

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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July 15, 2026

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

I write to urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to reject the nomination of Todd Blanche to serve as Attorney General of the United States. More than any other individual, Mr. Blanche oversaw and implemented the White House coverup of the Epstein files. He oversaw the violation of the Epstein Files Transparency Act (EFTA), botched the release of the files, and continues to withhold millions of documents from Congress and the American people. He released information which put Epstein's survivors in danger, while the names of Epstein associates and accomplices were and remain withheld. Further, he is a central architect of the Administration's policy of providing preferential treatment to Ghislaine Maxwell in exchange for favorable testimony.¹ **Mr. Blanche's handling of the Epstein files shows his only loyalty is to President Trump, his former client, and not delivering justice to Epstein's survivors or transparency to the American people. No nominee with his record should be confirmed to lead the Department.**

Former Attorney General Pam Bondi has repeatedly pointed to Mr. Blanche as the official responsible for the Department of Justice's (DOJ) handling of the Epstein files. In her opening testimony, Ms. Bondi acknowledged that "*I did not lead every aspect of this effort or conduct that document review myself. I delegated oversight over this process to **Deputy Attorney General Todd Blanche.***"² During questioning, she invoked Mr. Blanche's name more than 30 times,

¹ *Inside the White House Freakout Over the Epstein Files*, New York Times (June 10, 2026) (online at www.nytimes.com/2026/06/10/magazine/trump-epstein-files-white-house-vance-doj.html).

² Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Transcribed Interview of Pamela J. Bondi (May 29, 2026).

identifying him as the person responsible for DOJ's review, withholding of files, and botched release of Epstein-related records.³

Mr. Blanche is therefore responsible for a DOJ process that exposed the names, photographs, and other personally identifying information of Epstein survivors thousands of times, including information related to more than two dozen minors.⁴ The production included survivors' names, dates of birth, bank information, driver's license numbers, email addresses, home addresses, and the nude photographs of young women and possible minors with visible faces. Survivors have described DOJ's actions as retraumatizing, and some have reported harassment after their identities spread online.⁵

DOJ's continued refusal to provide Congress with the full Epstein files places Mr. Blanche at the center of the Department's obstruction. After months of defying both the Oversight Committee's subpoena and the EFTA, DOJ released roughly 3 million pages of Epstein-related records—only about half of the materials DOJ has collected.⁶

Recent reporting now raises an even more disturbing possibility: that DOJ's review process was designed to identify and shield President Trump. According to public reporting, FBI and DOJ personnel were instructed through training videos to find, log, and redact President Trump's name from Epstein-related records, and the FBI has confirmed that responsive training videos exist.⁷ This revelation appears to confirm concerns previously raised by Ranking Member Durbin and is consistent with Oversight Democrats' warning that DOJ withheld Epstein materials relating to allegations against President Trump, including FBI interviews with a survivor who accused him of sexual abuse and violence.⁸

³ Letter from Ranking Member Robert Garcia, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, to Chairman James Comer, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (June 2, 2026) (online at <https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/imo/media/doc/2026-06-02garcialettertocomerreblanche1.pdf>); Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Transcribed Interview of Pamela J. Bondi (May 29, 2026).

⁴ Letter from Ranking Member Robert Garcia, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, to Attorney General Pamela J. Bondi, Department of Justice (Feb. 6, 2026) (online at https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/imo/media/doc/letter_to_pam_bondi3.pdf); see also *Epstein Files Release Exposes Names of at Least 43 Victims, WSJ Review Finds*, Wall Street Journal (Feb. 1, 2026) (online at www.wsj.com/us-news/law/epstein-files-release-exposes-names-of-at-least-43-victims-wsj-review-finds-ba4ff95e?mod=hp_list_pos1).

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ Letter from Ranking Member Robert Garcia and Representative Summer Lee, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, to Attorney General Pamela J. Bondi, Department of Justice (Feb. 10, 2026) (online at <https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/imo/media/doc/2026-02-10letterbondiresubpoenacompliance.pdf>).

⁷ *BREAKING: EXCLUSIVE: FBI Admits it Has Epstein Files Training Videos*, The Breakdown with Allison Gill (July 12, 2026) (online at www.muellershewrote.com/p/breaking-exclusive-fbi-admits-it).

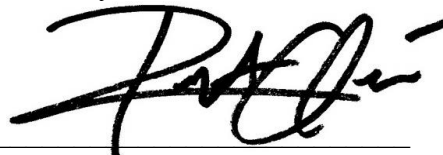
⁸ *FBI Personnel Were Told to Flag Epstein Files Mentioning Trump, Senate Democrat Says*, NBC News (July 18, 2025) (online at www.nbcnews.com/politics/congress/fbi-personnel-jeffrey-epstein-files-mentioning-trump-dick-durbin-says-rcna219699); Letter from Ranking Member Robert Garcia, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, to Attorney General Pamela J. Bondi, Department of Justice (Feb. 25, 2026) (online at <https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/imo/media/doc/2026-02-25garciatobondirepstein.pdf>).

Most egregious, however, is Mr. Blanche's highly unusual interview of Ghislaine Maxwell shortly before her suspicious transfer to a minimum-security facility. During his deposition with the Oversight Committee, former Attorney General William Barr noted that the contact between Mr. Blanche and Maxwell, and Maxwell's subsequent prison transfer, was extremely unusual.⁹ Ms. Bondi would later reveal that Mr. Blanche made the decision to conduct Maxwell's interview.¹⁰ Mr. Blanche still has not explained why he met with Maxwell, what she was offered, or what influenced her treatment by DOJ. To this day, Maxwell continues to pursue a pardon from President Trump as she resides in a minimum-security facility with amenities that should not be afforded to prolific sex traffickers.

These actions were not isolated. According to *New York Times* reporting, senior White House and Trump Administration officials discussed how to limit disclosure of the Epstein files, resist congressional subpoenas, and protect President Trump from scrutiny.¹¹ Mr. Blanche helped shape the Administration's response to the Committee's subpoena and the EFTA, putting him at the center of the effort to limit what Congress, survivors, and the public would see. He was not simply overseeing DOJ's review; he was helping execute the coverup.

The Attorney General of the United States must be loyal to the law and the Constitution, not to the personal interests of the President. **Mr. Blanche's conduct has already shown he cannot be trusted with the power of the Department of Justice, and his record leads to only one conclusion: the Committee must reject his nomination.**

Sincerely,

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

Robert Garcia
Ranking Member

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Chairman

⁹ Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Deposition of William Barr (Sept. 16, 2025).

¹⁰ Letter from Ranking Member Robert Garcia, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, to Chairman James Comer, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (June 2, 2026) (online at <https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/imo/media/doc/2026-06-02garcialettertocomerreblanche1.pdf>); Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Transcribed Interview of Pamela J. Bondi (May 29, 2026).

¹¹ *Inside the White House Freakout Over the Epstein Files*, New York Times (June 10, 2026) (online at www.nytimes.com/2026/06/10/magazine/trump-epstein-files-white-house-vance-doj.html); See Letter from Ranking Member Robert Garcia, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, to Chairman James Comer, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (June 11, 2026) (online at <https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/imo/media/doc/2026-06-11garciatocomerrewhcoverup.pdf>).