



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Professional Responsibility

950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 3266
Washington, D.C. 20530

June 1, 2023

The Honorable Michael W. Morrissey
District Attorney
Office of the District Attorney for the Norfolk District
45 Shawmut Rd.
Canton, MA 02021

Dear Mr. Morrissey:

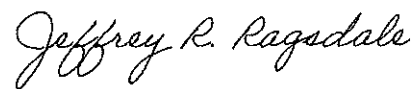
The Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) received your May 18, 2023 letter requesting that OPR investigate the decision by the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Massachusetts (USAO) to subpoena individuals who are witnesses in your pending state prosecution, *Commonwealth v. Read*, No. 2282cr00117, to testify before the grand jury in an ongoing federal investigation. You stated that the USAO's investigation is "possibly [an] abusive exercise of power" and likely based "only" on defendant Karen Read's "specious" claims of "witness and police misconduct." In addition to an investigation of the USAO's investigative decision, you requested that OPR transfer the USAO's pending investigation to another office "without a history of conflict, bias, and abuse of prosecutorial discretion."

OPR has jurisdiction to investigate allegations of misconduct involving Department of Justice (DOJ) attorneys that relate to the exercise of their authority to investigate, litigate, or provide legal advice, as well as allegations of misconduct by law enforcement personnel that are related to allegations of attorney misconduct within the jurisdiction of OPR. However, it is the policy of this Office to refrain from investigating such issues or allegations if an active investigation is ongoing or litigation is pending.

With regard to your request that another office be assigned to the pending grand jury investigation, a matter outside of OPR's jurisdiction, OPR forwarded your complaint to the Executive Office for United States Attorneys (EOUSA) for whatever action it deems appropriate. Further inquiry regarding that issue may be directed to EOUSA General Counsel Jay Macklin at Jay.Macklin@usdoj.gov.

Thank you for advising OPR of your concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeffrey R. Ragsdale".

Jeffrey R. Ragsdale
Counsel

cc: Jay Macklin
General Counsel
EOUSA