

HONOURABLE JODY WILSON-RAYBOULD MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT for VANCOUVER GRANVILLE

February 26, 2019

Mr. Anthony Housefather, M.P. Chair, Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights Sixth Floor, 131 Queen Street House of Commons Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Housefather:

In response to your letter of earlier today, I accept your suggestion that the Committee schedule my testimony for Wednesday, February 27, 2019 at 3:15 pm. I am grateful that the Committee has agreed to accommodate my request to present an opening statement of 30 minutes' duration. While that time period will certainly not provide sufficient time for me to provide a "full complete version of events", it will permit at least a reasonably detailed summary of them.

I also draw to the Committee's attention that while Order in Council number 2019-0105, which I saw for the first time last evening, is a step in the right direction, it falls short of what is required. The OIC addresses only my time as Attorney General of Canada and therefore does nothing to release me from any restrictions that apply to communications while I served as Minister of Veterans Affairs and in relation to my resignation from that post or my presentation to Cabinet after I had resigned. This time period includes communications on topics that some members of the Committee have explored with other witnesses and about which there have been public statements by others. I mention this simply to alert the Committee to the fact that the Order in Council leaves in place whatever restraints there are on my ability to speak freely about matters that occurred after I left the post of Attorney General.

Respectfully,

Hon. Jody Wilson-Raybould, P.C., Q.C., M.P. Member of Parliament for Vancouver Granville

cc: Mr. Marc-Olivier Girard, Committee Clerk, Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights