JAMES COMER, KENTUCKY
CHAIRMAN

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

ROBERT GARCIA, CALIFORNIA
RANKING MEMBER

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM
2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515–6143
MAJORITY (202) 225–5074
MINORITY (202) 225–5051
https://oversight.house.gov

November 18, 2026

The Honorable JD Vance
Vice President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Vice President Vance:

Since the early phases of the Trump Administration, Oversight Democrats have fought to release the full and complete set of Epstein files and have repeatedly called out the Administration for its unprecedented lack of transparency. This includes the Administration's efforts to circumvent its legal responsibilities, divert public interest from the Epstein files, and keep potentially damaging allegations from coming to light.[1] Earlier this month, voters gave Congressional Democrats a sweeping mandate to root out corruption and ensure that the government is accountable to the people. We intend to act on that mandate in the 120th Congress by conducting the critically important oversight essential for legislative reform. To that end, we demand that you answer our questions about the Administration's cover-up of the Epstein matter and your involvement in these efforts.

The Trump Administration's Epstein cover-up has been the subject of extensive reporting.[2] In June 2026, the *New York Times* published explosive details on the Administration's efforts to hide critical information about Epstein, his crimes, and his connections from the American people.[3] According to the *Times*, several high-ranking Administration officials, yourself included, met in the White House Situation Room multiple

[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] *Id*.; *Outrage Over Epstein Files 'Cover Up' Grows: Dems Call for Trump and Patel to Testify*, Forbes (Feb. 26, 2026) (online at www.forbes.com/sites/saradorn/2026/02/26/outrage-over-epstein-files-cover-up-grows-dems-call-for-trump-to-testify/); *First Thing: DOJ Accused of Cover-Up After Lawmakers View Unredacted Epstein Files*, The Guardian (Feb. 10, 2026) (online at www.theguardian.com/us-news/2026/feb/10/first-thing-doj-accused-cover-up-lawmakers-unredacted-epstein-files); *House Oversight Committee Criticizes Trump Administration over Release Of Epstein Records*, AP News (Nov. 10, 2026) (online at https://apnews.com/article/epstein-files-house-oversight-committee-congress-trump-6a3f7b8772aab100a7888661d6e31cba); *Epstein 'Client List' Doesn't Exist, Justice Department Says, Walking Back Theory Bondi Had Promoted*, AP News (July 7, 2025) (online at https://apnews.com/article/jeffrey-epstein-justice-department-pam-bondi-03fbcd024f631440f7ed62b3c6927db3).

[3] *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).

times to determine the best way to undermine public interest in the Epstein files and avoid scrutiny of President Trump. Apparently, you took a leading role in directing the conversations and described the attention on Jeffrey Epstein as "a huge problem." The article also describes multiple Situation Room meetings at which you suggested ways to address public interest in Epstein and offered assessments on the release of information.

Reportedly, you were even the first to suggest that Ghislaine Maxwell be interviewed in hopes of using her testimony to distance President Trump from Epstein, despite President Trump's well-documented decades-long friendship with the notorious abuser and sex-trafficker.[4] These discussions appear to be directly linked to an apparent quid pro quo in which Maxwell was moved to a minimum-security prison camp after she made favorable statements about President Trump in a highly unusual prison interview conducted by then-Deputy Attorney General Todd Blanche.[5]

Given the shocking revelations set forth in this reporting, and in order to advance the investigation and inform potential legislation, Oversight Democrats request that you provide the following information no later than December 2, 2026:

1. Identify every meeting that Administration officials held concerning Jeffrey Epstein, the Epstein files, or the Trump Administration's response to the Committee's subpoena or the Epstein Files Transparency Act. For each meeting, include the date, location, and attendees.

2. Identify every meeting that Administration officials held concerning the decision to interview Ghislaine Maxwell in federal prison or transfer Maxwell to a federal prison camp. For each meeting, include the date, location, and attendees.

3. Identify all Administration officials who authorized, directed, or were otherwise involved in the decision to interview Maxwell in federal prison or transfer Maxwell to a federal prison camp.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee of the House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate "any matter" at "any time" under House Rule X. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Democratic Committee staff on the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform at (202) 225-5051. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

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[4] *Id*.

[5] Letter from Ranking Member Robert Garcia, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, to Director William K. Marshall III, Federal Bureau of Prisons (Aug. 1, 2025) (online at https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/imo/media/doc/2025-08-01-rg-to-bop-director-marshall-re-maxwell.pdf).

Sincerely,



Robert Garcia
Ranking Member

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Chairman