



Maloney slams 'incredibly irresponsible' decision to keep Porter on staff

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But the aftershocks of his resignation reverberated amid concerns about his access to classified information.

"When McGahn informed Kelly this fall about the reason for the security clearance holdup, he agreed that Porter should remain and said he was surprised to learn that the 40-year-old had ex-wives", reports the *Post*. "I am proud to serve alongside him", Kelly said in a statement.

White House chief of staff John Kelly said he was "shocked" by the sweeping allegations of domestic and emotional abuse leveled against top staffer Rob Porter.

Porter left the White House on Wednesday, after multiple reports detailed abuse allegations by both of his ex-wives.

"Kelly became fully aware about these allegations yesterday", deputy White House press secretary Raj Shah told reporters at the White House on Thursday.

Porter's departure will not be immediate and he was not pressured to leave, added the White House press secretary. And his chief of staff is no different.

Democratic senators called for a congressional inquiry into security clearance procedures at the White House on the back of Mr Porter's resignation. They also noted that the White House had not yet disclosed whether Mr Trump's son-in-law and adviser Jared Kushner had been granted permanent security clearance.

Kelly came under further criticism for his response.

The president, for his part, has not signaled to allies that he is on the verge of making a change.

Kelly, too, has aired frustrations at the job - including threatening to quit in past disputes with the President, according to people familiar with the episodes.

Trump has long resisted Kelly's attempt to control him. My staff loved him and he was a trusted adviser.

And Another One-Here's a devastating report from Politico documenting years of sexual harassment allegations against Ed Crane, the founder and longtime president of the libertarian Cato Institute. Nor did his senior staff.

When Kelly replaced Reince Priebus as White House chief of staff, Porter's role expanded.

Porter's title understates his significance in the White House.

"If **John Kelly** is covering this up, he needs to be held accountable", Sen. Unless, that is, he genuinely couldn't grasp that domestic violence is a big deal. **Rob Porter**, the president's staff secretary, cleaned out his desk Thursday after allegations surfaced of spousal abuse.

"During the Federal Bureau of Investigation background interview for security clearance, I shared with the Federal Bureau of Investigation all of the details that I shared in previous articles, including access to a protective order from June of 2010, and police calls that I had made to our home", Willoughby explained. Steve Bannon, Trump's former chief strategist, was charged with misdemeanor domestic violence, battery and dissuading a witness after a 1996 altercation with his second wife; the case was dismissed when she didn't show up to testify against him.

CNN reported that following their 2003 marriage, Holderness said Porter quickly began to be abusive: "She said that Porter's repeated physically abusive behavior also included throwing her on the bed and forcefully pushing one of his limbs into her body in anger and choking her". "What are you going to do, blow me up?" They're pointing guns at each other and nothing ever happens".