



AN IDIOT'S GUIDE TO AN IDIOT'S IMPEACHMENT

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On September 12, 2023, Speaker Kevin McCarthy announced the House would open an impeachment inquiry into President Joseph Robinette Biden. The Speaker announced Rep. James Comer, Rep. Jim Jordan, and Rep. Jason Smith would lead the investigation into claims that the President used his public office to enrich himself and his family. Speaker McCarthy took this act with zero evidence to support an investigation of this caliber, and Facts First USA is focused on ensuring that our national discourse is grounded in facts and honest debate. This impeachment inquiry is a sham, and a disgrace to American democracy. This report provides the facts to finally put an end to the recycled allegations against President Biden, his son, and to expose the real danger of House Republicans' failure to hold those accused of well-documented, evidence-based wrongdoing accountable.

UKRAINE AND THE DEBUNKED SHOKIN-BURISMA ALLEGATION

Speaker McCarthy, the House Judiciary Committee, the House Oversight Committee, and their respective chairmen have continued banging the same drum: that then-Vice President Joe Biden used his power to halt a \$1 billion loan to Ukraine unless they removed Prosecutor General Viktor Shokin, in order to aid his son, Hunter Biden, who at the time sat on the board of Burisma. However, those are the same lies peddled by one of America's most notorious political agents during the 2020 election, Rudy Giuliani. Since its conception, media outlets have endlessly debunked the conspiracy theory and reported the same fact: then-Vice President Biden's pressure and the subsequent firing of Viktor Shokin was in line with the United States' and the international communities' interests when it came to Ukraine. Shokin had not been prosecuting corruption in Ukraine, and Rep. James Comer's own witness, Devon Archer, testified to that fact when he told investigators that Shokin's firing was "bad for Burisma." Even then-Ukrainian President Poroshenko denied the theory outright during a Fox News interview, blaming Shokin for his own firing. It's even more baffling then, that Republicans seem to be putting all their investigative eggs into the Shokin conspiracy basket, when a 2016 letter from several Senate Republicans, including Ron Johnson, echoed Vice President Biden's sentiments that Ukraine needed to progress further with its anti-corruption efforts.

HUNTER BIDEN'S PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

The House Judiciary committee and a handful of Republicans continue to claim Hunter Biden was an amateur who landed in a high-profile role simply because of his last name. A look into Hunter Biden's background reveals that he has an extensive work history as a lawyer and businessman, and that he was appointed vice-chair of Amtrak by former President Bush, a Republican. Hunter Biden's professional background includes working at the Center for National Policy, the Truman National Security Project, the U.S. Global Leadership Campaign, and as chair of the World Food Program. Hunter Biden, who earned his JD from Yale Law School, was also an accomplished lawyer who worked with the highly regarded international firm, Boies Schiller Flexner. Hunter Biden and his partners also had an extensive record in private equity and consulting which can be traced to his boutique firms, Seneca Global Advisors, and Rosemont Seneca Partners, which is more than can be said about the son-in-law of former President Trump, but more on Jared Kushner later.

DEVON ARCHER AND THE PHONE CALLS

Both Kevin McCarthy and James Comer have touted the testimony of one of Hunter Biden's former business partners as proof of their claims that Hunter Biden was "selling access to Joe Biden" and a reason for the impeachment inquiry. However, Devon Archer's testimony proved the opposite of the Republican narrative. Archer's testimony disputed the allegations that Burisma wanted Shokin fired, that Zlochevsky paid any bribe to either Biden, and that Joe Biden was somehow involved. Archer even told congressional investigators that when Joe Biden was on the phone with his son "nothing" of importance related to business activities was discussed. Archer assured investigators that Hunter Biden did not receive \$3.5 million from Yelena Baturina, a Russian billionaire, and the widow of the former mayor of Moscow. Archer explained the real estate business dealings with Baturina were his and Hunter Biden was not involved. Republicans then ignored the facts from Archer's testimony and pushed their own version of events instead. One explanation for their feigned ignorance of Archer's testimony is that the man leading the investigation wasn't even there to listen to or question Archer. Comer then lied about being involved, saying he called in to the meeting, to which one GOP senior source responded, "there's just no way he fucking called in." Republican leaders will look right into the camera and lie about something as simple as attending a meeting, so they cannot be trusted when comes to confronting serious allegations.

CHINA AND A COBALT MINE DEAL

House Republicans have presented no proof of wrongdoing related to their claims that President Biden benefitted from Hunter Biden's deals with Chinese companies, especially with CEFC. Years of Republican investigations have yielded no results disputing that fact. Numerous new investigations also found Joe Biden was not involved nor did he benefit from the CEFC deal. Republicans can't even point to a policy from the Biden administration that would support this claim. One deal that has been scrutinized involves Hunter Biden's venture firm, BHR. The firm was not involved in China Molybdenum's purchase of the majority interest held by an American mining company, Freeport-McMoRan. BHR was involved in the buyout of a cobalt and copper mine in Africa only to purchase a minority stakeholder of the mine, Lundin Mining of Canada. In 2019, BHR sold its shares of the mine, and at the time Hunter Biden owned 10 percent of BHR through a firm, Skaneateles. It's been publicly reported that as of November 2021, Hunter Biden no longer holds any interest in BHR or Skaneateles. The American mining company, which held the majority stake that was purchased by China Molybdenum denied BHR's involvement in the deal and BHR was not mentioned in media releases regarding the buyout. A spokesman for China Molybdenum also denied being aware of Hunter Biden's involvement in BHR at the time of the deal. Given the timing of BHR's involvement, U.S. officials could do nothing to stop the deal since a Chinese company had already made plans to purchase the majority shareholder. Regardless, at the time, the Obama administration was fighting China over rare-earth minerals, which is the opposite of Joe Biden steering U.S. policy to benefit his son. No credible accusations of wrongdoing on the part of Hunter Biden have been made regarding this business arrangement.

LLC'S

During his impeachment inquiry announcement, Speaker McCarthy claimed "nearly \$20 million in payments were directed to the Biden family members and associates through various shell companies" as a justification. Despite repeated assertions from House Republicans about these business deals, no evidence has been found proving that Joe Biden ever profited from any of Hunter Biden's foreign business deals. President Biden's personal financial disclosure shows no evidence that he received money from foreign income sources, sources told the New York Times he never had joint bank accounts with Hunter, and they never had direct access to each other's money. Large portions of the money McCarthy cited didn't even go to members of the Biden family at all, as the Washington Post Fact Checker explained. Even Comer has admitted he has no evidence of wrongdoing on the part of Joe Biden. On July 20th, 2023, when asked if Joe Biden ever received money from Ukraine, Romania, or China, Comer said, "not to Joe Biden." Meanwhile, Comer has killed the investigation into some of the most egregious acts of corruption committed by former President Trump and his son-in-law Jared Kushner. Even after naming his son the head of his company, President Trump was able to access the money in his trust and was briefed on the activities of his businesses. The Trump family also created massive webs of shell companies, but when put in charge, Comer ended any steps to hold them accountable.

THE CAFÉ MILANO DINNERS

What is often referred to as "the Café Milano dinners" recounts an instance when President Biden stopped by a 2015 dinner at Café Milano, attended by his son, to speak with Greek orthodox priest, Father Alex Karloutsos. On the day of the dinner, Joe Biden spoke at the White House Greek Independence Day reception, and he and Karloutsos are reportedly personal friends; Karloutsos' wife was also on the board of the Beau Biden Foundation. One dinner attendant said the elder Biden didn't even sit down, and Devon Archer said "no business deal specifics" were discussed at the dinner. House Oversight Republicans have also pointed to a 2014 dinner involving Yelena Baturina, but Republicans have failed to provide any evidence of wrongdoing by President Biden, and have ignored that Archer's testimony showed the business dealings with Baturina were between Archer and Baturina.

ROMANIA

Republicans accused Hunter Biden of influence peddling when it came to his relationship with Romanian businessman, Gabriel Popoviciu, but have repeatedly failed to provide evidence supporting their claims. Let's look at the facts. Hunter Biden was brought on to Popoviciu's legal team to help combat accusations of corruption relating to a piece of land in Bucharest that Popoviciu was alleged to have acquired fraudulently. In 2016, Popoviciu was convicted, and the land was eventually given to the state. This disputes allegations that influence peddling somehow helped stave off corruption charges: anti-corruption efforts were enforced, and a businessman hired a lawyer to fend off charges. Republicans also ignore the fact that then-Vice President Biden gave a speech in Romania urging citizens to fight corruption in their government, not the opposite. Instead of

continuing to spin their wheels, House Republicans should instead investigate the former President's personal lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, who joined the Popoviciu legal team after Hunter Biden left. During Giuliani's time as Trump's lawyer, he wrote directly to the Romanian president to criticize the country's anti-corruption efforts.

THE FBI AND THE SO-CALLED BRIBE

Speaker McCarthy cited allegations of a bribe made on an FBI FD-1023 form as a justification for opening his impeachment inquiry into President Biden. McCarthy failed to mention that neither the allegations made nor the existence of a FD-1023 form independently amount to evidence of wrongdoing. The form is simply a way for the FBI to store unverified information from a source. It has already been reported that the FBI couldn't corroborate the allegations made in the form. Neither McCarthy nor Comer could cite any evidence to corroborate the bribe allegations made against President Biden. Senator Chuck Grassley went on to say what should have been a nail in the coffin of their credibility by admitting that Republicans, "aren't interested in whether or not the accusations against Vice President Biden are accurate or not."

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The ongoing fight between House Republicans and the Department of Justice is an egregious politicization of the American justice system and has all been in service of Donald Trump. Republicans chose to elevate and create a public spectacle when two IRS whistleblowers came forward to present allegations of favoritism by officials in the department regarding the Hunter Biden investigation. Both U.S. Attorney David Weiss and Attorney General Merrick Garland stood by the investigation and communicated directly with the chair of the Judiciary committee, Rep. Jim Jordan. Attorney Weiss told Jordan he had been granted "ultimate authority" and had not been denied Special Counsel status. To further cement that fact, when he did ask for Special Counsel status, Attorney General Garland approved the request. Republicans also refuse to provide the same airtime to the multiple witnesses that have come forward to Congress disputing the allegations of political interference in the Hunter Biden case. President Biden's continued integrity has been on full display the whole time. President Biden kept the two Trump-era U.S. attorneys (Weiss and Durham) who were conducting investigations that could harm him politically. A stark difference from the former President who repeatedly weaponized the Justice Department for his own political ends and has vowed to do it again.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTS (SARs)

Once again, House Republicans are misleading Americans by inaccurately portraying SARs as more than just an unverified tip. Speaker McCarthy's worry about a private citizen's financial records does not appear to extend to the entire congressional districts of his own members. House Judiciary Chairman and impeachment inquiry leader Jim Jordan's district alone makes up nearly a third of all SARs filed in House Republican Oversight member districts in the last nine years. The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) reported that there have been more than 2.4 million SARs filed in Jim Jordan's district since 2014. If McCarthy truly believed that a high number of SARs should justify an investigation with the entire force of the United States federal government, then Ohio's Fourth Congressional district would be a good place to start.

REPUBLICANS' PARADE OF TERRIBLE WITNESSES

Republicans have scraped the bottom of the barrel in their search for witnesses to back their wild conspiracy theories. Chairman James Comer used his media appearances to tout a potential criminal as a witness. He said Gal Luft was a "very credible witness," but a recently unsealed indictment from the Department of Justice accused Luft of being an unregistered foreign agent, who ensured a "channel" would be created between China and U.S. foreign policy, as well as arms trafficking, violating U.S. sanctions, and lying to investigators. The first accusation is the very same one Republicans have leveled without evidence against Hunter Biden, yet it was committed by one of their very own witnesses. Several GOP officials including James Comer and Ron Johnson have also chosen to elevate white nationalist and far-right extremist, Garrett Ziegler. Ziegler not only swims in the same circles as known Neo-Nazi Nick Fuentes but is infamously known for his fights with the January 6th committee.

KAZAKHSTAN

Another location House Republicans often point to for allegations of corruption is Kazakhstan. Republicans cite a payment made by a Kazakhstani national to one of Hunter Biden's associates that was used for a sports car. The 2020 Senate Republican report alleged the connection may have influenced the United States' decision to sanction Russia following the

country's annexation of Crimea. This allegation would make sense, if the United States didn't repeatedly and aggressively sanction Russia for its actions in Crimea because in doing so it violated the sovereignty of another nation. In March 2022, it was also reported that a federal grand jury investigated the allegation and U.S. Attorney David Weiss hasn't included any charges tied to Kazakhstan in indictments of Hunter Biden.

SERBIA

House Oversight Republicans have flailed around all over the world in attempts to provide evidence for their conspiracy theories about President Biden. One such place is Serbia, more specifically, one Serbian politician: Vuk Jeremic. In their investigation, House Oversight Republicans demanded information from Jeremic regarding a dinner invitation Jeremic sent to Hunter Biden and justified it by citing loose ties to the CEFC. House Republicans failed to address that Hunter Biden reportedly never attended the dinner and, in an email, Jeremic claimed he was not involved in the introduction between the younger Biden and Ye Jianming.

THE INVESTIGATION – JAMES COMER IS IN SHAMBLES

House Oversight Chairman James Comer is in a tough spot. We here at Facts First USA haven't taken to calling it, "shambles." The latest effort by his committee was to pursue a meeting with the National Archives to review a series of emails during President Biden's time as Vice President. The Washington Post summed up the venture nicely, "none of the emails were related to Hunter Biden's work on the board of Ukrainian company Burisma." For months we've had to endure James Comer's dead ends, dumpster diving, and warmed-up leftovers. We've even had to suffer through Comer's own admissions that he lacks evidence and House Republicans' blatant cherry picking.

Now, the Speaker of the House is relying on this impeachment inquiry to pull himself out of hot water as the government spirals towards a shutdown. This impeachment inquiry is a sham, these are not good faith efforts to get to the truth, and the facts speak for themselves.

Ukraine And The Debunked Shokin-Burisma Allegation

REPUBLICANS ARE ALL IN ON A THEORY THAT HAS BEEN DEBUNKED FOR NEARLY HALF A DECADE

Rep. Jim Jordan Tweeted A Narrative That Claimed Hunter Biden's Ties To Burisma And Joe Biden Resulted In An Act Of Corruption. "Remember: Burisma executives requested Hunter Biden get 'help from D.C.' to address 'government pressure.' Joe Biden then threatened to withhold aid from Ukraine unless Ukrainian Prosecutor General Viktor Shokin was fired, Who just happened to be investigating Burisma!" [Rep. Jim Jordan, Twitter, [9/15/23](#)]

The House Judiciary Committee Tweeted "Four Key Facts" Related To Hunter Biden's Time At Burisma And The Firing Of Viktor Shokin To Justify An Impeachment Inquiry Into President Biden. "FOUR KEY FACTS WILL NEVER CHANGE: 1. Hunter Biden sat on Burisma's board. 2. He was unqualified to do so. 3. Burisma pressured him to get D.C. to act on policy issues in Ukraine. 4. Joe Biden did just that. Did DOJ slow-walk the Hunter Biden investigation to hide the Burisma scandal?" [House Judiciary GOP, Twitter, [9/20/23](#)]

FACT CHECKERS HAVE ALREADY DEBUNKED ALLEGATIONS OF CORRUPTION LEVELED AT PRESIDENT BIDEN REGARDING UKRAINIAN PROSECUTOR VIKTOR SHOKIN

HEADLINE: "Fact Check: Biden Leveraged \$1B In Aid To Ukraine To Oust Corrupt Prosecutor, Not To Help His Son" [USA Today, [10/21/20](#)]

- **USA Today: “Based On Our Research, The Claim That Joe Biden Threatened To Withhold \$1 Billion From Ukraine To Save His Son's Job Is FALSE.”** “Based on our research, the claim that Joe Biden threatened to withhold \$1 billion from Ukraine to save his son's job is FALSE. The then-vice president leveraged aid dollars to persuade the country to oust its top prosecutor as part of anti-corruption efforts endorsed by other international players that were unrelated to his son, Hunter Biden.” [USA Today, [10/21/20](#)]

HEADLINE: “Inside VP Biden’s Linking Of A Loan To A Ukraine Prosecutor’s Ouster” [Washington Post, [9/15/23](#)]

Washington Post Fact-Checker Reported That Contrary To Republicans’ Claims That Vice President Biden Sought Shokin’s Removal To Benefit Burisma, “The Body Of Evidence Shows That Shokin Failed To Act Against Burisma, To The Distress Of Many Senior U.S. Officials.” “House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) this week directed House committees to begin an impeachment inquiry into Biden, with one area of focus whether Biden pushed to fire Shokin to benefit his son Hunter’s foreign business dealings. Republicans have claimed that Biden sought Shokin’s removal to benefit the Ukrainian energy giant Burisma, where Hunter Biden was a board director. But the body of evidence shows that Shokin failed to act against Burisma, to the distress of many senior U.S. officials who at the time closely tracked whether he was meeting certain benchmarks.” [Washington Post, [9/15/23](#)]

- **Former Senior Director For Europe Affairs, Charles Kupchan, Who Was On The National Security Council Staff And Traveled With Biden When He Made The Decision To Withhold The Loan Said, “The Consensus Was That Shokin Had To Go,” And The View Was Echoed By Germany And France.** “Charles Kupchan, who was senior director for European affairs on the staff of the National Security Council and also traveled on Biden’s flight, remembers the later phone call more distinctly than Biden calling an audible on the plane. ‘The consensus was that Shokin had to go,’ he said. ‘That was not just our view but the view of the Germans and the French.’” [Washington Post, [9/15/23](#)]

FactCheck.Org Said President Biden Carried Out U.S. Policy, Which Found Ukrainian Prosecutor, Viktor Shokin, Guilty Of Corruption – The International Community Also Advocated For Shokin’s Removal From Office. “As we have reported more than once last year, Biden traveled to Kyiv as vice president and warned Ukraine’s then-president, Petro Poroshenko, that the U.S. would withhold \$1 billion in loan guarantees until Ukraine removed its prosecutor general, Viktor Shokin, who was widely viewed as corrupt. At the time, the international community and anti-corruption advocates in Ukraine were also calling for Shokin to be removed from office for his failure to aggressively prosecute corruption.” [FactCheck.org, [10/15/20](#)]

HEADLINE: “Envoys Pushed To Oust Ukraine Prosecutor Before Biden” [Financial Times, [10/3/19](#)]

- **EU Diplomats Working On Ukraine Told The Financial Times They Were Looking For Ways To Persuade Kiev To Oust Shokin Well Before Then-Vice President, Joe Biden.** “EU diplomats working on Ukraine at the time have, however, told the FT that they were looking for ways to persuade Kiev to remove Mr Shokin well before Mr Biden entered the picture. The push for Mr Shokin’s removal was part of an international effort to bolster Ukraine’s institutions following Russia’s annexation of Crimea and the armed conflict in the eastern part of the country.” [Financial Times, [10/3/19](#)]

New Yorker: “There Is No Credible Evidence That Biden Sought Shokin’s Removal In Order To Protect Hunter [Biden].” “There is no credible evidence that Biden sought Shokin’s removal in order to protect Hunter.” [New Yorker, [7/8/19](#)]

- **U.S. Special Envoy For Energy Policy, Amos Hochstein, Said Shokin’s Removal Was Due To Concerns By The International Monetary Fund, European Union, And The U.S. Government That He Wasn’t Pursuing Corruption Investigations.** “According to Amos Hochstein, the Obama Administration’s special envoy for energy policy, Shokin was removed because of concerns by the International Monetary Fund, the European Union, and the U.S. government that he wasn’t pursuing corruption investigations.” [New Yorker, [7/8/19](#)]
- **U.S. Special Envoy For Energy Policy, Amos Hochstein Believed The Corruption Claims That Shokin Was Fired For Investigating Burisma Were Actually The Opposite.** “Contrary to the assertions that Shokin was fired

because he was investigating Burisma and Zlochevsky, Hochstein said, ‘many of us in the U.S. government believed that Shokin was the one protecting Zlochevsky.’” [New Yorker, [7/8/19](#)]

BBC Reported That Vice President Biden And Other Western Leaders Called For The Firing Of Ukraine’s Top Prosecutor, Viktor Shokin, Who Faced Criticism For Blocking Corruption Investigations – Shokin Was Removed By Ukrainian Parliament In 2016. “At the time, his father was actively engaged in anti-corruption work in Ukraine. Vice-President Biden rallied other Western leaders to call for the firing of the country’s top prosecutor, Viktor Shokin, who faced criticism for blocking corruption investigations. Mr Shokin was removed by the Ukrainian parliament in 2016. Mr Trump and some of his allies have claimed he was ousted for investigating Burisma.” [BBC, [10/6/22](#)]

Former President Poroshenko Completely Destroyed The Republican Narrative Regarding Shokin And Claimed He Was Fired Due To His Own Corruption

COLUMN: “The Republican Case Against Biden Takes A Body Blow ... From Fox News” [Washington Post, [9/25/23](#)]

- **When Asked About The Shokin Allegation, President Poroshenko Claimed There Was Not “One Single Word Of Truth” That Came From Shokin And He Confirmed He Wasn’t Fired Because Of Joe Biden But Because Of His Own Corruption.** “‘First of all, this is the completely crazy person,’ Poroshenko began. ‘This is something wrong with him.’ ‘Second,’ the nonnative English speaker continued, ‘there is no one single word of truth. And third, I hate the idea to make any comments and to make any intervention in the American election.’ He asked that Kilmeade ‘not use such person like Shokin to undermine the trust between bipartisan support and Ukraine.’ [...] ‘Okay, so that is not true,’ Kilmeade continued. ‘He didn’t get fired because of Joe Biden.’ Poroshenko confirmed that he did not, saying that Shokin was fired ‘for his own statement.’” [Washington Post, [9/25/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “Fox News Just Accidentally Demolished a Biden-Ukraine Conspiracy Theory” [Daily Beast, [9/25/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “Republican Case Against Biden Beautifully Goes Up in Flames on Fox News” [New Republic, [9/25/23](#)]

Even Devon Archer, A Republican Witness And Former Burisma Board Member, Testified To Lawmakers That He Was Told The Firing Of Shokin Was “Bad For Burisma”

Devon Archer, Former Burisma Board Member, Testified To Lawmakers That The Firing Of Shokin Was A Setback To Burisma, “It Was Bad For Burisma.” “Devon Archer, a fellow Burisma board member, said in a closed-door interview with lawmakers on July 31 that he was told at the time of Shokin’s firing that it was a setback for the company, according to a transcript. ‘That’s what was I told, that it was bad for Burisma,’ he said. ‘But I don’t know. I don’t know if it was good or bad.’” [Washington Post, [8/30/23](#)]

REPUBLICAN SENATORS, INCLUDING RON JOHNSON, EVEN BACKED PRESIDENT BIDEN’S POSITION ON THE UKRAINIAN PROSECUTOR IN 2016

2016: Senator Ron Johnson Signed A Letter, Along With Seven Other Senators, To Ukrainian President Poroshenko That Said: “[We] Urge You To Press Ahead With Urgent Reforms To The Prosecutor General’s Office And Judiciary.”

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 12, 2016

H.E. Petro Poroshenko
President of Ukraine
Presidential Administration of Ukraine
11 Bankova Street
Kyiv, Ukraine 01220

Dear President Poroshenko,

As members of the U.S. Senate Ukraine Caucus and strong supporters of your government, we write to express our concern regarding the recent resignation of Minister of Economy Aivaras Abromavičius and his allegations of persistent corruption in the Ukrainian political system.

During the past year, Mr. Abromavičius and his team implemented tough but necessary economic reforms, worked to combat endemic corruption, and promoted more openness and transparency in government. He was known to many of us as a respected reformer and supporter of the Ukrainian cause. Minister Abromavičius's allegations raise concerns about the enormous challenges that remain in your efforts to reform the corrupt system you inherited.

We recognize that your governing coalition faces not only endemic corruption left from decades of mismanagement and cronyism, but also an illegal armed seizure of territory by Russia and its proxies. Tackling such obstacles to reforms amidst a war and the loss of much of southeastern Ukraine's economic productivity is a formidable challenge -- one which we remain committed to helping you overcome.

Succeeding in these reforms will show Russian President Vladimir Putin that an independent, transparent, and democratic Ukraine can and will succeed. It also offers a stark alternative to the authoritarianism and oligarchic cronyism prevalent in Russia. As such, we respectfully ask that you address the serious concerns raised by Minister Abromavičius. We similarly urge you to press ahead with urgent reforms to the Prosecutor General's office and judiciary. The unanimous adoption by the Cabinet of Ministers of the Basic Principles and Action Plan is a good step.

We very much appreciate your leadership and commitment to reform since the Ukrainian people demonstrated their resolve on the Maidan two years ago, and we look forward to continued cooperation in the future.

Sincerely,


Senator Rob Portman


Senator Richard J. Durbin


Senator Jeanne Shaheen


Senator Ron Johnson


Senator Chris Murphy


Senator Mark Kirk


Senator Richard Blumenthal


Senator Sherrod Brown

[Senator Rob Portman, Letter, 2/12/16]

HEADLINE: "This 2016 Letter Proves That GOP Attacks On Biden Over Ukraine Are Nonsense" [Vox, [10/3/19](#)]

HEADLINE: “Republican Senators Echoed Biden In Urging Ukrainian President To Reform Prosecutor General’s Office” [CNN, [10/3/19](#)]

HEADLINE: “GOP Senator Says He Doesn’t Remember Signing 2016 Letter Urging ‘Reform’ Of Ukraine Prosecutor’s Office” [Hill, [10/3/16](#)]

In 2019, The New Yorker Reported That Even People Who Initially Corroborated The Conspiracy Have Since Walked Back Their Claims

Ukraine Prosecutor General Yuriy Lutsenko, Who Previously Corroborated Giuliani’s Claims That The Prosecutor General Was Wrongfully Ousted For Potentially Political Reasons, Told [Bloomberg News](#) That He Saw No Evidence Of Wrongdoing By Biden Or His Sons. “A week later, on May 16th, [Ukraine Prosecutor General Yuriy] Lutsenko appeared to shift his position on Burisma, telling Bloomberg News that he saw no evidence of wrongdoing by Biden or his son, and that ‘a company can pay however much it wants to its board.’ The reasons for his reversal were unclear, but Daria Kaleniuk, the head of the Anti-Corruption Action Center, in Kiev, speculated that Lutsenko, in talking with Giuliani, had been trying to ‘pump his political muscle,’ a strategy that had proved ineffective in the new political climate” [New Yorker, [7/8/19](#)]

Hunter Biden Served One Term On The Burisma Board

Hunter Biden Served On The Burisma Board For One Term. “That month, Hunter declined Burisma’s offer to serve another term on the board, believing that the controversy had become a distraction. But he said that he was proud of his work there, and that he thought the criticism was misplaced. ‘I feel the decisions that I made were the right decisions for my family and for me,’ he told me. ‘Was it worth it? Was it worth the pain? No. It certainly wasn’t worth the grief.’ He went on, ‘I would never have been able to predict that Donald Trump would have picked me out as the tip of the spear against the one person they believe can beat them.’” [New Yorker, [7/8/19](#)]

REPUBLICANS ARE RELYING ON A THEORY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY PROMOTED BY RUDY GIULIANI, A HISTORICALLY DISHONEST POLITICAL AGENT

Giuliani Aggressively Promoted The “Alleged Ukraine Conspiracy” In Interviews And On Social Media Where He Claimed That Viktor Shokin Had Been Ousted By Vice President Biden For Investigating Burisma. “Rudolph Giuliani, Trump’s personal lawyer, has also aggressively promoted what he has called the ‘alleged Ukraine conspiracy’ in interviews and on social media. Giuliani told me that, in the fall of 2018, he spoke to Viktor Shokin, Ukraine’s former prosecutor general. Shokin told him that Vice-President Biden had him fired in 2016 because he was investigating Burisma and the company’s payments to Hunter and Archer. Giuliani said that, in January, 2019, he met with Yuriy Lutsenko, Ukraine’s current prosecutor general, in New York, and Lutsenko confirmed Shokin’s version of events.” [New Yorker, [7/8/19](#)]

HEADLINE: “Exclusive: New Audio Of 2019 Phone Call Reveals How Giuliani Pressured Ukraine To Investigate Baseless Biden Conspiracies” [CNN, [6/7/21](#)]

- **Giuliani Pressured Andriy Yermak, Senior Advisor To President Volodymyr Zelensky, To Publicly Announce An Investigation Into Possible Corruption By Biden With Respect To Ukraine Despite The Allegations Being Untrue.** “The audio is of a July 2019 phone call between Giuliani, US diplomat Kurt Volker, and Andriy Yermak, a senior adviser to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky. The call was a precursor to Trump’s infamous call with Zelensky, and both conversations later became a central part of Trump’s first impeachment, where he was accused of soliciting Ukrainian help for his campaign. During the roughly 40-minute call, Giuliani repeatedly told Yermak that Zelensky should publicly announce investigations into possible corruption by Biden in Ukraine, and into claims that Ukraine meddled in the 2016 election to hurt Trump. (These separate claims are both untrue.)” [CNN, [6/7/21](#)]

Giuliani Has An Extensive History Of Shady, Corrupt, And Dangerous Behavior In Service Of Republican Conspiracies And Has Even Been Described In Right-Wing Circles As A “Complete Nut” And “An Idiot”

Giuliani Has At Least One Law License Suspended For Peddling Conspiracy Theories About The 2020 Election

Giuliani's New York Law License Was Suspended In June 2021 After A State Appeals Court Found That He Made "False And Misleading" Statements About Widespread Voter Fraud To Undermine The 2020 Election. "Giuliani's New York law license was suspended in June 2021 after a state appeals court found that he made 'demonstrably false and misleading' statements that widespread voter fraud undermined the election." [Washington Post, [12/6/22](#)]

The D.C. Bar Accused Giuliani Of Weaponizing His Law License By Filing Frivolous Lawsuits About The 2020 Election And Should Have It Revoked Or Suspended. "Former New York City Republican mayor Rudy Giuliani defended his role challenging the 2020 presidential election as President Donald Trump's personal attorney Monday, after the D.C. Bar accused Giuliani of misusing his law license and called for it to be revoked. [...] Despite such court assertions, Giuliani 'weaponized his law license by filing a frivolous lawsuit' and as a result, should have his license suspended or revoked, Fox said." [Washington Post, [12/6/22](#)]

Giuliani Acknowledged He Did Not Know If Materials He Claimed Came From A Private Citizen's Laptop Were Accurate Or Hacked, But He Was Going To Push It Anyway

Giuliani Claimed The American Public Deserved To See Materials From Hunter Biden's Laptop "Even If It Isn't Accurate." "Trump personal attorney Rudy Giuliani argued on Tuesday that the American public to see reports based off material from Hunter Biden's laptop 'even if it isn't accurate.'" [Daily Beast, [10/20/20](#)]

Giuliani Admitted He Did Not Know If The Laptop Was Real Or Hacked, And He Gave It To The New York Post To Avoid Too Much Scrutiny. "What's more, Giuliani himself didn't exactly put fears about the information's provenance at ease. The day after the story broke, on Oct. 15, the Wall Street Journal quoted Giuliani as saying, 'Could it be hacked? I don't know. I don't think so. If it was hacked, it's for real. If it was hacked. I didn't hack it. I have every right to use it.' He told the New York Times in an Oct. 18 story that he had given the hard drive to the New York Post because 'either nobody else would take it, or if they took it, they would spend all the time they could to try to contradict it before they put it out.' The implication was apparently that he didn't want too much scrutiny. Giuliani refused to share the hard drive with other outlets, including The Washington Post and the Times." [Washington Post, [4/21/23](#)]

Giuliani May Have Even Been Compromised By Russian Intelligence In A Disinformation Effort To Discredit Joe Biden

HEADLINE: "Is The FBI Truly Biased Against Trump?" [New Yorker, [8/14/23](#)]

HEADLINE: "A New Rudy Scandal: FBI Agent Says Giuliani Was Co-opted by Russian Intelligence" [Mother Jones, [9/1/23](#)]

- **An FBI Whistleblower Filed A Statement Claiming That Rudy Giuliani "May Have Been Compromised" By Russian Intelligence.** "But another major Giuliani development has drawn less attention: An FBI whistleblower filed a statement asserting that Giuliani "may have been compromised" by Russian intelligence while working as a lawyer and adviser to Trump during the 2020 campaign. That contention is among a host of explosive assertions from Johnathan Buma, an FBI agent who also says that an investigation involving Giuliani's activities was stymied within the bureau." [Mother Jones, [9/1/23](#)]
- **Johnathan Burma, An FBI Whistleblower, Sent A 22-Page Statement To The Senate Judiciary Committee Asserting Giuliani Was Used By A Ukrainian Oligarch Tied To Russian Intelligence For A Disinformation Operation To Discredit Joe Biden.** "In July, Buma sent the Senate Judiciary Committee a 22-page statement full of eye-popping allegations, and the document leaked and was first reported last month by Insider (after a conservative blogger had posted it online). According to Buma's account, Giuliani was used as an asset by a Ukrainian oligarch tied to Russian intelligence and other Russian operatives for a disinformation operation that aimed to discredit Joe Biden and boost Trump in the 2020 presidential race. Moreover, Buma says he was the target of retaliation within the bureau for digging into this." [Mother Jones, [9/1/23](#)]

In Reference To Its November 19th, 2020 Fox Broadcast Featuring Giuliani, Rupert Murdoch Warned In An Email Titled “Watching Giuliani!” That Giuliani Was Peddling “Really Crazy Stuff” That Was “Damaging.” According to the lawsuit filed by Dominion Voting Machines against Fox News: “November 19, Fox broadcast the entirety of a crazy press conference where Giuliani and Powell spewed lies about Dominion. Ex.156 (Rupert Murdoch email, Subject: Watching Giuliani! Text: ‘Really crazy stuff. And damaging.’)” [Superior Court of the State of Delaware, US Dominion Inc et al, v. FOX News Network, LLC, filed [2/16/23](#)]

- **Fox News Hosts, Tucker Carlson, Sean Hannity, And Laura Ingraham, As Well As Others At Fox News, Mocked And Insulted Rudy Giuliani Behind The Scenes In The Weeks Following The 2020 Election.** According to a legal brief filed by the Dominion Voting Systems legal team, “The hosts Tucker Carlson, Sean Hannity and Laura Ingraham, as well as others at the company, repeatedly insulted and mocked Trump advisers, including Sidney Powell and Rudolph W. Giuliani, in text messages with each other in the weeks after the election, according to a legal filing on Thursday by Dominion Voting Systems.” [New York Times, [2/16/23](#)]
- **Fox News’ Laura Ingraham On Rudy Giuliani: “Rudy Such An Idiot”** “The claims about Dominion—that it is owned by Smartmatic and was founded in Venezuela to rig elections for Hugo Chavez that it rigged the 2020 Presidential election and used secret algorithms to flip votes and that it paid kickbacks to government officials—are inherently improbable in light of the numerous 148 safeguards, required certifications, and official scrutiny applied to every voting equipment and software company. See, supra, §I.A.; e.g., Ex.161 (the allegations are ‘the Bill Gates/microchip angle to voter fraud’); Ex.139, Richer 22:6-23:11 (‘the whole theory is absolutely ludicrous’). And Fox’s sources for these claims were, by Fox’s own admission, obviously unreliable. Below is just some of what Fox’s witnesses had to say about their sources: [...] Laura Ingraham: ‘Rudy such an idiot’ Ex.527 (1/12/21)” [Superior Court of the State of Delaware, US Dominion Inc et al, v. FOX News Network, LLC, filed [2/16/23](#)]
- **Hannity on Rudy Giuliani: “Rudy Is Acting Like An Insane Person”** “The claims about Dominion that it is owned by Smartmatic and was founded in Venezuela to rig elections for Hugo Chavez that it rigged the 2020 Presidential election and used secret algorithms to flip votes and that it paid kickbacks to government officials are inherently improbable in light of the numerous 148 safeguards, required certifications, and official scrutiny applied to every voting equipment and software company. See, supra, §I.A.; e.g., Ex.161 (the allegations are ‘the Bill Gates/microchip angle to voter fraud’); Ex.139, Richer 22:6-23:11 (‘the whole theory is absolutely ludicrous’). And Fox’s sources for these claims were, by Fox’s own admission, obviously unreliable. Below is just some of what Fox’s witnesses had to say about their sources: [...] Sean Hannity: ‘Rudy is acting like an insane person.’ Ex.535 (11/11/20)” [Superior Court of the State of Delaware, US Dominion Inc et al, v. FOX News Network, LLC, filed [2/16/23](#)]

Hunter Biden’s Professional Background

HUNTER BIDEN HAS AN EXTENSIVE WORK HISTORY, WHICH INCLUDES TIME AS A LAWYER, BUSINESSMAN, AND VICE-CHAIR OF AMTRAK

1996: Hunter Biden Graduated From Yale Law School. “Here’s a look at key dates in the life of the president’s son. [...] 1996: Hunter Biden graduates from Yale Law School.” [New York Times, [8/11/23](#)]

2008: Hunter Biden Founded A “Boutique Consulting Firm” Called Seneca Global Advisors. “In September, 2008, Hunter [Biden] launched a boutique consulting firm, Seneca Global Advisors, named for the largest of the Finger Lakes, in New York State, where his mother had grown up. In pitch meetings with prospective clients, Hunter said that he could help small and mid-sized companies expand into markets in the U.S. and other countries.” [New Yorker, [7/8/19](#)]

2009: Hunter Co-Founded Rosemont Seneca Partners With Christopher Heinz And Devon Archer, Both Of Whom Had Private Equity Fund Backgrounds. “In June, 2009, five months after Joe Biden became Vice-President, Hunter [Biden] co-founded a second company, Rosemont Seneca Partners, with Christopher Heinz, Senator John Kerry’s stepson and

an heir to the food-company fortune, and Devon Archer, a former Abercrombie & Fitch model who started his finance career at Citibank in Asia and who had been friends with Heinz at Yale. (Heinz and Archer already had a private-equity fund called Rosemont Capital.) Heinz believed that Hunter would share his aversion to entering into business deals that could attract public scrutiny, but over time Hunter and Archer seized opportunities that did not include Heinz, who was less inclined to take risks.” [New Yorker, [7/8/19](#)]

In 2014, Hunter Biden Worked As A Lawyer At The Global Firm Boies Schiller Flexner, And As An Adjunct Professor At The Georgetown University Foreign Service Program. “At the time Hunter Biden was appointed to the board of Ukrainian natural gas company Burisma Holdings in 2014, he was a lawyer at the firm Boies Schiller Flexner, an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's foreign service program, chairman of the board of World Food Program USA, and chief executive officer and chairman of Rosemont Seneca Advisors, an investment advisory firm. He also served on other boards.” [CNN, accessed [6/12/23](#)]

- **Boies Schiller Flexner Is A Large, International, Well-Respected Law Firm.** “Boies Schiller Flexner attorneys and practices were recognized in the 2023 edition of Legal 500 USA. Chairman David Boies was included in the Hall of Fame for Antitrust: Civil Litigation/Class Action Plaintiff, and partner Ben Love is ranked as a Next Generation Partner for International Arbitration. Our ranked practices include: Antitrust: Civil Litigation/Class Action Plaintiff; Antitrust: Civil Litigation/Class Action Defense; and Corporate Investigations and White Collar Defense.” [Boies Schiller Flexner, Press Release, [6/7/23](#)]

Hunter Biden Served On Various Boards, Including As Chair Of World Food Program USA, And Vice-Chair Of The National Road Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) To Which He Was Appointed By President George W. Bush.

According to a statement by Hunter Biden lawyer George Mesires: “Hunter focused his work on the principles of corporate transparency, governance and responsibility, which was based on his prior experience as a lawyer and director on other boards, including the Chair of World Food Program USA, which supports the largest humanitarian organization in the world, Vice-Chair of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak), to which he was appointed by President George W. Bush, Center for National Policy, Truman National Security Project, and the U.S. Global Leadership Campaign.” [Medium, George Mesires, [10/13/19](#)]

Hunter Biden’s Background Also Includes Working At The Center For National Policy, Truman National Security Project, And The U.S. Global Leadership Campaign. According to a statement by Hunter Biden lawyer George Mesires: “Hunter focused his work on the principles of corporate transparency, governance and responsibility, which was based on his prior experience as a lawyer and director on other boards, including the Chair of World Food Program USA, which supports the largest humanitarian organization in the world, Vice-Chair of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak), to which he was appointed by President George W. Bush, Center for National Policy, Truman National Security Project, and the U.S. Global Leadership Campaign.” [Medium, George Mesires, [10/13/19](#)]

REPUBLICANS HAVE SPENT YEARS INVESTIGATING AND HAVE PROVIDED NO EVIDENCE SHOWING THAT PRESIDENT BIDEN HAS COMMITTED ANY WRONGDOING RELATED TO HIS SON

HEADLINE: “House Republican Report Finds No Evidence of Wrongdoing by President Biden” [New York Times, [5/10/23](#)]

Axios Reported That Republicans Have Yet To Allege Specific Illegal Activity. “Republicans have yet to allege illegal activity, but they're trying to create a narrative of potentially unethical behavior — and have hinted at wanting to craft legislation targeting similar activities by public officials and their family members.” [Axios, [5/10/23](#)]

House Republicans Have Presented No Evidence To Back Up Their Allegations That Joe Biden Participated In And Benefited From His Son’s Business Pursuits. “The allegation: President Biden personally financially benefited from his son’s business deals. ‘President Joe Biden has participated in his family’s global business ventures with America’s adversaries,’ House Republicans wrote in a November report. ‘He has misused his public positions to further his family’s financial interests.’ The evidence: So far, House Republicans have provided no evidence to back that up. Despite reviewing

thousands of bank records, they haven't provided a link between President Biden and his family's business deals. And there is no evidence he personally benefited financially." [Washington Post, [5/30/23](#)]

House Republicans And A Four-Year Criminal Investigation Led By A Trump-Appointed Prosecutor Have Failed To Connect Hunter Biden's Business Deals With His Father's Policy Work While In Office. "The allegation: The Biden family engaged in 'influence peddling' abroad When Joe Biden was vice president, he did a lot of overseas diplomacy — pushing anti-corruption messages in Romania and Ukraine, for example. Hunter Biden was also doing business in these countries, sometimes at the same time his father was working in them. [...] The evidence: So far, Republicans have failed to connect Hunter Biden's business deals to his father's work while vice president. Hunter Biden seems to have shadowed his father by chasing business deals abroad. But if there were something nefarious going on, it wasn't uncovered by the four-year criminal investigation led by a Trump-appointed prosecutor." [Washington Post, [5/30/23](#)]

HEADLINE: "Fox News Host Trashes House GOP Probe Of Biden" [Huffington Post, [5/11/23](#)]

- **Fox News's Steve Doocy To James Comer: "You Don't Actually Have Any Facts To That Point. You've Got Some Circumstantial Evidence And The Other Thing Is, Of All Those Names, The One Person Who Didn't Profit, There's No Evidence That Joe Biden Did Anything Illegally."** FOX NEWS'S STEVE DOOCEY: "Your party, the Republican investigators say that that's proof of influence peddling by Hunter and James but that's just your suggestion, you don't actually have any facts to that point. You've got some circumstantial evidence and the other thing is, of all those names, the one person who didn't profit, there's no evidence that Joe Biden did anything illegally." [Fox News, Fox & Friends, 5/11/23] (video)

HEADLINE: "House Republicans Issue New Report On Joe Biden Corruption... That Again Offers No Evidence" [USA Today, [8/9/23](#)]

Devon Archer And The Phone Calls

REPUBLICANS HAVE REPEATEDLY ASSERTED THAT DEVON ARCHER CORROBORATED REPUBLICAN ALLEGATIONS OF INFLUENCE PEDDLING

Rep. James Comer Claimed Hunter Biden's Business Partner Testified That Hunter Made Millions "Selling Access To Joe Biden." COMER: "We just had [Joe Biden's] son's business partner and best friend testify that Hunter Biden made his millions of dollars selling Joe Biden, SELLING ACCESS TO JOE BIDEN, that Joe Biden was 'the brand.'" [Newsmax, [8/10/23](#)] (video)

Rep. James Comer Claimed Joe Biden Was "Front And Center In His Family's Influence Peddling Schemes" And "Participated In These Schemes." "President Joe Biden was front and center in his family's influence peddling schemes with foreign entities around the world. @POTUS knew he was 'the brand' and participated in these schemes. @GOPoversight will continue to expose the truth for the American people. @FoxNews" [Rep. James Comer, Twitter, [9/19/23](#)]

Kevin McCarthy Cited "Eyewitnesses" That "Testified" About President Biden's Involvement In His Son's Business. HOUSE SPEAKER KEVIN MCCARTHY: "Eyewitnesses have testified that the president joined on multiple phone calls and had multiple interactions – dinners resulted in cars and millions of dollars into his son's and his son's business partners." [CSPAN, [9/12/23](#)] (video)

CONTRARY TO REPUBLICAN ALLEGATIONS, DEVON ARCHER TESTIFIED THAT PRESIDENT BIDEN WAS NOT INVOLVED IN HIS SON'S BUSINESS PURSUITS

COLUMN: "Devon Archer Said The Opposite Of What Republicans Claimed" [Washington Post, Phillip Bump, [8/3/23](#)]

- **Washington Post's Phillip Bump: "What Archer Said Not Only Doesn't Comport With The Presentations Made By Comer And Jordan On Television (Which Were Obviously Wrong From The Outset), His Testimony Undermines The Idea That Burisma Wanted Shokin Fired, That Zlochevsky Paid Any Bribe — And, Crucially, That Joe Biden Was Involved In Any Of This."** "On Thursday, the Oversight Committee released a transcript of Archer's testimony — testimony for which Comer wasn't present. What Archer said not only doesn't comport with the presentations made by Comer and Jordan on television (which were obviously wrong from the outset), his testimony undermines the idea that Burisma wanted Shokin fired, that Zlochevsky paid any bribe — and, crucially, that Joe Biden was involved in any of this." [Washington Post, Phillip Bump, [8/3/23](#)]
- **Washington Post's Phillip Bump: "That's The Pattern Here. Comer And Jordan And Others Hype Claims Of Joe Biden's Involvement In Hunter Biden's Work Only To See Those Claims Collapse As More Information Is Made Public."** "That's the pattern here. Comer and Jordan and others hype claims of Joe Biden's involvement in Hunter Biden's work only to see those claims collapse as more information is made public. Devon Archer's testimony was hailed as a central breakthrough in implicating Joe Biden. Instead, it has a top ally of Hunter Biden stating under penalty of perjury that Joe Biden was not involved in Hunter Biden's business and that Biden's trip to Ukraine in 2015 was not centered on protecting Burisma at all. Very much contrary to what those leading Republicans implied on Fox News." [Washington Post, Phillip Bump, [8/3/23](#)]

HEADLINE: "Hunter Biden Business Associate Testifies He Has No Knowledge Of Wrongdoing By Joe Biden" [NBC News, [8/3/23](#)]

- **NBC News: "But the Transcripts Appear To Back Up Democrats, Including Reps. Jamie Raskin, D-Md., And Dan Goldman, D-N.Y., Who Have Argued That Comer's Investigation Into The Bidens Has Revealed No Direct Evidence That Joe Biden Was Involved In His Son's Business Dealings, Was Influenced By Them Or Broke The Law."** "Oversight Chairman James Comer, R-Ky., released Archer's 141-page transcript on the same day former President Donald Trump is set to be arraigned at a federal courthouse in Washington for charges related to his efforts to overturn the 2020 election. The testimony hands Republicans descriptive details about Hunter Biden and more ammunition as they accuse the Justice Department of aggressively prosecuting Trump for multiple crimes while going easy on Hunter Biden on federal tax and other charges. But the transcripts appear to back up Democrats, including Reps. Jamie Raskin, D-Md., and Dan Goldman, D-N.Y., who have argued that Comer's investigation into the Bidens has revealed no direct evidence that Joe Biden was involved in his son's business dealings, was influenced by them or broke the law." [NBC News, [8/3/23](#)]

HEADLINE: "'Truly Stunning': Republican Admits Hyped Biden Witness 'Didn't Know Anything' About Alleged Bribe" [Salon, [8/1/23](#)]

- **Rep. Andy Bigg Admitted That Devon Archer Had No Information On Unverified Claims In An FD-1023 Form.** "Rep. Andy Biggs, R-Ariz., acknowledged that the Republicans' widely-hyped witness in their probe of the Biden family's business dealings 'didn't know anything' about unverified allegations that President Joe Biden and his son Hunter Biden had accepted millions in bribes. [...] Biggs, who is pushing for an impeachment inquiry, also acknowledged to reporters that Archer had no information on the unverified claims from an anonymous informant that the Bidens accepted bribes. 'He didn't know anything about it,' Biggs told reporters after the session." [Salon, [8/1/23](#)]

HEADLINE: "Devon Archer Says Joe Biden Discussed 'Nothing' Important With Hunter Biden Business Associates, Transcript Shows" [CNN, [8/3/23](#)]

HEADLINE: "Star Witness Undercuts Republican Corruption Case Against Joe Biden" [Huffington Post, [8/3/23](#)]

HEADLINE: "Key Witness Doesn't Back Up G.O.P.'S Biggest Allegations On Bidens" [New York Times, [8/4/23](#)]

HEADLINE: "The GOP's Latest Anti-Biden Witness Extends The Party's Losing Streak" [MSNBC, [8/1/23](#)]

Devon Archer Testified That Biden Said "Nothing" Of Importance When Placed On Speakerphone By His Son

CNN: McCarthy’s Impeachment Inquiry Announcement Omitted That Joe Biden Did Not Discuss Business With Hunter Biden’s Business Associates And Republicans Have Not Presented Any Evidence That Joe Biden Benefitted Financially From His Son’s Businesses. “Facts First: McCarthy’s claim omits key context about what was – and wasn’t – reportedly discussed in the calls and dinners. A Hunter Biden associate testified that even though Joe Biden was on these calls and at these dinners, he didn’t discuss business. And Republicans have not presented any evidence that Joe Biden himself benefitted financially from his appearances at the dinners or on the calls.” [CNN, [9/13/23](#)]

- **Archer Testified Joe Biden Was Put On Speakerphone During Meetings With His Son’s Business Partners But “Nothing” Of Importance Was Discussed.** “Archer testified that there were ‘maybe 20 times’ when Joe Biden was placed on speakerphone during meetings with his and Hunter Biden’s business partners. This puts Joe Biden closer to his son’s business activities that he previously let on. However, Archer said ‘nothing’ of importance was ever discussed during these calls.” [CNN, [9/13/23](#)]

DEVON ARCHER’S TESTIMONY DEBUNKED REPUBLICAN ALLEGATIONS REGARDING A FOREIGN PAYMENT MADE FOR HIS OWN REAL ESTATE BUSINESS DEALINGS

HEADLINE: “Unraveling The Tale Of Hunter Biden And \$3.5 Million From Russia” [Washington Post, [4/8/22](#)]

Washington Post Reported The Republican Senate Finance And Homeland Security Committee Joint Report Asserted That Hunter Biden Received A \$3.5 Million Wire From Elana Baturina, But A Closer Look Revealed The Allegation Was Flimsy. “Less than 50 days before the 2020 presidential election, the Republican staff of the Senate Finance and Homeland Security committees issued a joint report with a startling claim — that Joe Biden’s son Hunter had received a \$3.5 million wire transfer from Elena Baturina, a Russian billionaire and the widow of the former mayor of Moscow. [...] The flimsiness of the allegation was apparent from the start merely by carefully reading the Senate GOP report itself.” [Washington Post, [4/8/22](#)]

- **Devon Archer’s Testimony To Congressional Investigators Confirmed The \$3.5 Million Transfer Was Intended For His Real Estate Business Dealings With Baturina And Hunter Biden Was Not Involved.** “Update, Aug. 3, 2023: In an interview with congressional investigators on July 31, 2023, Archer confirmed that the \$3.5 million transfer was intended for his real estate business dealings with Baturina and that Hunter Biden was not involved. ‘Quite frankly, it was not supposed to go there [Rosemont Seneca Thornton], but that’s where it went,’ Archer said.” [Washington Post, [4/8/22](#)]

House Oversight Republicans Continue To Cite Baturina’s Payment As An Insinuation Of Wrongdoing On The Part Of President Biden, Despite The Testimony Of Their Own Witness

House Oversight Republicans Cited A Café Milano Dinner Involving President Biden As An Instance Of Wrongdoing Claiming A Russian Oligarch Had “Funneled Millions Of Dollars To Hunter Biden.” “In February 2014, then-Vice President Joe Biden dined [in Café Milano] with oligarchs from Russia and Kazakhstan who funneled millions of dollars to Hunter Biden and his business associates.” [Press Release, House Oversight and Accountability, [9/13/23](#)]

JAMES COMER DIDN’T EVEN ATTEND HIS COMMITTEE’S INTERVIEW WITH HIS MUCH-HYPED WITNESS, WHICH HE THEN LIED ABOUT

HEADLINE: “James Comer Skipped His Panel’s Big Biden Probe Interview With Devon Archer” [Daily Beast, [8/2/23](#)]

Sources Said Rep. James Comer Did Not Participate In-Person Or Remotely In His Committee’s Interview Of Devon Archer. “According to two sources familiar with the proceeding, Comer failed to show up in person on Capitol Hill, and he did not participate remotely. Comer, the chairman of the Oversight Committee, has been the face of the GOP’s

investigations into Hunter Biden, and he had hyped the Archer interview as perhaps the biggest moment yet in the party's efforts to prove that the Bidens had leveraged their power and influence for personal gain." [Daily Beast, [8/2/23](#)]

- **A Senior Republican Source Said Rep. James Comer's Absence From The Devon Archer Interview Was "Like Following A General Into Battle, But The General Decided To Stay Home Instead Of Fight."** "Still, Republicans seemed shocked that the man running the investigation could not find time in his schedule to show up for a key interview, with one source telling The Daily Beast it was like a general abandoning his troops during battle. 'A few Republicans were disappointed that Chairman Comer didn't show up to the Archer transcribed interview,' a senior GOP source told The Daily Beast. 'It was like following a general into battle, but the general decided to stay home instead of fight,' the source continued. 'Especially when there are other Members who would love to have interviewed Archer but aren't on the Oversight Committee and not allowed in the room.'" [Daily Beast, [8/2/23](#)]

HEADLINE: "James Comer Called Devon Archer's Interview About The Bidens A 'Bombshell'. He Wasn't Actually There" [The Independent, [8/2/23](#)]

HEADLINE: "James Comer Has a New, Unlikely Story for Missed Deposition" [Daily Beast, [8/9/23](#)]

Comer Initially Confirmed He Did Not Participate In The Closed-Door Interview Of Devon Archer, Due To Being Occupied With "Constituent Meetings," But Later Told Fox & Friends, "I Was On The Phone" During The Interview. "At first, Comer's office confirmed the Oversight Committee chairman did not participate in the July 31 closed-door interview of Devon Archer, a former business partner of Hunter Biden, in Washington, D.C. His spokesman said that 'constituent meetings' in Kentucky rendered him unable to attend. [...] In an appearance on Fox & Friends on Saturday morning—after Comer's office had copped to him missing the interview—a host asked Comer what it was like in the room when Archer was answering questions. 'I had the staff lead the deposition,' Comer replied. 'I didn't want a lot of members in the room... I was on the phone.'" [Daily Beast, [8/9/23](#)]

- **"No Way He Fucking Called In," Said One Senior GOP Source, Comer Was Also Not Identified In The Official Transcript Of The Committee's Interview With Devon Archer.** "For one, in the official transcript of the interview released last week, Comer does not identify himself, nor does anyone else allude to his presence. From the GOP side, only Reps. Jim Jordan (R-OH) and Andy Biggs (R-AZ) identified themselves or spoke. [...] 'There's just no way he fucking called in,' said a senior GOP source, who also said they never heard Comer identify himself for the record on the alleged call. 'I've never even heard of someone doing that for a transcribed interview.'" [Daily Beast, [8/9/23](#)]

The Day Before The Interview, James Comer Posted On Instagram That He Had Been Playing Golf "All Weekend" And A Picture Of Him Getting Dinner With A Friend

Rep. James Comer Spokesperson Said Comer Had Previously Scheduled Commitments With Constituents, But A Post On Comer's Instagram Page From Sunday Night Showed Him Eating With A Friend After Playing Golf "All Weekend." "Reached for comment, an Oversight Committee spokesman confirmed Comer was not there. 'Transcribed interviews are primarily staff led and Chairman Comer had scheduled commitments with constituents in Kentucky,' they said. [...] Ahead of the interview, Comer appeared to have other obligations besides preparing for Archer's questioning. In a photo posted to his Instagram page on Sunday, Comer was eating barbeque with a friend. The caption said they had been 'battling all weekend' in a golf tournament held in his hometown of Tompkinsville, Kentucky." [Daily Beast, [8/2/23](#)]

REPUBLICANS HAVE A HISTORY OF DISTORTING BUSINESS DECISIONS MADE BY HUNTER BIDEN'S PARTNERS TO BLAME HIM BY ASSOCIATION

Rosemont Seneca Thornton Was Created, Then Quickly Dissolved After One Of The Original Partners Had An Unexpected Regulatory Concern With The Structure Of The Business. "Rosemont Seneca Thornton was created on May 28, 2013 according to corporation records, and was incorporated in Delaware, which does not require shareholders or directors to be revealed. But Devon Archer, Hunter Biden's former business partner, sometimes used 'Rosemont' in company names and Biden used 'Seneca.' Thornton referred to Thornton Group, run by Jim Bulger, who brought expertise in investing in China. But almost as immediately as Rosemont Seneca Thornton was created, the partners decided to dissolve it, according

to a person with access to the board minutes. The original structure had added unexpected regulatory burdens to Thornton, and so Bulger's lawyers advised that the group split up, this person said." [Washington Post, [4/8/22](#)]

- **Devon Archer Kept Control Of Rosemont Seneca Thornton After Partners Discussed Dissolving It – Hunter Biden Was Reportedly Not Informed Of That Decision.** "Thornton was not dissolved as planned. Four people familiar with the company said that Devon Archer, Hunter Biden's former business partner, controls it. Archer had kept the vehicle alive for his own real estate business, Rosemont Realty, which raised money from Eastern European and Central Asian investors, two people knowledgeable about his activities said. But he did not inform either Hunter Biden or Bulger, they said." [Washington Post, [4/8/22](#)]
- **Biden's Lawyer, George Mesires, Said "Hunter Biden Had No Interest In And Was Not A 'Co-Founder' Of Rosemont Seneca Thornton."** "Hunter Biden's lawyer George Mesires said claim that Hunter Biden received the funds was wrong: 'Hunter Biden had no interest in and was not a 'co-founder' of Rosemont Seneca Thornton, so the claim that he was paid \$3.5 million is false.'" [Glenn Kessler, Twitter, [3/24/23](#)]

China And The Cobalt Mine Deal

REPUBLICANS DO NOT HAVE EVIDENCE THAT PRESIDENT BIDEN BENEFITED OR PERSONALLY KNEW DETAILS ABOUT HIS SON'S TRANSACTIONS WITH CHINESE BUSINESSES

Washington Post "Did Not Find Evidence That Joe Biden Personally Benefited From Or Knew Details About The Transactions With CEFC." "The Post did not find evidence that Joe Biden personally benefited from or knew details about the transactions with CEFC, which took place after he had left the vice presidency and before he announced his intentions to run for the White House in 2020." [Washington Post, [3/30/22](#)]

Daily Caller: "Joe Biden Is Not Named In The Corporate Records Related To Hunter Biden's 2017 Business Dealings With A Chinese Firm." "Joe Biden is not named in the corporate records related to Hunter Biden's 2017 business dealings with a Chinese firm, but a much-publicized email purportedly referencing the former vice president as the 'big guy' shows that the stakeholders were considering having an intermediary hold his stake in the venture." [Daily Caller, [10/23/20](#)]

- **Daily Caller Found "No Records" Indicating That Joe Biden Received Any Off-The-Books Stake In Oneida Holdings.** "Daily Caller News Foundation found no records in a trove of text messages and other documents from Hunter Biden's ex-business partner Tony Bobulinski indicating that Joe Biden obtained any off-the-books stake in Oneida Holdings when its structure was finalized in May 2017." [Daily Caller, [10/23/20](#)]
- **Daily Caller: "None Of The Corporate Documents In The Trove Related To Oneida Identify Joe Biden By Name."** "The Bobulinski document trove includes internal corporate documents for Oneida, which was brokering a joint venture deal with the Chinese energy firm CEFC China Energy Co in May 2017. None of the corporate documents in the trove related to Oneida identify Joe Biden by name. However, an email sent from Hunter Biden associate James Gilliar to Bobulinski on May 13, 2017, suggests that if Joe Biden was to have a stake in the firm, it would be held by an intermediary such as his son." [Daily Caller, [10/23/20](#)]

Multiple Investigations By Newspapers Found President Joe Biden Had No Role In The CEFC Business Venture

Wall Street Journal: "Corporate Records Reviewed By The Wall Street Journal Show No Role For Joe Biden." [Wall Street Journal, [10/23/20](#)]

New York Times: "There Is No Evidence In The Records That Mr. Biden Was Involved In Or Profited From The Joint Venture" "There is no evidence in the records that Mr. Biden was involved in or profited from the joint venture. Encrypted messages, emails and other documents examined by The New York Times do not show Hunter Biden or James

Biden discussing any role for the former vice president in the project. Mr. Biden's tax returns, which he has released, show no income from any such venture." [New York Times, [10/25/20](#)]

Washington Post Fact-Checker: "The Post, In An Extensive Report, Did Not Find Evidence That Joe Biden Personally Benefited From Or Knew Details About The Transactions With CEFC" "To this day, none of those allegations, a staple of Trump's campaign rhetoric, has been proven [...] The Post, in an extensive report, did not find evidence that Joe Biden personally benefited from or knew details about the transactions with CEFC." [Washington Post, Fact Checker, [2/21/23](#)]

Washington Post Fact-Checker: "The Post Did Not Find Evidence That Joe Biden Personally Benefited From Or Knew Details About The Transactions With CEFC, Which Took Place After He Had Left The Vice Presidency And Before He Announced His Intentions To Run For The White House In 2020." [Washington Post, [3/30/22](#)]

And Yet There Is Reporting Of Chinese Actors Potentially Paying Donald Trump While He Was In Office

HEADLINE: "Forbes Estimates China Paid Trump At Least \$5.4 Million Since He Took Office, Via Mysterious Trump Tower Lease" [Forbes, [10/23/20](#)]

Despite Claiming He Doesn't Make Money From China, Forbes Reported That \$5.4 Million Went Towards The President's Businesses As Part Of A Lease Agreement Involving A State-Owned Bank In Trump Tower. "President Donald Trump, who declared 'I don't make money from China' in Thursday night's presidential debate, has in fact collected millions of dollars from government-owned entities in China since he took office. Forbes estimates that at least \$5.4 million has flowed into the president's business from a lease agreement involving a state-owned bank in Trump Tower." [Forbes, [10/23/20](#)]

Trump Could Take Money Out Of His Businesses Whenever He Wanted When He Was President And Received Reports About His Businesses' Operations

2017: Donald Trump Placed His Eldest Son, And Allen Weisselberg As Trustees Of The Donald J. Trump Revocable Trust – Trump Would Receive Reports On Any Profit Or Loss And Could Revoke His Decision At Any Time. "While the president says he has walked away from the day-to-day operations of his business, two people close to him are the named [Donald J. Trump Revocable Trust] trustees and have broad legal authority over his assets: his eldest son, Donald Jr., and Allen H. Weisselberg, the Trump Organization's chief financial officer. Mr. Trump, who will receive reports on any profit, or loss, on his company as a whole, can revoke their authority at any time." [New York Times, [2/3/17](#)]

HEADLINE: "Trump Lawyer Confirms President Can Pull Money From His Businesses Whenever He Wants" [ProPublica, [4/4/17](#)]

- **Changes To Donald Trump's Trust Document Stipulated That It "Shall Distribute Net Income Or Principal To Donald J. Trump At His Request" And Whenever His Son Or Attorney "Deem Appropriate."** "The previously unreported changes to a trust document, signed on Feb. 10, stipulates that it 'shall distribute net income or principal to Donald J. Trump at his request' or whenever his son and longtime attorney 'deem appropriate.' That can include everything from profits to the underlying assets, such as the businesses themselves." [ProPublica, [4/4/17](#)]

HEADLINE: "Trump Can Quietly Draw Money From Trust Whenever He Wants, New Documents Show" [Washington Post, [4/3/17](#)]

The Funds From The Chinese Energy Deals Are A Tiny Fraction Of What Jared Kushner And His Firm Received From The Saudi Investment Fund

COLUMN: "Comer Sounds Alarm About Presidential Family Members Not Named Kushner." [Philip Bump, Washington Post, [4/11/23](#)]

- **A Comparison Of Hunter Biden's Reported Chinese Energy Deals Show They Would Be Less Than 5% Of What Kushner's Private Firm Received And Less Than One Half Of 1% Of The \$2 Billion Saudi Fund**

Investment He Received. “Now we come back to Trump and Kushner. If Hunter Biden and his business associates made two deals with Chinese energy concerns totaling less than \$10 million, that’s less than 5 percent of what Kushner’s firm got from one of the newly reported agreements. It’s one half of 1 percent of the \$2 billion a Saudi fund decided to invest with Kushner.” [Philip Bump, Washington Post, [4/11/23](#)]

As President, Joe Biden Has Treated China As A Serious National Security Issue

HEADLINE: “Biden Expected To Tighten Rules On US Investment In China” [Associated Press, [3/4/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “A Sea Change’: Biden Reverses Decades Of Chinese Trade Policy” [Politico, [12/26/22](#)]

- **Politico: “Forget Tariffs. Biden’s Actions To Crack Down On Beijing’s Tech Development Will Do More To Hinder The Chinese Economy — And Divide The Two Nations — Than Trump Ever Did.”** [Politico, [12/26/22](#)]

FOR YEARS REPUBLICANS HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO POINT TO SPECIFIC INSTANCES OF ILLEGALITY WITH RESPECT TO HUNTER BIDEN’S BUSINESS DEAL WITH CEFC AND JOE BIDEN’S POLICY DECISIONS

Hunter Biden Met CEFC Leader Ye Jianming Through His Nonprofit Work And Met With Him After His Father Was No Longer In Office

Hunter Biden Was On The Board Of The World Food Program USA, And Hoped When He Met Ye Jianming That Jianming Would Make A Donation To Hunter’s Non-Profit. “Hunter was on the board of the World Food Program USA, a nonprofit that generates support for the U.N. World Food Programme, and he had hoped that Ye [Jianming] would make a large aid donation. At dinner that night, they discussed the donation, and then the conversation turned to business opportunities. Hunter offered to use his contacts to help identify investment opportunities for Ye’s company, CEFC China Energy, in liquefied-natural-gas projects in the United States.” [New Yorker, [7/8/19](#)]

- **Hunter Met With Jianming After Joe Biden Left The Vice Presidency.** “Shortly after Joe Biden left the vice presidency, Hunter Biden and Ye met over dinner in Miami.” [Washington Post, [3/30/22](#)]
- **Hunter Biden Acknowledged Accepting The 2.8 Carat Diamond Gift From Jianming Wasn’t The Best Decision, But Denied Allegations Of Bribes, And Questioned Why Jianming Would Even Try Because “My Dad Wasn’t In Office.”** “After the dinner, Ye sent a 2.8-carat diamond to Hunter’s hotel room with a card thanking him for their meeting. ‘I was, like, Oh, my God,’ Hunter said. (In Kathleen’s court motion, the diamond is estimated to be worth eighty thousand dollars. Hunter said he believes the value is closer to ten thousand.) When I asked him if he thought the diamond was intended as a bribe, he said no: “What would they be bribing me for? My dad wasn’t in office.” Hunter said that he gave the diamond to his associates, and doesn’t know what they did with it. “I knew it wasn’t a good idea to take it. I just felt like it was weird.” [New Yorker, [7/8/19](#)]

CEFC Was Also Interested In Investing In A Gas Venture In Louisiana Though The Deal Fell Through – CEFC Had Been Pursing A Lot Of Energy Business Around The World At The Time

CEFC Hoped To Invest In A Gas Venture In Louisiana, But The Deal Fell Through. “CEFC had hoped to invest in a liquefied natural gas venture in Louisiana, but that deal ultimately flopped. Representatives of Hunter Biden characterize his business offerings at the time as providing legal and consulting services.” [New York Times, [5/10/23](#)]

- **2016: CEFC Reached A \$680 Million Agreement With A Kazakh State Oil And Gas Firm.** “With better political connections came bigger international deals. In 2016, for example, CEFC China Energy established trade deals in Georgia and reached a \$680 million agreement -- which has since fallen through -- with a Kazakh state oil and gas firm. The next year, it spent \$900 million on a stake in a huge oil field majority-owned by Abu Dhabi National Oil Co.” [CNN, [December 2018](#)]

- **2017: CEFC Spent \$900 Million On An Oil Field Majority-Owned By Abu Dhabi National Oil. Co.** “With better political connections came bigger international deals. In 2016, for example, CEFC China Energy established trade deals in Georgia and reached a \$680 million agreement -- which has since fallen through -- with a Kazakh state oil and gas firm. The next year, it spent \$900 million on a stake in a huge oil field majority-owned by Abu Dhabi National Oil Co.” [CNN, [December 2018](#)]
- **September 2017: CEFC Bought A 14 Percent Stake In The Russian Oil Giant Rosneft For \$9 Billion.** “In September 2017, CEFC China Energy announced its most high-profile investment yet. The company was to buy a 14% stake in Russian oil giant Rosneft for \$9 billion -- the sort of super spend usually reserved for a state-owned company.” [CNN, [December 2018](#)]

The Biden Family And CEFC Officials Never Shared An Office As Republicans Allege

On September 2017, Hunter Biden Reportedly Wrote The [House of Sweden] Building Manager Requesting A New Office Sign To Reflect A Biden Foundation And Hudson West Relationship, And Keys For Joe, Jill, And James Biden. “On Sept. 21, 2017, Hunter Biden wrote to a [House of Sweden] building manager requesting new office signage to reflect a new family enterprise and a new business relationship: ‘The Biden Foundation and Hudson West (CEFC-US),’ he wrote in emails to the property manager. He also requested keys for his new office mates: his father, Joe; his mother, Jill; his uncle James; and the Chinese executive, Gongwen Dong.” [Washington Post, [3/30/22](#)]

- **Jeffrey Peck, Biden Foundation Board Member Most Involved With Details Like Setting Up The Office, Said “I Recall Discussions About Other Possible Spaces And The So-Called House Of Sweden Was Never On Any Lists.”** “Jeffrey Peck, the Biden Foundation board member most involved in details like setting up the office, said there was never any consideration of that location. ‘I recall discussions about other possible spaces and the so-called House of Sweden was never on any lists,’ Peck said. ‘There was never any thought — like zero thought or consideration — given to that building.’” [Washington Post, [3/30/22](#)]

The Keys For The House Of Sweden Property Were Never Picked Up And The Sign Was Never Changed. “A spokeswoman for the Swedish authority that oversees the property said that the four keys were made available, as requested, but that Hunter Biden never picked them up. The signboard on the door wasn’t changed, she said.” [Washington Post, [3/30/22](#)]

HUNTER BIDEN’S PRIVATE EQUITY FIRM, BHR, REGULARLY FLIPPED INVESTMENTS AND BEHAVED LIKE A NORMAL PRIVATE EQUITY FIRM

HEADLINE: “How Hunter Biden’s Firm Helped Secure Cobalt for the Chinese” [New York Times, [11/20/21](#)]

Hunter Biden Helped Establish The Firm BHR, Formerly Known As Bohai Harvest RST, A Private Equity Firm Registered In Shanghai To Make Investments And Flip Them For Profit. “Mr. Biden and two other Americans joined Chinese partners in establishing the firm in 2013, known as BHR and formally named Bohai Harvest RST (Shanghai) Equity Investment Fund Management Company. The three Americans, all of whom served on the board, controlled 30 percent of BHR, a private equity firm registered in Shanghai that makes investments and then flips them for a profit. The rest of the company is owned or controlled by Chinese investors that include the Bank of China, according to records filed with Chinese regulators.” [New York Times, [11/20/21](#)]

The Firm Bought And Sold A Stake In CATL, Now The World’s Biggest Maker Of Batteries For Electric Vehicles. “The firm made one of its most successful investments in 2016, when it bought and later sold a stake in CATL, a fast-growing Chinese company that is now the world’s biggest maker of batteries for electric vehicles.” [New York Times, [11/20/21](#)]

BHR WAS NOT INVOLVED IN THE BUYOUT OF THE COBALT MINE’S MAJORITY OWNERSHIP

Axios: “Simply Put, This Means The Chinese Firm Got Its Deal For The Controlling Stake In The Mine Before BHR Got Involved, And BHR Was Apparently Not Involved In The Transaction Most Central To China Securing Control Of The Mine.” [Axios, [3/9/23](#)]

- **Freeport-McMoRan Said BHR Was Not Involved In Selling Its Majority Ownership To China Molybdenum.** “Freeport-McMoRan, the American mining company involved in the deal, provided a statement to Axios asserting that the Hunter-linked firm was not involved in selling Freeport-McMoRan's majority ownership of the mine.” [Axios, [3/9/23](#)]
- **BHR Was Not Mentioned In Media Releases At The Time Of The Cobalt Mine Deal Announcement.** “BHR was not mentioned in media releases at the time of the Freeport-China Molybdenum deal announcement. ‘BHR Partners did not play a role in our sale and was not a party to this sale,’ Dan Kravets, Freeport vice president of corporate development and exploration, said in a statement.” [Axios, [3/9/23](#)]

A Chinese Company, China Molybdenum, Reportedly Sought Out BHR To Buy The Minority Stake Of A Cobalt Mine Held By Lundin Mining Of Canada

BHR Became Involved In China Molybdenum’s Buyout Of A Cobalt And Copper Mine In Africa To Buyout A Minority Stakeholder Of The Mine, Lundin Mining Of Canada. “The mining deal in Congo also came in 2016, when the Chinese mining outfit China Molybdenum announced that it was paying \$2.65 billion to buy Tenke Fungurume, a cobalt and copper mine, from the American company Freeport-McMoRan. As part of that deal, China Molybdenum sought a partner to buy out a minority stakeholder in the mine, Lundin Mining of Canada. That is when BHR became involved.” [New York Times, [11/20/21](#)]

Prior To Signing Of On The Deal, BHR Signed An Agreement For China Molybdenum To Purchase BHR’s Shares Of The Mine, Which The Company Did Two Years Later. “Before the deal was done, BHR also signed an agreement that allowed China Molybdenum to buy BHR’s share of the mine, which the company did two years later, the filings show. That purchase gave China Molybdenum 80 percent ownership of the mine. (Congo’s state mining enterprise kept a stake for itself.)” [New York Times, [11/20/21](#)]

Lundin Mining Reportedly Had Multiple Options When Freeport-McRoRan Chose To Sell Its Majority Stake In The Mine And It Opted To Sell Its Shares To China Molybdenum. “The Biden-linked firm did get involved with the mine — but that’s where things get complex. After the Freeport deal was announced, BHR helped China Molybdenum acquire a minority stake in the project from Lundin Mining — a company headquartered in Canada. Lundin Mining had multiple options when the Freeport-China Molybdenum deal was announced: let the deal proceed, acquire Freeport's shares instead, or sell its stake in the mine, too. Toronto-based Lundin opted to sell its shares to China Molybdenum. According to corporate statements at the time, that deal was ‘subject to ... the completion of Freeport’s sale.’” [Axios, [3/9/23](#)]

Former BHR Board Member Said The Firm’s American Founder Was Not Involved In The China Mine Deal And The Firm Only Earned A Nominal Fee That Went Toward Operating Costs

A Former BHR Board Member Said Hunter Biden Was Not Involved In The China Mine Deal And The Firm Only Earned A Nominal Fee From It Which Was Used For Operating Costs And Not Distributed To Its Founder. “A former BHR board member told The New York Times that Mr. Biden and the other American founders were not involved in the mine deal and that the firm earned only a nominal fee from it. The money, the former board member said, went into the firm’s operating funds and was not distributed to its owners.” [New York Times, [11/20/21](#)]

- **New York Times Reported That, In 2019, When BHR Sold Its Shares Of The Mine, Hunter Biden Controlled Ten Percent Of BHR Through The Firm Skaneateles L.L.C.** “By the time BHR sold its share in 2019, Mr. Biden controlled 10 percent of the firm through Skaneateles L.L.C., a company based in Washington.” [New York Times, [11/20/21](#)]

As Of November 2021, Hunter Biden No Longer Held Any Interests Directly Or Indirectly With BHR Or Skaneateles

November 2021: Hunter Biden’s Lawyer, Chris Clark, Said Biden “No Longer Holds Any Interest, Directly, Or Indirectly, In Either BHR Or Skaneateles.” “While Chinese corporate records show Skaneateles remains a part owner of BHR, Chris Clark, a lawyer for Mr. Biden, said that he ‘no longer holds any interest, directly or indirectly, in either BHR or Skaneateles.’ The Chinese records show that Mr. Biden was no longer on BHR’s board as of April 2020. Mr. Biden did not respond to requests for comment.” [New York Times, [11/20/21](#)]

- **May 2023: It Was Reported That Kevin Morris Controls Skaneateles, Which Holds Hunter Biden’s Ten Percent Stake In BHR.** “Meanwhile, emails and business records indicate [Kevin] Morris controls valuable assets of Biden as the first son seeks to renegotiate his child-support payments. Indeed, Biden’s stake in a Chinese private equity firm called BHR is now controlled by Morris, the Washington Free Beacon reported earlier this month. Specifically, Morris controls Skaneateles, which holds Biden’s 10% stake in BHR.” [Fox News, [5/29/23](#)]

THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION WAS FIGHTING CHINA OVER RARE-EARTH MINERALS AT THE TIME, WHICH IS THE OPPOSITE OF JOE BIDEN STEERING U.S. POLICY TO HELP HIS SON

Politifact: “The Obama Administration Was Fighting China Over Rare-Earth Minerals At The Time, Which Is The Opposite Of Biden Steering U.S. Policy Towards His Son’s Benefit.” “The mining deal involved the takeover of a mine that produces significant amounts of cobalt, which technically isn’t a rare-earth element but which is considered a critical mineral by the U.S. government, along with niobium, another commodity produced by the Chinese mining company. The film acknowledges that the Obama administration was fighting China over rare-earth minerals at the time, which is the opposite of Biden steering U.S. policy towards his son’s benefit.” [Politifact, [10/19/20](#)]

LLC’s

KEVIN MCCARTHY CITED PAYMENTS MADE THROUGH ALLEGED “SHELL COMPANIES” AS A JUSTIFICATION FOR THE IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY...

Kevin McCarthy Cited Nearly \$20 Million In Payments Made Through Alleged “Shell Companies” As A Justification For Launching An Impeachment Inquiry. According to Speaker McCarthy during his impeachment inquiry announcement, MCCARTHY: “Bank records show that nearly \$20 million in payments were directed to the Biden family members and associates through various shell companies” [CSPAN, [9/12/23](#)]

...DESPITE NONE OF THE PAYMENTS IN QUESTION BEING RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN

CNN: “There Is No Public Evidence To Date That The President Personally Received Any Money.” “Facts First: This is true about Joe Biden’s family and associates, but there is no public evidence to date that the president personally received any money.” [CNN, [9/13/23](#)]

- **Some Of The \$20 Million Dollars Cited By Speaker McCarthy As Received By The “Biden Family” Was Actually Received By Business Associates As Part Of Their Business Activities And Not Biden Family Members.** “The phrase ‘Biden family’ is doing a lot of work for McCarthy – because none of these records confirm any direct payments to Joe Biden or show that he was directly involved in Hunter Biden’s business arrangements. Also, some of the \$20 million McCarthy was referring to on Tuesday didn’t go to the Biden family but went to business associates of the family as part of their business activities.” [CNN, [9/13/23](#)]

Biden Family Members And Associates Told The New York Times That Hunter Biden And Joe Biden Never Had Joint Bank Accounts Or Direct Access To Each Other’s Money. “But according to Biden family members and business

associates, Hunter and his father never had joint bank accounts or direct access to each other's money. And at the time of the email, Hunter had yet to embark on his foreign deals." [New York Times, [1/11/23](#)]

- **President Biden's Personal Financial Disclosure Showed No Evidence That He Had Received Money From Foreign Income Sources, And That He Had Two Bank Accounts Containing Money Worth Up To \$1.5 Million.** "Biden's financial disclosures do not show evidence of foreign income sources. He has said the GOP claims that foreign nationals have routed his family money are false. Biden reported having one bank account with a cash total between \$250,001 and \$500,000 and another with a cash total between \$500,001 and \$1,000,000." [Washington Post, [5/15/23](#)]

Meanwhile, House Committee Republicans Asserted The Committee Does Not Need To "Show Payments Directly To The President" To Justify Their "Investigation"

The House Committee On Oversight Released A Memo That Asserted The Committee Does Not Need To "Show Payments Directly To The President To Show Corruption." "President Biden's defenders purport a weak defense by asserting the Committee must show payments directly to the President to show corruption. This is a hollow claim no other American would be afforded if their family members accepted foreign payments or bribes. Indeed, the law recognizes payments to family members to corruptly influence others can constitute a bribe" [Memorandum, Committee On Oversight And Accountability, [8/9/23](#)]

Republicans Claimed Businesses Associated With Hunter Biden Served "No Legitimate Basis" When There Are Public Reports About Deals Those Businesses Have Made

Rep. Byron Donalds Cited The Names Of Several Companies Associated With Hunter Biden Including Rosemont Seneca Technology Partners As Companies He Claimed Served "No Legitimate Basis." DONALDS: "Here's an example of what I mean. You have Rosemont Seneca Partners, Rosemont Seneca Advisors, Rosemont Seneca Technology Partners, RSP Holdings, RSTP 2 Alpha, RSTP 2 Bravo, Rosemont Seneca Thornton, Rosemont Seneca Bohai, and the list goes on and on. Cycling through this many companies serves no legitimate purpose and as somebody who actually worked in banking, I did that long before I came here, whenever there were this many companies laying all over the place and you see wire transfers and cashier checks over here, going to random members of the family for no apparent purpose, at the size and velocity at which all of this was being conducted, the only logical conclusion of a financial professional is you are concealing money." [Real Clear Politics, 5/10/23]

Rosemont Technology Partners LLC Was A Past Investor Of Counsyl Inc, A Reproductive Testing Organization, Alongside Goldman Sachs And Pilot Growth Equity Partners. "Molecular diagnostics company Myriad Genetics Inc. (MYGN) will enter the reproductive testing market with a \$375 million acquisition of Counsyl Inc. announced Monday, May 28. Salt Lake City-based Myriad took part in a sale process conducted by Counsyl, according to a Myriad representative. The sellers include a group of founders and venture capital firms. [Counsyl](#) has raised \$237.8 million in funding over the years, according to Crunchbase. Its investors include Rosemont Seneca Technology Partners LLC, Goldman Sachs Asset Management and Pilot Growth Equity Partners." [Deal Pipeline, 3/29/18]

- **Counsyl Produced Hundreds Of Thousands Of Genetic Tests, And Made Over \$130 Million In Revenue Yearly.** "Counsyl, founded in 2007, had revenue of more than \$134 million in the past 12 months and performed more than 280,000 reproductive genetic tests in that time frame, according to a Monday statement." [Deal Pipeline, 3/29/18]

MEANWHILE, COMER HAS KILLED FURTHER INVESTIGATION INTO TRUMP'S FINANCES AND TIES TO AUTHORITARIAN GOVERNMENT MONEY

HEADLINE: "House Republicans Quietly Halt Inquiry Into Trump's Finances" [New York Times, [3/13/23](#)]

- **New York Times Reported That Rep. James Comer Made It Clear He Abandoned Any Investigation Into The Former President's Financial Dealings.** "Representative James R. Comer, Republican of Kentucky and the chairman of the Oversight and Accountability Committee, made clear he had abandoned any investigation into the former president's financial dealings — professing ignorance about the inquiry Democrats opened when they controlled the

House — and was instead focusing on whether President Biden and members of his family were involved in an influence-peddling scheme.” [New York Times, [3/13/23](#)]

- **Democrats Accused Rep. James Comer Of Coordinating With Trump Lawyers To Kill The Investigation Into Trump’s Finances.** “[Comer] confirmed the end to the inquiry into Mr. Trump after Democrats wrote to Mr. Comer raising concerns about the fact that Mazars, the former president’s longtime accounting firm that cut ties with him last year, had stopped turning over documents related to his financial dealings. The top Democrat on the panel suggested that Mr. Comer had worked with Mr. Trump’s lawyers to effectively kill the investigation, an accusation the chairman denied.” [New York Times, [3/13/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “Comer Stymies Probe Into Trump Tax Records, House Democrats Say” [Washington Post, [3/13/23](#)]

- **Material Provided To The House Oversight Committee Showed Authoritarian Governments Spending Extravagantly At Trump Properties While Trump Was President.** “The material provided to the committee before Republicans took control of the House in January included documents showing authoritarian governments spending lavishly at Trump-owned properties while Trump was president.” [Washington Post, [3/13/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “House GOP Calls Off Trump Financial Probe That Revealed Foreign Spending At His Hotel” [Forbes, [3/13/23](#)]

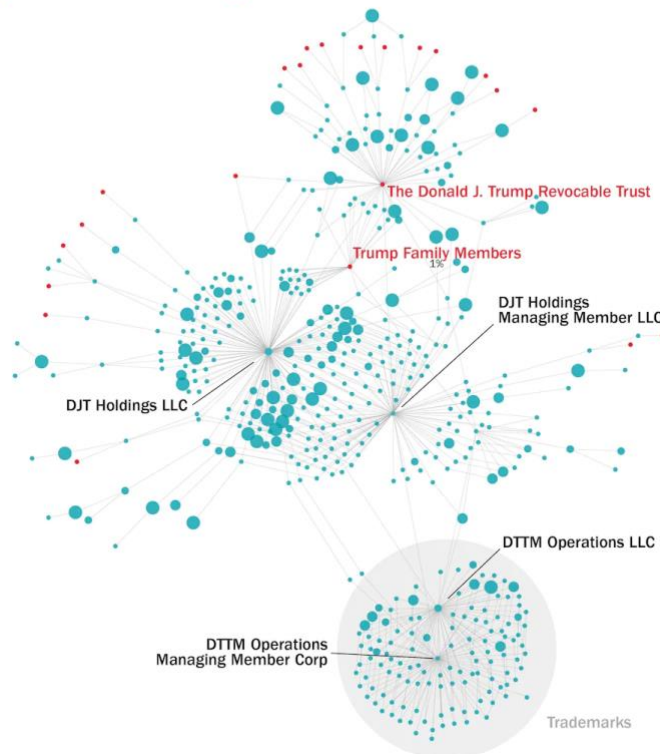
It Has Been Reported That Donald Trump’s Business Structure Involves A Web Of LLCs That Often Lead Back To The Donald J. Trump Revocable Trust

The Washington Post Published A Visual Aid Showing The Web Of Trump Business Interests Leading Back To The Donald J. Trump Revocable Trust.

The web of Trump business interests

Visual by The Washington Post from Trump’s 2018 financial disclosure.

● OWNERSHIP INCLUDES A TRUMP ORGANIZATION ● NO IDENTIFIED TRUMP ORGANIZATIONAL OWNER



[Washington Post, [5/21/19](#)]

The Day Before Being Sworn Into Office, Donald Trump Made Changes To the Membership Interest Of Lamington Farm Club LLC, Which Does Business As The Trump Bedminster Golf Course – Trump’s Changes Created A Web Of Corporations That Led To DJT Holdings Receiving The Vast Majority Of The Funds. “One day

before he was sworn into office as the as the most powerful man in the free world, President Donald Trump made changes to the ownership at his Bedminster golf course. On Jan. 19, 2017, ‘a change occurred’ in the membership interest of Lamington Farm Club, LLC, which does business as Trump National Golf Club - Bedminster, according to a public legal notice published in the Courier News around the time of the changes. [...] The changes made to the ownership at Trump National create a web of corporations and limited liability companies, some with similar sounding names. [...] The breakdown of ownership, according to the legal notice, is as follows: LFB Acquisition LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, is a member and owner of 100 percent of Lamington Farm Club, LLC. DJT Holdings LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, is a member and owner of 99 percent of LFB Acquisition LLC. LFB Acquisition Member Corp., a Delaware corporation, is the managing member and owner of one percent of LFB Acquisition LLC. DJT Holdings Managing Member LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, is a member and owner of 100 percent of LFB Acquisition Member Corp. and a member and owner of one percent of DJT Holdings LLC. The Donald J. Trump Revocable Trust dated April 7, 2014, is a member and owner of 99 percent of DJT Holdings LLC and a member and owner of 100 percent of DJT Holdings Managing Member LLC.” [My Central Jersey, [1/19/18](#)]

According To Donald Trump’s Personal Financial Disclosure, He Listed DJT Holdings LLC As Being Primarily Owned By The Donald J. Trump Revocable Trust. [Donald J. Trump, Personal Financial Disclosure, filed [4/14/23](#)]

While President, Donald Trump Set Up His Trust So That He Could Pull Money Out Of It Whenever He Wanted And Received Reports On How His Businesses Were Doing

2017: Donald Trump Placed His Eldest Son, And Allen Weisselberg As Trustees Of The Donald J. Trump Revocable Trust – Trump Would Receive Reports On Any Profit Or Loss And Could Revoke His Decision At Any Time. “While the president says he has walked away from the day-to-day operations of his business, two people close to him are the named [Donald J. Trump Revocable Trust] trustees and have broad legal authority over his assets: his eldest son, Donald Jr., and Allen H. Weisselberg, the Trump Organization’s chief financial officer. Mr. Trump, who will receive reports on any profit, or loss, on his company as a whole, can revoke their authority at any time.” [New York Times, [2/3/17](#)]

HEADLINE: “Trump Lawyer Confirms President Can Pull Money From His Businesses Whenever He Wants” [ProPublica, [4/4/17](#)]

- **Changes To Donald Trump’s Trust Document Stipulated That It “Shall Distribute Net Income Or Principal To Donald J. Trump At His Request” And Whenever His Son Or Attorney “Deem Appropriate.”** “The previously unreported changes to a trust document, signed on Feb. 10, stipulates that it ‘shall distribute net income or principal to Donald J. Trump at his request’ or whenever his son and longtime attorney ‘deem appropriate.’ That can include everything from profits to the underlying assets, such as the businesses themselves.” [ProPublica, [4/4/17](#)]

HEADLINE: “Trump Can Quietly Draw Money From Trust Whenever He Wants, New Documents Show” [Washington Post, [4/3/17](#)]

- **Legal Experts Said Trump Was “Still The Beneficiary Of All These Assets.”** “He’s still the beneficiary of all these assets. He is still entitled to the income and the profits of the trust if he wants them,’ said Beth Shapiro Kaufman, the president of law firm Caplin & Drysdale, who reviewed the trust document. ‘Has he put these things out of his control and out of his personal benefit? The answer is no.’” [Washington Post, [4/3/17](#)]

The Day After Leaving The White House, Jared Kushner Created A Company That Went On To Receive More Than \$2 Billion In Saudi Private Equity Funds

HEADLINE: “After Helping Prince’s Rise, Trump And Kushner Benefit From Saudi Funds.” [Washington Post, [2/12/23](#)]

The Day After Leaving The White House, Kushner Created A Private Equity Firm That Later Got \$2 Billion From A Sovereign Wealth Fund Chaired By Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman – Kushner’s Firm Structured The Funds In A Way That Did Not Require Disclosure. “The day after leaving the White House, Kushner created a company that he transformed months later into a private equity firm with \$2 billion from a sovereign wealth fund chaired by Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. Kushner’s firm structured those funds in such a way that it did not have to disclose the

source, according to previously unreported details of Securities and Exchange Commission forms reviewed by The Washington Post. His business used a commonly employed strategy that allows many equity firms to avoid transparency about funding sources, experts said.” [Washington Post, [2/12/23](#)]

Democrats Criticized Comer For Overreaching Into The Financial Information Of Private Citizen For No Reason When Jared Kushner Actually Served In The White House

Rep. Jamie Raskin Criticized Comer For His Sweeping Subpoena Of Rob Walker’s Bank Records, Which Called For Thousands Of Pages Of His Personal Financial Information. “Raskin criticizes Comer in the letter for not giving Democratic members standard notice before the subpoena was issued, arguing they were only given visibility a few hours prior rather than the standard committee practice of alerting the minority of a subpoena 48 hours in advance. The Maryland Democrat also characterizes the subpoena as a ‘roving congressional inquisition into the affairs of at least one private American citizen,’ given that it called for the production of “thousands of pages of Mr. Walker’s private financial information, including statements of his and his wife’s joint checking account for a decade’ – something Raskin argues goes ‘well beyond any business deal with Hunter Biden or CEFC.” [CNN, [3/13/23](#)]

- **New York Times Reported That Rep. James Comer Released A Memo Detailing Rob Walker’s Payments To Biden Family Members, But The Material Showed No Evidence Of Illegal Or Improper Behavior.** “Mr. Comer said the financial records he obtained show that from 2015 to 2017, Biden family members — including Hunter, the president’s brother James and Mr. Biden’s daughter-in-law Hallie — and their companies collectively received \$1.3 million from Mr. Walker. The memo asserted that the Biden family members received just over \$1 million of that money in 2017 beginning the day after Mr. Walker received \$3 million from State Energy HK Limited, in payments that the Republicans inferred were cuts of the money from the Chinese firm. The material released by the panel did not show anything illegal or improper, and Mr. Comer conceded that he did not know the purposes of the payments or the nature of the business relationships. But he said the transactions raised important questions for his panel.” [New York Times, [3/16/23](#)]

Rep. Jamie Raskin Said The House Oversight Committee Should Instead Investigate Former White House Advisor Jared Kushner Given The “Billions Of Dollars” Kushner Had Been Paid By The Saudi Government. “The panel’s top Democrat, Rep. Jamie Raskin of Maryland, said if Comer is concerned about that issue, ‘surely he will be a thousand times more interested in investigating the billions of dollars recently paid to Jared Kushner by the Saudi Government,’ he said referring to former President Donald Trump’s top White House adviser and son-in-law. ‘I fervently hope we can work together on the Oversight Committee to do this urgently important investigation.’” [NBC News, [3/16/23](#)]

Businesses Associated With Trump Have Been The Targets Of Money Laundering Investigations And Paid Fines For Failing To Take Anti-Laundering Efforts

HEADLINE: “Federal Investigators Examined Trump Media For Possible Money Laundering, Sources Say” [The Guardian, [3/15/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “Trump’s Social Media Company Investigated By Feds For Potential Money-Laundering Violations (Report)” [Variety, [3/15/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “Trump’s Media Company Reportedly Under Federal Investigation For Money Laundering Linked To Russia” [Forbes, [3/15/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “Trump Media Executives Worried Over Murky \$8m Loans, Emails Reveal” [The Guardian, [3/17/23](#)]

- **Executives At Donald Trump’s Social Media Company Were Concerned About An \$8 Million Loan They Had Accepted From Two Mystery Entities.** “Top executives at Donald Trump’s social media company started to become concerned last spring about \$8m that they had accepted from opaque entities in two emergency loans when its auditors sought further details about the payments, according to documents, emails and sources familiar with the matter.” [The Guardian, [3/17/23](#)]
- **An Examination Showed Origins Of A Large Loan To Trump’s Social Media Company Were From Allies Of Russian President Vladimir Putin.** “The executives had good reason to be concerned: a subsequent examination

revealed that the trustee of ES Family Trust was simultaneously a director of Paxum Bank, and one of the part-owners of the bank would turn out to be the relation of an ally of the Russian president, Vladimir Putin.” [The Guardian, [3/17/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “FinCEN Fines Trump Taj Mahal Casino Resort \$10 Million for Significant and Long Standing Anti-Money Laundering Violations” [U.S. Department of Treasury, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, [3/6/15](#)]

Comer Also Continues To Ignore Trump’s Hush Money Scheme That Got Him Indicted In New York

HEADLINE: “Timeline: The Probe Into Trump’s Alleged Hush-Money Payment To Stormy Daniels” [Axios, [4/4/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “Read: The 34-Count Indictment Against Trump” [Axios, [4/4/23](#)]

Trump’s Former Lawyer, Michael Cohen, Implicated Donald Trump In A \$130,000 Hush Money Payment To Stormy Daniels, Which Cohen Was Reimbursed For By The Trump Organization While Donald Trump Was In Office. “Factually, the case is straightforward. Trump’s former lawyer and fixer Michael Cohen paid [Stormy] Daniels \$130,000 just days before the 2016 election. In Cohen’s version of events, this was done at the direction of his boss because Daniels was on the cusp of going public about an affair she alleges she had with Trump in 2006. Trump, while he was in the White House, reimbursed Cohen, but has consistently denied the affair. [...] According to Mark Pomerantz, a former prosecutor who worked closely on the case and recently published a book about his experience, Cohen submitted phony invoices throughout 2017 referencing a ‘retainer agreement’ and requesting payment. Then Cohen received a series of checks, hand-signed by Trump while he was in the White House. The legal problem is there was no retainer agreement — according to Pomerantz, it was all done to cover up the hush money scheme. The fake documentation of ‘legal expenses’ on the Trump Organization’s books could trigger a charge under New York state law, which makes falsifying business records a crime.” [NBC News, [3/20/23](#)]

- **Donald Trump Signed Michael Cohen’s Reimbursement And Cohen Submitted Phony Invoices Noting A Fake “Retainer Agreement,” Which New York State Law Considered A Crime.** “Factually, the case is straightforward. Trump’s former lawyer and fixer Michael Cohen paid [Stormy] Daniels \$130,000 just days before the 2016 election. In Cohen’s version of events, this was done at the direction of his boss because Daniels was on the cusp of going public about an affair she alleges she had with Trump in 2006. Trump, while he was in the White House, reimbursed Cohen, but has consistently denied the affair. [...] According to Mark Pomerantz, a former prosecutor who worked closely on the case and recently published a book about his experience, Cohen submitted phony invoices throughout 2017 referencing a ‘retainer agreement’ and requesting payment. Then Cohen received a series of checks, hand-signed by Trump while he was in the White House. The legal problem is there was no retainer agreement — according to Pomerantz, it was all done to cover up the hush money scheme. The fake documentation of ‘legal expenses’ on the Trump Organization’s books could trigger a charge under New York state law, which makes falsifying business records a crime.” [NBC News, [3/20/23](#)]
- **Falsifying Business Records Was Considered A Felony Under New York State Law.** “A core crime that the Manhattan District Attorney will likely include in an indictment of former President Donald Trump is ‘falsifying business records in the first degree,’ a felony under New York State law (N.Y. Penal Code § 175.10). Prosecutors and indeed all of us are compelled by the rule of law to consider how such a charge compares to past prosecutions. Are like cases being treated alike?” [Just Security, [3/21/23](#)]

The 2015 Café Milano Dinner

IN 2021 IT WAS REPORTED THAT ATTENDANTS OF A 2015 CAFÉ MILANO DINNER RECALLED JOE BIDEN STOPPING BRIEFLY TO SPEAK WITH GREEK ORTHODOX PRIEST, FATHER ALEX KARLOUTSOS

Rick Leach, President of World Food Program USA , Said Joe Biden Only Briefly Dropped By A 2015 Café Milano Dinner To Talk With Alex Karloutsos -- Father Alex -- A Powerful Figure In The Greek Orthodox Church In The

U.S. According to a Washington Post Fact Checker Article on the 2015 Café Milano Dinner, “Hunter Biden at the time was chairman of World Food Program USA, a fundraising arm of the U.N. humanitarian organization. Rick Leach, at the time the president and chief executive of WFP USA, said in a telephone interview that Joe Biden only dropped by briefly to meet with one of the guests, Alex Karloutsos, known as Father Alex. Until his recent retirement, Karloutsos was one of the most powerful figures in the Greek Orthodox Church in the United States.” [Washington Post, [6/7/21](#)]

- **On The Day Of The Dinner, Joe Biden Spoke At The White House Greek Independence Day Reception, And He And Karloutsos Are Reportedly Personal Friends. Karloutsos’ Wife Was On The Board Of The Beau Biden Foundation.** “A few hours earlier, Joe Biden had made remarks at the White House Greek Independence Day Reception, according to his official schedule. He and Karloutsos are personal friends who have known each other for 40 years. Karloutsos’s wife, Xanthi, is on the board of the Beau Biden Foundation, which fights child abuse. (Beau Biden, who had an aggressive form of brain cancer, died a few weeks after this dinner.) Joe Biden, a Roman Catholic, also has a long history of working with the Greek Orthodox Church. In 2015, the church awarded him the Patriarch Athenagoras Humanitarian Award. ‘This may be the greatest honor I’ve ever received in my public life,’ he declared.” [Washington Post, [6/7/21](#)]

A White House Source Said The Decision To See Father Alex Was Made Late In The Day After The Vice President’s Schedule Was Completed. “A White House individual with knowledge of Joe Biden’s schedules said the decision to see Father Alex was made late that day, after the schedule was completed. It’s unclear when the vice president learned Father Alex would be in town, but the decision was made that evening, the person added.” [Washington Post, [6/7/21](#)]

WORLD FOOD PROGRAM USA PRESIDENT, RICK LEACH, SAID HIS RECOLLECTION WAS THAT JOE BIDEN “DIDN’T EVEN SIT DOWN” AND WAS NOT PART OF THE DINNER

World Food Program USA President Rick Leach Recalled That Joe Biden “Didn’t Even Sit Down” And Argued Joe Biden Was Not Part Of the Dinner. According to a Washington Post article about the 2015 Café Milano dinner: “[World Food Program USA President Rick] Leach recalled that the dinner involved about 10 to 12 people in a private room but that Joe Biden ‘didn’t even sit down. He was not part of the dinner or part of the dinner discussion.’ Instead, he just spoke to Karloutsos.” [Washington Post, [6/7/21](#)]

DEVON ARCHER TOLD CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATORS THAT “NO BUSINESS DEALS SPECIFICS” WERE DISCUSSED AT THE 2015 CAFÉ MILANO DINNER

Asked About The 2015 Café Milano Dinner, Devon Archer Told Congressional Investigators He Remembered A “Regular Dinner” Where “No Business-Deals Specifics” Were Discussed. According to a Washington Post article about the 2015 Café Milano dinner: “In an interview with congressional investigators on July 31, Hunter Biden’s former business partner Devon Archer, asked specifically about this report, disputed those recollections that Biden spoke only to Karloutsos. ‘I remember just a regular dinner where there was a table of conversation and — you know, talked about the World Food Program probably,’ he said, adding ‘there was no business-deals specifics discussed ever at any of these things.’” [Washington Post, [6/7/21](#)]

Romania

HOUSE REPUBLICANS HAVE PROVIDED NO EVIDENCE FOR THEIR ALLEGATIONS THAT HUNTER BIDEN INFLUENCED HIS FATHER’S FOREIGN POLICY ACTIONS

Axios: “The Memo Presented Wednesday By House Oversight Chair James Comer (R-Ky.) Included No Evidence That President Biden Acted Improperly Or Took Any Official Action Because Of His Family's Business Affairs.”

“House Republicans took another swing at the Biden family Wednesday, alleging that the president's son, Hunter, received more than \$1 million from a company controlled by a Romanian businessman during the time Joe Biden was vice president. [...] Yes, but: The memo presented Wednesday by House Oversight chair James Comer (R-Ky.) included no evidence that President Biden acted improperly or took any official action because of his family's business affairs.” [Axios, [5/10/23](#)]

Axios: “Most Of The Findings Beyond The Specific Transactions From The Company Controlled By Popoviciu Are Not New.”

“House Republicans took another swing at the Biden family Wednesday, alleging that the president's son, Hunter, received more than \$1 million from a company controlled by a Romanian businessman during the time Joe Biden was vice president. [...] The big picture: Most of the findings beyond the specific transactions from the company controlled by Popoviciu are not new.” [Axios, [5/10/23](#)]

Hunter Biden’s Lawyer, George Mesires, Said Biden Never Discussed The Popoviciu Case With His Father.

“George Mesires, a lawyer for Hunter Biden, said his client never discussed the Popoviciu case, Romanian anti-corruption efforts or anything else related to Romania with his father.” [New York Times, [10/25/19](#)]

HUNTER BIDEN REFERRED POPOVICIU TO THE LAW FIRM WHERE HE WORKED, WHO POPOVICIU THEN HIRED AFTER HIS INITIAL CONVICTION

In 2015, Gabriel Popoviciu Retained Hunter Biden To Help Fend Off Corruption Charges – Popoviciu Was

Convicted In 2016. “In 2015, Mr. Popoviciu retained Hunter Biden, who is a lawyer, while his father was vice president, to help try to fend off charges. That effort was unsuccessful and, in 2016, Mr. Popoviciu was convicted on charges related to a land deal in northern Bucharest, the Romanian capital.” [New York Times, [5/10/23](#)]

George Mesires, Biden’s Lawyer, Said Hunter Referred Popoviciu To Boies Schiller Flexner And Freeh Group International Solutions, Both Of Which Were Hired, And Began Working After Popoviciu’s Initial Conviction.

“Mr. Mesires acknowledged that Hunter Biden referred Mr. Popoviciu to both Boies Schiller Flexner, the law firm where Hunter Biden worked at the time, and Mr. Freeh’s firm, Freeh Group International Solutions. Mr. Popoviciu hired both firms, according to four people familiar with the arrangements. Mr. Popoviciu could not be reached for comment. Boies Schiller Flexner declined to comment. Mr. Freeh’s firm started work for the Romanian businessman in July 2016, shortly after Mr. Popoviciu was initially convicted by a Romanian court.” [New York Times, [10/25/19](#)]

- **Popoviciu Also Used The Services Of Former Julian Assange Lawyer Edward Fitzgerald.** “Popoviciu has so far used the services of top extradition lawyers in UK, such as Edward Fitzgerald QC, who obtained the non-extradition ruling for Julian Assange, plus Hunter Biden, the son of then-US vice president, now president, Joe Biden and former FBI director Louis Freeh.” [Romania Today, [5/29/23](#)]

THE UK COURT OF APPEALS LATER OVERTURNED POPOVICIU’S SENTENCE

2017: Popoviciu’s Legal Team Highlighted “Numerous Factual And Legal Deficiencies” In The Case Against Him And Called For Another Review Of His Case.

“Mr. Freeh conducted a review of the case with a team of retired prosecutors and F.B.I. agents. The team concluded there were ‘numerous factual and legal deficiencies in the case,’ according to a statement summarizing the findings issued in 2017, after the Romanian high court upheld Mr. Popoviciu’s conviction and handed down a seven-year prison sentence. Mr. Freeh called for Romanian authorities to review the case, and reach ‘another result.’” [New York Times, [10/25/19](#)]

Popoviciu Appealed To The Administrative Court On The Basis That The Romanian Judge Had An Undisclosed Conflict Of Interest, Which Resulted In The UK Court Overturning His Sentence.

“Popoviciu appealed to the Administrative Court on the basis that the judge that convicted him in Romania, Judge Tudoran, had an undisclosed and inappropriate long-standing relationship with the prosecution's primary witness. Popoviciu provided new evidence from a Romanian lawyer who is investigating Judge Tudoran for various corruption-related offences which shed light on his relationship with the prosecution's primary witness. The Administrative Court admitted this new evidence and, having taken it

into account, overturned the Westminster Magistrates' Court's order on the basis that there would be a flagrant breach of Popoviciu's Article 5 rights if he was returned to Romania, as he would be at risk of being imprisoned for a substantial period there, having previously been convicted after a flagrantly unfair trial. The judge's undisclosed relationship with the primary witness meant that Popoviciu suffered a complete denial of his Article 6 rights.” [2021/0152, Case Summary, Supreme Court of the United Kingdom, accessed [5/8/23](#)]

- **2023: The Bucharest Court Has Appealed The Decision.** “The Bucharest Court now appeals to the Supreme Court.” [2021/0152, Case Summary, Supreme Court of the United Kingdom, accessed [5/8/23](#)]

In 2017, Popoviciu Was Sentenced For Allegedly Appropriating A Plot Of Land In Northern Bucharest Fraudulently, Which In 2020 Was Given Back To The State. “Popoviciu was sentenced in 2017 for allegedly fraudulently appropriating a 224-ha plot of land in northern Bucharest from the University of Agronomy (USAMV), with the participation of USAMV management. The land was granted to USAVM in 1929 by a private owner (Marta Bibescu), on the condition that the land should be used for educational and research purposes. Under a ruling issued in 2019 that was made final in 2020, the 224 ha were taken from Popoviciu's Baneasa Investments and given to the state, which is entitled to decide on the future use of the land. It can collect rents and other benefits from existing buildings, which include the Baneasa shopping mall, IKEA store and the US embassy, and compensate USAMV with another plot of land. [...] In principle, the re-judging of the criminal case against Popoviciu (related to the seven-year jail sentence) should not impact upon the civil case that resulted in the restitution of the 224ha of land to the state.” [Romania Today, 5/29/23]

RUDY GIULIANI JOINED THE POPOVICIU DEFENSE AFTER HUNTER BIDEN LEFT, AND WROTE TO THE ROMANIAN PRESIDENT WHILE SERVING AS PRESIDENT TRUMP’S LAWYER

HEADLINE: “Giuliani Is Drawing Attention to Hunter Biden’s Work in Romania. But There’s a Problem.” [New York Times, [10/25/19](#)]

Giuliani Was Involved With Popoviciu’s Case After Hunter Biden Left The Case. “Around the time of the 2016 conviction, Mr. Biden recruited Mr. Freeh to assist on the case, according to four people familiar with the effort. Mr. Freeh then retained Mr. Giuliani, who last year criticized Romania’s anti-corruption crackdown and urged amnesty to those who had been convicted, which could have included Mr. Popoviciu. [...] Mr. Giuliani’s involvement came after Mr. Biden bowed out of the case, according to three people familiar with the arrangements.” [New York Times, [10/25/19](#)]

- **Rudy Giuliani Participated In An Effort To Help Gabriel Popoviciu Along With Former FBI Director Louis J. Freeh.** “Rudolph W. Giuliani, President Trump’s personal lawyer, signaled this month that he planned to open a new front in his attacks against former Vice President Joseph R. Biden Jr. — work done by Mr. Biden’s son Hunter Biden for a wealthy Romanian business executive facing corruption charges. But there’s a problem with that strategy: Mr. Giuliani participated in an effort that would have helped the same executive, and was in fact recruited to do so by Louis J. Freeh, a former F.B.I. director who had been brought onto the matter by Hunter Biden.” [New York Times, [10/25/19](#)]

2014: THEN-VICE PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN URGED ROMANIANS TO FIGHT CORRUPTION IN THEIR GOVERNMENT

White House: “Remarks By Vice President Joe Biden To Romanian Civil Society Groups And Students” [Office Of The Vice President, [5/21/14](#)]

- **Vice President Biden Called Corruption A “Cancer” And Urged Citizens In Bucharest To Fight Corruption Because It’s “More Than Just Good Government. It’s Self-Defense.”** “Corruption is a cancer, a cancer that eats away at a citizen’s faith in democracy, diminishes the instinct for innovation and creativity; already-tight national budgets, crowding out important national investments. It wastes the talent of entire generations. It scares away investments and jobs. And most importantly it denies the people their dignity. It saps the collective strength and resolve of a nation.

Corruption is just another form of tyranny.” [...] “So fighting corruption is more than just good government. It’s self-defense. It’s a guarantor of your national sovereignty.” [Office Of The Vice President, [5/21/14](#)]

2018: WHILE SERVING AS PRESIDENT TRUMP’S PERSONAL LAWYER, GIULIANI CRITICIZED ROMANIA’S ANTI-CORRUPTION EFFORTS IN A LETTER TO THE ROMANIAN PRESIDENT

New York Times Reported That, In 2018, While Serving As President Trump’s Personal Lawyer, Giuliani Wrote To The Romanian President Criticizing The Country’s Anti-Corruption Efforts. “Last year, Mr. Freeh retained Mr. Giuliani, a longtime associate whose 2008 presidential campaign Mr. Freeh supported, to help with his efforts in Romania. In August 2018, while serving as Mr. Trump’s personal lawyer during the special counsel’s investigation into Russia’s election interference, Mr. Giuliani wrote a letter to Romania’s president criticizing the country’s anti-corruption prosecutors and urging amnesty to those who had been convicted in the crackdown.” [New York Times, [10/25/19](#)]

FBI And The So-Called “Bribe”

MCCARTHY CITED AN FBI INFORMANT BRIBE ALLEGATION AS A REASON FOR OPENING AN IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY INTO PRESIDENT BIDEN

September 2023: While Announcing An Impeachment Inquiry Into President Biden, Speaker McCarthy Claimed “An FBI Informant Allege[d] Someone Was Bribed” As A Justification For His Decision. “Speaker Kevin McCarthy has announced he was ordering House Republicans to launch an impeachment inquiry into President Joe Biden, alleging a ‘culture of corruption’ involving him and his family.” [...] “Leaving the GOP weekly conference meeting Wednesday, McCarthy did not answer a question from ABC News’ Rachel Scott on a timeline for the impeachment inquiry and explained what documents House Republicans still want.’ If you had an FBI informant allege someone was bribed and they used shell companies. How do you prove that? You’d have to get the document. If you have a staffer that worked in the White House, saying the president approved the reason, we’re talking points. You have facts there,’ McCarthy said.” [ABC News, [9/13/23](#)]

- **During The New Conference Announcing An Impeachment Inquiry In President Biden Speaker Kevin McCarthy Claimed, “Even A Trusted FBI Informant Has Alleged A Bribe To The Biden Family.”** HOUSE SPEAKER KEVIN MCCARTHY: “We know that bank records show that nearly \$20 million in payments were directed to Biden’s family members and associates through various shell companies. The Treasury Department alone has more than 150 transactions involving the Biden family and other business associates that were flagged as suspicious activity by U.S. banks. Even a trusted FBI informant has alleged a bribe to the Biden family.” [CSPAN, Press Conference, House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, [9/12/23](#)] (video)

THE FBI AND PROSECUTORS PREVIOUSLY REVIEWED AN FD-1023 FORM SPEAKER MCCARTHY CITED AND COULD NOT CORROBORATE ITS CLAIMS

CNN: “While The Document Contains The Allegations Made By An Unnamed Whistleblower, It Doesn’t Provide Proof That They Are True, People Briefed On The Matter Said. The FBI And Prosecutors Who Previously Reviewed The Information Couldn’t Corroborate The Claims.” “The FBI is scheduled to bring an internal law enforcement document that some Republicans claim will shed light on an allegation that then-Vice President Joe Biden was involved in a criminal scheme with a foreign national to Capitol Hill on Monday for House Oversight Chair James Comer and ranking Democratic member Rep. Jamie Raskin to review, spokespeople for the two lawmakers told CNN. While the document contains the allegations made by an unnamed whistleblower, it doesn’t provide proof that they are true, people briefed on the matter said. The FBI and prosecutors who previously reviewed the information couldn’t corroborate the claims. The top two members will receive a briefing from the FBI and review the FD-1023 form behind closed doors in a secure SCIF, a sensitive compartmented information facility at the Capitol rather than going to FBI headquarters, as the bureau had initially offered.” [CNN, [6/2/23](#)]

FD-1023 Forms Are Used By FBI Agents To Record “Unverified Reporting” From A Human Source

The FBI Said An FD-1023 Form Was Used By FBI Agents To Record “Unverified Reporting From A Confidential Human Source.” According to a letter the FBI sent to House Oversight Committee Chair James Comer about his subpoena for an FD-1023 form: “An FD-1023 is one of many forms the FBI uses to collect and catalog information for its law enforcement and national security work. This form is used by FBI agents to record unverified reporting from a confidential human source.” [FBI Letter to House Oversight Committee Chair James Comer, [5/10/23](#)]

- **The FBI Uses FD-1023 Forms To Memorialize Information Gathered From Confidential Sources And Typically Includes Allegations That Have Not Been Verified By The FBI.** “The FBI uses FD-1023 forms to memorialize information gathered from confidential sources. It typically includes allegations from a source that have not been verified by the FBI.” [CNN, [5/31/23](#)]
- **Axios: “An FD-1023 Simply Documents An Interview With A Source, And Does Not In Itself Indicate Any Suspicions Of Wrongdoing.”** “An FD-1023 simply documents an interview with a source, and does not in itself indicate any suspicions of wrongdoing.” [Axios, [5/3/23](#)]
- **Politico: “The [FD-1023] Forms Themselves, Regardless Of Their Content, Do Not Independently Amount To Evidence Of Wrongdoing.”** “Comer issued a subpoena earlier this month that compels the FBI to hand over any FD-1023 forms — the formal term for records that describe conversations with a confidential human source — from June 2020 that contain the word ‘Biden.’ The forms themselves, regardless of their content, do not independently amount to evidence of wrongdoing.” [Politico, [5/24/23](#)]

COMER HAS FAILED TO PRODUCE ANY EVIDENCE TO CORROBORATE THE ALLEGATIONS MADE IN THE FD-1023 FORM DESPITE SAYING OTHERWISE ON RIGHT-WING MEDIA

Rep. James Comer Alleged On Fox Business That Burisma Bribed The Biden Family Because They Wanted To Buy An Existing Energy Company In The U.S., But Couldn’t If They Were Under Investigation For Corruption.

REP. JAMES COMER: “What the motive was, Larry, was they [Burisma] were wanting to enter into the U.S. energy market through an IPO, and they felt like they couldn’t conduct an initial public offering if they were under investigation for corruption in Ukraine. So that’s what it all pertained to. That’s where the supposed bribe happened [...] They also wanted to buy an existing energy company, and I believe it was in Texas.” [Fox Business, [6/12/23](#)]

Washington Post Fact-Checker Found That “The Facts Don’t Add Up” Regarding Burisma’s Deal With A Company Based In Texas.

“While the document recounts conversations that cannot be independently verified, The Fact Checker can shed light on a business transaction described in those conversations, comparing the document’s account with publicly available information. The transaction concerned the alleged desire of Mykola Zlochevsky, the chief executive of the Ukrainian gas firm Burisma, to purchase a U.S.-based company. During the period described in the document as starting in late 2015 and extending two or three months into 2016, Burisma did make a deal with a company based in Texas. This agreement sparked the interest of conservative media, as there are similarities to the FBI source’s account of what Burisma sought. But upon examination, the facts don’t add up.” [Washington Post, [8/30/23](#)]

- **The FBI Source Alleged Mykola Zlochevsky Paid Joe And Hunter Biden \$5 Million Each To “Deal With Shokin,” Which Runs Counter To Previous Reporting That Shokin Supported Burisma’s Actions.** “The FBI source alleges that Zlochevsky said he paid Joe and Hunter Biden each \$5 million to ‘deal with Shokin.’ The Shokin reference — suggesting Burisma wanted him fired — raises an immediate red flag about the accuracy of the allegation, as we have documented previously that Shokin was actually in Burisma’s camp, having not taken action against corruption to the frustration of the international community.” [Washington Post, [8/30/23](#)]
- **The FBI Source Recounted Two Meetings – In The First Meeting, The Source Claimed Zlochevsky Expressed Interest In Purchasing A U.S. Based Oil And Gas Business To Merge With Burisma.** “In the first of two meetings

recounted by the FBI's source, which is described as having taken place in Kyiv in late 2015 or 2016, the source details learning from a Burisma official of the company's 'interest in purchasing a US-based oil and gas business, for purposes of merging it with Burisma for purposes of conducting an IPO in the US.' The individual says Burisma was willing to spend \$20 million to \$30 million." [Washington Post, [8/30/23](#)]

In Testimony To Congress Devon Archer Refuted Allegations Made In The FD-1023 Form On Both The Impact Of Shokin's Firing And Burisma's Move Away From The Purchase Of A U.S.-Based Company

Devon Archer, Former Burisma Board Member, Testified To Lawmakers That Shokin's Firing Was A Setback To Burisma: "It Was Bad For Burisma." "Devon Archer, a fellow Burisma board member, said in a closed-door interview with lawmakers on July 31 that he was told at the time of Shokin's firing that it was a setback for the company, according to a transcript. 'That's what was I told, that it was bad for Burisma,' he said. 'But I don't know. I don't know if it was good or bad.'" [Washington Post, [8/30/23](#)]

- **Devon Archer Testified That Burisma Sought Asian Investors For Global Expansion Instead Of U.S. Expansion And Cited Companies To Back Up That Claim, Because "Things Got A Little Dicey" After Allegations Of Corruption At Burisma Were Disseminated.** "Archer said that when he and Hunter Biden were brought on the Burisma board in 2014, 'the initial idea was expansion into the U.S. by a small U.S. company.' But 'things got a little dicey' because of scrutiny of alleged corruption at Burisma, and instead they turned to finding Asian investors for global expansion, which Archer described as 'very successful.' As an example, he cited Burisma Geothermal, which was created in 2015. In other words, if Archer is to be believed, the idea of expanding into the United States had been put on the back burner by 2016 — when the FBI's source claimed Zlochevsky was still talking about it. However, we cannot rule out the possibility that Zlochevsky still had this aspiration or that he was simply showing off, as the person had indicated was common practice among business executives in that part of the world." [Washington Post, [8/30/23](#)]

The Only Deal With Ties To Texas Involving Burisma Occurred Prior To Shokin's Removal And Expanded Burisma's Gas Fields In Ukraine And Nowhere Else

In The Second Meeting, The FBI Source Alleged Zlochevsky Mentioned A U.S.-Based Gas Business In Texas After He Claimed Hunter Biden Advised Burisma "Could Raise More Capital If" They Were Involved In The U.S. Oil And Gas Sector. "In the second meeting, according to the individual, Zlochevsky supposedly said Hunter Biden had 'advised Burisma it could raise much more capital if Burisma purchased a larger US-based business that already had a history in the US oil and gas sector.' The person said Zlochevsky mentioned some U.S.-based gas businesses in Texas, the names of which the person did not recall." [Washington Post, [8/30/23](#)]

- **On January 2nd, 2016, Burisma Announced It Was Acquiring 70% Of A Canadian Company Whose Assets Were Gas Fields In Ukraine – The Unacquired Portion Of The Canadian Company Was Cub Energy, Which Was Based In Houston But Still Described As A Ukrainian Gas Company.** "As it happens, Burisma announced on Jan. 2, 2016, that it was acquiring 70 percent of a Canadian company for \$30 million. There is even a Texas connection. That would seem like a tantalizing confirmation that a deal took place as discussed. But here's the catch: The assets acquired by Burisma were gas fields in Ukraine — nothing was obtained in the United States — which would accord with Archer's suggestion that Burisma had ceased looking to expand in the United States. [...] What's the Texas connection? The part of the Canadian company not acquired by Burisma was owned by a Houston-based company called Cub Energy, which then acquired an additional 5 percent from Burisma. But again, this deal would not have provided any access to the U.S. market. Cub Energy, despite its Texas address, was consistently described as a Ukrainian gas company." [Washington Post, [8/30/23](#)]
- **No Emails On Hunter Biden's Laptop Contained A Mention Of Cub Energy Planning To Usher An Entry For Burisma To The United States.** "Burisma's connection to Cub Energy pops up occasionally in emails found on Hunter Biden's laptop, but none discussed it as part of a planned entry into the United States or the basis for a public offering." [Washington Post, [8/30/23](#)]
- **The Deal Referenced By The FBI Source Actually Expanded Burisma's Reach In Ukraine And Was Done Prior To Shokin's Ousting.** "The individual in the document repeatedly describes the transaction as a way for Burisma to enter the U.S. market, even a backdoor way to offer shares in the United States. Instead, this deal expanded Burisma's

reach in Ukraine. And Hunter Biden's email stash, assiduously mined by Republicans, also does not confirm that Burisma was seeking entry in the U.S. market when these alleged conversations took place. Moreover, the deal was completed before Shokin was fired under pressure from the international community for not acting against corruption." [Washington Post, [8/30/23](#)]

SENATOR CHUCK GRASSLEY ADMITTED REPUBLICANS DID NOT CARE IF ACCUSATIONS IN THE FD-1023 FORM WERE TRUE OR NOT, THEY JUST WANTED TO PUBLISH THEM

HEADLINE: "Republicans 'Not Interested' In Whether Biden Bribe Allegation Is True, Chuck Grassley Says" [Huffington Post, [6/1/23](#)]

Senator Chuck Grassley: "We Aren't Interested In Whether Or Not The Accusations Against Vice President Biden Are Accurate Or Not." FOX NEWS' BILL HEMMER: "Next topic, you talked to the FBI director Christopher Wray on the phone yesterday, right? And you're trying to get a look at this document. From what I understand he says you're okay to come to the Bureau and look at it. Is that the case and is that good enough for you?" SENATOR CHUCK GRASSLEY: "I have read that document, if he would read it, and it's an unclassified document, he admits it exists. And we aren't interested in whether or not the accusations against Vice President Biden are accurate or not. We're responsible for making sure the FBI does its job and that's what we want to know." [Fox News, America's Newsroom, [6/1/23](#)] (video)

- **Senator Chuck Grassley Admitted He Did Not Know If The Accusations In The FBI Document Were Accurate Or Not And He Was Not Interested In Figuring That Out.** FOX NEWS' BILL HEMMER: "Senator, how damning is this document to the sitting U.S. president?" GRASSLEY: "Well, its, I don't know that, and that what we need..." FOX NEWS' BILL HEMMER: "But you've read it." GRASSLEY: "I read it. Let's put it this way. There's accusations in it, but it's not for me to make a judgment about whether these accusations are accurate or not. It's up to my job to make sure the FBI's doing their job." [Fox News, America's Newsroom, [6/1/23](#)] (video)
- **HEADLINE: "Political Stunts' To Get 'Booked On Fox': White House Slams GOP Effort To Demand FBI Document On Biden"** [The Hill, [6/1/23](#)]
- **HEADLINE: "GOP Senator Admits Republicans Don't Care If Accusations Against Joe Biden Are 'Accurate'"** [New Republic, [6/1/23](#)]
- **HEADLINE: "Republican Says It Doesn't Matter If Joe Biden Accusations Are 'Accurate'"** [Newsweek, [6/1/23](#)]
- **HEADLINE: "Grassley Admits He Doesn't Care If GOP Accusations Against 'Vice President Biden' Are 'Accurate Or Not'"** [AlterNet, [6/1/23](#)]

HEADLINE: "An FBI Source, A Burisma Deal, The Bidens And Details That Don't Match Up" [Washington Post, [8/30/23](#)]

DOJ

PRESIDENT BIDEN KEPT THE TWO U.S. ATTORNEYS WHO WERE CONDUCTING INVESTIGATIONS THAT COULD HARM HIM POLITICALLY

The Two U.S. Attorneys The Biden Administration Did Not Ask To Resign Were The U.S. Attorney In Delaware, Who Was Investigating Hunter Biden, And Special Counsel John Durham, Who Was Investigating The Origins Of The Trump-Russia Probe. "The Biden administration will begin removing all Senate-confirmed U.S. attorneys appointed during the Trump administration, with two exceptions, a senior Justice Department official said. The process, which is not uncommon, could start as early as Tuesday. They will be asked to resign. John Durham will remain in place to investigate the

origins of the Russia probe, but not as U.S. attorney for the district of Connecticut, the official said. He was appointed as a special counsel and given extra protections for the inquiry by Attorney General William Barr last fall. David Weiss, U.S. attorney for Delaware, will also remain in place. Hunter Biden, the president's son, said in December that federal officials in Delaware were investigating his taxes.” [NBC News, [2/8/21](#)]

Appointed By President Trump, David Weiss, A Republican Who Has Been Described As A “Straight Shooter,” Was Confirmed By Voice Vote In 2018

CBS News Reported David Weiss, A 66-Year-Old Republican, Was Described As A “Straight Shooter” And Neither A “Trumper” Nor Is He Close To Biden. “The 66-year-old Weiss, a Republican, will have to decide whether there is sufficient evidence to seek a federal grand jury indictment against the son of a sitting president, Democrat Joseph Biden. ‘David is a straight shooter,’ said a former close associate of Weiss who spoke to CBS News on condition of anonymity. The former associate described Weiss as a moderate Republican who is apolitical in his work. ‘He is not a Trumper nor is he close to Biden.’” [CBS News, [4/14/22](#)]

February 2018: David Weiss Was Confirmed By The U.S. Senate To Be A U.S. Attorney By Voice Vote. According to the actions taken on PN1313 during the 115th Congress on David Weiss being confirmed as a U.S. Attorney “02/15/18 Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.” [PN1313 — David C. Weiss — Department of Justice, 115th Congress, [2/15/18](#)]

BOTH ATTORNEY GENERAL GARLAND AND U.S. ATTORNEY DAVID WEISS HAVE DENIED ALLEGATIONS OF WRONGDOING IN WEISS’S INVESTIGATION

HEADLINE: “Garland Denies Allegations Of Politics Impacting Hunter Biden Plea Deal” [Politico, [6/23/23](#)]

- **Attorney General Merrick Garland Said U.S. Attorney David Weiss Was “Permitted To Continue His Investigation And To Make A Decision To Prosecute Any Way In Which He Wanted To And In Any District In Which He Wanted To.”** “Attorney General Merrick Garland on Friday forcefully rejected allegations from congressional Republicans and an Internal Revenue Service whistleblower that political considerations impacted the federal investigation into Hunter Biden. ‘As I said at the outset, Mr. [David] Weiss, who was appointed by President [Donald] Trump as the U.S. Attorney in Delaware and assigned this matter during a previous administration, would be permitted to continue his investigation and to make a decision to prosecute any way in which he wanted to and in any district in which he wanted to,’ Garland said during a press conference at Justice Department headquarters about a crackdown on fentanyl precursors.” [Politico, [6/23/23](#)]
- **Attorney General Merrick Garland: “[Weiss] Was Given Complete Authority To Make All Decisions On His Own.”** “I don’t know how it would be possible for anybody to block him from bringing a prosecution given that he has this authority,’ Garland added. ‘He was given complete authority to make all decisions on his own.’” [Politico, [6/23/23](#)]

U.S. Attorney David Weiss Sent A Letter To Congress On June 7th, 2023 Which Said He Had Been, “Granted Ultimate Authority Over This Matter, Including Responsibility For Deciding Where, When And Whether To File Charges.” “Mr. Weiss said in a letter to Congress this month that he had not been constrained in pursuing the investigation. Mr. Weiss said in the letter, dated June 7, that he had been ‘granted ultimate authority over this matter, including responsibility for deciding where, when and whether to file charges.’” [New York Times, [6/27/23](#)]

JUNE 7, 2023: U.S. ATTORNEY DAVID WEISS TOLD CONGRESS HE HAD BEEN “GRANTED ULTIMATE AUTHORITY” IN THE HUNTER BIDEN CASE

U.S. Attorney David Weiss Sent A Letter On June 7th 2023 Which Said He Had Been, “Granted Ultimate Authority Over This Matter, Including Responsibility For Deciding Where, When And Whether To File Charges.” “Mr. Weiss said in the letter, dated June 7, that he had been ‘granted ultimate authority over this matter, including responsibility for deciding where, when and whether to file charges.’” [New York Times, [6/27/23](#)]

U.S. Attorney David Weiss Told Congress That He Had The Option To Overrule Other U.S. Attorneys To Be Able To Charge In Their Districts If He Chose To Do So

U.S. Attorney David Weiss Did Not Deny That Offices Turned Down His Request To Bring Charges, But Backed Up Attorney General Merrick Garland Who Said Weiss Had The Option To Overrule Other Prosecutors If He Chose To Reach Out. “While Mr. Weiss did not deny that [California and D.C.] offices had turned down his request to bring the more serious charges, he backed up Attorney General Merrick B. Garland’s public statement that he had been given full authority in the case, and that he had the option of overruling prosecutors by simply reaching out to Mr. Garland or his top aides. As the U.S. attorney in Delaware, ‘my charging authority is geographically limited to my home district,’ wrote Mr. Weiss. ‘If venue for a case lies elsewhere, common departmental practice is to contact the United States Attorney’s Office for the district in question and determine whether it wants to partner on the case,’ he added. ‘If not, I may request special attorney status.’” [New York Times, [7/1/23](#)]

- **U.S. Attorney David Weiss Clarified To Jim Jordan: “I Have Been Assured That, If Necessary After The Above Process, I Would Be Granted § 515 Authority In The District Of Columbia, The Central District Of California, Or Any Other District Where Charges Could Be Brought In This Matter.”** “Mr. Weiss did not address those issues explicitly in the letter he sent to Mr. Jordan on Friday. But he said that if he wanted to bring charges against Mr. Biden in California or Washington, he would do so without concern about being blocked by the department’s leadership. ‘I have been assured that, if necessary after the above process, I would be granted § 515 Authority in the District of Columbia, the Central District of California, or any other district where charges could be brought in this matter,’” he wrote, referring to the section of federal law that defines the role of a special attorney.” [New York Times, [7/1/23](#)]
- **U.S. Attorney David Weiss Sent Another Letter To House Republicans On July 1st, 2023 To Defend The Integrity Of His Investigation Into Hunter Biden.** “David C. Weiss, an appointee of former President Donald J. Trump held over by the Biden administration, defended the integrity of his investigation in a two-page letter sent to House Republicans late Friday” [New York Times, [7/1/23](#)]

U.S. ATTORNEY DAVID WEISS TOLD CONGRESS HE HAD NOT REQUESTED SPECIAL COUNSEL STATUS AND HAD NOT BEEN DENIED AUTHORITY TO BRING CHARGES ANYWHERE IN THE UNITED STATES

July 2023: U.S. Attorney David Weiss Told Senator Lindsey Graham That He Had Not Asked To Be Named As Special Counsel And Was Never Refused Any Authority To Bring Charges Anywhere In The U.S. “US Attorney David Weiss, who is overseeing the Hunter Biden criminal probe, says in a letter obtained by CNN that he did not ask to be named as a special counsel and was never refused authority to bring charges anywhere in the country, refuting two key allegations from IRS whistleblowers. Weiss’ comments, in a letter sent Monday to GOP Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, go against claims from IRS whistleblower Gary Shapley and one of his deputies, who said they witnessed political interference in investigation of President Joe Biden’s son.” [CNN, [7/10/23](#)]

U.S. Attorney David Weiss Told Congress He Never Requested Special Counsel Status, But Explored The Possibility Of Becoming A “Special Attorney” Under A Different Statute. “Since, Shapley’s allegation came to light in June, Weiss has told Congress that he had never requested special counsel status, but rather explored becoming a ‘special attorney’ under a different statute.” [CNN, [9/19/23](#)]

WHEN U.S. ATTORNEY DAVID WEISS LATER REQUESTED SPECIAL COUNSEL STATUS, HE WAS GRANTED IT

When U.S. Attorney David Weiss Later Requested Special Counsel Status, He Was Granted It. “After Hunter Biden’s plea deal fell apart, Weiss did request and was granted special counsel status. Weiss has offered to testify to Congress, but securing that testimony is more difficult now that he is a special counsel overseeing the ongoing criminal probe.” [CNN, [9/19/23](#)]

U.S. ATTORNEY DAVID WEISS DENIED ALLEGATIONS OF RETALIATION AGAINST IRS WHISTLEBLOWERS

HEADLINE: “U.S. Attorney In Hunter Biden Case Defends Investigation To House Republicans” [New York Times, [7/1/23](#)]

- **U.S. Attorney David Weiss Denied Retaliating Against An I.R.S Official Who Disclosed Details Of The Hunter Biden Investigation.** “The U.S. attorney in Delaware denied retaliating against an I.R.S. official who had disclosed details of the Hunter Biden investigation, and denied being blocked from pursuing serious charges against Mr. Biden, the president’s son, in Los Angeles and Washington.” [New York Times, [7/1/23](#)]
- **U.S. Attorney David Weiss Wrote To House Judiciary Committee Chair Jim Jordan That The Department Of Justice “Did Not Retaliate” Against Gary Shapley, The IRS Whistleblower.** “The Department of Justice ‘did not retaliate’ against Gary Shapley, who claims Mr. Weiss helped block a promotion he had sought after reaching out to congressional investigators, Mr. Weiss wrote in the letter to Representative Jim Jordan of Ohio, the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee.” [New York Times, [7/1/23](#)]

TESTIMONY FROM MULTIPLE WITNESSES TO CONGRESS DISPUTED ALLEGATIONS OF POLITICAL INTERFERENCE IN THE HUNTER BIDEN CASE

HEADLINE: “Witness Testimony Disputes IRS Whistleblower Allegations In Hunter Biden Probe As Republicans Begin Impeachment Inquiry” [CNN, [9/19/23](#)]

September 2023: During Congressional Testimony Three Witnesses From The FBI And IRS Disputed Allegations Of Political Interference In The Federal Government’s Hunter Biden Case. “In testimony this month, three witnesses from the F.B.I. and the I.R.S. have contradicted key assertions made by a whistle-blower who claimed there was political interference in the Justice Department’s tax case against Mr. Biden’s son, Hunter, according to hundreds of pages of transcripts obtained by The New York Times.” [New York Times, [9/15/23](#)]

Witnesses Told Congress They Did Not Think The Hunter Biden Investigation Had Been Politicized

HEADLINE: “Former FBI Agent Says He Was Not Aware Of Interference In Hunter Biden Probe” [Reuters, [8/14/23](#)]

IRS Criminal Investigation Division Special Agent In Charge Told Congress “No,” When Asked If He Thought The Investigation Into Hunter Biden Had Been Politicized. “Mr. Shapley’s former boss, Darrell Waldon, the special agent in charge of the Internal Revenue Service’s criminal investigation division, also told lawmakers on the Ways and Means Committee that he did not witness any political interference. Asked if the case had been politicized, Mr. Waldon said flatly: ‘No.’” [New York Times, [9/15/23](#)]

FBI Assistant Special Agent In Charge Told Congress She Did Not Think Anyone Involved In The Hunter Biden Investigation Was Politicizing It. “Investigators also asked Ryeshia Holley, assistant special agent in charge with the F.B.I., whether Mr. Weiss had stated that he was not the person who would decide whether charges were filed in the Hunter Biden case. [...] The witnesses also testified that while they agreed with Mr. Shapley’s concerns that the investigation into Hunter Biden moved too slowly, they did not believe it was because of political interference. ‘I did not think anyone involved in the ongoing matter was politicizing it,’ Ms. Holley said.” [New York Times, [9/15/23](#)]

An FBI Agent Managing The Team On The Justice Department’s Case Against Hunter Biden Testified To Congress That U.S. Attorney David Weiss Had Ultimate Authority Over The Case. “The FBI agent managing the team on the Hunter Biden criminal case testified to the House Judiciary Committee that US Attorney David Weiss had ultimate authority over the case, contesting testimony brought forward by whistleblowers. Thomas Sobocinski, the special agent in charge of the FBI’s Baltimore field office, told committee investigators in a closed-door interview last week that from his

perspective, Weiss had the authority to bring forward whatever charges he wanted in whatever venue he preferred.” [CNN, [9/13/23](#)]

- **HEADLINE: “F.B.I. Agent Undercuts Claims Of Political Interference In Hunter Biden Inquiry”** [New York Times, [9/12/23](#)]

A High-Ranking FBI Agent Said He Had No Reason To Believe President Biden Interfered In Any Way In The Federal Government’s Investigation Into Hunter Biden

A High-Ranking FBI Agent Said He Had No Reason To Believe That President Biden Interfered In Any Way In The Federal Government’s Investigation Into Hunter Biden. According to a [New York Times](#) article about a high-ranking FBI agent that disputed allegations made by IRS whistleblowers about the federal government’s investigation into Hunter Biden: “During the interview, Mr. Sobocinski also pushed back against other claims of political interference. He was asked, ‘Do you have any reason to believe President Biden interfered in this investigation in any way?’ ‘No,’ he replied.” [New York Times, [9/12/23](#)]

Witnesses Disputed Allegations That U.S. Attorney David Weiss Told Investigators He Was Not The Deciding Person On Whether To File Charges Against Hunter Biden

FBI Assistant Special Agent In Charge Told Congress She Did Not Remember U.S. Attorney David Weiss Saying He Was Not The Person Who Would Decide Whether Or Not To File Charges In The Hunter Biden Case, As IRS Whistleblowers Alleged. “Investigators also asked Ryeshia Holley, assistant special agent in charge with the F.B.I., whether Mr. Weiss had stated that he was not the person who would decide whether charges were filed in the Hunter Biden case. ‘I don’t remember him saying that,’ she testified.” [New York Times, [9/15/23](#)]

FBI Special Agent In Charge Of The Baltimore Field Office Said He Did Not Remember U.S. Attorney David Weiss Saying He Was Not The Deciding Person On Whether To Bring Charges In The Hunter Biden Case, And If Weiss Had Said That He Would Have Remembered It. “In their recent testimony, the other FBI and IRS officials in the October 2022 meeting have supported Weiss’s version of events on several key points of contention, particularly his allegation that Weiss said he was ‘not the deciding person’ on whether to bring charges. ‘I do not remember – I don’t – he didn’t say that. In my recollection, if he would have said that, I would have remembered it,’ Thomas Sobocinski, the special agent in charge of the FBI’s Baltimore field office, told the committee.” [CNN, [9/19/23](#)]

IRS Special Agent In Charge Of The Washington, DC Field Office Said He Did Not Recall U.S. Attorney David Weiss Ever Saying That He Was Not The Deciding Person On Whether To File Charges In The Hunter Biden Case. “In their recent testimony, the other FBI and IRS officials in the October 2022 meeting have supported Weiss’s version of events on several key points of contention, particularly his allegation that Weiss said he was ‘not the deciding person’ on whether to bring charges. [...] ‘I do not recall that ever being said,’ said Darrell Waldon, who was previously Shapley’s boss as the IRS special agent in charge of the Washington, DC, field office overseeing criminal investigations.” [CNN, [9/19/23](#)]

Witnesses Said They Did Not Remember U.S. Attorney David Weiss Bringing Up Any Discussion Of Special Counsel Authority During An October 2022 Meeting About The Hunter Biden Case

Three Witnesses Said They Did Not Remember U.S. Attorney David Weiss Bringing Up Any Discussion Of Special Counsel Authority During An October 2022 Meeting About The Hunter Biden Case. “When emailing his supervisor about the October 2022 meeting later the same day, Shapley claimed that Weiss stated he requested special counsel authority, and that the Justice Department ‘denied his request and told him to follow the process.’ Waldon responded to the 2022 email at the time by saying, ‘thanks, Gary. You covered it all.’ But when pressed by committee investigators earlier about it this month, Waldon said, ‘I agreed that he covered it all, but, in terms of the word ‘special counsel’ being requested, I don’t recall those words being used.’ Both Holley and Sobocinski also said they did not remember Weiss bringing up any discussion of special counsel authority during the meeting.” [CNN, [9/19/23](#)]

- **An FBI Agent Managing The Team On The Justice Department’s Case Against Hunter Biden Disputed Allegations That U.S. Attorney David Weiss Was Previously Denied Special Counsel Status And Venues To Bring Forward Charges.** “Sobocinski also disputed Shapley’s claim that Weiss said in the October 2022 meeting he was

denied special counsel status and denied venues to bring forward charges. Sobocinski told the House Judiciary panel he was informed of Weiss' special counsel status the day Attorney General Merrick Garland announced it last month, and that Weiss was not previously denied special counsel status as Shapley has claimed. 'I don't have a recollection with him saying that there or at any point in my communication with Mr. Weiss,' Sobocinski said. 'That would have been a total 180 from all our previous conversations about authorities.'" [CNN, [9/13/23](#)]

U.S. ATTORNEY DAVID WEISS BROUGHT IN "HARD-CHARGING" FEDERAL PROSECUTORS KNOWN FOR ANTI-CORRUPTION WORK TO HELP WITH THE HUNTER BIDEN CASE

U.S. Attorney David Weiss Brought In Leo Wise And Derek Hines To Lead The Prosecution Of Hunter Biden.

"While Weiss has stayed on overseeing both the Hunter Biden probes and other federal cases in Delaware, the court filings Tuesday show he brought in a pair of hard-charging federal prosecutors from out of state to deal with the potential prosecution of the president's son: Leo Wise and Derek Hines. Wise and Hines are best known for prosecuting flagrant corruption in a Baltimore Police Department Gun Trace Task Force. Eight police officers went to prison in connection with the probe, which charged cops with racketeering for robbing residents of money and drugs." [Politico, [6/20/23](#)]

- **Leo Wise And Derek Hines Were Known For Prosecuting Flagrant Corruption In The Baltimore Police Department, Which Resulted In Eight Police Officers Going To Prison.** "While Weiss has stayed on overseeing both the Hunter Biden probes and other federal cases in Delaware, the court filings Tuesday show he brought in a pair of hard-charging federal prosecutors from out of state to deal with the potential prosecution of the president's son: Leo Wise and Derek Hines. Wise and Hines are best known for prosecuting flagrant corruption in a Baltimore Police Department Gun Trace Task Force. Eight police officers went to prison in connection with the probe, which charged cops with racketeering for robbing residents of money and drugs." [Politico, [6/20/23](#)]
- **Leo Wise Led The Prosecution Of General James "Hoss" Cartwright For Lying To Investigators Looking Into Leaks About Top Secret U.S. Efforts To Disrupt Iran's Nuclear Program.** "Wise, whose book on the investigation was published in April, also led the prosecution of Gen. James 'Hoss' Cartwright for lying to investigators probing leaks about top-secret U.S. efforts to disrupt Iran's nuclear program. Cartwright pleaded guilty to a false statements charge, but President Barack Obama pardoned the retired 4-star Marine Corps general, who had served as vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff." [Politico, [6/20/23](#)]

MULTIPLE LEGAL EXPERTS HAVE WEIGHED IN AND CONCLUDED HUNTER BIDEN'S PLEAD DEAL WAS NO "SWEETHEART DEAL" – IT WAS THE OUTCOME OF HALF A DECADE OF FEDERAL INVESTIGATIONS

HEADLINE: "Did Hunter Biden Get Off Easy? Republicans Think So—Here's What Legal Experts Say" [Forbes, [6/20/23](#)]

- **Former Federal Prosecutor And New York University Professor Andrew Weissman Described Hunter Biden's Penalties In Both The Tax And Gun Case As "If Anything Harsh, Not Lenient."** "NYU Law professor and former federal prosecutor Andrew Weissmann also described Biden's penalties in both cases as 'if anything harsh, not lenient,' noting prosecutions for first-time tax offenses and false applications for a gun purchase seldom lead to jail time or even prosecutions." [Forbes, [6/20/23](#)]
- **Ohio State Law Professor, Douglas Berman, Argued Prosecutors Brought Forward Charges Because Hunter Is The President's Son, And To Prevent Claims Of A Two-Tiered Justice System.** "Ohio State University law professor Douglas Berman suggested that prosecutors may have brought the charges because Biden is the president's son, telling The New York Times that in most instances, the charges he faces are typically attached to more serious offenses, but in this case, 'failure to bring some charges when there is no factual dispute . . . could create the impression of a two-tiered system of justice.'" [Forbes, [6/20/23](#)]

- **Michael Weinstein, Former Federal Prosecutor, Predicted Hunter Biden Was “Not Going To Prison” For The Tax Charges Given His Status As A First-Time Offender.** “Michael Weinstein, a former federal prosecutor and chair of the White Collar Criminal Defense & Government Investigations Practice at Cole Schotz, predicted Biden is also ‘not going to prison’ for the tax charges, he told Reuters, given his status as a first-time offender, his willingness to plead guilty and the amount of back taxes he owed, which reportedly totaled \$1.2 million that he has since paid back.” [Forbes, [6/20/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “Did Hunter Biden Get Off Easy? We Asked The Experts.” [Politico, [6/21/23](#)]

- **Former IRS Lawyer, Maggie Abdo-Gomes, Argued It Was Rare For People To Face Criminal Charges For Failing To Pay Taxes And “The Laws Were Enforced As If It Had Been Anybody Else. ‘I Would Say Probably A Little Stricter, Because Failure To Pay Is Very Common.”** “The Truth “Maggie Abdo-Gomez, a Miami tax attorney and former IRS lawyer, said it’s rare for people to face criminal charges for simply failing to pay their taxes. ‘I’ve only seen them — one time — prosecute someone for failure to pay taxes,’ she said. ‘Because the truth is, if we prosecuted for failure to pay taxes, the jails would be full. Forget the drug dealers and the murderers and everybody else. I have a small practice, and I’ve got tons of people that owe taxes.’ ‘The laws were enforced as if it had been anybody else,’ she added, regarding Hunter’s case. ‘I would say probably a little stricter, because failure to pay is very common.’” [Politico, [6/21/23](#)]
- **Obama Justice Department Tax Division Head Caroline Ciralo Said The DOJ Typically Would Have Brought Tougher Charges If It Had The Evidence That Hunter Biden Lied, But “That’s Not The Case Here” And Five Years Of Investigations Under Two Administrations Investigated The Issue.** “Caroline Ciralo, acting head of the Justice Department’s Tax Division for the last year of the Obama administration, said the case’s resolution didn’t strike her as outside the norm. If the Justice Department had found evidence that Hunter Biden lied or took other ‘affirmative acts’ to dodge his taxes, he likely would have faced tougher charges, she said. ‘If there was evidence of affirmative conduct, then under DOJ policy the charge would have been felony evasion of payment,’ she added. ‘And that’s not the case here. And after five years and an investigation that crossed two administrations on different sides of the aisle, I would imagine that if there was evidence of affirmative conduct, we would not be looking at the information we’re looking at right now.’” [Politico, [6/21/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “Legal Experts Cast Doubt On GOP Claims Of A ‘Sweetheart Deal’ In Hunter Biden Case” [CNN Politics, [6/21/23](#)]

- **Martin Sheil, Former Supervisory Special Agent For The IRS Criminal Investigation, Argued If Hunter Biden’s Name Was John Doe, No Criminal Tax Prosecution Would’ve Been Contemplated.** “If Hunter Biden’s name was John or Jane Doe, no criminal tax prosecution would have ever been contemplated and he would have almost certainly been slotted into a pre-trial diversion program, saving the government the time and expense of a trial,’ said Martin Sheil, a former supervisory special agent in the IRS Criminal Investigation.” [CNN Politics, [6/21/23](#)]
- **Former Federal Prosecutor, Shan Wu, Argued If Hunter’s Last Name “Was Not Biden I Don’t Think He Would’ve Been Charged.”** “If his last name was not Biden I don’t think he would have been charged,’ Shan Wu, a former federal prosecutor and CNN contributor, told CNN’s Kate Bolduan on ‘CNN News Central.’ ‘Typically in tax cases where the person has paid back the taxes, appetite for going after them criminally is low.’” [CNN Politics, [6/21/23](#)]
- **Former U.S. Attorney, Michael Moore, Argued Hunter Biden Was “Probably More Severely Looked At” And That Hunter Was “Treated Differently To His Detriment.”** “There’s nothing to this and they’re just trying to make much ado about nothing. He was probably more severely looked at. And remember this was a Trump-appointed prosecutor who remained in place to finish this case,’ Michael Moore, a former US attorney, told Bolduan on ‘CNN News Central.’ ‘You know, he was treated differently,’ Moore said. ‘But he was treated differently to his detriment.’” [CNN Politics, [6/21/23](#)]

Even Former Federal Prosecutor And Current Congressman Dan Goldman Argued The “Unusual Aspect” Of Hunter’s Case Is That “He Was Charged Criminally At All”

Rep. Dan Goldman Tweeted That The Unusual Aspect Of Hunter Biden’s Case Was That “He Was Charged Criminally At All” And Compared His Case To That Of Roger Stone, Who Failed To Pay Nearly \$2 Million Worth

Of Taxes. “From 2007 until 2021, Roger Stone failed to pay \$2 million in taxes and used shell companies to hide the money from the IRS. His case was resolved civilly without any criminal charges. The unusual aspect of Hunter’s case is that he was charged criminally at all.” [Daniel Goldman, Twitter, [6/20/23](#)]

EXPERTS SAID THE CHARGES FILED AGAINST HUNTER BIDEN LIKELY WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN PURSUED AGAINST AN AVERAGE AMERICAN

Former U.S. Attorney Harry Litman: “A Prosecution Of A Defendant Who Committed Tax Crimes During A Period Of Drug Addiction, And Then Turned His Life Around And Paid The Taxes, Would Be Very Losable.” According to an op-ed by former U.S. Attorney Harry Litman: “The bottom line is that both sides had plenty to gain or lose from the Hunter Biden case, and that may well have helped produce a sensible bargain. The proposed deal, which is subject to approval by a judge, would allow Biden to avoid going to jail and turn the page on an extremely dark chapter of his life. And it would enable Weiss and his department to obtain a conviction and avoid trying a case with dubious prospects before a jury. A prosecution of a defendant who committed tax crimes during a period of drug addiction, and then turned his life around and paid the taxes, would be very losable.” [Los Angeles Times, Harry Litman Op-Ed, [6/20/23](#)]

Former Federal Prosecutor Shan Wu: “For The Facts We Are Seeing Here, What He’s Pleading Guilty To, I Think Someone Other Than The Child Of A Sitting President Would Not Have Been Charged Based On The Facts That We’re Seeing Here.” FORMER FEDERAL PROSECUTOR SHAN WU: “It seems very reasonable actually and my reaction is kind of the opposite of what we’re hearing and going to be hearing about complaints that there is favoritism, or a sweetheart deal given to Hunter Biden. My reaction to it actually is that for the facts we are seeing here, what he’s pleading guilty to, I think someone other than the child of a sitting president would not have been charged based on the facts that we’re seeing here.” [ABC News, Live, [6/20/23](#)] (video)

Sources Said It Was Common For Prosecutors To Strike Deals With Defendants Where The Defendant Pleads Guilty To A Small Subset Of Potential Charges

Sources Told CNN It Was Common For Prosecutors To Strike Deals With Defendants Where The Defendant Pleads Guilty To Small Subset Of Potential Charges They Could Have Faced. “Sources familiar with the criminal probe told CNN in April that prosecutors were still actively weighing a felony tax charge against Hunter Biden. And it is common for prosecutors to strike deals with defendants where they plead guilty to a small subset of the possible charges they could’ve faced.” [CNN, [6/22/23](#)]

Vox Reported That Hunter Biden Admitted To Committing Federal Crimes And Will Plead Guilty And In Exchange More Serious Charges Will Not Be Brought Against Him, Which Is “How The System Often Works.” “Yet it should be noted that Hunter was not let off the hook — he admitted to committing federal crimes and will plead guilty. In exchange, some more serious charges will not be brought and prosecutors will recommend a lighter sentence than they otherwise might have. That is how the system often works. Furthermore, the investigation into him isn’t yet over.” [Vox, [5/12/23](#)]

- **Vox: “If [Trump] Had Simply Returned The Documents When Repeatedly Asked By Government Officials, He Would Likely Have Been Spared Charges. But He Did Not Do So.”** “Trump, on the other hand, has shown no sign that he ever seriously considered admitting any criminal behavior or agreeing to any plea deal in the documents case. If he had simply returned the documents when repeatedly asked by government officials, he would likely have been spared charges. But he did not do so.” [Vox, [5/12/23](#)]

Experts Said It Was Not Unusual For Prosecutors And Investigators To Disagree Over What Charges To File Against A Defendant

Former Federal Prosecutor Shan Wu: “Those Sorts Of Disagreements Are Pretty Common Between Agents And Prosecutors. Sometimes One Side Wants To Be More Aggressive, Sometimes The Other. So The Fact That There’s Disagreement Is Not Unusual.” FORMER FEDERAL PROSECUTOR SHAN WU: “I think the ultimate question is whether Weiss felt that he had the authority. He’s a Trump appointee, a holdover. Garland obviously made that calculation to

look really hands off to let him stay on and do it. It wasn't a particularly speedy investigation either. It took quite a while. And those sorts of disagreements are pretty common between agents and prosecutors. Sometimes one side wants to be more aggressive, sometimes the other. So the fact that there's disagreement is not unusual, it's also a bit unrealistic for them to say the Justice Department hasn't been totally transparent about the whole investigation. That doesn't happen in criminal investigations. You basically just get the evidence, you get the result. And I think the, you know, key is whether Weiss felt any pressure and at least what he's saying is absolutely not.” [CNN, News Central; [6/23/23](#)] (video)

CNN Reported That It Was Not Uncommon For There To Be Internal Disagreements Among Investigators Over Which Charges To File Against Someone. “It isn’t uncommon for there to be internal disagreements among investigators over which charges to file against the target of an investigation, much like the disagreements that the IRS whistleblowers described. CNN reported last year that some FBI and IRS investigators were at odds with other Justice Department officials over the strength of the case, and that there were discussions over which types of charges were appropriate and whether further investigation was needed.” [CNN, [6/22/23](#)]

New York Times: “Investigators Like Mr. Shapley Whose Job It Is To Uncover Evidence Often Have Different Perspectives From Prosecutors Who Have To Take Into Account How To Treat Defendants Fairly And Present Cases To Juries.” “But it remains unclear how much of the difference in the accounts reflects possible factors like miscommunication, clashing substantive judgments among agencies over how best to pursue a prosecution, or personal enmity among officials working on a high-pressure, high-profile case. Investigators like Mr. Shapley whose job it is to uncover evidence often have different perspectives from prosecutors who have to take into account how to treat defendants fairly and present cases to juries.” [New York Times, [6/27/23](#)]

Vox: “Agents And Prosecutors Often Come To Different Views On This — With Agents Typically Believing Their Case Is Strong, And Prosecutors Feeling More Cautious.” “Prosecutors have a different institutional role than agents, though. Per DOJ, they’re tasked with assessing whether ‘the admissible evidence will probably be sufficient to obtain and sustain a conviction.’ Agents and prosecutors often come to different views on this — with agents typically believing their case is strong, and prosecutors feeling more cautious. The Journal also reported that prosecutors were ‘struggling’ with whether ‘certain facts,’ such as Hunter’s ‘drug addiction,’ could make convicting him difficult (since his attorneys could argue he was not of sound mind).” [Vox, [5/12/23](#)]

Prosecutors And Investigators Told The Independent It Was Not Unheard Of For Conflicts To Arise Between Special Agents And U.S. Attorneys, Especially When Investigators Felt There Was Sufficient Evidence To Support Charges, But Prosecutors Were Skeptical It Would Meet Legal Requirements To Obtain Convictions That Can Be Sustained On Appeal. “Because federal criminal investigators have no formal role in prosecutors’ decisions to seek charges or decline to prosecute in a particular case, it’s not unheard of for conflicts to arise between special agents and US attorneys, especially when the agents feel prosecutors are reluctant to bring evidence they’ve gathered to a grand jury for indictments. Yet even when investigators feel there is sufficient evidence to support charges, prosecutors often balk at presenting that evidence for indictments because they better understand the legal requirements to obtain convictions that can be sustained on appeal.” [The Independent, [5/26/23](#)]

New York Times Reported It Was “Unclear” How Much The Difference In Accounts About The Hunter Biden Case “Reflects Possible Factors Like Miscommunication, Clashing Substantive Judgments Among Agencies Over How Best To Pursue A Prosecution, Or Personal Enmity Among Officials Working On A High-Pressure, High-Profile Case.” “But it remains unclear how much of the difference in the accounts reflects possible factors like miscommunication, clashing substantive judgments among agencies over how best to pursue a prosecution, or personal enmity among officials working on a high-pressure, high-profile case. Investigators like Mr. Shapley whose job it is to uncover evidence often have different perspectives from prosecutors who have to take into account how to treat defendants fairly and present cases to juries.” [New York Times, [6/27/23](#)]

Suspicious Activity Reports

SPEAKER MCCARTHY CITED SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTS AS A JUSTIFICATION FOR OPENING AN IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY...

Speaker Kevin McCarthy Cited Suspicious Activity Reports (SARS) As Evidence To Justify Opening An Impeachment Inquiry Into President Biden. HOUSE SPEAKER KEVIN MCCARTHY: “The Treasury department alone has more than 150 transactions involving the Biden family and other business associates that were flagged as suspicious activity by U.S. banks.” [CSPAN, Press Conference, House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, [9/12/23](#)] (video)

...BUT NONE OF THE SARS RELATED TO HUNTER BIDEN SHOWED THAT JOE BIDEN WAS CONNECTED TO THE BUSINESSES NOR DID THEY PROVIDE PROOF OF WRONGDOING

HEADLINE: “Fact-Checking McCarthy’s Claims While Launching Biden Impeachment Inquiry” [CNN, [9/13/23](#)]

Washington Post Fact Checker Said Suspicious Activity Reports Are “Merely Tips” That Need To Be Vetted, Confirmed, And Possibly Investigated. “[Comer] needs to get his facts straight. Even if as many as 150 SARs were filed concerning Hunter Biden’s business dealings — a number that remains unconfirmed — that does not mean that he committed ‘serious crimes’ or that banks were ‘pretty confident’ that a serious crime was committed. Instead, these reports are merely tips that something may be suspicious — raw intelligence that still needs to be vetted, confirmed and possibly investigated. Comer earns Three Pinocchios.” [Washington Post, Fact Checker, [10/19/22](#)]

CNN Reported That Suspicious Activity Reports Do Not Prove Wrongdoing And Are Reported Out Of An Abundance Of Caution, But None Of The Hunter Biden-Related SARS Showed That President Joe Biden Was Connected To The Business Deals. “Facts First: The existence of these suspicious activity reports don’t prove wrongdoing on their own. The filing of a ‘suspicious activity report,’ or SAR, does not prove wrongdoing. Such reports are not conclusive, and are akin to the bank providing a tip to investigators, out of an abundance of caution. Financial institutions file millions of SARs each year, but few lead to law enforcement inquiries. According to reports issued by House Republicans, some of these SARs show that banks flagged dozens of wire transfers involving Hunter Biden, whom the banks described as a “politically exposed person” with ‘negative media for possible political corruption.’ But none of the SARS related to Hunter Biden have shown that Joe Biden was involved in the business deals.” [CNN [9/13/23](#)]

Forbes Reported That Banks Are Required To File Suspicious Activity Reports With The Federal Government, But They Are Generally Not Proof Of Criminality. “In addition, McCarthy cited Suspicious Activity Reports that detail various foreign transactions Hunter Biden and his business partners engaged in—banks are required to file these reports on a routine basis with the federal government to flag potential illegal activity, but they generally are not proof of criminality on their own.” [Forbes, [9/12/23](#)]

Meanwhile, One Of The Impeachment Inquiry Heads Has A Congressional District That Had More Than 2.4 Million Suspicious Activity Reports Filed Within It In A Period Of Nine Years

FinCEN Reports That There Have Been More Than 2.4 Million SARS Filed In Jim Jordan’s District Since 2014. [FinCEN, accessed [3/1/23](#)]

- **FinCEN’s Website Shows The Number Of SARS Per County Since 2014 And Allows Someone To Run A Search With Of All SARS For The Counties In Ohio’s Fourth District.** [FinCEN, accessed [3/1/23](#)]
- **The Counties Of Ohio’s Fourth District Include Allen, Ashland, Auglaize, Champaign, Delaware, Hardin, Logan, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Shelby, Union, And Wyandot.** [Ohio Secretary of State, accessed [3/2/23](#)]
- **Ohio’s 4th District Has 716,177 People – That Means That Over The Last Nine Years, There Were More Than Three SARS Filed Per Person In Jim Jordan’s District.** [Ballotpedia, accessed [3/2/23](#)]

Republican’s Parade Of Terrible Witnesses

IN THEIR PURSUIT OF NONEXISTENT EVIDENCE, HOUSE REPUBLICANS ELEVATED AN INDICTED WITNESS WHO HELPED CEFC INFILTRATE THE FORMER PRESIDENT-ELECT DONALD TRUMP'S TEAM

HEADLINE: “The G.O.P. Backed Him on Hunter Biden Claims. Now He Has Been Indicted.” [New York Times, [7/11/23](#)]

Rep. James Comer Referred To Gal Luft As A “Very Credible Witness On Biden Family Corruption.” “Representative James R. Comer, Republican of Kentucky and the chairman of the House Oversight Committee, recently described Mr. Luft as a ‘very credible witness on Biden family corruption’ and said that he hoped to interview him, regardless of the government’s allegations.” [New York Times, [7/11/23](#)]

DOJ ACCUSED GAL LUFT OF BEING AN UNREGISTERED FOREIGN AGENT FOR CHINA, AN INTERNATIONAL ARMS TRAFFICKER, VIOLATING U.S. SANCTIONS ON IRAN, AND LYING TO INVESTIGATORS

The Justice Department Indicted Gal Luft, Who Skipped Bail, For Being An Unregistered Foreign Agent For China, An International Arms Trafficker While Violating U.S. Sanctions On Iran, And Lying To Investigators. “The ‘missing’ witness long-touted by Republicans in Congress as the missing link to their probe into alleged Biden family corruption was accused of being an unregistered foreign agent for China and an international arms trafficker while violating U.S. sanctions on Iran and lying to investigators, among a laundry list of other federal charges unsealed Monday. Dual U.S.-Israeli citizen Gal Luft was originally charged on Nov. 1, 2022 and arrested in February, according to a statement from the U.S. Attorney’s Office in the Southern District of New York. Luft had already skipped out on his bail while in Cyprus awaiting extradition to the U.S. for the case in March—though he alleges that the sprawling case against him represents political persecution and retaliation by the Biden administration against a potential witness.” [Daily Beast, [7/10/23](#)]

REPUBLICAN WITNESS, GAL LUFT, COORDINATED WITH CEFC TO INFILTRATE THE TRUMP TRANSITION TEAM AND ATTEMPT TO SHAPE SECURITY POLICY IN FAVOR OF CHINA

HEADLINE: “Indictment Paints Tale Of Chinese Interests And 2016 Trump Campaign.” [Washington Post, [7/15/23](#)]

Gal Luft Had Ties To Patrick Ho, Who The Justice Department’s Indictment Referred To As CC-1. “Filed in November, the indictment accuses Luft of arms trafficking, lying to investigators and serving as an unregistered foreign agent. The Chinese business executive and the former senior U.S. government official aren’t named in the indictment, but the context indicates they are Patrick Ho (identified as ‘CC-1’) and former CIA director James Woolsey (identified as ‘Individual-1’), respectively.” [Washington Post, [7/15/23](#)]

CEFC Vowed To Provide Gal Luft’s Think Tank \$350,000 To Create Ties Between Luft And Former CIA Director James Woolsey. “The indictment states that in 2015, CC-1 agreed that a nongovernmental organization called CEFC, which the indictment alleges draws funding from the Chinese oil and gas conglomerate CEFC China Energy Co., would provide Luft’s own Maryland-based think tank annual payments of \$350,000. The agreement allegedly created new ties between Luft’s think tank, [James Woolsey] Individual-1’s think tank, CEFC and CEFC China Energy. (The think tanks have not responded to requests for comment.)” [Washington Post, [7/15/23](#)]

On September 2016, Former CIA Director James Woolsey Joined The Trump Campaign As A Senior Advisor, Which Gal Luft Celebrated With CEFC Officials. “On Sept. 12, 2016, Woolsey joined Trump’s campaign as a senior adviser. At this time, Luft emailed CC-1 about Individual-1 joining Trump’s campaign, saying, ‘We nailed it!’ according to the indictment. (The indictment doesn’t cite Trump by name but describes a presidential candidate who was ‘elected President two months later.’)” [Washington Post, [7/15/23](#)]

- **Gal Luft Praised The Recruitment Of Former CIA Director James Woolsey And Said He Would Form An Official Political “Channel,” And Patrick Ho Said “Our Side Is More Than Happy.”** “The indictment then describes Luft and CC-1 discussing Individual-1 — while using a code name — and states that they had successfully ‘recruited’ him ‘for a fee.’ The two men talked about how he would form an apparent ‘channel.’ ‘All set. We agreed on 60 for phase I and he [i.e., Individual-1] won’t be taking a position w others,’ the indictment quotes Luft as telling CC-1 around Sept. 29, 2016. ‘He is eager to launch the channel.’ ‘Our side is more than happy to have someone we know to be the channel with’ Trump, CC-1 responded.” [Washington Post, [7/15/23](#)]

Gal Luft Said Former CIA Director James Woolsey Needed To Be Briefed On CEFC’s Narrative To Prevent Others From Shaping His Views, To Which Patrick Ho And Chairman Ye Agreed. “Luft responded that Individual-1 ‘needs to be better educated and versed in our narrative so the other side doesn’t shape his views.’ CC-1 later advised Luft that the chairman of CEFC China ‘agrees with the proposal for’ Individual-1 and that the ‘plan is for me to deal with’ that individual. He said they would have Individual-1 travel to China after the presidential election ‘undercover.’” [Washington Post, [7/15/23](#)]

Gal Luft Said Former CIA Director James Woolsey Would Lead The International Security Policies Surrounding China And Iran For The Trump Presidential Transition Team. “Luft in early October allegedly informed CC-1 that Individual-1 was going ‘to lead the international security/China/Iran policies for the actual [presidential] transition team!’ CC-1 responded that he wanted the articles to provide ‘just enough’ of a hint ‘to let ‘people’ know’ that Individual-1 was ‘in the corridor of power to be.’” [Washington Post, [7/15/23](#)]

REPUBLICANS HAVE ALSO BEEN CAVORTING WITH A KNOWN WHITE NATIONALIST WITH A ZEALOUS VENDETTA AGAINST THE BIDEN FAMILY

HEADLINE: “The Scorched-Earth Activist Trying To Take Down Hunter Biden” [Washington Post, [9/17/23](#)]

Ziegler Made Contact With Several GOP Congressional Offices, Including Senator Ron Johnson Who Promoted The Marco Polo Report, And James Comer Who Told Newsmax That The “Positive Thing” About Marco Polo Was Its Inclusion Of Banking Records. “Ziegler said he has made contacts within GOP congressional offices and given them copies of the report on Hunter Biden’s laptop, though he declined to name specific lawmakers. Some members of Congress, however, have publicly mentioned the report. Sen. Ron Johnson (R-Wis.) said in an interview with NBC’s Chuck Todd that ‘you ought to read the Marco Polo report where they detail all kinds of potential crimes.’ (Todd responded that citing ‘potential’ crimes is ‘innuendo.’) Rep. James Comer (R-Ky.) told Newsmax the ‘positive thing’ about the report is its inclusion of banking records.” [Washington Post, [9/17/23](#)]

Marjorie Taylor Greene Displayed Nude Photos Of Hunter Biden During A Congressional Hearing, Which Ziegler Suggested Came From Him, “Some Of Our Screenshots In The Report Were Utilized.” “At one recent congressional hearing, after Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-Ga.) displayed what appeared to be nude photos of Hunter Biden, Democrats noted that she had displayed the photos in the same order and with similar redactions as in the Marco Polo report. Greene’s office did not respond when asked if the photos came from Ziegler or his nonprofit, but he suggested they did. ‘Some of our screenshots in the report were utilized,’ Ziegler said in the interview. ‘So I’ve been somewhat pleased.’” [Washington Post, [9/17/23](#)]

Ziegler Said That He Believed White People Were Unfairly Persecuted Citing Government Efforts To Promote A Diverse Workforce And Said He Was A “Christian And A Nationalist.” “Ziegler said he does not agree with all of [Nick] Fuentes’s views, but he does believe that White people are unfairly persecuted, citing government efforts to seek a more diverse workforce. He is a ‘Christian and a nationalist,’ he said, but not a Christian nationalist.” [Washington Post, [9/17/23](#)]

Ziegler Was A Special Guest For An Event With Several Prominent White Nationalist And Extremist Figures And Has Regularly Reposted Their Materials

Ziegler Was A Special Guest At An Event Featuring White Nationalist, Nick Fuentes, And Other Infamous Far-Right Figures Like Milo Yiannopoulos, Michelle Malkin, Sheriff Joe Arpaio And Former Rep. Steve King. “Garrett

Ziegler was also a special guest at Nick Fuentes's White Nationalist AFPAC conference.” [Republican Accountability, Twitter, [7/21/22](#)]

Ziegler Denied Bigoted Beliefs, But Regularly Reposted Material From White Nationalist, Nick Fuentes And Claimed “There Are Some Things That I Agree With Nick Fuentes On.” “Speaking to HuffPost, Ziegler denied any bigoted beliefs, but he has also repeatedly reposted material online from the prominent white nationalist Nick Fuentes and other bigots. During phone interviews with HuffPost, Ziegler described himself as a ‘paleoconservative’ — not a ‘bogeyman’ — and compared himself to Pat Buchanan. “There are some things that I agree with Nick Fuentes on, and some that I don’t,” he said of his online presence. Referring to reposting material, he said, ‘sometimes you just do it because you think it’s a very, very good thing for the conversation.’” [Huffington Post, [5/31/23](#)]

- **SPLC Said Nick Fuentes Is A White Nationalist, Admirer Of Mussolini, Who Emerged As An Influential Figure During The “Stop The Steal” Movement.** “Nick Fuentes is a white nationalist live streamer who advocates pulling the Republican Party further to the extreme far-right end of the political spectrum. An outspoken admirer of fascists such as Mussolini, Fuentes emerged as an influential figure on the national stage during the now-infamous “Stop the Steal” movement, which relied on misinformation to falsely claim that Donald Trump had won the 2020 election and sought to overturn the results of it. Some Republican lawmakers have collaborated with his America First Foundation, which hosts an annual America First Political Action Conference (AFPAC) alongside the more mainstream Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC), which it seeks to supplant.” [Southern Poverty Law Center, accessed [4/28/23](#)]

Ziegler Met With The Committee On January 6th And Accused Them Of Being “Anti-White” And Claimed Other Witnesses Were “Total Hoes And Thots”

Ziegler Met With The House Committee On January 6th, Afterwards Went On Telegram On A 27-Minute-Long Video Calling The Committee Soviet Union Communists. “Ziegler met with the House Committee investigating the Jan. 6 Capitol riot on Tuesday. Afterward, he live-streamed a tirade on Telegram against the panel— calling them Soviet Union communists and accusing them of being anti-white—and against his female former colleagues. Clips of the reportedly 27-minute-long rant were recorded and posted to Twitter, where they unsurprisingly have gone viral.” [Jezebel, [7/21/22](#)]

- **Ziegler Claimed The January 6th Committee Was “Going After” Him Because He Was The “Young Guy” – Ziegler Then Attacked Other Committee Witnesses Cassidy Hutchinson And Alyssa Farah And Called Them “Total Hoes And Thots.”** “The 26-year-old staffer said the only reason the House panel is ‘going after’ him is his youth. ‘I have no sort of army to hit back at them...because I’m the young guy in the room and they’re not even going after any other young people,’ he said, adding that ‘the other young people in the White House are total hoes and thots like Cassidy Hutchinson and this Alyssa Farah hoe bag who are just terrible.’” [Jezebel, [7/21/22](#)]
- **Ziegler Claimed The January 6th Committee Was “Bolshevistic” And “Anti-White,” Then Defended Himself By Saying, “I’m The Least Racist Person That Many Of You Have Ever Met.”** “‘They’re Bolsheviks so they probably do hate the American founders and most white people in general. This is a Bolshevistic, anti-white campaign,’ Ziegler said of the nine-member congressional panel, which is led by Rep. Bennie Thompson, a Black Democrat from Mississippi. ‘I’m the least racist person that many of you have ever met by the way,’ Ziegler added. (It’s always a good sign when they have to remind you.) ‘I have no bigotry, I just try to see the world for where it is.’” [Jezebel, [7/21/22](#)]

Ziegler Touted On Far-Right Extremist Joe Oltmann’s Podcast, “We Have All The Social Security Numbers For Hunter Biden’s Children”

April 2022: Garrett Ziegler Touted To Joe Oltmann While On His Podcast, Conservative Daily, “We Have All The Social Security Numbers For Hunter Biden’s Children.” ZIEGLER: “We have all the social security numbers for Hunter Biden’s children. Everything.” [Garrett Ziegler, Conservative Daily, [4/2022](#)]

MARCO POLO’S MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES MULTIPLE FOREIGN NATIONALS WHOSE IDENTITIES GARRETT ZIEGLER HAS KEPT HIDDEN

Garrett Ziegler Said Marco Polo’s Members Were “Spread Out Across The World.” GARRETT ZIEGLER: “All of my friends, by the way, are spread out across the world. Marco Polo; there’s a guy in Italy, there’s a guy in Denmark, there’s a guy in Indiana, guy in Canada. And so I’m in this weird time in my life where I love where I’m at - because it’s homogenous, there’s no crime, it’s a great place to be – but through fiber internet and the other amenities that we have, I can talk to you and everybody else throughout the day.” [Conservative Daily Podcast, 35:00, [4/18/22](#)]

- **Garrett Ziegler Said That He Was “Just The Public Face Of Marco Polo.”** GARRETT ZIEGLER: “I’m just the public face of Marco Polo. There’s five men behind me who contributed to the research. I wrote every word, but they contributed to the research. So it’s really a sort of a guerilla-like group that put this thing together.” [National File, 5:10, [10/24/22](#)]
- **Garrett Ziegler Said He Had About 50 Volunteers For Marco Polo.** GARRETT ZIEGLER: “That’s why we created a charity, because all this research is free. And, you know, we’re – we have such a good group. We have a group of 50 people who volunteer every single day, looking up everything from liens on James Biden’s properties down at Florida because he’s like Hunter.” [Conservative Daily Podcast, 1:57:45, [4/18/22](#)]

Garrett Ziegler Refuses To Name The Other Members Of Marco Polo, Which Flies In The Face Of Claims That Marco Polo Is Somehow Unbelievably Transparent

Garrett Ziegler Said That He Kept The Other Members Of Marco Polo Anonymous So That They Could Continue “Hunter Biden Hard Drive” Work If “Anybody Takes Me Out.” GARRETT ZIEGLER: “Somebody said that I need security. Guys, what gets people killed is if you hold onto information that nobody else has. So, everybody in Marco Polo has all the info I have. Right. So, I don’t need to run to a foreign country, because if anybody takes me out it’s not going to do anything. Everybody else already has what I have, everybody in my group. And we keep – and they’re anonymous for a reason. So multiple people have whatever I have.” [Conservative Daily Podcast, 2:12:10, [4/18/22](#)]

Garrett Ziegler Claimed That “People Have Already Been Floored By The Transparency” Of Marco Polo. “Full rundown of expenses coming this month. People have already been floored by the transparency. Will provide greater granularity than a simple 990” [Garrett Ziegler, Telegram, [11/1/22](#)]

GARRETT ZIEGLER’S “REPORT” IS BASED AROUND TAKING OUT-OF-CONTEXT LINES AND PRESENTING THEM AS PROOF OF CRIMES, WHEN THERE ARE OFTEN MUCH SIMPLER AND MORE OBVIOUS EXPLANATIONS

Based Off Of A Single, Supposed Angry Message Hunter Biden Sent In 2019 That Said “Unlike Pop, I Won’t Make You Give Me Half Your Salary,” Garrett Ziegler Argued Joe Biden Committed Crimes By Not Reporting These Supposed Payments On His Taxes. “In an iMessage to his oldest daughter, Hunter confessed to how Joe—for three decades—did not report income he received from Hunter: ‘I Hope you all can do what I did and pay for everything for this entire family Fro [sic] 30 years. It’s really hard. But don’t worry[—]unlike Pop[,] I won’t make you give me half your salary.’ Indeed, according to his own son, Joe insisted that Hunter cough up half of his earnings. Based upon the decades of tax returns that he released as a member of the U.S. Senate, and then as the V.P., Joe illegally received these hefty payments from his second son.” [Report on the Biden Laptop, Marco Polo, [10/19/22](#)]

- **Despite Having Investigated The Entire “Hunter Biden Hard Drive” And Gone Into Detail On Other Supposed Financial Materials Relating To Hunter Biden And Joe Biden, This Single Text Is The Only Proof Garrett Ziegler Had That Hunter Biden Gave Away Half His Salary.** [Report on the Biden Laptop, Marco Polo, [10/19/22](#)]

New York Magazine On The “Half Your Salary” Text: “In Right-Wing Circles, These Texts Have Been Construed To Suggest There Was A Formal Revenue-Sharing Agreement Between Joe And Hunter, Though Looked At In A More Forgiving Light, They Can Be Read As Hyperbolic Bitching.” “In a text to his daughter Naomi, who was 25 at the time, Hunter complained that he had to ‘pay for everything for this entire family for 30 years,’ assuring her that unlike ‘Pop’ — the family’s name for Joe — he wouldn’t take ‘half your salary.’ In right-wing circles, these texts have been construed to

suggest there was a formal revenue-sharing agreement between Joe and Hunter, though looked at in a more forgiving light, they can be read as hyperbolic bitching.” [New York Magazine, [9/12/22](#)]

Garrett Ziegler Had Framed The Emails To Suggest “Foreign Oligarchs” Were Paying Joe Biden’s Bills, When The Emails He Cited Came Before Hunter Biden’s Foreign Deals

Marco Polo Report: “Schwerin Controlled Bank Accounts That Were Capitalized By Hunter’s Firm (Which Was Funded, In Part, By Foreign Oligarchs). These Accounts—With Schwerin As The Front Man—Were Used To Pay Bills, Large And Small, For ‘JRB’ [Joe].” “Schwerin controlled bank accounts that were capitalized by Hunter’s firm (which was funded, in part, by foreign oligarchs). These accounts—with Schwerin as the front man—were used to pay bills, large and small, for ‘JRB’ [Joe]. Schwerin wrote and deposited checks on behalf of Joe, with at least one of the bank accounts being held at Wilmington Trust, a notoriously corrupt bank in Delaware.” [Report on the Biden Laptop, Marco Polo, [10/19/22](#)]

New York Times: “At The Time Of The Email, Hunter Had Yet To Embark On His Foreign Deals.” “But according to family members and former White House officials, Mr. Schwerin did not discuss Hunter’s business activities with the vice president. Having grown close to the Biden family through his long relationship with Hunter, he volunteered to keep track of the elder Mr. Biden’s personal finances and visited him at the White House to make sure he signed important papers, and paid his household bills and taxes on time. (Ethics rules prohibited using White House staff members for those tasks.) On occasion, Mr. Schwerin would pay a bill for Vice President Biden out of one of his son’s accounts and then assure that he was repaid. House Republicans have seized on a 2010 email documenting one such transaction to assert that the Bidens shared bank accounts and possibly profits from the younger Mr. Biden’s work abroad.” [New York Times, [1/11/23](#)]

Kazakhstan

IN 2020, SENATE REPUBLICANS ALLEGED HUNTER’S CONNECTIONS TO A KAZAK NATIONAL MAY HAVE INFLUENCED U.S. FOREIGN POLICY AGAINST RUSSIA

The 2020 Senate Republican Report Alleged Hunter Biden’s Connection To A Kazak National With Ties To The Kazakhstani Government May Have Influenced U.S. Policy Regarding Sanctions Against Russia For The Invasion Of Crimea. “321 Given Rakishev’s close connection to political leadership in Kazakhstan, the tense political situation, Hunter Biden’s longstanding relationship with Archer and involvement in transactions with Rosemont Seneca Bohai, and the fact that the payment was timed perfectly with Vice President Biden’s visit to Kyiv to discuss U.S. sanctions against Russia for the invasion of Crimea, the April 22, 2014 payment from Rakishev to Rosemont Seneca Bohai raises serious questions. It is unclear why a foreign company, Novatus Holding, would purchase a \$142,300 car for Rosemont Seneca Bohai when the company does not deal in vehicles.” [Hunter Biden, Burisma And Corruption: The Impact on U.S. Policy And Related Concerns, U.S. Senate Committee On Homeland Security And Finance, [9/18/20](#)]

- **New York Times Reported That An 87-Page Report Released By The Senate Homeland Security And Finance Committees Contained No Evidence That The Elder Biden Acted Improperly.** “But an 87-page report summing up the findings, released jointly on Wednesday by the Senate Homeland Security and Finance Committees, contained no evidence that the elder Mr. Biden improperly manipulated American policy toward Ukraine or committed any other misdeed. In fact, investigators heard witness testimony that rebutted those charges.” [New York Times, [9/23/20](#)]

The United States Has Long Held Russia Accountable For Its Violation Of International Law With The Wrongful Annexation Of Crimea And Sanctions Were Swiftly Implemented And Expanded As Early As March 2014

United States Department Of State: “The United States Does Not And Never Will Recognize Russia’s Purported Annexation Of The Peninsula.” “Nine years ago, Russia invaded Ukraine and seized Crimea – a clear violation of international law and of Ukraine’s sovereignty and territorial integrity. The United States welcomes the efforts of Ukraine’s

Crimea Platform to focus global attention on Russia's continued occupation. The United States does not and never will recognize Russia's purported annexation of the peninsula. Crimea is Ukraine." [U.S. Department Of State, [2/26/23](#)]

- **On March 6, 2014 The United States Authorized Executive Order 13660 Authorizing Sanctions On Individuals And Entities Responsible For Violating The Territory Of Ukraine.** "Executive Order 13660, signed on March 6, 2014, authorizes sanctions on individuals and entities responsible for violating the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, or for stealing the assets of the Ukrainian people. These sanctions put in place restrictions on the travel of certain individuals and officials and showed our continued efforts to impose a cost on Russia and those responsible for the situation in Crimea." [U.S Department Of State, accessed [9/22/23](#); signed [3/6/14](#)]
- **On March 17, 2014 The United States Authorized Executive Order 13661 Finding Russia Responsible For Threatening Peace, Stability And Sovereignty In Ukraine.** "Executive Order 13661, issued on March 17, 2014, under the national emergency with respect to Ukraine that find that the actions and policies of the Russian government with respect to Ukraine -- including through the deployment of Russian military forces in the Crimea region of Ukraine -- undermine democratic processes and institutions in Ukraine; threaten its peace, security, stability, sovereignty, and territorial integrity; and contribute to the misappropriation of its assets." [U.S Department Of State, accessed [9/22/23](#); signed [3/17/14](#)]
- **On March 20 2014, The United States Expanded The Executive Order 13660 Scope.** "A new Executive Order, 'Blocking Property of Additional Persons Contributing to the Situation in Ukraine,' issued on March 20, 2014, expanded the scope of the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13660 of March 6, 2014, and expanded by Executive Order 13661 of March 16, 2014, finding that the actions and policies of the Government of the Russian Federation, including its purported annexation of Crimea and its use of force in Ukraine, continue to undermine democratic processes and institutions in Ukraine; threaten its peace, security, stability, sovereignty, and territorial integrity; and contribute to the misappropriation of its assets, and thereby constitute an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United State." [U.S Department Of State, accessed [9/22/23](#); signed [3/20/14](#)]
- **On December 19, 2014, The United States Issued Executive Order 13685 To Increase The Diplomatic And Financial Costs Of Russia's Aggressive Actions Towards Ukraine.** "Executive Order 13685 was issued December 19, 2014. Utilizing these Executive Orders, the United States has steadily increased the diplomatic and financial costs of Russia's aggressive actions towards Ukraine. We have designated a number of Russian and Ukrainian entities, including 14 defense companies and individuals in Putin's inner circle, as well as imposed targeted sanctions limiting certain financing to six of Russia's largest banks and four energy companies. We have also suspended credit finance that encourages exports to Russia and financing for economic development projects in Russia, and are now prohibiting the provision, exportation, or re-exportation of goods, services (not including financial services), or technology in support of exploration or production for deepwater, Arctic offshore, or shale projects that have the potential to produce oil in the Russian Federation, or in maritime area claimed by the Russian Federation and extending from its territory, and that involve five major Russian energy companies." [U.S Department Of State, accessed [9/22/23](#); signed [12/19/14](#)]

IN 2022 IT WAS REPORTED THAT A FEDERAL GRAND JURY INVESTIGATED THE PAYMENT FROM KAZAKHSTAN TO AN ASSOCIATE OF HUNTER BIDEN

Federal Prosecutors Reportedly Investigated A \$142,300 Wire From A Kazakhstani Associate Of Hunter Biden's Which Was Used To Purchase A Car, A Claim Highlighted In The Senate Republican Report. "Prosecutors have also asked about paperwork the younger Mr. Biden used to purchase a car through funds from Rosemont Seneca, according to people familiar with the matter. In April 2014, a business associate of Mr. Biden from Kazakhstan wired \$142,300 to Rosemont Seneca, according to bank statements reviewed by The Wall Street Journal and highlighted in a September 2020 report from Senate Republicans. The money came from a Singapore company controlled by Kazakhstan banker Kenges Rakishev, the documents show, and the Senate Republican report said they were earmarked in a bank record as 'For a Car.'" [Wall Street Journal, [3/28/22](#)]

U.S. Attorney David Weiss Had "Ultimate Authority" Regarding Where, When And Whether To Charge Hunter Biden And Has Not Charged Him With Wrongdoing Regarding Payments From Foreign Sources

David Weiss Announced Hunter Biden Pleaded Guilty To Two Misdemeanor Charges Relating To His 2017 And 2018 Taxes, And A Gun Charge. “Mr. Weiss announced this month that Mr. Biden had agreed to plead guilty to two misdemeanor charges of having failed to file his 2017 and 2018 taxes on time. Mr. Weiss also charged Mr. Biden in connection with his purchase of a handgun in 2018 but said he would not prosecute the charge under a two-year pretrial diversion program.” [New York Times, [6/27/23](#)]

- **U.S. Attorney David Weiss Sent A Letter On June 7th 2023 That Said He Had Been, “Granted Ultimate Authority Over This Matter, Including Responsibility For Deciding Where, When And Whether To File Charges.”** “Mr. Weiss said in the letter, dated June 7, that he had been ‘granted ultimate authority over this matter, including responsibility for deciding where, when and whether to file charges.’” [New York Times, [6/27/23](#)]

Serbia

HOUSE OVERSIGHT REPUBLICANS DEMANDED INFORMATION FROM SERBIAN POLITICIAN VUK JEREMIC REGARDING AN INVITATION TO A PRIVATE DINNER FROM JEREMIC TO HUNTER BIDEN

House Oversight Committee Republicans Sent A Letter To Vuk Jeremic Regarding Their Investigation Into Hunter Biden And Cited A Dinner Invitation From Jeremic To Hunter Biden As The Justification. “The Committee requests this email from you and whether the person’s name DOJ redacted from Exhibit 2739R was Hunter Biden. The Committee has obtained evidence corroborating your testimony that on December 1, 2015—one day after your email above with Patrick Ho—you emailed Eric Schwerin requesting Hunter Biden attend a dinner in Washington, D.C. on December 6, 2015, with Chairman Ye.1. [...]Based upon the trial transcripts and the Committee’s evidence, it appears that: (1) you possess communications with CEFC officials, including Patrick Ho and Chairman Ye, discussing the Biden family; (2) you possess communications with Hunter Biden, James Biden, and Eric Schwerin discussing CEFC; (3) DOJ may have redacted Hunter Biden’s name from the Patrick Ho trial in Exhibit 2739R; and (4) DOJ likely possess additional evidence related to CEFC and Hunter Biden given the seizure of Patrick Ho’s iPad and email account(s) in November 2011” [Letter to Vuk Jeremic, House Oversight and Accountability Committee, [2/21/23](#)]

THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF HUNTER BIDEN AND VUK JEREMIC EVER DOING ANY BUSINESS TOGETHER PRIVATELY OR PUBLICLY – HUNTER BIDEN DIDN’T EVEN ATTEND THE DINNER HE WAS INVITED TO

HEADLINE: “Inside Hunter Biden’s Multimillion-Dollar Deals With A Chinese Energy Company” [Washington Post, [3/30/22](#)]

December 2015: Vuk Jeremic Wrote An Email To Hunter Biden Inviting Him To A Private Dinner In Washington With Ye Jianming. “Vuk Jeremic, a Serbian politician who had recently served as president of the U.N. General Assembly, wrote in an email to the younger Biden that he was hosting a small private dinner in Washington with Ye [Jianming] — whom he called ‘one of the 10 wealthiest Chinese businessmen’ — and wanted Hunter to attend. ‘He’s young and dynamic, with the top-level connections in his country,’ Jeremic wrote in the Dec. 1, 2015, email.” [Washington Post, [3/30/22](#)]

- **Hunter Biden Was Unable To Attend The Dinner, And Despite Knowing Both Ye Jianming And Hunter Biden, Jeremic Claimed He Was “Not Involved In Their Mutual Introduction”** “Vuk Jeremic, a Serbian politician who had recently served as president of the U.N. General Assembly, wrote in an email to the younger Biden that he was hosting a small private dinner in Washington with Ye — whom he called ‘one of the 10 wealthiest Chinese businessmen’ — and wanted Hunter to attend. ‘He’s young and dynamic, with the top-level connections in his country,’ Jeremic wrote in the Dec. 1, 2015, email. Hunter Biden was unable to attend the dinner and Jeremic said in an email to The Post that while he knew both men, he was ‘not involved in their mutual introduction’ and found out from media reports that the two had eventually connected.” [Washington Post, [3/30/22](#)]

The “Investigation” – James Comer Is In Shambles

JAMES COMER’S INVESTIGATION IS IN SHAMBLES AND EVERY NEW TURN LEADS TO AN INEVITABLE DEAD END

House Republicans Requested Emailed From Joe Biden’s Time As Vice President, But None Of Them Were Related To Hunter Biden’s Work On The Board Of Burisma

HEADLINE: “House GOP Briefed On Biden Ukraine Emails, But Little New Information Emerges” [Washington Post, [9/21/23](#)]

House Republican Lawmakers Requested The National Archives Turn Over A Series Of Documents From Joe Biden’s Tenure As Vice President As A Continuation Of Their Hunter Biden Investigation. “Late last month, Republican lawmakers requested that the National Archives turn over a series of documents dating to Joe Biden’s tenure as vice president, part of an ongoing push by the House GOP to try to find evidence that Biden used his office to help his son Hunter’s business affairs.” [Washington Post, [9/21/23](#)]

Washington Post: “None Of The Emails Were Related To Hunter Biden’s Work On The Board Of Ukrainian Company Burisma.” “On Thursday, staff members for the House Oversight Committee were briefed on the first set of documents the Archives had prepared in response to the request: four emails that revealed Biden family scheduling; a humorous exchange about Biden’s status as a “new Georgian sex symbol”; and praise from the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine for Joe Biden’s other son, Beau, who has since died, according to people with knowledge of the documents’ contents. None of the emails were related to Hunter Biden’s work on the board of Ukrainian company Burisma.” [Washington Post, [9/21/23](#)]

WE’LL SAY IT AGAIN, JAMES COMER HAS PRESENTED NO TANGIBLE, CREDIBLE EVIDENCE OF WRONDOING BY JOE BIDEN

HEADLINE: “Republicans Offer No Evidence Of Crimes At Press Conference On Alleged ‘Biden Family Corruption’” [The Independent, [5/11/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “Comer Investigation Of Biden Relatives Swings And Misses On Allegations Of Influence Peddling” [TIME Magazine, [5/10/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “Republicans Finally Admit They Have No Incriminating Evidence On Joe Biden” [New Republic, [5/10/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “Comer Releases Biden Family Probe Update Without Showing Link To President” [Politico, [5/10/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “House GOP Digs In On Biden Family Dealings Without Directly Connecting President” [The Hill, [5/10/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “House Republican Report Finds No Evidence Of Wrongdoing By President Biden” [New York Times, [5/10/23](#)]

Axios: “The Memo Presented Wednesday By House Oversight Chair James Comer (R-Ky.) Included No Evidence That President Biden Acted Improperly Or Took Any Official Action Because Of His Family’s Business Affairs.” [Axios, [5/10/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “House Republicans Issue New Report On Joe Biden Corruption... That Again Offers No Evidence” [USA Today, [8/9/23](#)]

JAMES COMER ADMITTED HE HAD NO EVIDENCE OF WRONDOING BY JOE BIDEN WITH RESPECT TO THIS SON'S BUSINESS DEALS

July 2023: When Asked By Ted Cruz Regarding Foreign Payments Going To Joe Biden, Comer Responded, “Yes, Not To Joe Biden Yet.” “CRUZ: ‘So let me stop you real quick, are those the three countries that are involved?’ COMER: ‘So far.’ CRUZ: ‘China, Romania and Ukraine? But all three of them you've got payments from China, Romania, and Ukraine going to Hunter Biden, Joe Biden or the Biden family is that right?’ COMER: ‘Yes, not to Joe Biden yet, but to everyone else in the Biden family.’” [Verdict with Ted Cruz, [7/20/23](#)]

HEADLINE “House Oversight Chair Admits GOP Can’t Back Up Biden Bribery Accusations” [The Independent, [8/2/23](#)]

- **August 2023: Asked If He Could Prove His Unsubstantiated Claim That Joe Biden Accepted A Bribe From A Ukrainian Energy Executive, James Comers Said “I Sure Hope So.”** “Republicans had hoped that Archer, who is due to start a year-and-a-day prison sentence after being convicted of conspiring to defraud a Native American tribe in 2019, would confirm an as-yet uncorroborated allegation made by an alleged FBI informant who claimed that the president and his son each pocketed a \$5m bribe from a Ukrainian energy executive who’d also hired Hunter Biden to serve on the board of the company he’d founded, Burisma. Asked whether he would be able to prove the outrageous claim about the president, Mr Comer hesitated. Pressed further by Hannity, he finally replied: ‘I sure hope so. And I do believe that there’s a lot of smoke and when there’s smoke, there’s fire’. No evidence has emerged to support the allegations, which first gained traction in Republican circles when former president Donald Trump attempted to use US military aid to blackmail Ukraine’s president into announcing sham investigations into the Bidens on the eve of Joe Biden’s 2020 presidential campaign.” [The Independent, [8/2/23](#)]

September 2023: Rep. James Comer Admitted He Did Not Have Evidence That President Biden Received Money From Foreign Sources. “Q: Why not subpoena President Biden’s bank records? Comer: ‘We’ll follow the money ... whether it be China, Romania, Ukraine, Russia, Uzbekistan, it went from there through a shell company - or two or three - and then it was dispersed to 9 different Biden family members.’ Comer: ‘At this point, he has not been one of the nine Biden family members ... We’re following the money.’” [Ben Siegel, Twitter, [9/18/23](#)]

JAMES COMER ADMITTED HIS INVESTIGATION IS ALL ABOUT POLITICS...

HEADLINE: “House GOP Chairman Links His Investigation To Biden’s Poll Numbers” [Washington Post, [5/22/23](#)]

- **Rep. James Comer Suggested That His Investigations Were Responsible For Former President Trump Being Ahead Of President Biden In Some Polls.** FOX NEWS ANCHOR: “So do you think that because of your investigation, that is what’s moved this needle with the media?” REP. JAMES COMER: “Absolutely. Absolutely. There’s no question. You look at the polling, and right now Donald Trump is seven points ahead of Joe Biden and trending upward; Joe Biden’s trending downward. And I believe that the media is looking around, scratching their head, and they’re realizing the American people are keeping up with our investigation.” [Fox News, Fox & Friends First, 5/22/23] (video)

HEADLINE: “GOP Rep. James Comer Implies Biden Family Probe Is Really About Helping Trump In 2024” [Huffington Post, [5/23/23](#)]

...THEN HE LIED AND CLAIMED HE’D NEVER SAID HIS INVESTIGATION WAS ABOUT HURTING PRESIDENT BIDEN POLITICALLY

HEADLINE: “James Comer Now Falsely Claims He Didn’t Link Biden Probe To Trump Poll Numbers” [Daily Beast, [5/24/23](#)]

- **Rep. James Comer Claimed When He Said His Investigations Were Being Reflected In Polling It Had Nothing To Do With Donald Trump.** REP. JAMES COMER: “So he’s not credible in this investigation, he’s just an unnecessary obstacle along the way. Look, when I was referencing poll numbers, it had nothing to do with Donald Trump. It had to do with the fact that the American people overwhelmingly believe that public corruption is a problem, and they’re concerned about how Joe Biden’s family got this money from foreign nationals, that’s what I was referencing in the polling, the polling shows the American people are keeping up with our investigation, it has nothing to do with Donald Trump.” [Fox Business, The Bottom Line, 5/23/23] (video)

There Is No Bottom To The Depths Comer Would Be Willing To Go To Target The President’s Family – Earlier This Year Comer Lamented That The President’s Late-Son Was Never Prosecuted

Daily Beast Reported That Oversight Committee Chair James Comer Lamented That Beau Biden Was Never Prosecuted Over Allegations Of An Illegal Campaign Contribution Involving His Father’s 2008 Presidential Campaign. “House Oversight Committee Chairman James Comer invoked the late son of President Joe Biden on Tuesday, lamenting that Beau Biden was never prosecuted over an investigation into illegal contributions involving his father’s 2008 presidential campaign.” [Daily Beast, [2/28/23](#)]

- **James Comer Referenced Contributions Made By Delaware Liquor Executive Christopher Tigani During The 2000’s.** “The campaign donation situation that Comer referenced revolves around contributions made by Delaware liquor executive Christopher Tigani during the 2000s, including to Joe Biden’s unsuccessful 2008 presidential campaign. After Tigani pleaded guilty in 2011 to campaign finance charges regarding a contribution reimbursement scheme, Beau Biden recused himself from a state probe into the donations and tapped special prosecutor E. Norman Veasey to lead the two-year investigation. Veasey’s report did find that 19 lawmakers had unknowingly received straw donations, including both Bidens, and therefore no public officials were ever charged or prosecuted.” [Daily Beast, [2/28/23](#)]
- **Christopher Tigani Pleaded Guilty In 2011 To Campaign Finance Violation Charges.** “The campaign donation situation that Comer referenced revolves around contributions made by Delaware liquor executive Christopher Tigani during the 2000s, including to Joe Biden’s unsuccessful 2008 presidential campaign. After Tigani pleaded guilty in 2011 to campaign finance charges regarding a contribution reimbursement scheme, Beau Biden recused himself from a state probe into the donations and tapped special prosecutor E. Norman Veasey to lead the two-year investigation. Veasey’s report did find that 19 lawmakers had unknowingly received straw donations, including both Bidens, and therefore no public officials were ever charged or prosecuted.” [Daily Beast, [2/28/23](#)]
- **Beau Biden Recused Himself From A Delaware Probe, Which Found 19 Lawmakers, Including Beau And Joe Biden, Unknowingly Received Straw Donations Through Christopher Tigani – No Public Officials Were Charged.** “The campaign donation situation that Comer referenced revolves around contributions made by Delaware liquor executive Christopher Tigani during the 2000s, including to Joe Biden’s unsuccessful 2008 presidential campaign. After Tigani pleaded guilty in 2011 to campaign finance charges regarding a contribution reimbursement scheme, Beau Biden recused himself from a state probe into the donations and tapped special prosecutor E. Norman Veasey to lead the two-year investigation. Veasey’s report did find that 19 lawmakers had unknowingly received straw donations, including both Bidens, and therefore no public officials were ever charged or prosecuted.” [Daily Beast, [2/28/23](#)]

HOUSE REPUBLICANS IN CHARGE OF LEADING THE IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY HAVE A HISTORY OF CHERRY-PICKING FACTS TO ALIGN WITH THEIR FALSE NARRATIVES

House Judiciary Chair Jim Jordan Claimed Antony Blinken Tasked Mike Morrell With Writing The Letter About The Hunter Biden Laptop Story...

4/20/23: House Judiciary Committee Republicans Claimed Antony Blinken And The Biden Campaign Were “Behind” The Intelligence Officials Hunter Biden Laptop Story Letter. “#BREAKING: Testimony Reveals Secretary Blinken and the Biden Campaign Were Behind the Infamous Public Statement from Former Intel Officials on the Hunter

Biden Laptop @Jim_Jordan and @RepMikeTurner reveal HUGE news here.” [Twitter, House Judiciary Committee GOP, [4/20/23](#)]

... But The Washington Post Reported That House Judiciary Republicans Led By Jim Jordan “Omitted Key Context”

HEADLINE: “House GOP’s Latest Hunter Biden Laptop Theory Is Less Than Meets The Eye” [Washington Post, [4/21/23](#)]

Washington Post Reported That Rep. Jim Jordan’s Letter “Omitted Key Context, Including Whether Blinken Actually Pushed For Such A Statement.” “The Jordan-Turner letter connects this to social media companies blocking or limiting the sharing of the story, saying of the Oct. 19 statement, ‘Social media companies simultaneously restricted access to the [New York] Post story.’ But the letter appears to have omitted key context, including whether Blinken actually pushed for such a statement. On Friday afternoon, House Democrats released an excerpt from Morell’s interview in which Morell actually addressed that. Asked whether Blinken had directed, suggested or insinuated that he should write such a statement, Morell said, ‘My memory is that he did not.’” [Washington Post, [4/21/23](#)]

Washington Post Reported House Republicans “Evidence” About Mike Morell, Antony Blinken And The Intelligence Officials Letter About The Hunter Biden Laptop Story “Isn’t As Compelling As Advertised.” “House Republicans’ attempts to claim government officials played a role in suppressing the Hunter Biden laptop story have often gone well beyond the established facts. Now they’re turning to the Biden campaign’s role. As before, though, the evidence isn’t as compelling as advertised. In a new letter, House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jim Jordan (R-Ohio) and House Intelligence Committee Chairman Mike Turner (R-Ohio) reveal details of a recent interview with former acting CIA director Michael Morell. At issue is an Oct. 19, 2020, statement from 51 former intelligence officials that Morell spearheaded. The statement suggested that the laptop story, published in the New York Post, might be part of a Russian disinformation campaign.” [Washington Post, [4/21/23](#)]

Mike Morell Testified That Antony Blinken Did Not Direct, Suggest, Or Insinuate That He Should Write A Letter Disputing The Hunter Biden Laptop Story

Mike Morell Testified That Antony Blinken Did Not Direct, Suggest, Or Insinuate That He Should Write A Letter Disputing The Hunter Biden Laptop Story. “But the letter appears to have omitted key context, including whether Blinken actually pushed for such a statement. On Friday afternoon, House Democrats released an excerpt from Morell’s interview in which Morell actually addressed that. Asked whether Blinken had directed, suggested or insinuated that he should write such a statement, Morell said, ‘My memory is that he did not.’ ‘Mr. Morell testified that Mr. Blinken did not hint that the Biden campaign ‘could use some help on this’ or suggest that Mr. Morell should ‘cook up something’ that the campaign should use,’ the House Judiciary Democrats said.” [Washington Post, [4/21/23](#)]

Other Signatories Of The Letter Said They Were Not Aware Of Any Role Antony Blinken Played With Respect To The Letter

Other Signatories Of The Intelligence Official Letter About The Hunter Biden Laptop Story Said They Did Not Know Any Role Antony Blinken Played With Respect To The Letter And It Was An Effort By Private Citizens To Support Biden. “Another signatory of the letter who testified before the committees told CNN that they did not know about any role that Blinken had played with regard to the letter. The person described the letter drafting effort as one conducted by private citizens in support of the former vice president. Other signatories made similar remarks in their testimony to the committees. ‘The only person who signed the letter and was known to be in contact with the Biden campaign was Michael Morell. It is true that when the draft was sent out to people to sign, the cover email made clear that it was an effort to help the Biden campaign. The overwhelming majority of people who signed the letter were apolitical career intelligence officials whose intent was to make it known that the Russians appeared to be using this issue, among many others, to influence the 2020 US election,’ said attorney Mark Zaid, who is representing more than half a dozen signatories of the letter.” [CNN, [4/21/23](#)]

House Oversight Committee Republicans Were Also Eager To Get Their Hands On Information That Was Stolen From A Private Citizen As Evidence

House Oversight Committee Ranking Member Jamie Raskin Said Chairman James Comer Would Not Give Committee Democrats Equal Access To What Comer Claimed Was Evidence Even Though He Frequently Invoked That Alleged Evidence In Public. “Raskin in his letter also claims that Comer’s ‘evasive treatment of witness information’ extends to the GOP’s ‘handling of physical evidence.’ He cited a lack of access to Hunter Biden’s laptop, which Comer has frequently invoked in letters, reports and media interviews. Raskin demanded that Comer share any information that Republicans have so far collected as part of the investigation. ‘Rather than provide the Minority with equal access to this drive, you have directed us to obtain the information from other sources — including from a questionable public website or from John Paul Mac Isaac, the owner of the computer repair shop that allegedly obtained Hunter Biden’s laptop,’ Raskin wrote.” [Washington Post, [4/6/23](#)]

Hunter Biden Sued Delaware Computer Repair Shop Owner John Paul Mac Isaac, Alleging That He Had No Legal Right To Distribute His Private Information. “Hunter Biden filed a countersuit in a federal court on Friday against the owner of a Delaware computer repair shop, claiming its owner had no legal right to distribute his private information. Why it matters: It's the first lawsuit from Hunter Biden since the alleged theft of personal data from his laptop came to light. It's an answer to a lawsuit from John Paul Mac Isaac, the shop owner, who is suing Hunter Biden, CNN, President Biden's 2016 presidential campaign and other entities.” [Axios, [3/17/23](#)]

- **Hunter Biden’s Legal Team Sent A Letter To Trump Allies To Preserve Records Related To The Alleged Theft Of Personal Data From Biden’s Laptop.** “The filing comes after Hunter Biden and his legal team sent letters to several allies of former President Trump to preserve records in their possession related to the alleged theft of personal data from the laptop. His legal team also asked state and federal agencies to open criminal investigations into Trump's allies for accessing and spreading his personal data and threatened Fox News host Tucker Carlson with a defamation lawsuit.” [Axios, [3/17/23](#)]
- **Hunter Biden’s Legal Team Asked State And Federal Agencies To Open Criminal Investigations Into Trump Allies For Accessing And Spreading Personal Data.** “The filing comes after Hunter Biden and his legal team sent letters to several allies of former President Trump to preserve records in their possession related to the alleged theft of personal data from the laptop. His legal team also asked state and federal agencies to open criminal investigations into Trump's allies for accessing and spreading his personal data and threatened Fox News host Tucker Carlson with a defamation lawsuit.” [Axios, [3/17/23](#)]