how much of the work was done by Steele, and how much by others, including Nellie Ohr. Steele was likely chosen by Fusion GPS for his known ties to FBI agents and the intelligence community.



NELLIE OHR
Hired by Fusion GPS, wife of DOJ official Bruce Ohr

Ohr was hired to work on the Trump dossier. She had previously worked as a researcher for the CIA's Open Source Works project.



BRUCE OHR
Associate deputy attorney general, director of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces

Ohr, husband of Nellie Ohr, was demoted in December 2017 after it was revealed he had met in secret with Fusion GPS co-founder Simpson, as well as Steele, during the campaign.



FBI AGENTS

Steele talked to FBI agents as early as July 2016 about the contents of the dossier.

MEDIA

Media organizations played a crucial role in spreading the unverified allegations found in the Trump dossier. Court documents from the UK, where Steele and his company are currently being sued for libel by a Russian businessman mentioned in the report, revealed that Steele had briefed reporters of The New York Times, The Washington Post, The New Yorker, CNN, and Yahoo News. Fusion GPS also directly paid journalists who reported on topics related to alleged Russian interference in the elections, court documents filed by the House intelligence committee show. Other key players, such as Hillary Clinton's campaign manager Robby Mook and Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.), also helped drive the media coverage with public statements. BuzzFeed News published the Trump dossier in full in January 2017.

