



SHIMP FOR PRESIDENT 2028

DRAFT EXECUTIVE ORDER

**REFERRAL FOR INDEPENDENT FEDERAL REVIEW OF
ALLEGED CONDUCT INVOLVING REPRESENTATIVE ZACH NUNN**

Presidential Accountability and Press-Freedom Policy Draft

Fogel G. Shimp

Independent Candidate for President - 2028

ACCOUNTABILITY | INTEGRITY | RULE OF LAW

This discussion draft directs appropriate federal authorities to receive, preserve, authenticate, and independently assess evidence concerning reported physical contact between Representative Zach Nunn and a member of the press. It does not declare that an assault or other offense occurred and does not predetermine any investigative or prosecutorial outcome.

EXECUTIVE ORDER

REFERRAL FOR INDEPENDENT FEDERAL REVIEW OF ALLEGED CONDUCT INVOLVING REPRESENTATIVE ZACH NUNN

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Purpose and Policy.

No federal elected official is above the law. Credible allegations that a public official intentionally used unlawful physical force against a journalist engaged in newsgathering should be evaluated fairly and professionally under applicable law, while preserving the presumption of innocence and all constitutional protections.

Sec. 2. Referral to the Attorney General.

- (a) The White House Counsel shall transmit to the Attorney General any lawfully obtained video, audio, witness information, correspondence, or other materials in the possession of the Executive Office of the President concerning reported physical contact involving Representative Zach Nunn of Iowa and a member of the press.
- (b) The Attorney General shall ensure that such materials are routed through appropriate Department of Justice procedures for an independent jurisdictional and evidentiary assessment.
- (c) Nothing in this order constitutes a Presidential finding that Representative Nunn committed assault, battery, obstruction, or any other unlawful act.

Sec. 3. Authentication and Evidentiary Review.

Appropriate federal personnel shall, where warranted, seek to authenticate the complete original recording or recordings; determine whether publicly circulated footage has been edited, truncated, or materially altered; establish the sequence and circumstances of any physical contact; identify relevant witnesses; and preserve evidence consistent with applicable law.

Sec. 4. Federal Jurisdiction Assessment.

The Attorney General and Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation shall determine whether the facts, if substantiated, implicate any federal criminal statute or other matter within federal jurisdiction. Where conduct is principally within state or local jurisdiction, the Department of Justice may make an appropriate lawful referral to the competent authorities.

Sec. 5. Freedom of the Press.

The assessment shall consider any competent evidence that physical conduct was intended to intimidate, retaliate against, obstruct, or otherwise unlawfully interfere with legitimate newsgathering activity. Nothing in this section expands federal criminal jurisdiction or converts constitutionally protected disagreement with a journalist into unlawful conduct.

Sec. 6. Congressional and Constitutional Protections.

Any federal review involving a Member of Congress shall respect the Speech or Debate Clause, separation-of-powers principles, due process, privileges recognized by law, and all other constitutional and statutory protections. Membership in Congress shall neither create immunity from generally applicable law nor justify investigative treatment unavailable against another person.

Sec. 7. Independent Investigative Judgment.

- (a) No officer or employee of the Executive Office of the President shall direct investigators to reach a particular factual conclusion, file a particular charge, or seek a predetermined prosecution.
- (b) The Attorney General and responsible investigative officials shall retain independent authority over investigative and prosecutorial decisions assigned to them by law.
- (c) Political affiliation, legislative positions, or criticism of the Administration shall not constitute a basis for investigative action.

Sec. 8. Preservation and Lawful Process.

Executive departments and agencies possessing potentially relevant federal records shall preserve them according to applicable records-retention and evidentiary requirements. Private, congressional, journalistic, or third-party records shall be obtained only

through consent or lawful process as applicable, with due regard for protections afforded newsgathering materials.

Sec. 9. Thirty-Day Status Assessment.

Within 30 days after receipt of materials under section 2, the Attorney General shall advise the President, to the extent permitted by law and consistent with investigative independence, whether the referral has been received and appropriately assigned, whether federal jurisdiction appears to exist, and whether referral to another competent authority is appropriate. Sensitive investigative details need not be disclosed.

Sec. 10. General Provisions.

- (a) Nothing in this order independently creates investigative, surveillance, arrest, or prosecutorial authority.
- (b) Nothing in this order shall impair authority granted by law to an executive department or agency or its head.
- (c) This order shall be implemented consistent with the Constitution, applicable law, and available appropriations.
- (d) This order creates no enforceable right or benefit against the United States or any person.

THE WHITE HOUSE,

Date of issuance: _____