

Anited States House of Representatives
One Hundred Eighteenth Congress
Committee on Jinancial Services
2129 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

December 16, 2024

Michael J. Hsu Acting Comptroller Office of the Comptroller of the Currency 400 7th Street SW Washington, D.C. 20219

Dear Acting Comptroller Hsu:

We write to reiterate requests made to the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) by the House Committee on Financial Services (Committee) to preserve information and refrain from partisan rulemaking as a new administration enters. During the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress, the Committee conducted oversight activity into the OCC's inter-agency coordination with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Securities and Exchange Commission, and Federal Reserve on digital asset custody, hiring practices, and security of confidential supervisory information, among others. To date, the OCC has failed to provide fulsome responses to the Committee's requests. Therefore, please produce the entirety of the requested materials as soon as possible but no later than January 2, 2025. The Committee's investigations are consistent with its obligation pursuant to Article I of the Constitution to conduct oversight over the application, administration, and execution of relevant laws, and to ensure federal agencies are properly organizing and operating under those same laws. <sup>2</sup>

Furthermore, this letter serves as an instruction to the OCC to preserve all existing and future documents, communications, and other information, including electronic information and metadata, that are or may be responsive to a congressional inquiry, request, investigation, or subpoena that may be initiated or otherwise undertaken by a committee of Congress or any other investigative entity.

For purposes of this request, "preserve" means securing and maintaining the integrity of all relevant documents, communications, and other information, including electronic information and metadata, by taking reasonable steps to prevent the partial or full destruction, alteration, testing, deletion, shredding, incineration, wiping, relocation, migration, theft, mutation, or negligent or reckless handling that could render the information incomplete or inaccessible. This includes preserving all compilations of documents that have already been gathered in response to

<sup>1</sup> Oversight of Prudential Regulators: Hearing Before the H. Comm. On Financial Services, 118th Cong. (2023); Oversight of Prudential Regulators: Hearing Before the H. Comm. On Financial Services, 118th Cong. (2024); Letter from Patrick McHenry, et. al, Chairman, H. Comm. on Financial Services, to Michael Hsu, Acting Comptroller, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (Sept. 23, 2024).

<sup>2</sup> Rule X 2(b)(1)(A-D), Rules of the House of Representatives, 118th Cong. (2023).

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requests. Please advise in writing as to how you will ensure all records relevant to the enclosed matters will be preserved, as soon as possible, but no later than December 31, 2024.

Additionally, this letter cautions the OCC against finalizing partisan rulemaking over the next several weeks. The Congressional Review Act (CRA) authorizes Congress to disapprove rulemakings, including those finalized toward the end of the Congress. The financial system, its institutions, consumers, and the OCC itself do not benefit from last-minute partisan rulemaking attempts. Thus, we encourage you to refrain from additional rulemaking.

Sincerely,

Patrick McHenry/

Chairman

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Chairman-Designate

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**Enclosure** 

## **OUTSTANDING REQUESTS**

## **September 23, 2024**

- 1. All non-public records and communications between the OCC, SEC, Federal Reserve, and FDIC related to Interagency Custody Statement and the related RFI;
- 2. All non-public records and communications between the OCC, SEC, Federal Reserve, and FDIC related to the need for additional guidance or regulation related to digital asset custody;
- 3. All OCC internal communications referring or related to the Interagency Custody Statement and the related RFI; and
- 4. All OCC internal communications referring or related to the SEC, Federal Reserve, or FDIC's regulatory treatment of digital asset custody prior to March 31, 2022.