

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

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February 13, 2023

The Honorable James Comer
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Accountability
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Greetings and, again, many thanks for your supportive words about my medical journey.

As I have repeatedly expressed to you, most recently in my January 27, 2023, letter, it is my sincere and ardent desire to work with you closely in conducting responsible bipartisan oversight this Congress.

That is why I was so delighted to hear you earlier this week on ABC's *This Week* explaining that you "don't disagree with the Democrats and their criticism of the previous administration." I was also heartened to see you recognize publicly the need for meaningful legislative solutions to weaknesses in our government ethics and disclosure laws.¹

I am writing because I know you agree that, in order to conduct effective oversight and identify such commonsense legislative solutions, we must pursue all facts relevant to the problems we are seeking to address. It is in this spirit that I invite you now to join a letter to Jared Kushner seeking information about the profoundly serious ethics problems raised by Mr. Kushner and the receipt by his fund, A Fin Management (Affinity), of \$2 billion from the sovereign investment fund of a foreign power, Saudi Arabia, just a few months after he left high government service working on the Middle East in his father-in-law's presidential administration.

As you may recall, Committee Democrats launched this investigation last Congress.² However, Mr. Kushner and his fund failed to cooperate with our investigative demands for

¹ 'This Week' Transcript 2-12-23: Sen. Chuck Schumer, Rep. James Comer & Rep. Pete Aguilar, ABC News (Feb. 13, 2023) (online at <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/week-transcript-2-12-23-sen-chuck-schumer/story?id=97057961>).

² See Letter from Chairwoman Carolyn B. Maloney, Committee on Oversight and Reform, to Jared Kushner, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, A Fin Management, (June 2, 2022) (online at <https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/sites/democrats.oversight.house.gov/files/2022-06-02.CBM%20to%20Kushner-A%20Fin%20Management%20LLC%20re%20Saudi%20Arabia%20Conflicts.pdf>).

relevant documents shedding light on the extraordinary \$2 billion investment he took from the Saudi government. For nearly eight weeks, Mr. Kushner failed to produce any documents, and when he did finally produce a small subset, they were largely publicly-available reports or materials that completely failed to respond in a substantive way to the Committee’s requests.

Most importantly, Mr. Kushner did not produce a single communication relating to why the Saudi government decided to invest \$2 billion in Affinity or how he solicited this investment. When pressed about this failure to produce responsive documents, Mr. Kushner’s representatives simply failed to respond at all.³ Mr. Kushner’s defiance and lack of material compliance follow his own and his father-in-law’s general refusal to respond to this Committee’s requests during the Trump Administration, including on related matters such as Kushner’s potential foreign business conflicts and activities and his controversial and fraught receipt of his government security clearance.

I would be remiss if I failed to correct a factual error that you made during yesterday’s *This Week* interview. In particular, you stated that the “difference between Jared Kushner and Hunter Biden is that Jared Kushner actually sat down with was interviewed. He was interviewed by investigators. So he’s already been investigated.” You also stated that “[h]opefully the Biden family will be as cooperative as Jared Kushner with our investigation as they were with the January 6th investigation and all the other investigations of the Trump administration.”⁴

Mr. Kushner has never been interviewed by the Oversight Committee or, to the best of my knowledge, any other Congressional committee about his extraordinary business dealings with Saudi Arabia. Mr. Kushner was indeed interviewed by the House Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol, a panel on which I served, about his knowledge of the violent insurrection at the Capitol—a completely different episode of wrongdoing. As a Member of the Select Committee who interviewed Mr. Kushner, I can assure you that he was not asked a single question about his Saudi Arabian business activities as this would have been outside the scope of our investigative questioning. The transcripts will certainly bear this out.

I feel compelled to clarify this significant point, which underscores the need for our Committee—working in tandem, I hope—to obtain the facts about Mr. Kushner’s foreign business dealings and the ethical problems they raise for our system of government.

I agree that passing legislation to, in your words, “set a line as to where you can be with relatives of high-ranking government officials with respect to doing business with adversaries

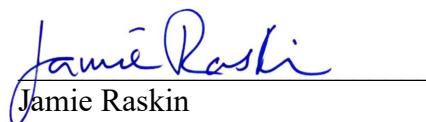
³ Email from Majority Staff, Committee on Oversight and Reform, to Chad Mizelle, Chief Legal Officer, Affinity Partners (Oct. 12, 2022).

⁴ ‘*This Week*’ Transcript 2-12-23: Sen. Chuck Schumer, Rep. James Comer & Rep. Pete Aguilar, ABC News (Feb. 13, 2023) (online at <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/week-transcript-2-12-23-sen-chuck-schumer/story?id=97057961>).

overseas" is absolutely worthy of the Committee's time and resources.⁵ However, as I hope you would agree, we cannot "set a line" without the critical facts giving rise to bipartisan concern. The Committee cannot conduct credible oversight without examining the plethora of actual and potential ethical violations of the previous Administration, including the fact that Mr. Kushner, a senior White House official, received \$2 billion from Saudi Arabia's sovereign wealth fund shortly after leaving a position he used to reshape U.S. foreign policy toward Saudi Arabia.⁶

Kindly please let me know by Tuesday, February 14, 2023, if you will join me in sending the attached letter and do not hesitate to contact me directly if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration.

Very truly yours,



Jamie Raskin
Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Accountability

Enclosure

⁵ 'This Week' Transcript 2-12-23: Sen. Chuck Schumer, Rep. James Comer & Rep. Pete Aguilar, ABC News (Feb. 13, 2023) (online at <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/week-transcript-2-12-23-sen-chuck-schumer/story?id=97057961>).

⁶ U.S.-Saudi Ties Were Especially Close Under Trump. Under Biden, That Looks Likely to Change, NBC News (Nov. 12, 2020) (online at www.nbcnews.com/news/world/less-privileged-personal-how-u-s-saudi-ties-may-soon-n1247439).