

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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January 8, 2026

The Honorable James Comer  
Chairman  
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Comer,

We write to urge you to immediately convene a hearing to examine the Department of Justice's (DOJ) haphazard and botched release of the Epstein files, which represents a comprehensive failure to comply with the Epstein Files Transparency Act, and to call upon DOJ to explain its complete failure to comply with the subpoena duly issued by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (Committee) last August. We further urge you to compel Attorney General Pam Bondi to attend such hearing and provide testimony to Congress regarding the actions of DOJ—and lack thereof—under her leadership related to the Epstein files. The victims and survivors of Epstein's crimes, the American people, and this Committee deserve full, transparent, and immediate answers.

The Department's actions and public statements relating to the Epstein files have been conspicuously inconsistent, evasive, deficient, and misleading; heightening suspicions that DOJ is covering up details of Epstein's crimes in fealty to the White House. For example, last February, Attorney General Bondi represented that an Epstein client list was "sitting on [her] desk right now to review." Shortly thereafter, DOJ released to a hand-picked group of right-wing influencers only 341 pages of Epstein-related documents, the vast majority of which were already public.<sup>1</sup> In May, Attorney General Bondi further claimed that DOJ had "tens of thousands of videos of Epstein with children or child porn," only for the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Kash Patel, to contradict that claim a month later.<sup>2</sup>

Yet in July, DOJ abruptly issued a cursory memorandum contradicting each of these claims, alleging that it had "conducted an exhaustive review" of the files in its possession, denying the existence of a client list and determining that there was "no evidence that could predicate an investigation against uncharged third parties," and that "no further disclosure would be appropriate or warranted."<sup>3</sup> Moreover, while Attorney General Bondi repeatedly asserted

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<sup>1</sup> *AG Bondi Faces Heat from White House, Trump Allies Over Epstein Files Release*, ABC News (Mar. 4, 2025) (online at <https://abcnews.go.com/US/ag-bondi-faces-heat-white-house-trump-allies/story?id=119435303>).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> Federal Bureau of Investigation, Memorandum (Jul. 7, 2025) (online at [www.justice.gov/opa/media/1407001/dl?inline](https://www.justice.gov/opa/media/1407001/dl?inline)).

publicly that the number of Epstein victims totaled approximately 250, the FBI represented in its memo that “Epstein harmed over one thousand victims.”<sup>4</sup>

Amidst the widespread, bipartisan outrage that followed the release of the FBI memo, this Committee issued a subpoena to DOJ for the Epstein files, directing that those materials be produced to the Committee by August 19, 2025.<sup>5</sup> To date, DOJ has made only a single production to the Committee of approximately 33,000 documents—a miniscule fraction of the Epstein files, according to DOJ’s own statements and recent reporting—consisting principally of materials that had previously been produced to the Committee or were already publicly available.

DOJ has likewise failed to comply with the Epstein Files Transparency Act, which unambiguously required DOJ to produce all responsive materials to Congress no later than December 19, 2025.<sup>6</sup> According to public reporting, the materials that DOJ has produced to date pursuant to the statute amount to *less than 1 percent* of the totality of the Epstein files.<sup>7</sup> Compounding concerns about the extremely slow pace of DOJ’s production, the Department has made repeatedly shifting statements about the total volume of Epstein files in its possession. DOJ announced last month that it had discovered a new tranche of more than one million potentially relevant documents within the agency, and only a week later was reported to have been trying to recruit DOJ staff to review *5.2 million* pages of responsive documents.<sup>8</sup> This past Monday, DOJ provided yet a different figure to a federal district court, reporting that “there are more than 2 million documents potentially responsive to the Act that are in various phases of review.”<sup>9</sup> This Committee and the American people require clarity from DOJ as to whether these reports are accurate, and if so, why the existence of these millions of additional pages was not disclosed previously, especially given that the Epstein files have been in DOJ’s possession for years, and were called for by a Committee subpoena issued over four months ago.

Furthermore, DOJ made unusually extensive redactions within the very limited productions that it has made to date, concealing numerous names and photographs of potential

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<sup>4</sup> *Id.*; *Pam Bondi’s Botched Handling of the Epstein Files*, CNN (Jul. 7, 2025) (online at [www.cnn.com/2025/07/07/politics/bondi-epstein-files-client-list-suicide-memo](https://www.cnn.com/2025/07/07/politics/bondi-epstein-files-client-list-suicide-memo)).

<sup>5</sup> Subpoena to The Hon. Pamela J. Bondi (Aug. 5, 2025) (online at <https://oversight.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/2025.08.05-Subpoena-and-Schedule-to-DOJ.pdf>).

<sup>6</sup> Pub. L. No. 119-38, Section 2(a) (2025) (online at [www.congress.gov/bills/119/congress/house-bill/4405/text](https://www.congress.gov/bills/119/congress/house-bill/4405/text)).

<sup>7</sup> *DOJ Says Millions of Epstein Files Have Yet to be Released*, Politico (Jan. 5, 2026) (online at [www.politico.com/news/2026/01/05/doj-epstein-files-timing-delays-00712169](https://www.politico.com/news/2026/01/05/doj-epstein-files-timing-delays-00712169)); *DOJ Seeks to Enlist 400 Attorneys to Review More Than 5M Pages of Epstein Records: Sources*, ABC News (Dec. 31, 2025) (online at <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/doj-seeks-enlist-400-attorneys-review-5m-pages/story?id=128809409>).

<sup>8</sup> *Id.*; *DOJ Says It Could Take “A Few More Weeks” to Process Epstein Files After Receiving More Than 1 Million Additional Docs*, NBC News (Dec. 24, 2025) (online at [www.nbcnews.com/politics/justice-department/doj-weeks-process-epstein-files-1-million-additional-documents-fbi-rcna250847](https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/justice-department/doj-weeks-process-epstein-files-1-million-additional-documents-fbi-rcna250847)).

<sup>9</sup> Letter from Pamela Bondi, Todd Blanche, and Jay Clayton to The Hon. Paul Engelmayer at 2 (Jan. 5, 2026) (online at <https://storage.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.nysd.539612/gov.uscourts.nysd.539612.826.0.pdf>).

co-conspirators and other relevant information.<sup>10</sup> As CNN reported, the scope of DOJ's redactions "have kept victims from searching in the documents for anything related to their cases," even though "at least one survivor who wanted to remain anonymous saw her name published."<sup>11</sup> Other redactions suggest that DOJ may have made them in order to protect the White House—for example, a photo of Donald Trump and Ghislaine Maxwell that was reportedly redacted in its entirety, despite its obvious relevance.<sup>12</sup> DOJ's heavy-handed redactions are especially concerning given former Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene's recent account that President Trump pressured her not to reveal the names of Epstein-connected abusers, telling her, "My friends will get hurt."<sup>13</sup>

In addition, DOJ has indicated that it plans to withhold an indeterminate number of relevant documents on the basis of the "deliberative process" privilege, brazenly disregarding the Act's explicit requirement that DOJ's production include "[i]nternal DOJ communications, including emails, memos, meeting notes, concerning decisions to charge, not charge, investigate, or decline to investigate Epstein and his associates."<sup>14</sup> As one legal commentator noted, DOJ's failure to produce materials on deliberative process grounds "wouldn't survive first contact with the courts."<sup>15</sup>

Further exacerbating concerns about DOJ's actions and motivations is the Federal Bureau of Prison's (BOP's) shocking transfer of Epstein's co-conspirator, Ghislaine Maxwell, to a minimum-security prison camp shortly after she gave a favorable account concerning President Trump in a highly unusual prison interview conducted by Deputy Attorney General Todd Blanche, despite her federal sex offender status and in apparent violation of BOP policy, and reportedly granting her special privileges to her at that facility.<sup>16</sup>

At a minimum, DOJ's course of conduct—including conflicting statements about the facts, unresponsiveness, and flagrant violation of a law enacted by Congress and a congressional

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<sup>10</sup> *Extreme Redactions Undercut Epstein Files Release*, CNN (Dec. 23, 2025) (online at [www.cnn.com/2025/12/23/politics/redactions-epstein-files-justice-department-analysis](http://www.cnn.com/2025/12/23/politics/redactions-epstein-files-justice-department-analysis)).

<sup>11</sup> *Id.*

<sup>12</sup> Julie K. Brown (@jkbjournalist), X (Dec. 27, 2025) (online at <https://x.com/jkbjournalist/status/2005045372247531728?s=46&t=7xy58qBd0pVQzsKeDVbrPg>).

<sup>13</sup> "I Was Just So Naïve": Inside Marjorie Taylor Greene's Breakup with Trump, New York Times (Dec. 29, 2025) (online at [www.nytimes.com/2025/12/29/magazine/marjorie-taylor-greene-trump-maga-split.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2025/12/29/magazine/marjorie-taylor-greene-trump-maga-split.html)).

<sup>14</sup> Letter from Deputy Attorney General Todd Blanche to Members of Congress (Dec. 19, 2025) (online at [www.documentcloud.org/documents/26392531-read-the-letter-deputy-attorney-general-todd-blanche-sent-to-congress-about-the-epstein-files-release/](http://www.documentcloud.org/documents/26392531-read-the-letter-deputy-attorney-general-todd-blanche-sent-to-congress-about-the-epstein-files-release/)); Pub. L. No. 119-38, Section 2(a)(7) (2025) (online at [www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/4405/text](http://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/4405/text)).

<sup>15</sup> *Extreme Redactions Undercut Epstein Files Release*, CNN (Dec. 23, 2025) (online at [www.cnn.com/2025/12/23/politics/redactions-epstein-files-justice-department-analysis](http://www.cnn.com/2025/12/23/politics/redactions-epstein-files-justice-department-analysis)).

<sup>16</sup> *Lockdowns and a Mysterious Meeting: A Quiet Texas Prison Adapts to Life with Ghislaine Maxwell*, Wall Street Journal (Oct. 11, 2025) (online at [www.wsj.com/us-news/ghislaine-maxwell-prison-transfer-epstein-b5efd6ac?gaa\\_at=eafs&gaa\\_n=AWetsqerfo86bZv2Se4rVpvVAPj33Sl-RNXDhHDKHG6Phxq061NV0uy7wd8o&gaa\\_ts=695d38e7&gaa\\_sig=u61Atb1CIGAJSEu8rfYyD64fD1bL2wIaJUcf6FBtEQ8USmPk3kt5dyN\\_gh\\_exWOb2hKf5bh7k40YasT7GK2dNA%3D%3D](https://www.wsj.com/us-news/ghislaine-maxwell-prison-transfer-epstein-b5efd6ac?gaa_at=eafs&gaa_n=AWetsqerfo86bZv2Se4rVpvVAPj33Sl-RNXDhHDKHG6Phxq061NV0uy7wd8o&gaa_ts=695d38e7&gaa_sig=u61Atb1CIGAJSEu8rfYyD64fD1bL2wIaJUcf6FBtEQ8USmPk3kt5dyN_gh_exWOb2hKf5bh7k40YasT7GK2dNA%3D%3D)).

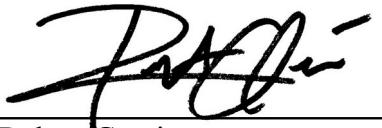
subpoena—flatly contradict what you characterized last August as “the Trump Administration’s commitment to transparency and efforts to provide the American people with information about this matter.”<sup>17</sup> It also raises the question of whether DOJ is heeding President Trump’s urging not to comply with the agency’s legal obligations in a recent Truth Social post, wherein he claimed that DOJ “is being forced to spend all of its time on this Democrat inspired Hoax” and asked, “When do they say NO MORE, and work on Election Fraud etc.”<sup>18</sup>

In sum, DOJ’s pattern of non-disclosure reflects a complete lack of good faith effort to fully comply with a duly issued bipartisan subpoena, and a shocking and illegal insult to Congress’s legal authority and status as a co-equal branch of government. No committee chairman, regardless of partisanship, should allow our committee to be treated with open contempt.

In an effort to continue our bipartisan investigation and defend the equities of this Committee to conduct oversight of the Executive Branch, we urge that you immediately schedule a hearing with Attorney General Bondi to shed light on these troubling questions.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



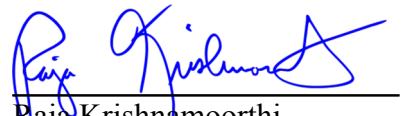
Robert Garcia  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Oversight and  
Government Reform



Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress

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<sup>17</sup> Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, *Press Release: Chairman Comer: DOJ Complying with Epstein Records Subpoena* (Aug. 18, 2025) (online at <https://oversight.house.gov/release/chairman-comer-doj-complying-with-epstein-records-subpoena/>).

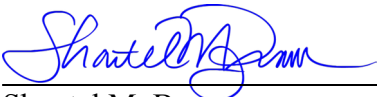
<sup>18</sup> Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump), Truth Social (Dec. 26, 2025) (online at <https://truthsocial.com/@realDonaldTrump/posts/115788344840750960>).



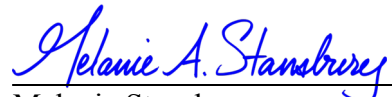
Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress



Kweisi Mfume  
Member of Congress



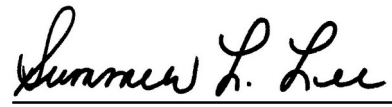
Shontel M. Brown  
Member of Congress



Melanie Stansbury  
Member of Congress



Maxwell Alejandro Frost  
Member of Congress



Summer L. Lee  
Member of Congress



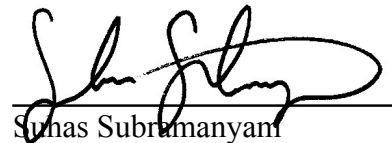
Greg Casar  
Member of Congress



Jasmine Crockett  
Member of Congress



Emily Randall  
Member of Congress



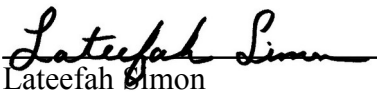
Sunas Subramanyam  
Member of Congress



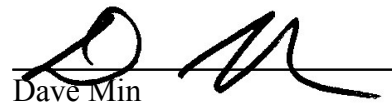
Yassamin Ansari  
Member of Congress




Wesley Bell  
Member of Congress



Lateefah Simon  
Member of Congress




Dave Min  
Member of Congress




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James R. Walkinshaw  
Member of Congress



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Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress



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Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress