

BRADLEY C. BIRKENFELD
5875 Collins Avenue
Miami Beach, Florida 33140

October 1, 2016

Dear President Obama:

I am Bradley C. Birkenfeld, the most significant financial whistleblower in history. In 2007, at grave risk to my personal safety and professional career, I voluntarily approached the Department of Justice with evidence exposing the largest tax fraud in history. Rather than embrace the whistleblower, the DOJ prosecuted me and allowed *all* the perpetrators of the fraud to walk away with a mere slap on the wrist. I was the only person to be imprisoned, spending 31 months in a federal penitentiary.

I am enclosing a complimentary copy of my new book, *Lucifer's Banker*, in which I tell the story of how I brought down Swiss bank secrecy. As a direct result of my unprecedented efforts, the US Treasury has collected over \$15 billion in back taxes and penalties from thousands of undeclared accounts held offshore by Americans at UBS and other Swiss private banks.

My book raises troubling questions, many still unanswered. The most important of which are:

- *Why was the DOJ so reckless to allow UBS to disclose the identities of only 4,700 out of 19,000 illegal account holders (a 75% failure rate)? Why were these names never made public?*
- *Why did the DOJ fail to fine UBS adequately (settling for only \$780 million in 2009), not even commensurate with the billions of dollars illegally earned in profits by UBS over many decades?*
- *Why was the DOJ so careless offering thousands of undeclared account holders the benefits (including anonymity) of repeated amnesties, rather than subject serial tax evaders to the full consequences of the law?*
- *Finally, why did the DOJ release from custody two of the most senior UBS executives who oversaw this massive fraud? Martin Liechti was allowed to return to Switzerland after agreeing to cooperate with the government, but instead plead the fifth at a Congressional hearing in 2008. Raoul Weil was extradited to the US in 2013 where the DOJ mounted a sham prosecution, refusing to call me to testify, instead relying on witnesses of questionable credibility. Mr. Weil, unsurprisingly, was acquitted and he too was allowed to return to Switzerland a free man.*

In stark contrast to the DOJ's obfuscation efforts, UBS is expected to face trial in Paris this fall for conspiring with the French elite to evade taxes. The bank was forced to post a record bail of €1.1 billion. UBS is under similar criminal investigations across Europe and the world, as I am actively assisting these foreign governments in their pursuit of justice.

The American taxpayers need to know why the DOJ took such extraordinary actions to protect the perpetrators of the largest tax fraud in history? Why the keen interest to shield from the American public *all* of those getting a free ride off the backs of tax-paying, law-abiding citizens? I ask you Mr. President, what will you do to investigate these serious injustices?

Sincerely,

enclosure: *Lucifer's Banker* (www.lucifersbanker.com)
cc: Attorney General Loretta Lynch
Members of Congress (535)

