

IN A BID TO JETTISON FLYNN, TRUMP SUGGESTS HOPE HICKS AND STEVE BANNON LIED TO THE FBI

In the wake of yesterday's disclosures in the Mike Flynn docket, Judge Emmet Sullivan issued three somewhat confusing orders demanding that the government provide transcripts and Mueller Report passages relating to Flynn

MINUTE ORDER as to MICHAEL T. FLYNN. The government is hereby ORDERED to file on the public docket in this case the transcript of the "voicemail recording" referenced in the [75 Addendum to Government's Memorandum in Aid of Sentencing](#) and the transcripts of any other audio recordings of Mr. Flynn, including, but not limited to, audio recordings of Mr. Flynn's conversations with Russian officials, by no later than May 31, 2019. It is FURTHER ORDERED that the government shall submit to Chambers audio versions of the recordings on a DVD by no later than May 31, 2019. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 5/16/2019. (lcegs3) (Entered: 05/16/2019)

MINUTE ORDER as to MICHAEL T. FLYNN. The government is hereby ORDERED to file the publicly-available version of Special Counsel Robert S. Mueller, III's Report on The Investigation Into Russian Interference in The 2016 Presidential Election on the public docket in this case by no later than May 17, 2019. The government is FURTHER ORDERED to file on the public docket in this case by no later than May 31, 2019 an unredacted version of those portions of the report that relate to Mr. Flynn. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 5/16/2019. (lcegs3) (Entered: 05/16/2019)

See/Reset Deadlines as to MICHAEL T. FLYNN-Government to File Transcript Of The Voicemail Recording due by 5/31/2019, Government To File Publicly-Available Version Of Special Counsel Robert S. Mueller, III's Report On The Investigation Into Russian Interference In The 2016 Presidential Election On The Public Docket due by 5/17/2019, Government To File An Unredacted Version Of Portions That Relate To The Defendant due by 5/31/2019. (mac) (Entered: 05/17/2019)

With respect, Judge Sullivan, if you're going to order additional files released, please also ask the government to release a less redacted version of Mike Flynn's original 302, which is docket #62-1, redacted sections of which (especially pertaining to the meeting at which Jared Kushner asked for a back channel with Russia) appear in unredacted form in the Mueller Report, and which was inexplicably not included in the WaPo request.

In any case, perhaps because Sullivan asked for files that may be very damning (especially if they include the contacts Flynn had with Kislyak before the election, which aren't discussed in the Mueller Report), Donald Trump now claims he didn't know Flynn was under a counterintelligence investigation and would have replaced him had he known.



Donald J. Trump 
@realDonaldTrump

It now seems the General Flynn was under investigation long before was common knowledge. It would have been impossible for me to know this but, if that was the case, and with me being one of two people who would become president, why was I not told so that I could make a change?

10:35am · 17 May 2019 · Twitter for iPhone

Of course he knew. Obama warned Trump against hiring Flynn on November 10, 2016. And it's no longer just three former Obama officials who say that. According to the Mueller Report, both Hope Hicks and Steve Bannon not only corroborate *that* Obama warned Trump, but their FBI testimony makes it clear that Trump was really bugged about Obama's warning.

Several witnesses said that the President was unhappy with Flynn for other reasons at this time. Bannon said that Flynn's standing with the President was not good by December 2016. Bannon 2/12/18 302, at 12. The President-Elect had concerns because President Obama had warned him about Flynn shortly after the election. Bannon 2/12/18 302, at 4-5; Hicks 12/8/17 302, at 7 (President Obama's comment sat with President-Elect Trump more than Hicks expected). Priebus said that the President had become unhappy with Flynn even before the story of his calls with Kislyak broke and had become so upset with Flynn that he would not look at him during intelligence briefings. Priebus 1/18/18 302, at 8. Hicks said that the President thought Flynn had bad judgment and was angered by tweets sent by Flynn and his son, and she described Flynn as "being on thin ice" by early February 2017. Hicks

12/8/17 302, at 7, 10. [my emphasis]

No lesser Trump supporter than Bannon says that at the time Mike Flynn called up the Russian Ambassador and undermined the policy the President of the United States had just implemented, Trump was already concerned about the warnings that Obama gave him.

As I have noted, the evidence in the Mueller Report – as well as the silences about most earlier things Flynn did that raised counterintelligence concerns – suggest that Mueller *has to* believe that Flynn did what he did with Trump's blessing. Otherwise Mueller would have had abundant evidence that Flynn, while freelancing, hiding that he was freelancing, and lying about it to the FBI, did things that directly benefitted the Russian state and undermined US policy.

Sullivan's moves (which may be an attempt to explain why he raised such sharp questions about Flynn's loyalty last December) may reveal evidence to substantiate that.

Which, in turn, may be why Trump is accusing two of his closest aides of lying to the FBI to pretend he didn't get the warning from Obama they say he did.

As I disclosed last July, I provided information to the FBI on issues related to the Mueller investigation, so I'm going to include disclosure statements on Mueller investigation posts from here on out. I will include the disclosure whether or not the stuff I shared with the FBI pertains to the subject of the post.