

From: [Jackson, Ryan](#)
To: [Ulmer, Craig](#)
Cc: [Sheehan, Charles](#); [Leopold, Matt \(OGC\)](#); [Benevento, Douglas](#)
Subject: RE: OIG Interview Request
Date: Monday, October 21, 2019 5:01:00 PM

Craig, I understand that you continue to request a time for me to speak again with your staff.

I have repeatedly advised you I will schedule an appointment with you when I know the topic and have the opportunity to prepare. I really do not believe this is too much to ask and anything less is unprofessional. Further, you dismissed without consideration my complaints about how your staff behaved toward my staff.

Frankly, I have already met with your staff for an hour. If you would like a second interview send me your questions in writing, and I will respond in writing.

From: Jackson, Ryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 9, 2019 4:41 PM
To: Ulmer, Craig <Ulmer.Craig@epa.gov>
Cc: Sheehan, Charles <Sheehan.Charles@epa.gov>; Leopold, Matt (OGC) <Leopold.Matt@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: OIG Interview Request

Well, then I am not meeting with you or your staff if you will not tell me the subject of the conversation so that I may prepare for it.

The fact that you cannot and will not provide the subject of what you want to meet with me about is unprofessional, and I'm not participating.

Unless you have further substantive information, do not contact me further.

Ryan Jackson
Chief of Staff
U.S. EPA
202-564-6999

On Oct 9, 2019, at 4:23 PM, Ulmer, Craig <Ulmer.Craig@epa.gov> wrote:

Ryan,

As you know, on July 24, 2019, you were interviewed by OIG Special Agents concerning a matter under investigation and you terminated that interview before

it could be completed. As a result, my office has made efforts to interview you a second time. This second interview is necessary for an investigation of employee misconduct that is fully within the jurisdiction of the OIG. Like all EPA employees, you have a duty to cooperate with an OIG investigation. Although you have asked to be informed about the subject matter, you are not entitled to advance notice of the purpose of the interview or the topics that may be covered. That said, you may reasonably expect that the same or similar topic(s) discussed during the interview of July 24, 2019 will be covered.

To accommodate your schedule as much as possible, my office has tried several times over the past three weeks to work with your scheduler to arrange a date and time that would be convenient for you. We have communicated with your scheduler on multiple dates, including on September 25, October 1, and October 2. But despite these efforts we have yet to receive a date and time.

Given the need for the OIG to expeditiously conclude its investigation, please contact me no later than the close of business on October 10, 2019, to schedule an interview no later than October 18, 2019. Please allot 2 hours for the interview. We anticipate this will be a sufficient amount of time to obtain the relevant information; however, if necessary, the OIG may need to conduct further interviews.

The investigation is administrative in nature only. Accordingly, you will be provided and asked to sign a "Kalkines" advice of rights warning form prior to the start of the interview. The Kalkines warning explains that you have a duty to answer our questions or you could face disciplinary proceedings if you refuse to answer or fail to reply fully and truthfully.

As for your concerns that you were "set up" during the July 24th interview, I categorically deny these characterizations and stand by the professionalism of the OIG Special Agents who met with you on July 24th. Moreover, I should note that you were given the opportunity to follow up with any clarification you believed necessary, but you have not done so. At any time, should you feel that you need to clarify or provide additional documents or information regarding any of the matters discussed at the July 24 interview or any other future interview, you are permitted to do so.

Craig W. Ulmer
Deputy Assistant IG for Investigations
Environmental Protection Agency - OIG

Desk: 202-566-0943
Cell: 202-480-7603
e-mail: ulmer.craig@epa.gov

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From: Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 08, 2019 12:04 PM
To: Ulmer, Craig <Ulmer.Craig@epa.gov>; Sheehan, Charles <Sheehan.Charles@epa.gov>
Cc: Leopold, Matt (OGC) <Leopold.Matt@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: OIG Interview Request

If you would like to tell me specifically what it is about, I'll be glad to schedule it.

However, the last time this occurred, your staff showed up at my office unannounced and demanded to speak with me despite my assistant repeatedly advising your staff I was not available because I was in the Administrator's office. Your staff demanded that my assistant even call me to get me to speak to them despite me being in the Administrator's office. Frankly, your staff were rude to my assistant purposefully trying to intimidate him.

I set up an appointment the next day with your staff. However, despite beginning the interview where I was asked to contribute as a witness in a matter, your staff turned to questioning me as clearly a target of an investigation. In fact the two matters were in no way related and was a bait and switch situation.

If your staff want to talk with me on any matter where I am interviewed as a witness or otherwise you will provide me with what you intend to explore so that I can prepare. In the matter in which I was questioned previously as clearly a target of an investigation I was set up with questions on a matter more than 2 years old where your staff intended to try to get me to provide them with incorrect or inconsistent information. It was highly unprofessional.

I have learned from that situation. So don't tell me that I'm simply not getting back with you. Sharnett has asked the subject of the matter and until I receive it and have the opportunity to prepare I'm not meeting with you or your staff.

Ryan Jackson
Chief of Staff
U.S. EPA
202-564-6999

On Oct 8, 2019, at 11:35 AM, Ulmer, Craig <Ulmer.Craig@epa.gov> wrote:

Ryan,

Good morning. I am reaching out to you to set up a time and date when you can meet so that my office can interview you pertaining to an ongoing administrative investigation. Please contact me by e-mail or telephone no later than close of business on October 10, 2019 to schedule a time for an interview.

As background, my office spoke to your scheduler, Ms. Sharnett Willis, on September 25th, to arrange a meeting, but since that time the OIG has not heard back about your availability.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank You,

Craig

Craig W. Ulmer

Deputy Assistant IG for Investigations

Environmental Protection Agency - OIG

Desk: 202-566-0943

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e-mail: ulmer.craig@epa.gov

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