

WASHINGTON — It was one year ago Thursday when Robert Mueller, the former FBI director, was appointed as special counsel to take over the Justice Department's investigation into possible coordination between Russia and Donald Trump's 2016 presidential campaign.

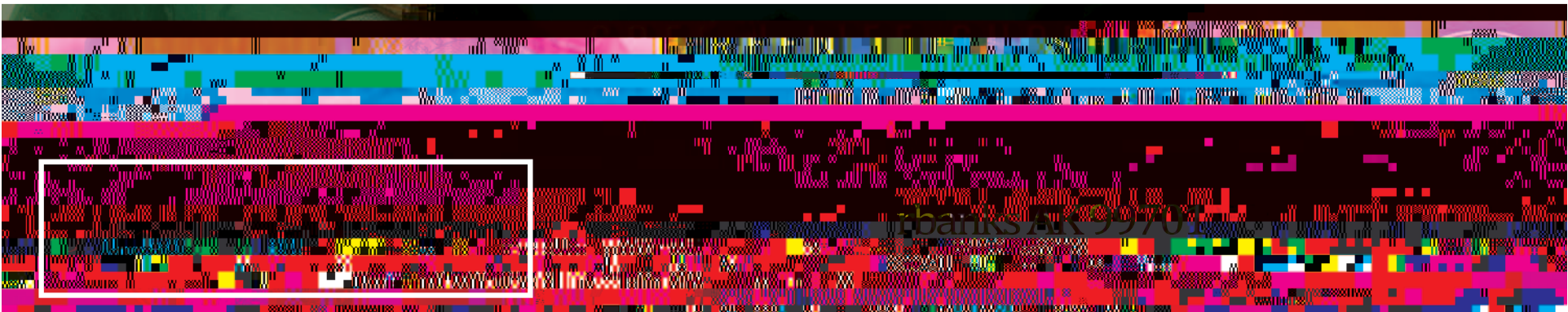
The 12 months since have yielded a flurry of criminal indictments and guilty pleas, tense court appearances, angry tweets from the president and speculation over what the ever-taciturn Mueller already knows and what he'll investigate next.

Trump noted the anniversary with an early morning tweet making clear his frustration.

"Congratulations America, we are now into the second year of the greatest Witch Hunt in American History...and there is still No Collusion and

No Obstruction. The only Collusion was that done by Democrats who were unable to win an Election despite the spending of far more money!"

Hundreds of pages of court filings, and public



housing projects for Eielson Air Force Base.

“What we are trying to do is to get the Air Force to give us a little bit more consideration than just a statement,” Dodson said. “We have reached out to national builders that go around and build houses. Without an exception, every time I ask, ‘Would you consider (a project in Fairbanks)?’

The answer I have gotten is, ‘Building speculative military housing is not a good investment.’”

Kassel said housing activity in the borough has picked up in anticipation of new F-35 squadrons to be stationed on Eielson Air Force Base, but more investment is needed.

“As strong a statement as possible” from the Air Force would help, he said.

“(Investors) want to have a high degree of confidence before they pull their wallet

out,” the mayor said. “If you ask a banker, or a general contractor, it’s sometimes difficult to rely on what their (the Air Force’s) current intention is. You would prefer to have something in writing that reflects more long-term guarantees.”

The comments by Heather Wilson, secretary of the Air Force, came during a Defense Appropriations Subcommittee hearing on the Air Force budget, said a spokeswoman for U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska.

A transcript shows that Murkowski raised the topic, saying there is concern that the Air Force might ask an on-base, privatized housing partner to build additional units that would compete with private housing.

The Air Force secretary replied: “Senator, we have no plan for doing privatized housing at Eielson other than what’s already there.”

Welterlen said builders are nervous about investing in new housing. The number of new

housing units needed has varied, going as high as 1,500 and 2,000, he said.

“None of us know how many units are needed,” he said.

A conference was organized by the University of Alaska Fairbanks College of Rural and Community Development to discuss the decline of Alaska Native languages.

Sandy Kowalski, director of indigenous programs, said the university is supporting the revitalization of the languages.

“UAF’s Alaska Native Language Program will be contributing to the institute, but Kowalski said this is much more than a university event. “We’ve identified eight on 10 languages,” Kowalski said. Alaska has at least 20 distinct languages, she said. “The other real challenge is dealing with a single language. But if we’re going to support this as a state, we’ve got to do all 20, but we just didn’t have the capacity this time around.”

The Alaska Native Language Center’s annual report predicted that many indigenous languages will be dormant or extinct by the end of the 21st century, making the issue a state-wide concern that gained the attention of the Legislature and Governor Walker. The Legislature approved Concurrent Resolution 19, originally introduced April 28, 1989 by Rep. Dan Ortiz, I-Ketchikan. The resolution has been passed to Walker for signing.

“That has been good timing as far as intense interest across the state for an opportunity like this; the legislative action has been another piece that has helped us move forward,” Kowalski said. The need for languages in Alaska is personal. “I moved to Buckland to live with my parents when I was 4, and my parents spoke

Chukchee around me.”