

Trump resists Mueller interview, leaving decision on subpoena before fall elections

By Chris Megerian
and David Willman
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON - After months of negotiations could not secure an interview with President Donald Trump, special counsel Robert Mueller warned the president's lawyers in March that he could use a grand jury subpoena if necessary to compel his testimony.

That prompted a furious response from John M. Dowd, the president's lead attorney at the time.

"I told him, in no uncertain terms, if that's the route he took, he'd have a war on his hands," Dowd said.

Trump's team has increasingly signaled that he will not voluntarily answer questions as the special counsel investigates Russian meddling in the 2016 election, whether the Trump campaign colluded with the Kremlin, and if Trump subsequently obstructed the investigation.

That may give Mueller little choice but to seek a subpoena if he deems Trump's testimony critical. But getting one this summer almost certainly would spark a court battle with the president's lawyers before the November midterm elections, a prospect Mueller might want to avoid.

Federal investigation

The impasse represents a defining juncture for a federal investigation that has clouded the Trump White



MUELLER: Former FBI Director Robert Mueller, front, the special counsel probing Russian interference in the 2016 U.S. election, leaves the Capitol building after meeting with the Senate Judiciary Committee on Capitol Hill on June 21, 2017, in Washington, D.C. Ting Shen/Xinhua/Zuma Press/Tribune News Service

House from its first day and led to criminal charges against 32 people since October, including 12 Russian intelligence officers indicted Friday on charges of hacking files of Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign, Democratic Party organizations and state election offices in 2016.

While Mueller has avoided the media, Trump's rage has grown, with near-daily Twitter broadsides against what he calls a "rigged witch hunt." Trump will meet Monday in Finland with Russian President Vladimir Putin, who denies the meddling even though U.S. intelligence agencies said he ordered the operation.

Rudy Giuliani, who replaced Dowd, has become the president's most vocal defender. On July 8, the former New York City mayor said on a TV talk show that Trump would meet with Mueller only if the special

counsel could show a "factual basis for the investigation," a hardening of the White House position.

Legal experts questioned Giuliani's attempts to set conditions for an interview with Trump.

'Nonsense on stilts'

"That's nonsense. It's actually nonsense on stilts," said Paul Rosenzweig, who worked with the independent counsel's office that investigated President Bill Clinton in the 1990s and is now a senior fellow at the nonpartisan R Street Institute in Washington.

The only grounds required for obtaining a grand jury subpoena, Rosenzweig said, is whether a witness may have evidence germane to the investigation.

Some former prosecutors and other lawyers say they are puzzled that Mueller has not sought a subpoena to

While Mueller has avoided the media, Trump's rage has grown, with near-daily Twitter broadsides against what he calls a "rigged witch hunt."

bolster his hand in securing Trump's testimony.

"We've passed the point where a sensible prosecutor, even with the president, would have said, 'OK, enough. Here's your subpoena. See you in court,'" said Harry Litman, a University of California law professor and former U.S. attorney in Pittsburgh who was appointed by Clinton. "I would never second-guess Mueller. But I'm a little surprised he didn't start proceedings on a subpoena."

The question of whether a president can be compelled to testify under oath has never been tested in the courts.

Mueller's office declined comment for this story. Another lawyer for the president, Jay Sekulow, said only that "we continue to maintain a professional dialogue with the special counsel."

Suspect dead, three officers wounded in Kansas City shootouts

(Reuters) - Police shot and killed a man on Sunday after a series of shootouts on the streets of Kansas City in which three officers were wounded and hospitalized in stable condition, officials said.

Undercover and tactical officers were following a person of interest in the murder of a university student when suddenly and unexpectedly he fired on them with a rifle, according to police in Kansas City, Missouri.

Two of the officers were struck at that time, police said.

The suspect fled in a vehicle that was found a short time later. During the search that followed the suspect

fired on officers again, police said on Twitter. A third officer was hit by gunfire and also in stable condition.

A few minutes later, the suspect fled from a home where he had been hiding and again exchanged gunfire with police, whereupon he was shot, taken into custody, and declared dead by the Kansas City Fire Department, police said.

Police were not releasing the dead

man's identity, a spokeswoman said.

Officers came across the suspect during their investigation into the robbery and murder of Sharath Koppu, a 25-year-old student from India at the University of Missouri-Kansas City who was shot a week earlier at a Kansas City restaurant. Koppu was taken to a hospital where he was pronounced dead, police said.

GOVERNMENT OF GUAM
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
DIPARTAMENTON SALUT PUBLIKO YAN SETBISHON SUSAAT
123 CHALAN KARETA, MANGILAO, GUAM 96913-6304

LEO G. CASIL
Acting Director

GUAM WIC PROGRAM DRAFT FY 2019 STATE PLAN

The Department of Public Health and Social Services, Guam Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Draft FY 2019 State Plan is available for the general public to review and comment. The Guam WIC Program Draft FY 2019 State Plan can be reviewed during the clinic hours of 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., July 19, 2018 at Tiyan WIC Conference Room located at Bldg. 15-6100 Mariner Ave. Tiyan, Barrigada. For more information, please contact Ms. Eleanor F. Keswani at 475-0293 or Mr. Charles H. Morris at 475-0287.

"USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer"

/s/ LEO G. CASIL
Acting Director

GUAM BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR PHARMACY

Regular Session Meeting,
Thursday, July 19, 2018 at 7:30 AM

at the Teraje Professional Building, 194
Herman Cortez Avenue, 2nd Floor, Suite 209
Health Professional Licensing Office Board
Conference Room, Hagatna, Guam.

For more information please contact the Board office at 735-7405 thru 12. Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations may call Jimmy Sian at 735-7172 or the telecommunication device for the Hearing/Speech Impaired (TDD) at 649-1801. Executive meeting may be called if necessary.

R
RETIREMENT FUND
424 Route 8 • Maite, Guam 96910
Tel.: 671.475.8900/01 • Fax: 671.475.8922

PUBLIC NOTICE

For: Regular Board Meeting
Date: Wednesday, July 25, 2018
Time: 12:00 noon
Place: GGRF Conference Room
Agenda will be made available prior to the meeting. For individuals requiring special accommodations, please contact 475-8900/01.

/s/ Paula M. Blas, Director

This ad is paid with government funds by GGRF.