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February 5, 2025

The Honorable Scott Bessent, Secretary
U.S. Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Secretary Bessent:

Thank you for the prompt response from your staff to my letter, dated February 3, 2025, regarding access to U.S. Treasury Department payment systems by surrogates of Elon Musk. Regrettably, the letter did not address many of the specific questions I asked, and in fact, it raised additional issues that the Department should address.

Therefore, I respectfully request answers to several follow-up questions by February 10, 2025:

1. The response letter states that “currently, Treasury staff members working with Tom Krause, a Treasury employee, will have read-only access to the coded data of the Fiscal Service’s payment systems.”
 - a. What access does Mr. Krause himself have to these systems?
 - b. Did the access that you initially granted to Mr. Krause or these staff members include permissions beyond “read-only” or access to data with identifiable fields?
 - c. Are you evaluating whether to provide Mr. Krause and these staff members with additional permissions beyond “read-only” and access to coded data?
 - d. How many Treasury staff members are working with Mr. Krause on this matter?
2. The response letter states that “the review at the Fiscal Service has not caused payments for obligations such as Social Security and Medicare to be delayed or re-routed.”
 - a. Did Mr. Krause, or any Treasury staff members working with him, ever attempt to delay or re-route any payments or inquire with career Treasury staff about how to do so?
 - b. Can you commit that Treasury will not delay or re-route any statutorily directed payments?
3. The response letter states that “Mr. Krause is subject to the same security obligations and ethical requirements [as other government employees], including a Top Secret security clearance.”
 - a. Was his clearance granted through the customary practices used for veteran, career Treasury staff members?
 - b. Is his clearance at the level that is customary for the Fiscal Assistant Secretary, which I understand to be TS/SCI with a counterintelligence-scope polygraph?

4. For the Treasury staff members working with Mr. Krause who currently have “read-only” access:
 - a. Do they all have security clearances and if so, were these clearances granted through the customary practices used for veteran, career Treasury staff members?
 - b. Are any of them foreign nationals?
 - c. Are any of them designed as a “special government employee” and if so, how many have this designation?

5. Have Mr. Krause and the Treasury staff members working with him submitted financial disclosure forms to the Office of Government Ethics?

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your prompt reply.

Sincerely,



Jack Reed
United States Senator