



OFFICE OF  
**INSPECTOR GENERAL**  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

JUN 18 2020

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
Senator  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Raul Grijalva  
Chairman  
United States House of Representatives  
Committee on Natural Resources  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Debra Haaland  
Chairwoman  
United State House of Representatives  
Committee on Natural Resources  
Subcommittee on National Parks,  
Forests, and Public Lands  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Wyden, and Chairs Grijalva and Haaland,

I am writing to reply to your letter of June 8, 2020, in which you request an investigation into the U.S. Park Police's actions on June 1, 2020, in response to protests following the death of George Floyd.

In light of your request and a request we received from Secretary Bernhardt to review this matter, I want to emphasize that my office appreciates the need for an independent assessment of the Park Police actions in Lafayette Square that day. Given the significance of the events, we have already begun collecting and reviewing information concerning the Park Police's activities. It is worth noting that the active presence of multiple Federal law enforcement agencies operating in Lafayette Square at that time adds complex operational and jurisdictional challenges to our oversight efforts. Therefore, we will make an initial determination of which agency had command and control of the law enforcement operation and conduct a review of Park Police actions accordingly.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 202-208-5745, or your staff may contact Nancy DiPaolo, Director, External Affairs at 202-208-4357.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Lee Greenblatt".

Mark Lee Greenblatt  
Inspector General