

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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May 4, 2026

The Honorable James Comer
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
2157 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Comer:

As you know, on April 29, 2026, over two weeks after former Attorney General Pamela Bondi failed to appear at her April 14, 2026, deposition, Oversight Democrats introduced a resolution to enforce this Committee's bipartisan subpoena. In response, your staff announced to the press that you had secured an agreement for Ms. Bondi to appear on May 29, 2026.¹ Committee Democrats welcome the opportunity to question Ms. Bondi on the record and seek answers about the crimes of Jeffrey Epstein and Ghislaine Maxwell, as well as the Department of Justice's (DOJ) ongoing failure to produce the Epstein files pursuant to this Committee's subpoena to DOJ and the Epstein Files Transparency Act. We understand that you have agreed to hold this as a transcribed interview, rather than a deposition. While we believe a deposition is the best available forum, as Chairman, this is your decision. However, if you choose to move forward with a transcribed interview, I am concerned with three aspects:

1. **The videotaping of Ms. Bondi's testimony.** Ms. Bondi's testimony must be filmed and made available to the American people.
2. **Ms. Bondi's willingness to provide substantive and complete testimony.** If Ms. Bondi refuses to answer questions, we must compel her testimony. Ms. Bondi has been subpoenaed, and all questions posed by Members must be answered.
3. **Harmeet Dhillon's participation as Ms. Bondi's attorney.** Ms. Dhillon is a current DOJ employee, and her representation raises serious ethical concerns and conflicts of interest.

A failure to film and release a video of Ms. Bondi's testimony would present a grave injustice to the American people and survivors of Epstein's crimes, all of whom are calling upon Congress for transparency. Filming and releasing a recording are critical to providing the public

¹ *Bondi Will Testify in House Oversight Committee's Jeffrey Epstein Probe*, CNN (Apr. 29, 2026) (online www.cnn.com/2026/04/29/politics/bondi-deposition-epstein-house-oversight).

with an unvarnished, candid view of Ms. Bondi's testimony and capturing aspects that a transcript simply cannot, such as her demeanor, expression, and conduct. Allowing Ms. Bondi to testify without being filmed is also a sharp departure from your practice with other prominent witnesses who have appeared before this Committee related to the Epstein investigation. This includes President Bill Clinton, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Ghislaine Maxwell, Darren Indyke, Richard Kahn, and Les Wexner, whose videotaped testimony were quickly released for the American people.²

You have agreed to permit former Attorney General Pamela Bondi to appear before this Committee in a transcribed interview rather than a sworn deposition, which she is required to do pursuant to the subpoena that this Committee duly issued to her on March 17, 2026.³ Ms. Bondi has already demonstrated a disregard for this Committee's subpoena and its investigative authority, having refused to acknowledge her legal obligation to comply with the subpoena and to appear for a deposition on the date that the subpoena set forth.⁴

As you know, a transcribed interview is a purely voluntary proceeding that enables the witness to decline to answer any question without specifying a valid ground for doing so. Indeed, you rejected the offers of former President Bill Clinton and former Secretary Hillary Clinton earlier this year to provide transcribed interviews rather than depositions to the Committee for precisely this reason, emphasizing that "a transcribed interview is voluntary, meaning that the subject may refuse to answer questions absent any assertion of privilege or constitutional right."⁵ A transcribed interview would enable a witness to:

refuse to answer whatever questions he wanted for whatever reasons he wanted and leave as the Committee's only recourse to again subpoena [the witness'] testimony, effectively restarting this entire process from the beginning.⁶

² Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Republicans, *Press Release: Oversight Committee Releases Bill and Hillary Clinton Deposition Videos* (Mar. 2, 2026) (online at <https://oversight.house.gov/release/oversight-committee-releases-bill-and-hillary-clinton-deposition-videos/>); YouTube, *The Deposition of Ghislaine Maxwell on the Epstein Probe*, (Feb. 9, 2026) (online at www.youtube.com/watch?v=MhK5Ygh-EfY); Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Republicans, *Press Release: Oversight Committee Releases Richard Kahn and Darren Indyke Deposition Videos* (Mar. 24, 2026) (online at <https://oversight.house.gov/release/oversight-committee-releases-richard-kahn-and-darren-indyke-deposition-videos/>); Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Republicans, *Press Release: Oversight Committee Releases Les Wexner Deposition Video* (Feb. 19, 2026) (online at <https://oversight.house.gov/release/oversight-committee-releases-les-wexner-deposition-video/>).

³ *Id.*

⁴ Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Democrats, *Press Release: Ranking Member Robert Garcia Statement on Pam Bondi Failing to Appear for Deposition Before Oversight Committee* (Apr. 14, 2026) (online at <https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/news/press-releases/ranking-member-robert-garcia-statement-on-pam-bondi-failing-to-appear-for-deposition-before-oversight-committee>).

⁵ Letter from Chairman James Comer to Ashley Callen, Esq., Jon Skladany, Esq., Katherine Turner, Esq. and David Kendall, Esq. (Feb. 2, 2026) (on file with Committee staff).

⁶ *Id.*

Your own rationale dictates that Ms. Bondi testify under legal compulsion at a deposition. If Ms. Bondi refuses to fully answer the committee's questions, she must be compelled to do so.

These extraordinary accommodations of Ms. Bondi to avoid a formal deposition also appear, at least in part, to be designed to avoid the Rules of this Committee by permitting her to be represented in this proceeding by Harmeet Dhillon, the sitting Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights at DOJ and reportedly a leading candidate to succeed Ms. Bondi as Attorney General.⁷ Assistant Attorney General Dhillon's attendance at a deposition on behalf of Ms. Bondi would plainly violate this Committee's Rule 15(e), which limits the attendance of attorneys on behalf of a witness at depositions to "two designated, *nongovernmental* attorneys," and specifies that "[o]ther persons, including government agency personnel, may not attend."⁸

Although Assistant Attorney General Dhillon has refused to engage with Committee Democratic staff, her and DOJ's actions to date suggest that she is acting in an official capacity in her apparent representation of Ms. Bondi. DOJ staff provided her official DOJ cell phone number when it referred Democratic Oversight staff to her as counsel for Ms. Bondi, and the Assistant Attorney General has posted on X in connection with Ms. Bondi's appearance before this Committee from the handle @AAGHarmeetDhillon.⁹

If Assistant Attorney General Dhillon purports to represent Ms. Bondi in a personal capacity, contrary to appearances, then her engagement raises troubling ethical concerns. In that case, there would be a clear conflict of interest between Ms. Dhillon's duties to DOJ and to Ms. Bondi individually. Such an engagement would also quite clearly violate DOJ policy, which provides unambiguously that, absent a waiver by the Deputy Attorney General on specific grounds, "[n]o employee may engage in the practice of law unless it is uncompensated and in the nature of community service, unless it is on behalf of himself, his parents, spouse, or children."¹⁰ By no reasonable interpretation does Assistant Attorney General Dhillon's representation of Ms. Bondi in this matter fall within these limitations.

In the interest of ensuring that Ms. Bondi provides truthful and complete answers to the numerous outstanding and urgent factual questions surrounding Jeffrey Epstein and Ghislaine Maxwell, as well as providing a complete, transparent window into her testimony, I urge you to ensure that Ms. Bondi's testimony is consistent with her obligations under the Committee's

⁷ *Inside the Battle to Be Trump's Next Attorney General*, Politico (Apr. 9, 2026) (online at www.politico.com/news/2026/04/09/trump-attorney-general-blanche-dhillon-pirro-00864988).

⁸ Rule 15(e) of the Rules of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, 119th Congress (online at <https://oversight.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/119th-Committee-Rules.pdf>).

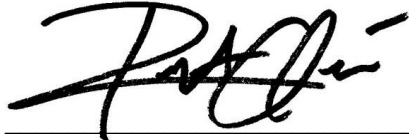
⁹ Assistant Attorney General Harmeet Dhillon (@AAGHarmeetDhillon), X (Apr. 29, 2026) (online at <https://x.com/AAGDhillon/status/2049493689542541799?s=20>).

¹⁰ See Department of Justice, *Outside Employment and Activities: General Rules* (online at www.justice.gov/jmd/outside-employment-and-activities) (explaining "The Department interprets 'uncompensated and in the nature of community service' to include matters traditionally falling within pro bono publico representation on behalf of indigent clients, as well as activities such as preparing a will for a neighbor, representing a cousin in a divorce proceeding or writing a letter for a friend with a grievance against a private employer would be excepted from the ban."); 5 C.F.R. 3801.106(b)(1).

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subpoena, and film the proceeding. The demands of justice and transparency for Jeffrey Epstein's survivors require no less.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Garcia", written over a horizontal line.

Robert Garcia
Ranking Member