

**Nomination of Eric Dreiband to be
Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights
Division Questions for the Record
Submitted September 28, 2017**

FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS FROM SENATOR WHITEHOUSE

In my Questions for the Record, I asked whether, while you were under consideration for this nomination and since your nomination, you had been in communication with a list of seven specific individuals. If so, I asked you to generally indicate the purpose of those communications, and whether these conversations involved discussions about particular Civil Rights Division initiatives or personnel. As you likely know, several of the individuals I listed have been responsible for perpetuation of false and debunked claims of widespread voter fraud in American elections. Some have also urged a return to the illegal politicization of the Civil Rights Division, including calling for a cleansing of the so-called “ideological rot” of career attorneys hired during the Obama-era. If you had conversations with these individuals about the past, present, or future work of the Civil Rights Division, it is important that we know about them.

You declined to answer my question straightforwardly, responding: “I have heard from many people about my nomination. The communications have generally involved messages of support about the nomination and general background about the Civil Rights Division.” This answer is plainly non-responsive and inadequate. Accordingly, I repeat my question:

While you were under consideration for this nomination and since your nomination, have you been in communication with the following individuals? If so, please generally indicate the purpose of those communications, and whether these conversations involved discussions about particular initiatives or personnel.

- a. Kris Kobach*
- b. Hans von Spakovsky*
- c. J. Christian Adams*
- d. Bradley Schlozman*
- e. Roger Clegg*
- f. Roger Severino*
- g. Chuck Cooper*

I am also disappointed that you chose not to provide a substantive response to my request that you repudiate claims of widespread voter fraud. As the person nominated to lead our nation’s enforcement of federal civil rights laws, your answer that you are “not aware of data or analyses regarding this issue” is simply not adequate. I recently wrote to Attorney General Sessions and others at DOJ that “[i]t would be a low moment for the Department to have been a facilitator of the myth – perhaps a fraud in its own right – that widespread voter fraud is a problem plaguing our election system, especially when the Department itself has produced evidence to the

contrary.” I would expect any candidate for this position to be conversant on this issue and have an opinion about how it relates to the Department’s enforcement of laws that protect the voting rights of all Americans. Please take this as an opportunity to revise your answer.