

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 13, 2026

The Honorable Pamela J. Bondi
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Bondi:

The Department of Justice (DOJ) is spying on Members of Congress. Stop now and give us meaningful access to the *fully unredacted* Epstein files.

On Wednesday, a photograph of a page in the “burn book” binder you brought to a House Committee on the Judiciary hearing revealed to Congress and the world that your DOJ has been secretly tracking Members of Congress as they review the slightly-less-redacted Epstein files. This surveillance of Members as we perform our constitutional oversight duties, done without our knowledge or consent, is a blatant violation of the separation of powers and further evidence that this DOJ will stop at nothing to protect Jeffrey Epstein and Ghislaine Maxwell’s co-conspirators, accomplices, and enablers while denying justice to survivors and the American people.

We demand that you immediately cease tracking Members’ review of the Epstein files, meet with us to develop a new protocol that allows Members of Congress to meaningfully review the *fully unredacted* documents, and publicly release all files—with all the survivors’ information, and only the survivors’ information, properly redacted—as required by federal law.

Inside the “burn book” that you used to fling childish insults at Members of Congress was a document entitled “**Jayapal Pramila Search History**,” which listed the documents Representative Pramila Jayapal reviewed while at DOJ.¹ Representative Jayapal had viewed the Epstein files on Tuesday morning, roughly 23 hours before the start of this hearing. In those 23 hours, your Department apparently pulled her search history and used it to prepare you to launch partisan attacks to dodge serious oversight questions. Representative Jayapal has confirmed the accuracy of the search history document.²

¹ Megan Lebowitz, *Members of Congress Demand DOJ Stop Tracking Lawmakers' Epstein Files Searches*, NBC (Feb. 12, 2026), <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/congress/lawmakers-demand-doj-stop-tracking-lawmakers-epstein-files-searches-rcna258721>.

² Pramila Jayapal (@RepJayapal), X (Feb. 11, 2026, at 6:16 PM), <https://x.com/RepJayapal/status/2021725059245609079>.

Over a dozen Democratic Members of our Committees, as well as Representative Thomas Massie, have viewed these files and presumably also been spied on by DOJ. Your conduct is so outrageous that even the Republican Speaker of the House Mike Johnson has condemned this practice, stating “I think members should obviously have the right to peruse those at their own speed and with their own discretion and I don’t think it’s appropriate for anybody to be tracking that. I will echo that to anybody involved in the DOJ.”³

DOJ’s Office of Legislative Affairs (OLA), through which this obstructive review has been organized, is supposed to represent the Department to Congress; it is not supposed to function as a clandestine congressional surveillance operation. Your DOJ’s letter, inviting Members to come to a DOJ office to review Epstein files, mentioned that DOJ would “keep a log of the **dates and times** of all members’ reviews.” It did not mention any tracking of Members’ searches. In withholding this information, you deliberately concealed your intention to monitor, track, and record every search we entered and every page we reviewed.⁴

The Speech or Debate Clause of the U.S. Constitution states that Members of Congress “shall not be questioned” in the pursuit of their legislative duties and therefore bars executive actions that may constitute a “distraction” or “disruption” to a Member’s representative or legislative role.⁵ In particular, courts have emphasized that Congress’s review of outside documents is a critical and therefore a protected part of the legislative process; after all, “indications as to what Congress is looking at provide clues as to what Congress is doing.”⁶

The surveillance of Representative Jayapal’s searches, and those of dozens of others, is just the latest effort by DOJ to interfere with Congress’s oversight of the Epstein cover-up. DOJ has required Members of Congress who wish to review the more than 3 million Epstein files to travel to a DOJ annex, sit at one of four DOJ-owned computers, use a clunky and convoluted software system, and search for and read documents while DOJ staffers look over our shoulders. If Members who signed the Epstein files discharge petition sat at each of the four computers DOJ has made available and reviewed files during every minute the review room is open, it would take us more than **seven years** to check the redactions on the 3 million pages you have chosen to release. And we still would not know what is in the millions of pages you continue to withhold completely or behind the redactions you continue to refuse to remove. Staff have been entirely barred from aiding in this review and now have even been barred from even entering the building.

DOJ’s actions are a flagrant assault on congressional oversight and a violation of your requirements under the Epstein Files Transparency Act. We therefore demand that you or your designated representative set a date to meet with us by Friday, February 20, 2026, about these pressing concerns and work with us to jointly develop a new process for Members of Congress to

³ Annie Grayer, Holmes Lybrand & Manu Raju, *House Speaker Condemns Trump Justice Department Monitoring of Lawmakers’ Epstein Document Review*, CNN (Feb. 12, 2026), <https://www.cnn.com/2026/02/12/politics/doj-monitoring-lawmaker-epstein-files-searches>.

⁴ U.S. Department of Justice Office of Legislative Affairs Letter to Members of Congress (Feb. 6, 2026).

⁵ *Eastland v. United States Servicemen's Fund*, 421 U.S. 491, 502-03 (1975).

⁶ *United States v. Rayburn House Off. Bldg.*, 497 F.3d 654, 660 (D.C. Cir. 2007) (internal quotation omitted).

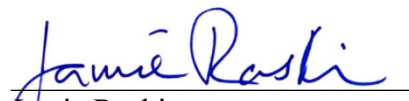
meaningfully review the *fully unredacted* files (including the ability to review the files from the Capitol Complex and access for select Committee staffers) without being monitored and tracked by DOJ.

We also demand that you commit, in writing, to immediately ceasing tracking Members' review of the Epstein files. Finally, we request written answers to the following questions by Friday, February 20, 2026:

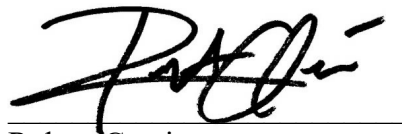
1. Provide a full list of Members whose searches you tracked.
2. What was the purpose of collecting this information, and how was the information used in preparation for and during the February 11, 2026, House Judiciary Committee hearing?
3. How long is this information retained in your Department's systems?
4. How many staff members were assigned to collecting, researching, and summarizing this information on Members' search histories?
5. What information, in addition to the searches, are you collecting on Members of Congress?

We look forward to your prompt compliance with these critical oversight requests. The American people and federal law demand nothing less.

Very truly yours,



Jamie Raskin
Ranking Member
House Committee on the Judiciary



Robert Garcia
Ranking Member
House Committee on Oversight and
Government Reform



Pramila Jayapal
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Immigration,
Security, and Enforcement
House Committee on the Judiciary

cc: The Honorable Jim Jordan, Chairman
House Committee on the Judiciary

The Honorable Pamela J. Bondi

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The Honorable James Comer, Chairman
House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

The Honorable Tom McClintock, Chairman
Subcommittee on Immigration, Security, and Enforcement
House Committee on the Judiciary