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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of entry 04/26/2019

On 03/28/2019, GAL LUFT, was interviewed at the United States Embassy in Brussels, Belgium [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The following individuals were present for the United States government: Assistant United States Attorneys (AUSAs) Daniel Richenthal and Catherine Ghosh, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] LUFT was present with his attorney Robert Henoch and Paralegal /Analyst Gabriel Klausner both from Kobre Kim LLP. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] LUFT voluntarily provided the following information:

LUFT has lived in Israel for the last 11 years, and is a citizen of both the United States and Israel. LUFT's primary work is in China. LUFT is aware of the criminal case involving his friend, PATRICK HO. LUFT had been careful not to get involved with HO's Africa dealings. LUFT is not a fan of the United Nations (UN) and would often decline invitations to UN events that HO would invite him to.



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Investigation on 03/28/2019 at Brussels, Belgium (In Person)Date drafted 03/29/2019

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[REDACTED] HO and YE were not really getting along. When they first began working together, HO and YE were peers. HO had a 50% stake in CEFC CHINA ENERGY matters with YE. YE slowly marginalized HO over time. Their relationship deteriorated in earnest when YE entered into a deal with Russian energy conglomerate ROSNEFT. Overall, HO was pro-American and YE did not like people that did not agree with him. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] YE would often use intermediaries to send and receive messages. HO was LUFT's usual contact person for YE and LUFT only communicated with YE through others. In addition to CHAN, LUFT knew LI SHUAI to be a contact person and confidant for YE.

[REDACTED]

Following the meeting, HO and LUFT discussed what the potential legal trouble for HO could be in the United States. HO did not consider that it could be anything to do with Africa, and could not figure out anything else that could expose him legally. HO believed that YE was jealous of him and had fabricated this information as a scheme to keep HO out of the United States. HO's function in the United States had been to make contacts for CEFC CHINA ENERGY. YE had been making his own contacts in the United States and purchasing high-end real estate. HO had warned YE that he could not make these deals without drawing the attention of Chinese government officials, who would view them unfavorably. YE believed that money could solve most problems. HO believed that the Chinese intelligence services had penetrated the United States government or the FBI.

YE frequently bragged about relationships he had established with former Vice President JOSEPH BIDEN, his son, HUNTER, and brother, JAMES. LUFT heard from both YE and HO about YE's contacts with the BIDEN family.

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LUFT believes the first attempt YE made to meet with JOSEPH BIDEN was during YE's first trip to Washington D.C. in December of 2015, when BIDEN was still Vice President. YE was coming to Washington to sign a cooperation agreement between the CHINA ENERGY FUND COMMITTEE think tank (CEFC) and and LUFT's organization, the INSTITUTE FOR THE ANALYSIS OF GLOBAL SECURITY (IAGS). HO and LUFT were trying to schedule events for YE but were frustrated because YE was not coordinating with them. LUFT learned from HO several years later that YE had attempted to meet BIDEN and HUNTER during this visit, but that the meeting had been cancelled.

LUFT stated that during 2015 the political climate was much different and there was a spirit of cooperation between the United States and China. LUFT was not aware of any criminal activity that involved YE. YE liked to have pictures taken with important people in order to raise money with banking institutions. Many meetings that YE participated in were not substantive to business and served more as photo opportunities. LUFT felt that much of YE's success was related to his reputation. LUFT cited YE's and CEFC CHINA ENERGY's sponsorship of an art exhibition in Washington as one such example of this. LUFT felt that YE often exaggerated the importance of meetings he had with prominent people. YE did speak of JOSEPH BIDEN often, which LUFT considered to be a jab or showing up HO. HO would report all of his contacts with prominent U.S. figures but this was not reciprocated by YE. LUFT felt that YE could have been exaggerating his contact with the BIDEN family. LUFT is aware that YE met with BIDEN and HUNTER at the end of 2016 at the Four Seasons Hotel in Washington. Since 2015, YE had become a frequent traveler to the U.S., making trips to NYC, Miami, etc. LUFT described the internal competition within the CEFC CHINA ENERGY as fierce. By traveling to the U.S. and making his own contacts YE was indicating to HO that he did not need him anymore. YE likely associated LUFT with HO because of their shared opposition to CEFC CHINA ENERGY's venture with Russian owned ROSNEFT.

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[REDACTED] In November 2017, HO was scheduled to attend a CEFC forum in Washington and a United Nations forum in NYC where a CEFC-sponsored prize would be given. HO debated whether to go, but felt a sense of duty to attend to represent CEFC. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Following HO's arrest by the FBI in NYC, LUFT met with ZHANG during the Spring of 2018 in Beijing to learn about what had happened to HO. LUFT had received the impression from HO that ZHANG was a glorified secretary and served as his personal assistant. LUFT was unaware if HO and ZHANG had a personal/romantic relationship. LUFT was eager to meet with ZHANG because he had also learned that ANDREW LO had died. LO had been the number two person at CEFC and per LUFT's sources had assembled the box of cash that was used to bribe African officials involved in HO's case. LUFT believes that LO was murdered in 2018, because he died of suspicious circumstances and had previously been a healthy and fit man. The last time LUFT had spoken with LO he seemed terrified. With HO arrested and LO deceased, LUFT hoped ZHANG would be able to provide details. During their meeting, ZHANG stated she had been waiting at JFK airport in NYC the day HO was arrested. When HO did not come out, she observed YE and believed that YE and HO had been on the same flight. YE told ZHANG not to worry and that he was taking care of it, meaning HO being detained. LUFT thought this was unusual because YE always flew private. LUFT was aware that ZHANG was visited and questioned by U.S. government officials soon after HO's arrest. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

LUFT had first heard about HO's arrest from ZHANG and then soon after from media reports. LUFT had wanted to assist ZHANG with obtaining a lawyer. Immediately following HO's arrest, LUFT was cut off from all contact with CEFC CHINA ENERGY personnel. LUFT maintains communication with ZHANG via WeChat. At the time of HO's arrest, ANDREW LO was at the conference in Washington.

In February 2018, YE was arrested in China on corruption-related charges. CEFC CHINA ENERGY crumbled soon after and many of the people LUFT interfaced with departed what remained of CEFC CHINA ENERGY. LUFT had his own business to focus on so he was unconcerned with this. Over time LUFT

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gradually rebuilt his relationships with former CEFC CHINA ENERGY personnel. LUFT referred to this person(s) as his CEFC CHINA ENERGY source(s).

Writer's Note: LUFT was directly asked to identify his CEFC CHINA ENERGY source(s) but refused to do so.

LUFT stated his CEFC CHINA ENERGY source(s) provided him with significant information regarding the BIDEN family. Before the 2016 U.S. Presidential election, HUNTER and YE had a discussion or meeting during which HUNTER requested 10 million dollars from YE, which YE promised to pay. YE never paid the money in a lump sum or in a timely fashion which made HUNTER angry. HUNTER was going through a messy divorce and needed the money. In December of 2016 and after the election, HUNTER was paid three million dollars by a CEFC CHINA ENERGY subsidiary company. The female CEFC CHINA ENERGY accountant who processed this payment was one of three CEFC CHINA ENERGY employees who were later arrested in Hong Kong. LUFT does not know the purpose of this three million dollar payment. HUNTER was believed to have met with YE in Miami, Florida in about May of 2017. HUNTER was accompanied by his girlfriend, HALLIE BIDEN, on this trip. During this trip, HUNTER was provided with a five million dollar payment from CEFC CHINA ENERGY and a monthly retainer was agreed to with which HUNTER and JAMES BIDEN would each receive monthly payments of one hundred thousand dollars and sixty-five thousand dollars, respectively, from CEFC CHINA ENERGY.

In total, LUFT believes that HUNTER BIDEN has received the following payments through YE and/or CEFC CHINA ENERGY:

- Three million dollars - December 2016
- Five million dollars - May 2017
- One million dollars - October 2017 (via HO)
- Additional monthly retainer payments

LUFT believes YE was willing to make these payments because he was generally aware of a corruption investigation of his activities by Chinese authorities. LUFT believes that YE was trying to build a political asylum request or parachute for himself from this investigation and that the BIDEN family could assist with this. YE had previously relocated his wife and son to NYC in September of 2016. YE's son attends Columbia Preparatory School and HO previously told LUFT that YE paid one million dollars to Columbia to ensure that his son was admitted. YE had asked LUFT directly in April or May of 2017 about the difficulty of obtaining passports from other countries like Portugal or Cyprus. In retrospect, LUFT believes all

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of these actions to be related to YE fleeing China. LUFT believed that YE was aware that the "knives were out for him." LUFT stated that in China you could be a billionaire or a politician, but you could not be both. YE had been meeting with heads of state and other high-ranking diplomats and this caused resentment within China's foreign ministry. The deal YE brokered with ROSNEFT also caused discord among the other three large energy concerns within China. YE had scooped the biggest energy deal ever and there could be no way back. LUFT described YE as flying too close to the sun. In addition to this, CEFC CHINA ENERGY had spent money extravagantly on properties, businesses, etc. which drew the attention and concern of politicians.

LUFT believes that YE met with HUNTER BIDEN a total of three times. HUNTER has a friend who LUFT believes is a retired FBI agent that attends meetings with HUNTER and operates on his behalf. The retired FBI agent has a damaged or missing eye. HUNTER met with one of YE's top deputies named ZANG several times in Eastern Europe, possibly the Czech Republic. These meetings were believed to have occurred in 2017 and the retired agent was in attendance. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] LUFT believes that HUNTER organized the meeting between his father and YE during the end of 2016. LUFT is also aware that YE married a second wife in secret sometime during 2017. This wedding took place on the Greek island of Santorini and the woman he married was the daughter of a Communist Party official, possibly the Party Secretary in Shanghai. LUFT believed that HUNTER or other BIDEN family associates assisted in the planning and location of this wedding. LUFT did not know if any BIDEN family members physically attended the wedding. YE married this woman for her political status. Usually YE travelled with an entourage to include a personal chef and massage therapist, but this trip was more low key.

LUFT was aware that HUNTER had sought several business opportunities with CEFC CHINA ENERGY and offered the use of his contacts in the countries of Brazil, Columbia, Poland, and the Ukraine. HUNTER was particularly interested in a deal with the Ukraine. LUFT stated that CEFC CHINA ENERGY's business ventures were often rushed or haphazard, citing an example of an opportunity that fell through because officials working on the deal had confused the countries of Monaco and Morocco, as to where the deal would take place. LUFT was aware that CHRIS HEINZ, the step-son of former U.S. Secretary of State JOHN KERRY, was a business associate of HUNTER. HUNTER was also conducting business with another individual who had worked in the U.S. Department of Transportation for RODNEY SLATER,

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during the Clinton administration. LUFT could not recall the name of this individual.

LUFT is aware that the person that first introduced HUNTER to the CEFC CHINA ENERGY was a Chinese-American named JAMES LEE. LEE worked at the CEFC CHINA ENERGY office in Virginia near Washington and had been previously employed as a taxi driver. LUFT had previously met LEE at this office. LUFT has never met any BIDEN family members in person.

Continuation [REDACTED] on 03/29/2019

On 03/29/2019, [REDACTED] GAL LUFT continued in the same location with all parties from the previous day present. LUFT and his attorney [REDACTED] and LUFT subsequently provided the following information:

After further reflection, LUFT believed that HUNTER's meetings in Eastern Europe could have occurred in Romania or the Czech Republic and that YE's deputy, ZANG, had met with HUNTER three times. YE had told LUFT this. LUFT had forwarded a hyperlink to an online article regarding HUNTER's divorce to HO because HO had been speaking about HUNTER. LUFT and HO had no relationship with HUNTER. YE told HO that if he ever had trouble in the United States that he should contact JAMES BIDEN for assistance. LUFT was able to recall the name of the individual he spoke of as a business associate of HUNTER that had worked in the Clinton administration. LUFT stated that his name was ROB WALKER and that he was a managing partner with Rosemont Seneca Partners, which HUNTER was also associated. LUFT believes WALKER attended meetings between HUNTER and ZANG.

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