

## Freedman, Andrew

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**From:** Freedman, Andrew  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 10, 2019 2:55 PM  
**To:** julie.roberts@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** TIME SENSITIVE: Confirming NYT story...

Hi Julie,

I'm fact-checking a story on Sec. Ross and NOAA.

- Can you confirm that you/Neil received early morning phone calls on Friday from senior leadership at DOC, and that jobs were on the line with this? Is the NYT reporting that this was pressure from Sec. Ross himself correct? (We have our sourcing on this but I am covering the bases here, as you're in a position to have known about this pressure.)
- Did you/Neil seek to keep the second paragraph, specifically on the Birmingham Office, out of the final statement but lost that battle?

Happy to chat this afternoon on deep background, my info is below. Deadline is ASAP, unfortunately.

Hope you are getting some sleep. Neil did well today, based on the accounts I've heard (including our story and NYT's).

Best,  
-Andrew

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