

Statement by Garret O'Boyle

Recently, I received the 36 months of the back pay owed to me from the date of my improper suspension in 2022 through my return to the FBI payroll in September of last year. Along with the reinstatement of my security clearance, return to duty, and the damages paid last year—this means that total vindication for me and my family is now complete. No one can ever take that away.

I should never have faced retaliation and suspension for making protected disclosures of wrongdoing to my chain of command and to Congress. My family should never have endured years of hardship, upheaval, loss of privacy, forced moves, financial strain, and public scrutiny at the hands of a weaponized government. We are grateful to finally put this long ordeal behind us.

These wrongs were only addressed after the new leadership under the Trump Administration decided to settle my lawsuit and whistleblower claims. I appreciate all those in DOJ and FBI who tried to do the right thing. Even within the FBI's own Security Division—the unit that abused its authority over clearances to retaliate against me—some people objected to the abuse, blew the whistle, and also suffered consequences for it.

To its credit, new DOJ and FBI leadership negotiated and approved these settlements to at least partially address these injustices. Senior officials who weaponized the Security Division against me no longer work for the FBI. I still do. That accountability is not enough, though. Congress needs to pass reforms so that this never happens again.

Since returning to duty, I've been reminded that I genuinely love the work of being a law enforcement officer. I have been assigned to the removal of violent criminal offenders who are in our country illegally—work that directly protects the American people. Very few are entrusted with this responsibility, and I am grateful to once again serve. My local chain of command at the Milwaukee Field Office has been exemplary. They have acted with professionalism, integrity, and courage to make sure my settlement agreement is fully implemented and to support me as a human being. My Supervisory Special Agent has been especially outstanding.

I want to particularly thank Empower Oversight for their years of hard work on the legal and bureaucratic front in reaching this solution, as well as the allies in Congress who supported me. I am grateful to the ACLJ and the Binnall Law Group for their work. And I'm also grateful for the fellow FBI whistleblowers I met along the way. Together, we proved that the institutional rot is real and that it always targets truth-tellers first. Also, thank you to the Trump Administration's Justice Department, which recognized this injustice and did something about it.

More than anyone else, I thank my wife and five daughters, who stood unwaveringly beside me through this righteous fight. Ultimately, I know this journey has been guided by the Lord. I do not claim to understand all the reasons why, but I trust His purposes. As Scripture reminds us, *"I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted... I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you."* All glory to God.