

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Global Strategy Group & GBA Strategies
DATE: November 8th, 2018
RE: **SURVEY RESULTS** – Americans believe Trump administration is corrupt, want stronger oversight

The American people believe the Trump administration has a serious corruption problem, and that the current Congress's failure to hold the administration accountable is leading to even more misconduct. Americans agree it is Congress's duty to conduct oversight of the administration, feel this oversight should be bipartisan, and support investigating a variety of specific allegations of wrongdoing. The issues that Americans believe are most important to investigate are those that have caused real harm to the public.

Key findings from Global Strategy Group and GBA Strategies' recent survey of 1,011 Americans nationwide are as follows:

- **Americans believe there is a serious corruption problem in the Trump administration.** Nearly two-thirds of Americans (65%) say the current administration has a serious corruption problem. Additionally, half of Americans (50%) believe the Trump administration is more corrupt than past administrations, while only 20% believe that today's administration is less corrupt.
- **Americans widely agree Congress has a responsibility to conduct oversight of the executive branch.** More than four in five (82%) agree Congress should be responsible for conducting oversight of senior administration officials.
- **And yet many feel Congress is failing in its oversight role.** Oversight is important, yet most disapprove of the job Congress is currently doing holding the Trump administration accountable (27% approve/57% disapprove). Americans believe that this abdication of responsibility has real negative consequences – a majority (60%) agree that senior officials in the administration are taking advantage of Congress's lack of oversight by abusing their power in office.
- **Americans want investigations into evidence of a wide range of misconduct by the Trump administration.** All of the possible investigations we tested receive majority support. Whether investigations cover wrongdoing directly hurting Americans, or egregious ethics and bad behavior, Americans support increased investigation and oversight. For example, broad majorities support investigations of the mishandling of disaster relief in response to Hurricane Maria (70% support Congress investigating) and the administration's separation of immigrant families at the border (69%).

And both better-known and lesser-known officials might warrant investigation. The public wants to see the actions of specific high-ranking officials investigated, such as Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke using taxpayer money on private planes and trying to spend over \$139,000 to upgrade his office doors (78% support investigating), Acting Consumer Financial Protecting Bureau Director Mick Mulvaney joining forces with payday lenders to fight protections for borrowers (76%), and Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos attempting to block investigations of student loan servicers (75%). (Note this survey was conducted before the recent news about continuing ethics violations by Zinke.)

ABOUT THIS POLL

Global Strategy Group and GBA Strategies conducted an online survey of 1,011 registered voters nationwide between September 26-30, 2018. Care has been taken to ensure the geographic and demographic divisions of the electorate are properly represented.