

MESSAGING GUIDANCE: PROTECT THE RESULTS 11/11/20

Scenario: The Losing Trump Campaign Adopts a Litigation & Disinformation Strategy to Contest the Election Outcome

- Our election was safe, free, and fair. There's no evidence of any wrongdoing and the PR stunts from the Trump campaign won't change that fact.
- When all votes are counted [or recounted] the outcome will remain unchanged: Joe Biden will be our next president.
- The PR stunts from Trump and his allies reflect an utter disrespect for the American people and our democratic process. We condemn this un-American attempt to cast doubt on our process and undermine the will of the people.
- These attempts to spread disinformation and baseless theories are a waste of time and taxpayer dollars, and frankly pretty embarrassing. We need our leaders rebuilding our economy, beating this virus, and bringing our country back together
- Here's the bottom line: the voters decided the outcome of this election, not the courts, not any candidate or a party.
- We will not be distracted. We voted. We counted, and Donald Trump lost. We need to focus on a peaceful transition of power.
- I'm ready to investigate and prosecute any credible claims of election crimes. So far, all we have seen are false allegations for the media.
- We take any allegations of misconduct seriously, but if you are going to bring allegations, you also need to bring the facts. Thus far, we have only seen baseless claims.

Scenario: Recounts

- Our election was safe, free, and fair. There's no evidence of any wrongdoing and the PR stunts from the Trump campaign won't change that fact.
- The bottom line is this: We will not let anyone steal this election.
- We said we were going to count every legal vote. And we're ready to recount every legal vote.
- We'll follow the law. If a recount is in order, we will do it according to the law.
- We are confident that when all legally cast ballots are counted and certified, the outcome will not change and Joe Biden will be our next president.

Scenario: A Candidate Tries to Throw Election to State Legislatures

- State legislatures have not intervened to overturn the will of the people since the 1800s. We don't do that in this country.
- This is cheating the American people of their votes.
- The voters decide the outcome of the election, any attempt to mess with that is an attempt to steal the election.
- This is an attack on our democracy and flies in the face of the principles our nation was founded on.
- We will do everything in our power to ensure that voters decide the election, not the president or politicians grasping at power.
- We're calling on all leaders to uphold the will of the American people.
- We are counting on our leaders to protect our democracy.
- Let's be clear: this is an attempt by Donald Trump and his enablers in state government to steal this election away from voters.

Scenario: Department of Justice Interference

- The recent DOJ memo isn't law enforcement policy, it's a partisan PR stunt.
- The Department of Justice has nothing to do with counting and certifying our elections. That's the job of state and local officials.
- The voters decided the winner of this election not the President, not Attorney General Barr.
- Our election was safe, free, and fair. There's no evidence of any wrongdoing here—and not even Bill Barr on a Trump-sponsored fishing expedition will find any.

- Under presidents of both parties, the DOJ has maintained independence and a policy of noninterference until the results of elections are certified.
- Our state and local leaders are doing an extraordinary job of accurately and fairly counting every legal vote. They must be free to certify the results without partisan federal interference.
- America voted, in record numbers. Every legal vote is being counted, fairly and accurately. The results are clear. State officials are not going to let anyone interfere with the will of the people.