



U.S. Department of Homeland Security
UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE

Washington, D.C. 20223

December 10, 2014

The Honorable Steve Cohen
2404 Rayburn House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Cohen:

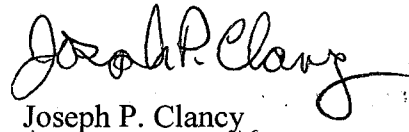
Thank you for attending the hearing before the House Judiciary Committee on Tuesday, November 19th, regarding oversight of the United States Secret Service. Although it is difficult to be in the spotlight for anything less than a job well-done, I firmly believe that in the middle of difficulty lies opportunity. I welcome discussions like the ones held during the hearing because of the potential they have for yielding a positive outcome.

The Secret Service takes the concerns raised by Members of the Committee seriously. As acting Director, I have every intention of addressing any challenge that presents itself, and every faith that the men and women of the Secret Service are with me and up to the task. I am extremely appreciative of the attention you gave to the enhancement of security measures at the White House Complex.

I sincerely appreciate your suggestion and letter following the hearing regarding the use of a water obstacle to deter or even slow down individuals that jump the fence. As you know, comprehensive reviews of security measures at the White House Complex are currently underway. In these endeavors, the Secret Service partners with the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC), the Commission of Fine Arts (CFA), and the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Office. The need for and level of review required is determined based on the type of enhancements being proposed. The Secret Service values your input and is evaluating many options with its partners, to include your recommendation.

Again, I'd like to extend to you my warmest regards and appreciation for your support. I wish you and your staff much success in the future.

Sincerely,



Joseph P. Clancy