



Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives

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Chairman

Washington, DC 20515

Rick Larsen
Ranking Member

Nick Christensen, Staff Director

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July 29, 2026

The Honorable Edward Forst
Administrator of General Services
1800 F Street NW
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Administrator Forst:

I expressed my concerns about the General Services Administration's (GSA) involvement with the renovation of the Roosevelt Hotel, which is owned by the state-run Pakistan International Airlines Corporation, when you testified before the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management on March 4, 2026. More recently, I learned that GSA signed a \$1.4 million contract with the law firm Sullivan & Cromwell to provide legal services to the federal government regarding the property's future.¹ In light of GSA's continued involvement in this redevelopment project, I am writing to request pertinent documents and answers.

In early 2026, GSA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Defense Ministry of Pakistan to renovate the Roosevelt Hotel, estimated to be worth approximately \$1 billion.² According to the MOU, both "participants have a mutual interest in the renovation, operations, maintenance and redevelopment of a certain building...commonly known as the Roosevelt Hotel." But during your March appearance before the Committee, you testified that the MOU only obligates the federal government to "work together to see if there is a very good outcome for that particular site."³

New reporting reveals that GSA limited contracting bids to only three law firms before selecting Sullivan & Cromwell, citing a need to act quickly due to an 180-day deadline in the MOU. An agency official wrote that any delays by GSA on this agreement, which was brokered by U.S. Special Envoy Steve Witkoff with Pakistan, would impact the progress of the project and negatively impact the United States' relationship with Pakistan.⁴ Despite this claim, GSA has failed to provide evidence that it has the legal jurisdiction to enter into a MOU with Pakistan or engage in the redevelopment of this private hotel.

¹ Tarinelli, Ryan. "US Hires Trump Lawyers Sullivan & Cromwell for NY Hotel Deal (1)." Bloomberg Law, June 29, 2026.

<https://news.bloomberglaw.com/business-and-practice/us-hires-trump-lawyers-sullivan-cromwell-for-ny-hotel-deal>.

² Rozen, Courtney. "US States to Get \$608 Million from FEMA to Build Migrant Detention Centers." Reuters, July 25, 2025.

<https://www.reuters.com/legal/government/us-states-get-608-million-fema-build-migrant-detention-centers-2025-07-25/>.

³ U.S. Congress, House of Representatives, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. The General Services Administration: Hearing before the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management. 105th Congress, 2nd session, March 4, 2026.

⁴ Tarinelli, Ryan. "US Hires Trump Lawyers Sullivan & Cromwell for NY Hotel Deal (1). Bloomberg Law, June 29, 2026.

The selection of Sullivan & Cromwell in this closed-door process also raises concerns because of the firm's deep ties to the current administration. The firm's co-chairman, Robert Giuffra, leads a team of lawyers that represent President Trump in his personal capacity in various cases.⁵ These relationships raise concerns about the objective of the federal government's involvement in this project and highlight the need for greater transparency from GSA.

Please provide responses to the following questions no later than August 31, 2026:

1. What interest does the federal government have in redeveloping the Roosevelt Hotel?
2. What legal authority does GSA have to participate in a venture that plans to take on several billion dollars of debt?
3. What role will GSA serve in the operation, maintenance, renovation, and redevelopment of the hotel?
4. What due diligence was done regarding involving GSA in a project with a foreign entity?
5. Which federal agencies were consulted before this agreement was signed?
6. How much funding and resources has GSA used and how much more is it planning on spending on this project?
7. What was the process used to select Sullivan & Cromwell to advise the U.S. government on this project?
8. What legal services will Sullivan & Cromwell be providing regarding the Roosevelt Hotel?

Thank you for your prompt response.

Sincerely,



Rick Larsen
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure



Greg Stanton
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Public Buildings,
Economic Development, and Emergency Management

⁵ Tarinelli, Ryan. "US Hires Trump Lawyers Sullivan & Cromwell for NY Hotel Deal (1). Bloomberg Law, June 29, 2026.