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Contact: FBImatters@ecbawm.com

*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

Statement from Counsel for former FBI Agents Christopher Meyer and Walter Giardina

Meyer and Giardina Illegally Fired from FBI Without Cause, Explanation, or Due Process

FBI Agents Seek to Correct Falsehoods That Smeared Their Reputations and Belie Their Illegal Firings

(NEW YORK, NY) — Andrew G. Celli, Jr., Partner, and Daniel M. Eisenberg, Of Counsel, Emery Celli Brinckerhoff Abady Ward & Maazel LLP (ECBAWM), released the following joint statement on behalf of [Christopher Meyer and Walter Giardina](#), former Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Special Agents who were wrongfully removed from federal service on August 8, 2025:

“Supervisory Special Agent Christopher Meyer and Special Agent Walter Giardina together have given more than 55 years of service to this country as decorated combat veterans and federal law enforcement officers. They have disrupted terrorist plots, led complex extradition and overseas transportation missions, and thwarted schemes to defraud the United States Government of billions of dollars.

“Christopher Meyer and Walter Giardina worked the cases assigned to them by the FBI without fear or favor. They are career, non-partisan, non-political law enforcement agents who have served and deployed with integrity and professionalism under presidents from both political parties. They are among our finest career public servants.

“They were abruptly removed from the FBI on August 8, 2025, without notice, explanation, or due process. Our country is less safe as a result. The FBI did not even investigate any purported charges against them. No law enforcement officer should lose his job just for doing his job. The FBI should not be playing politics with Christopher Meyer’s and Walter Giardina’s careers or our country’s safety.

“ECBAWM is honored to represent Mr. Meyer and Mr. Giardina as they seek to correct the record and pursue justice for violations of their Constitutional and statutory rights.”

Statement from Kristin D. Alden, Partner of the Alden Law Group, PLLC:

“Our government depends on dedicated, non-partisan public servants like Walter Giardina and Christopher Meyer. The FBI Director’s claim that he can summarily fire veteran employees without due process is an overreach of executive power and an assault on laws that safeguard the civil service from political interference. His blatantly illegal firing of Giardina and Meyer threatens to throw the nation’s most powerful law enforcement agency into politicized disarray.”

Statement from Christopher Mark Meyer:

“It’s been the honor of my life to serve this nation, both in uniform and the FBI. I am extremely proud of my service, and grateful for the opportunity to have worked alongside so many of America’s best. The lack of dignity or due process associated with my termination will never diminish the way I feel about the FBI, or the amazing people with whom I served—the same people who continue to support my family today. I am forever in your debt.

“I was seventeen the first time I swore an oath to support and defend the Constitution, an oath I repeated multiple times throughout my life and career. My loyalty remains with that oath, not to any political party, ideal or narrative. The principles of truth, fairness and due process are foundational to this great nation, and to the work of the FBI. Those same principles demand I work to clear my name, address the wrongs perpetrated against myself and my family, and protect my colleagues against similar actions in the future.”

Statement from Walter Giardina:

“Serving the country is all I ever wanted to do, even before I first swore an oath to the Constitution at 18 years old. Being entrusted with the lives of Marines and Sailors as a commissioned officer, and with the nation’s security as an FBI Special Agent was the honor of my lifetime. I took on every mission I was tasked with by the military and every case I was assigned by the FBI with dedication. I’ve been always faithful to the Constitution and my oath of office.

“My wife was equally dedicated to the ideals of this country and supported me on four overseas deployments. To be summarily fired based on false pretenses, without cause or due process, immediately after her death from cancer is wrong, cruel, and inexcusable. It is not how we should treat our veterans and law enforcement officers. Despite this, I am still just as dedicated to the principles of this great country and Constitution as ever, and am determined to fight this unlawful termination. I am doing this for myself and my family, and to set a precedent for all of the agents still at the FBI that unlawful removal of career civil servants cannot stand.”

Background on Christopher Mark Meyer

On August 8, 2025, the FBI summarily terminated Supervisory Special Agent Christopher Mark Meyer’s employment via a one-page letter alleging that he had “exercised poor judgment and a lack of impartiality . . . leading to the political weaponization of the government,” citing Article II of the Constitution. This was the first and only time in his more than 25 years of federal service that he had ever been accused by his employer of misconduct. Mr. Meyer was never investigated, charged, or disciplined during his career in the United States Air Force and FBI. He was afforded no notice, explanation, or due process before being dismissed.

Mr. Meyer is a decorated veteran who began his public service at 17, enlisting in the Air National Guard as an aircraft mechanic to pay for college before becoming a U.S. Air Force pilot. He deployed multiple times to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, logged more than 350 combat hours, and earned the Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Air Force Achievement Medal. He retired honorably from the Air Force in 2019 after 20 years of service, overlapping with his career at the FBI, which he joined in 2012.

Between 2012 and August 2025, Mr. Meyer alternated between service as an FBI pilot responsible for global transportation missions and as an investigative agent assigned to criminal investigations. On the investigative side, the FBI assigned Mr. Meyer to work on investigations focused on allegations of corruption by state and local public officials, fraud against the government, and civil rights violations. He was assigned to the Washington Field Office SWAT team, and an investigation into alleged attempts to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election.

On the pilot side, he was responsible for piloting FBI aircraft in support of some of the FBI’s most time-sensitive and consequential missions, including the extradition of the foreign terrorist accused of the 2021 Kabul Airport Abbey Gate bombing and the complex transfer of three U.S. citizens from the Democratic Republic of Congo.

He rose to become one of only three captains in the FBI's Special Flight Operations Unit, certified as an Airline Transport Pilot and type-rated in multiple advanced aircraft including the Gulfstream 550.

Mr. Meyer's record inside the Bureau was exemplary. He received "Exemplary Performer" ratings during his last two years of service, and in 2024, was awarded the Medal of Excellence in Investigation. He earned seven merit bonuses for superior performance since 2015, and was honored by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia in 2020 for his investigative work on a major construction fraud case.

On August 1, 2025, a political podcaster falsely claimed that Mr. Meyer had been the "case agent" on the FBI's Mar-a-Lago investigation and had participated in the FBI's August 8, 2022, search of Mar-a-Lago. Those statements were not true. Mr. Meyer had no involvement in the Mar-a-Lago investigation. At the time it was opened, he was serving as an FBI pilot, flying missions as part of the FBI's Critical Incident Response Group. During the August 2022 search of Mar-a-Lago, he was on vacation with his family in Virginia. Yet within days of the podcast release, Mr. Meyer was terminated.

Mr. Meyer's dismissal violated his rights under the Fifth and First Amendments, the Civil Service Reform Act's protections for preference-eligible veterans, federal whistleblower protection laws, and the FBI's own rules. He is pursuing relief through the Merit Systems Protection Board to restore his good name, correct the public record, and affirm that career public servants cannot be sacrificed to political expedience.

These claims about Mr. Meyer are false. The facts follow:

- **Claim:** Mr. Meyer was the "case agent" for the FBI's Mar-a-Lago investigation.
- **Fact:** He was never assigned to the Mar-a-Lago matter and never acted as its case agent.
- **Claim:** Mr. Meyer participated in the FBI's August 8, 2022, search of Mar-a-Lago.
- **Fact:** He had no role in that search. At the time, he was on vacation with his family in Virginia, and serving in the FBI as a pilot, not an investigator.
- **Claim:** Mr. Meyer exercised "poor judgment and a lack of impartiality" in his FBI work.
- **Fact:** Mr. Meyer served our country with integrity, impartiality, and professionalism for more than 25 years. Mr. Meyer has never been accused, investigated, or disciplined by his employer for any kind of misconduct. His record includes "Exemplary Performer" ratings, seven FBI merit bonuses, the Medal of Excellence in Investigation, commendations from the U.S. Attorney's Office, and military honors.
- **Claim:** The FBI was justified in summarily terminating Mr. Meyer's employment without disclosing or investigating allegations against him.
- **Fact:** The FBI's summary termination of Mr. Meyer's employment without investigation, notice, explanation, or due process violated the United States Constitution, the Civil Service Reform Act, and the FBI's own rules.

Background on Walter Giardina

On August 8, 2025, the FBI summarily terminated Special Agent Walter Giardina's employment with a one-page letter alleging that he had "exercised poor judgment and a lack of impartiality . . . leading to the political weaponization of the government," citing Article II of the Constitution. This was the first and only time in his nearly 30 years of military and federal service that he had ever been accused by his employer of misconduct. Mr. Giardina was never investigated, charged, or disciplined during his career with the United States Marine Corps, the U.S. Navy Reserves, and the FBI. He was afforded no notice, explanation, or due process before being dismissed from the FBI.

Mr. Giardina is a decorated veteran who began his military service in 1995 at 18 years-old, when he was appointed to the United States Naval Academy. Commissioned as a Marine Corps officer in 1999, he served four overseas deployments, three of them combat assignments, including two tours in Iraq and one in Afghanistan. He deployed

under three different presidents. His military decorations include the Joint Commendation Medal (Combat Device), two Navy Commendation Medals, two Navy Achievement Medals (Combat Distinguishing Device), and the Combat Action Ribbon.

In 2005, Mr. Giardina joined the FBI. His first assignment was with the Pittsburgh Field Office's Joint Terrorism Task Force, where he earned the 2009 Top Agent Award for dismantling an extremist group that had assembled explosive devices to kill law enforcement officers. He later served in the Counterterrorism Division at FBI Headquarters, overseeing nine squads and more than 100 agents on 500 international terrorism investigations, contributing to the disruption of several planned attacks, including a 2010 attempted bombing of a military recruiting station. In 2011, he deployed to Afghanistan, interrogating senior Taliban leaders and advising U.S. military interrogators.

From 2012 onward, the FBI assigned Mr. Giardina to corruption, counterterrorism, and cybersecurity positions. He was assigned to lead an investigation that resulted in the conviction of Pittsburgh's police chief for embezzlement, investigate allegations of contempt of Congress, and allegations of misconduct by federal government officials from both political parties, including alleged attempts to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election. His work disrupted a \$3.7 billion fraud scheme affecting the U.S. Military and Intelligence Community, for which he was awarded the 2021 Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General Award for Excellence in Investigation.

Mr. Giardina has amassed an exemplary record of service with the FBI over his just under 20 years with the agency. He has uniformly earned positive performance reviews, including "Exemplary Performer" ratings—the highest rating available—for the past two years. He has received numerous FBI merit bonuses for superior performance over his career with the FBI and the Inspector General Award for Excellence in 2021.

On August 6, 2025, Mr. Giardina received a phone call from a senior FBI official who told him that his employment would be terminated on August 8, 2025. On this call, the official acknowledged that Mr. Giardina had done nothing wrong, and could not answer Mr. Giardina's questions about why the FBI was terminating his employment. Later that evening, Mr. Giardina's Special Agent in Charge called him to express shock at the news of Mr. Giardina's impending termination, also acknowledging that Mr. Giardina had not done anything wrong. On August 8, 2025, Mr. Giardina was handed a one-page termination letter signed by the FBI Director. At no point was he given charges, an investigation, or due process.

The FBI ended Mr. Giardina's career just three weeks after his wife passed away following a long battle with cancer. He is pursuing relief through the Merit Systems Protection Board to restore his good name, correct the public record, and affirm that career public servants cannot be sacrificed to political expedience.

These claims about Mr. Giardina are false. The facts follow:

- **Claim:** Mr. Giardina received or developed the "Steele Dossier" concerning alleged Russian interference with the 2016 presidential election, and was assigned to the FBI's "Crossfire Hurricane" investigation.
- **Fact:** Mr. Giardina had no involvement with the Steele Dossier whatsoever. He learned about it for the first time when it was reported in the news. Mr. Giardina was never assigned to the "Crossfire Hurricane" investigation.
- **Claim:** Mr. Giardina engaged in political activity, allowed politics to influence his work, and chose investigations to target specific people.
- **Fact:** The FBI chose Mr. Giardina's assignments, which included allegations of corruption against prominent officials in both (and neither) political parties. Mr. Giardina worked diligently and without fear or favor. He is not affiliated with any political party, has never contributed to a campaign, and has never advocated for any political person or party.
- **Claim:** Mr. Giardina exercised "poor judgment and a lack of impartiality" in his FBI work.

- **Fact:** In nearly 30 years of military and federal service, Mr. Giardina has never been accused, investigated, or disciplined for any form of misconduct. His record includes “Exemplary Performer” ratings for the last two years of his service with the FBI, multiple FBI merit bonuses, and the DOJ Inspector General Award for Excellence in Investigation, and military honors.
- **Claim:** The FBI was justified in summarily terminating Mr. Giardina’s employment without disclosing or investigating allegations against him.
- **Fact:** Senior FBI officials told Mr. Giardina he had done nothing wrong and that there was no reason to terminate his employment. The FBI’s summary termination of Mr. Giardina’s employment without investigation, notice, explanation, or due process violated the United States Constitution, the Civil Service Reform Act, and the FBI’s own rules.

Christopher Meyer and Walter Giardina are represented by Andrew G. Celli, Jr., Founding Partner, Daniel M. Eisenberg, Of Counsel, and Rachael Wyant, Associate, at Emery Celli Brinckerhoff Abady Ward & Maazel LLP and Kristin D. Alden, Founding Partner, and Kathleen McClellan, Of Counsel, at the Alden Law Group, PLLC.

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