

**COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515**

March 3, 2021

The Honorable Janet L. Yellen
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Secretary Yellen,

I write today to make you aware of a previous request for guidance from the Department of the Treasury (Treasury).

On January 13, 2021, members of the House Committee on Ways and Means (Committee) wrote a letter to former Treasury Secretary Mnuchin requesting emergency guidance for tax-exempt organizations on the current laws, rules, and sanctions related to their participation in illegal activities that interfere with the conduct of our government.¹ The members of the Committee asked for guidance to be issued in response to media reports that certain tax-exempt organizations organized and promoted the violent insurrection on the United States Capitol on January 6, 2021.² However, no such guidance has been issued.

I now renew our prior request and respectfully ask that Treasury issue the requested guidance. Additionally, as you may be aware, a recent report by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) found that the Internal Revenue Service enforcement program ensuring tax law compliance by tax-exempt organizations can be improved. In light of TIGTA's review, I ask that Treasury take all necessary action with respect to specific organizations involved in the January 6 insurrection to ensure they are in compliance with existing laws.

¹ Ways and Means Democrats Call on Treasury to Update Guidance Warning Tax-Exempt Organizations About Engaging In Insurrection Activities (Jan. 13, 2021), <https://waysandmeans.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/ways-and-means-democrats-call-treasury-update-guidance-warning-tax>.

² See, e.g., Brian Schwartz, "Pro-Trump dark money groups organized the rally that led to deadly Capitol Hill riot," CNBC (Jan. 9, 2021), <https://www.cnbc.com/2021/01/09/pro-trump-dark-money-groups-organized-the-rally-that-led-to-deadly-capitol-hill-riot.html>; Laura Strickler and Lisa Cavazuti, "Republican AGs group sent robocalls urging march to the Capitol," NBC News (Jan. 8, 2020), <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/republican-ags-group-sent-robocalls-urging-march-capitol-n1253581>.

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Due to the ongoing interest in this matter, I request that Treasury provide an update on this issue no later than March 17, 2021. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Pascrell Jr". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Bill Pascrell, Jr., *Chair*
Subcommittee on Oversight