



**Office of the Attorney General**  
**Washington, D. C. 20530**

ORDER NO. 4878-2020

**APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL COUNSEL TO INVESTIGATE MATTERS RELATED TO  
INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES AND INVESTIGATIONS ARISING OUT OF THE 2016  
PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGNS**

On May 13, 2019, I directed United States Attorney John Durham to conduct a preliminary review into certain matters related to the 2016 presidential election campaigns, and Mr. Durham's review subsequently developed into a criminal investigation, which remains ongoing. Following consultation with Mr. Durham, I have determined that, in light of the extraordinary circumstances relating to these matters, the public interest warrants Mr. Durham continuing this investigation pursuant to the powers and independence afforded by the Special Counsel regulations. Accordingly, by virtue of the authority vested in the Attorney General, including 28 U.S.C. §§ 509, 510, and 515, in order to discharge my responsibility to provide supervision and management of the Department of Justice, and to ensure a full and thorough investigation of these matters, I hereby order as follows:

(a) John Durham, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, is appointed to serve as Special Counsel for the Department of Justice.

(b) The Special Counsel is authorized to investigate whether any federal official, employee, or any other person or entity violated the law in connection with the intelligence, counter-intelligence, or law-enforcement activities directed at the 2016 presidential campaigns, individuals associated with those campaigns, and individuals associated with the administration

of President Donald J. Trump, including but not limited to Crossfire Hurricane and the investigation of Special Counsel Robert S. Mueller, III.


(c) If the Special Counsel believes it is necessary and appropriate, the Special Counsel is authorized to prosecute federal crimes arising from his investigation of these matters.

(d) 28 C.F.R. §§ 600.4 to 600.10 are applicable to the Special Counsel.

(e) Pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 600.9(b), I have determined that the notification requirement in 28 C.F.R. § 600.9(a)(1) should be tolled until at least after the November 3, 2020 election because legitimate investigative and privacy concerns warrant confidentiality.

(f) In addition to the confidential report required by 28 C.F.R. § 600.8(c), the Special Counsel, to the maximum extent possible and consistent with the law and the policies and practices of the Department of Justice, shall submit to the Attorney General a final report, and such interim reports as he deems appropriate, in a form that will permit public dissemination.

10/19/20  
Date

  
William P. Barr  
Attorney General