Voters Call for Special Prosecutor to Investigate FBI

in **Politics**

Voters think a special prosecutor is needed to see if the nation's top cops have been playing politics.

The latest Rasmussen Reports national telephone and online survey finds that 49% of Likely U.S. Voters believe a special prosecutor should be named to investigate whether senior FBI officials handled the investigation of Hilary Clinton and Donald Trump in a legal and unbiased fashion. Thirty-one percent (31%) disagree, but a sizable 19% are not sure. (To see survey question wording, click here.)

Sixty-two percent (62%) of Republicans are calling for an outside prosecutor to

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investigate the FBI, as is a plurality (49%) of voters not affiliated with either major political party. Among

Democrats, 38% favor a special prosecutor; 40% are opposed, but 22% are undecided.

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The survey of 1,000 Likely Voters was conducted on January 22-23, 2018 by Rasmussen Reports. The margin of sampling error is +/- 3 percentage points with a 95% level of confidence. Field work for all Rasmussen Reports surveys is conducted by <u>Pulse Opinion Research</u>, <u>LLC</u>. See <u>methodology</u>.

Voters by a narrow 48% to 41% margin said in December that senior federal law enforcement officials broke the law in an effort to prevent Trump from winning the 2016 election.

Seventy percent (70%) of voters who Strongly Approve of the job President Trump is doing think a special prosecutor is needed to investigate the FBI. Among those who Strongly Disapprove of the president's job performance, only 36% agree.

Sixty-four percent (64%) of all voters think <u>Clinton is likely</u> to have broken the law by sending and receiving e-mails containing classified information through a private e-mail server while serving as secretary of State.

Less than three weeks before the election, most voters (53%) still disagreed with the FBI's decision not to seen an indictment of the Democratic presidential nominee, but only 44% felt that way after she lost the election.

A sizable number of voters, including two-out-of-three Republicans, said last June that <u>former FBI Director James</u> <u>Comey should be punished for leaking to the media</u>.

Congressional Democrats say the increasing focus on FBI wrongdoing is merely intended to undercut Mueller. But 50% of voters consider it <u>unlikely that Mueller's</u> investigation will lead to criminal charges against Trump. Thirty-nine percent (39%) disagree and say it's likely.

Seventy-two percent (72%) of Democrats feel the Mueller investigation into Russian influence in the 2016 election is an honest attempt to determine criminal wrongdoing. But 54% of Republicans think it's a partisan witch hunt.

<u>Additional information</u> from this survey and a <u>full</u> <u>demographic breakdown</u> are available to <u>Platinum</u> <u>Members</u> only.

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