Fox News Host Says Donald Trump is to Blame for Robert Mueller's Russia Investigation

By <u>Alexandra Hutzler</u> News Week, 9/1/18

As Donald Trump continues his attacks on Robert Mueller's special counsel investigation into Russian election meddling, one Fox News host says that the president himself is to blame for the probe.

This week Trump has continued to express his continual frustration and disappointment in Attorney General Jeff Sessions for recusing himself from the investigation in the spring of 2017. At the time, Sessions said that he recused himself to avoid possible conflicts of interest due to the fact that he had worked on the Trump campaign in 2016.

Since the recusal the president has distanced himself from his attorney general and has recently begun to threaten Sessions' job. Trump told *Bloomberg* that the Alabama lawmaker will stay in his position at least until after the midterm elections.

But Fox News host Chris Wallace points out that the recusal of Sessions is not the reason for Mueller's special counsel investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election.

"Remember though, that the recusal of Sessions did not lead to the special counsel, it was the firing of Comey, of James Comey the FBI Director that lead to the appointment of the special counsel," Wallace said in a segment on Fox News on Friday.

"The only person the president can blame for that is himself," Wallace added.



Chris Wallace awaiting the arrival of former Vice President Al Gore on the set of 'Fox News Sunday with Chris Wallace' at FOX News D.C. Bureau on June 4, 2017 in Washington, D.C. Wallace recently took a jab at Donald Trump, saying that the president has no one but himself to blame for the Robert Mueller special counsel investigation into Russian election meddling. Paul Morigi/Getty Images

Comey, who was leading the investigation into possible collusion between members of the Trump campaign and Russians, was fired from the FBI by Trump in May 2017. The move made Trump only the second president in U.S. history to fire their FBI director.

After the dismissal of Comey, calls for an independent counsel to look into Russian election meddling became more intense. As a result, Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein soon after appointed Mueller to lead the special counsel investigation.

Trump has bashed the investigation in what has effectively been a months-long, barely interrupted stream, calling it a "rigged witch hunt" and demanding that the Department of Justice end the probe.

Keep up with this story and more by subscribing now

Now, the attacks on Sessions have become more personal in nature. The president has told reporters that he doesn't like the way the attorney general talks on television and makes fun of Sessions' southern drawl. In one interview with Fox & Friends in

late August Trump accused the attorney general of never taking control of the Justice Department and asked "what kind of man" Sessions is after recusing himself.

"Of course he didn't mind any of this when Sessions was the first senator to support him in 2016 when there weren't a lot of establishment politicians supporting Donald Trump's candidacy. But things have changed," Wallace added.

The insults come as anticipation continues to build over when Mueller will release the results of the year-long investigation. The window is soon closing for Mueller to take any more surprising actions before the midterm elections are in full swing.