

FBI contradicts White House on probe of former aide Porter

WASHINGTON (AP) — Contradicting the White House, the FBI said Tuesday it gave the Trump administration information on multiple occasions last year about a top aide accused of domestic abuse by his two ex-wives, and the investigation wrapped up in January.

That account by FBI Director Christopher Wray challenged the White House assertion that Rob Porter's background "investigation was ongoing" and officials



AP Photo/Evan Vucci
President Donald Trump listens during a meeting about trade policy in the Cabinet Room of the White House, Tuesday in Washington.

first learned the extent of accusations against him only last week, just before he abruptly resigned.

Wray's testimony marked the latest development in a scandal that has called into question the judgment of senior members of the White House staff, put new stress on the administration's already strained credibility with the public, and drawn accusations of tone-deaf handling of abuse allegations.

The week-long fallout

from the allegations against Porter, President Donald Trump's staff secretary, has thrown the West Wing into chaos not seen since the earliest months of the administration and has sparked new rounds of recriminations inside the White House.

Privately, officials acknowledge that the public timeline offered last week — that the administration first learned of the ex-wives' charges against Porter last Tuesday — was flawed at best.

Several senior officials, including chief of staff John Kelly and White House counsel Don McGahn, were aware of the broad allegations against Porter for months, officials said.

Kelly found out after requesting an update on the large number of senior staffers operating without full security clearances, according to a senior administration official who spoke on condition of anonymity

to discuss internal discussions. McGahn told Kelly last fall there was concern about information in the background investigation involving Porter's ex-wives, the official said, and Kelly expressed surprise that Porter had previously been married.

Despite that, Porter took on an increasingly central role in the West Wing and was under consideration to serve as Trump's deputy chief of staff, two officials said.



BOARDMAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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MONTHLY LUNCHEON

Wednesday, March 21, 2018
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Port of Morrow Riverfront Center
2 Marine Drive, Boardman OR 97818

Did you know Boardman was ranked as the 9th safest city in Oregon for 2017?

Did you read how Boardman Police Officer Martinez was recognized by the Morrow County Sheriff's Department, commending his teamwork with neighboring law enforcement agencies?

The Boardman Police Department's joint efforts with fellow emergency agencies, involvement within the community, presence inside the Boardman schools, and professional services for local businesses in Boardman, are key elements leading to this award.

Boardman Police Department will be the guest speaker for Boardman Chamber of Commerce's February luncheon. Richard Stokoe, Boardman Chief of Police will present their 2017 annual report, defining strengths and actions provided by Boardman Police Department.

Enjoy a delicious "Chuckwagon Stew", cornbread, salad and dessert, prepared by Judy Scott's Chuckwagon, while listening to our presentation.

Cost of lunch: \$12.00 / person
Please RSVP by Friday, February 16, 2018
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"FROSTBITE" GOLF TOURNAMENT

Boardman Chamber of Commerce
Scholarship Fund Raising Event



**Willow Run Golf Course
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Saturday, March 31, 2018
Registration: 8:15 a.m.
Tee off time: 9:00 a.m.
SHOT GUN START
Limited to 20 4-person teams
Price includes:
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Four-Person Teams- \$60.00 / \$240 per team
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Registration fee must accompany Team Registration

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ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

Friday, February 2, 2018 • 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Congratulations to our award winners!

Kimberly Trott - Business Person of the Year
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Boardman Chamber of Commerce would like to thank all the businesses and attendees that supported Boardman Chamber's first Business Training and Development Seminar.

Fifteen (15) businesses gave fifty-two (52) employees an opportunity to strengthen their knowledge regarding sensitive HR topics, as well as employee motivation and retention in the work place.

Paul Hutter from HR Answers, Inc. and Port of Morrow Riverfront Center for the use of your facility.

If you did not have the opportunity to attend our January 25, 2018 seminar, Boardman Chamber of Commerce will be providing a new seminar, directed toward Social Marketing in May.

Boardman Chamber Facebook page and media announcements will regularly supply you with information regarding each new seminar.





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