

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 20, 2024

To: Interested Parties

Fr: House Committee on Oversight and Accountability—Democratic Press Office

Re: Fact Check—Mountain of Evidence Proves No Wrongdoing by President Biden

In House Republicans’ 15-month-long investigation of President Joe Biden’s family members, the Oversight Committee alone has heard more than 80 hours of testimony from nearly 20 witnesses and reviewed more than 100,000 pages of documents.

This mountain of evidence definitively exonerates President Biden and proves that he committed no wrongdoing, much less an impeachable offense. The evidence could not be any clearer: Joe Biden was not involved in, did not profit from, and took no official action to benefit his family’s business dealings.

- All of Republicans’ allegations against the President have been repeatedly discredited by Republicans’ own witnesses, including: [Sally Painter](#), [Hunter Biden](#), [Jason Galanis](#), [James Biden](#), [Tony Bobulinski](#), [Karen Tramontano](#), [Joseph Langston](#), [Eric Schwerin](#), [Rob Walker](#), [Mervyn Yan](#), [Kevin Morris](#), [Georges Berges](#), [Carol Fox](#), [Devon Archer](#), a former [FBI special agent](#), [Kathy Chung](#), the [business manager](#) and [AV/IT specialist](#) at the Penn Biden Center, and [Gary Stern](#).

With their allegations roundly disproven, Republicans are depending on two discredited Trump-tied characters and attempting to cancel every other witness, claiming they are “[absolutely lying](#),” “[hard to believe](#),” deflecting with “[talking points](#),” “[conveniently forgetting](#),” and having “[a hard time remembering the bad things](#).”

- House Republicans will peddle any lie—even the Ukraine-Burisma lie [promoted](#) by U.S. sanctioned [Russian agents](#)—from any source—even Alexander Smirnov, [an indicted liar with Russian ties](#).

In Wednesday’s hearing, Republicans will prioritize a [federally incarcerated](#) “[serial fraudster](#)” and a disgruntled former business associate turned [Trump collaborator](#), both of whom are [currently represented](#) by [former Trump White House lawyers](#) and whose narratives have been promoted and amplified by Donald Trump and his MAGA allies.

- Tony Bobulinski, [who sued his cancer stricken father](#), first made his allegations against the Bidens at a [2020 press conference](#) orchestrated by the Trump campaign hours before Bobulinski appeared at the presidential debate as Donald Trump’s guest, even wearing [a dress shirt purchased for him by the Trump campaign](#) as he first aired his claims.
- Jason Galanis, who was labeled a “[con man](#)” by the federal judge who sentenced him to fifteen years in prison for [defrauding a Native American tribe](#) and pension funds (among other fraud schemes), first publicly [made his claims about the Bidens](#) in a petition for commutation of his prison sentence to [Trump’s Department of Justice](#) and [now has](#)

[Chairman Comer and Rep. Biggs](#) writing to the Justice Department and Bureau of Prisons to secure his release from prison.

- Both Bobulinski and [Galanis](#) sought to do business with Hunter Biden because they wanted to use the Biden name to advance their own business interests. Neither Bobulinski nor Galanis’s business ventures with Hunter Biden ever even made it off the ground.

But if we were to take Galanis and Bobulinski at their word, even they have not shown any wrongdoing or impeachable offense by President Biden.

- Galanis provided no evidence that then-Vice President Biden took any official actions related to any of Galanis’s attempted ventures with Hunter Biden, and Galanis [admitted](#) that none of the documents in his transcribed interview showed any official actions taken by then-Vice President Biden.
- Bobulinski [could not identify any actual evidence](#) that Joe Biden had any involvement in his 2017-2018 attempted business venture with Hunter Biden.

Furthermore, Bobulinski and Galanis have nothing to do with Joe Biden’s presidency.

- In Republicans’ only other impeachment inquiry hearing, Jonathan Turley [testified](#) to the Oversight Committee that the “relevant office [for purposes of an impeachment inquiry] should remain the presidency, not the vice presidency, of Joe Biden.”
- In evaluating Republicans’ current impeachment effort, Alan Dershowitz, who served as a defense attorney for Trump in his first impeachment, has [repeatedly](#) affirmed, “It’s not an impeachable offense [because it didn’t occur while he was President](#) [...] Drop the impeachment.”

Republicans are attempting to erase exculpatory testimony from nearly 20 witnesses, instead depending on two discredited witnesses with significant ties to Donald Trump and his allies—and even they cannot provide evidence of wrongdoing. All of this is to prop up disproven, preposterous allegations of “[bribery](#)” and “[corruption](#)”—“[the biggest political corruption scandal in my lifetime](#),” “the [biggest political corruption scandal](#), not only in my lifetime, but I would say the past 100 years,” “the greatest political scandal and [corruption scandal in American history](#).”

- **It cannot be overstated just how far Republicans are from these dangerous allegations.** Republicans’ 15-month long investigation has definitively disproven Republicans’ allegations, so Republicans are perverting the Constitution and arguing over irrelevant, debunked emails from a decade ago and legitimate business deals between private citizens that never even happened, at a time when Joe Biden was a private citizen.

The totality of evidence obtained in this investigation definitively proves that Joe Biden has not committed any wrongdoing, much less an impeachable offense, and that includes Galanis and Bobulinski’s past testimony.

Below are the facts addressing Republicans’ top claims related to these two witnesses.

In his February 23 transcribed interview, which was held at the federal prison in Alabama where he is serving his sentence, [Jason Galanis](#) provided no evidence that then-Vice President Biden took any official actions related to any of Galanis’s attempted ventures with Hunter Biden and made clear that the venture never actually came into existence and Joe Biden never had any position in it ([p. 102](#)).

- Galanis himself admitted in his [transcribed interview](#) that he did not raise any of these allegations before the court at any point during his prosecution. Instead, the first written account of these claims he could identify was [a petition for commutation to then-President Trump](#).

Chairman Comer has used Galanis’s testimony [to falsely claim](#) that Hunter Biden, Galanis, and Devon Archer were “three-way partners” in a scheme for Hunter Biden to join Burnham, a financial services firm, in order to trade on the Biden name.

- Galanis’s claims are flatly contradicted by [trial evidence](#) from multiple sources credited by a federal judge that it was Galanis who was eager to involve Hunter Biden in the venture—not the other way around.
- Hunter Biden, moreover, directly refuted this notion during his transcribed interview, making clear that he had no role in Burnham and that while there was a proposal to include him in the venture, that proposal never came to fruition ([p. 180](#)).
- Hunter Biden also made clear during his transcribed interview that his contact with Jason Galanis consisted of a single 30-minute meeting approximately 10 years ago when he was introduced to Galanis ([p. 181](#)).

Chairman Comer has used Galanis’s testimony [to falsely claim](#) that “Joe Biden was going to work for the Chinese government” by joining Burnham’s board.

- Galanis’s own account in his transcribed interview makes clear that Joe Biden did not, in fact, ever join Burnham’s board ([p. 9-10](#)).
- As “proof” of the purported plan to involve Joe Biden in the venture after he left office, Galanis pointed to a single, unauthenticated draft email. However, Galanis admitted that Hunter Biden did not write this draft email and did not send this draft email, which did not even mention Joe Biden by name. Galanis also conceded that Hunter Biden did send a subsequent email, which, notably, did not include the paragraph in the draft purportedly alluding to Joe Biden, as “a certain relation of mine” ([p. 43, 69](#)).
- Based on the unauthenticated emails presented by Galanis, Hunter Biden never in fact approved any suggestion to involve his father in the venture nor communicated any such suggestion to anyone.

Chairman Comer has used Galanis’s testimony [to falsely accuse](#) Joe and Hunter Biden of taking a bribe from Elena Baturina, falsely accusing Joe Biden of making, “a policy decision [...] in return for millions of dollars.” Galanis claims that he was present for a vaguely described purported phone call between Hunter Biden and his father, at which he claims Elena Baturina, whom Galanis insinuates had a business relationship with Hunter Biden, was present. Again, these claims are contradicted by the record.

- Hunter Biden was unequivocally clear that his only interaction with Galanis consisted of a single brief meeting a decade ago ([p. 181](#)).
- In his [transcribed interview](#), Devon Archer made clear several times that Hunter Biden had no involvement in Archer’s business dealings with Baturina, and that the relationship with Baturina was exclusively Archer’s. Archer also made clear that a \$3.5 million payment from Baturina to one of Archer’s entities in February 2014 was part of a business deal in which Hunter Biden had no part and which Archer described as “completely out of [Hunter’s] portfolio” ([p. 61, 138](#)).
- Hunter Biden likewise testified that he “never received a dime from Ms. Baturina” and “didn’t have any involvement with her in any way” ([p. 196](#)).
- These allegations have also been refuted by multiple fact checkers, including [FactCheck.Org](#), [Washington Post](#), and [CNN](#).

Even if one were to credit Galanis’s claims, they still would not provide any evidence whatsoever of an impeachable offense by President Biden. As Galanis himself admitted at his transcribed interview, not a single one of the documents on which he relied to support his narrative even refers to Joe Biden or reflects Joe Biden taking any official action ([p. 102](#)).

In his February 13 transcribed interview, [Tony Bobulinski](#) did not offer any evidence of wrongdoing by President Biden ([p. 149, 156-157](#)) and “[could not point to direct evidence that Joe Biden was involved in his family’s business dealings.](#)”

- Bobulinski is merely “[resurrecting claims he has lobbed since 2020](#) [...] shar[ing] his story with anyone who would listen, including the Trump campaign. But his loftiest claims — that Joe Biden was deeply involved in his son’s overseas business deals — are still uncorroborated and have been undercut by other key witnesses.”
- In his transcribed interview, Bobulinski accused multiple [FBI agents of lying](#) in their Form FD-302 report ([p. 173-174](#)), accused the [Wall Street Journal of lying](#) in their reporting which dismissed Bobulinski’s claims ([p. 149](#)), accused [Cassidy Hutchinson](#) of lying ([p. 81, 261](#)), and accused nine of Republicans’ own witnesses of [lying](#) because they have affirmed that Joe Biden was not involved in his son’s business ventures.
- Bobulinski repeatedly claimed that he was not disgruntled about being pushed out of SinoHawk, but on nearly 30 occasions, he baselessly accused Jim and Hunter Biden of defrauding him ([p. 183, 272-273](#)).
- Despite repeatedly claiming that he was “not a political person,” Bobulinski admitted that [Jason Miller](#), who served as a Senior Advisor for the Trump 2020 presidential campaign and holds the same title for the 2024 campaign, kicked off Bobulinski’s press conference on [October 22, 2020](#)—the event at which Bobulinski first publicly made his claims against President Biden ([p. 12, 55, 103](#)). He also finally admitted after numerous evasions that when he attended the presidential debate on October 22, 2020, he was “a guest of Mr. Trump’s” ([p.147](#)).

Chairman Comer has used Bobulinski’s testimony [to falsely claim](#) that Joe Biden “was involved” in his family’s business dealings and “was working for China,” while Chairman Smith

falsely claimed that Joe Biden and Bobulinski “discussed the relationship with the Chinese energy company.”

- The entirety of Bobulinski’s claims rest on a brief, failed venture that brought in no money and lasted mere months in 2017—the only time Bobulinski has ever worked with Hunter Biden.
- Bobulinski’s claims of Joe Biden’s involvement have been thoroughly debunked by numerous media organizations. In particular, [The Wall Street Journal](#) and [Fox News](#) both concluded that Bobulinski’s “evidence” shows no role for Joe Biden in the Sinohawk venture.
- In describing his only two conversations with Joe Biden, both in 2017 and one day apart, Bobulinski’s account made clear that he did not discuss business with Joe Biden during either interaction ([p. 269-271](#)). Bobulinski testified that his two conversations focused on his “background in detail,” the Biden “family’s background,” and President Biden’s “appreciation for the military.”

Chairman Comer has used Bobulinski’s testimony to falsely claim that Joe Biden was “selling out to our enemy China” to enrich his family through CEFC.

- Bobulinski [testified](#) that their CEFC related business venture was “legitimate,” and none of his disclosures to the venture’s bank, JPMorgan Chase, which Bobulinski stated were “100 percent” truthful and forthcoming, ever described Joe Biden or the “the Big Guy” as having any share or role in the venture. Furthermore, Bobulinski testified that neither Hunter nor James Biden ever indicated that Joe Biden would receive money from their business dealings ([p. 187, 233-235, 263](#)).
- [James Gilliar](#) was unequivocal: “I am unaware of any involvement at anytime of the former Vice President.”
- [Rob Walker](#), “testified that the president was not involved in, did not profit from, and took no official actions related to his family’s business dealings.” Walker further explained that there was never any serious possibility that Joe Biden would join the business venture and that the “big guy” email was a part of a larger pattern of Gilliar trying to encourage Hunter Biden to get his father to join their venture ([p. 148, 153](#)).
- [Jim Biden](#) testified that Joe Biden “had no involvement or financial interests in any of the ventures he has pursued.”
- Hunter Biden testified that he never suggested that Joe Biden become involved in business dealings with CEFC, and it never happened ([p. 120](#)).
- Joe Biden was allocated no portion of and received no equity in Oneida Holdings, a company created by Bobulinski for the CEFC venture ([p. 233-235](#)). Moreover, Joe Biden received no equity in Sinohawk Holdings, the company formed in partnership with CEFC and which Bobulinski served as CEO.
- When Hunter and Jim Biden entered into a separate venture with CEFC—without Bobulinski, Gilliar, and Walker—and formed Hudson West III, Joe Biden was again allocated no portion of and received no equity in the venture.

Chairman Comer has used Bobulinski's testimony [to falsely claim](#) that Joe Biden "was going to be a 10% equity owner in a deal CEFC had with the Bidens" and participated in a "bribe" to change US policy to benefit China.

- Republicans' claims around this 2017 "Big Guy" email have been repeatedly fact checked, including by [FactCheck.org](#), [The New York Times](#), and [The Washington Post](#).
- The proposal in this email was drafted and sent by James Gilliar in 2017, and neither Jim Biden nor Hunter Biden addressed this scheme offered by Gilliar.
- In fact, it was Gilliar and Bobulinski who first cooked up the idea to try to involve Joe Biden in the Sinohawk venture. Two days before sending this email, Gilliar texted Bobulinski "let's get the company set up, then tell [Hunter] and family the high stakes and get Joe [Biden] involved" ([p. 226](#)).
- Rob Walker testified that there was never any serious possibility that Joe Biden would join the business venture, it was all "[bull—](#)," and that the "big guy" email was a part of a larger pattern of Gilliar trying to encourage Hunter Biden to get his father to join their venture ([p. 147-148, 153](#)).

In conclusion, Republicans' claims surrounding the testimony of Galanis and Bobulinski have already been thoroughly discredited, and Chairmen Comer and Jordan's impeachment inquiry has already debunked itself.

- This current reiteration of Republicans' perennial taxpayer-funded election cycle smear campaign against Joe Biden has uncovered a mountain of exculpatory evidence that definitively disproves all of Republicans' allegations.
- But Chairmen [Comer](#) and [Jordan](#) are actively meeting with Donald Trump, and Trump "[demands](#)" and "[expects](#)" retribution against his political opponent, [threatening](#) "Either IMPEACH the BUM, or fade into OBLIVION. THEY DID IT TO US!"
- Trump even demands that Ranking Member Raskin [be jailed](#).
- Accordingly, House Republicans openly admit that they are using "[impeachment as a 2024 campaign weapon for former President Trump](#)."

Independent reporting, even from conservative outlets, confirms the undeniable reality that Republicans have failed to uncover any evidence of wrongdoing and succeeded only in accumulating a mountain of exculpatory evidence clearing the President.

- [CNN](#): "15 months or so in, they've received over 100,000 documents. They've interviewed over 40 people, including Hunter and the President's brother, their business associates, Department of Justice officials, IRS whistleblowers, and they don't have evidence of wrongdoing."
- [The Wall Street Journal](#): "Hunter Biden's testimony followed appearances by his uncle, James Biden, and past business associates who have delivered largely exculpatory testimony for the president. One after another has testified that President Biden was never involved in his family's business dealings or took official actions related to them."
- [The Washington Post](#): "If anything, the House Oversight and Judiciary committees have compiled an extensive record of sworn statements from firsthand witnesses saying the

president was never involved. [...] [T]he statements of even witnesses unsympathetic to the Bidens have been largely exculpatory.”

- [The Washington Examiner](#): “Republicans have turned up scant evidence that the president profited from the business pursuits of his son and his brother James Biden.”
- [The Hill](#): “GOP members of the Oversight and Judiciary panels have thus far produced a series of largely exculpatory statements from the president’s relatives and some of their business associates”
- [The New York Times](#): “Despite their subpoenas and depositions, House Republicans have been unable to produce any solid evidence of wrongdoing by Mr. Biden”
- [ABC](#): “At least nine other key witnesses interviewed as part of the impeachment probe have shared similar exculpatory accounts that undercut key tenets of Republicans’ accusations against the president.”
- [PBS](#): “[W]itness after witness [...] have essentially said that there is no evidence that President Biden was involved in any of Hunter Biden’s business dealings”

Yet, House Republicans continue to sink millions and millions of taxpayer dollars into what a wide majority of Americans and more than 57% of independents believe to be a “[a bogus](#)” impeachment according to a recent Fox News poll.

- [Even Republicans](#) agree that congressional “time and resources had been squandered” due to this bogus investigation, which has “[pulled top investigators away from other matters](#)”— “[roughly two dozen investigators.](#)”
- [Even Republicans](#) “have raised questions if a public hearing would even work in their favor” and said that Comer is “[on his own island](#)” for holding this hearing.
- And even “[most House Republicans](#),” from [Rep. Higgins](#) to [Rep. Graves](#), agree there is no evidence to justify impeachment, while Republicans on the Oversight Committee, such as Reps. [Comer](#), [Burchett](#), and [Donalds](#), still cannot point to any evidence of an impeachable offense, after well over a year of investigation.

This failed impeachment inquiry has been guided not by facts and the Constitution, but by the baseless allegations, lies, and outright disinformation peddled by Donald Trump, Russian and [Chinese](#) foreign agents, liars, and crooks. Republicans will promote any lie from any source, no matter the credibility, just to attack Joe Biden.

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