

'Comey better hope there are no tapes of our conversations' before leaking to press - Trump

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US President Donald Trump has tweeted that recently fired FBI Director James Comey had better hope there are no tapes of their conversations "before he starts leaking to the press."

<u>@realDonaldTrump</u> James Comey better hope that there are no "tapes" of our conversations before he starts leaking to the press!

Comey, who had been leading an investigation into alleged collusion between Trump's advisers and Russian officials, was fired by the president on Tuesday.

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In a separate tweet, Trump questioned when the "*witch hunt*" would end, noting that former National Intelligence Director James Clapper and "*virtually everyone else*" with knowledge of the situation says there has been no collusion with Russia.

<u>@realDonaldTrump</u> When James Clapper himself, and virtually everyone else with knowledge of the witch hunt, says there is no collusion, when does it end?

Trump admitted during a Thursday interview with NBC's Lester Holt that "*this Russia thing*" was on his mind when he made the decision to sack Comey, who he referred to as a "*showboat*."

However, he said the main reason for firing him was because the FBI has been "in turmoil."

"You take a look at the FBI a year ago, it was in virtual turmoil, less than a year ago. It hasn't recovered from that," Trump said.

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Trump has repeatedly denied that he or anyone on his staff has ties to Russia, tweeting earlier on Friday that the story was "*fabricated by Democrats as an excuse for losing the election*."

Trump has vowed that Comey will be replaced by "someone who will do a far better job," noting that he had "lost the confidence of almost everyone in Washington."

<u>@realDonaldTrump</u> James Comey will be replaced by someone who will do a far better job, bringing back the spirit and prestige of the FBI.