

EXHIBIT 1



214 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 546-4400
heritage.org

March 10, 2023

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Garland:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, and the implementing FOIA regulations of the Department of Justice (“DOJ”), 28 CFR Part 16, I respectfully request the following:

1. All documents and communications sent or received by David Weiss or any employee of the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Delaware referring or relating to Special Counsel status for the investigation concerning Hunter Biden; and
2. All documents and communications between or among employees of the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Delaware and employees of any other U.S. Attorney’s Office with venue to bring charges against Hunter Biden or his associates in that jurisdiction.

Please include the following Department components in any search: Office of the Attorney General, Office of the Deputy Attorney General, Office of the Associate Attorney General, Office of the Solicitor General, Office of Legal Counsel, Office of Legal Policy, Office of Public Affairs, Office of Legislative Affairs, Civil Division, and Criminal Division.

The terms “pertaining to,” “referring,” “relating,” or “concerning” with respect to any given subject means anything that constitutes, contains, embodies, reflects, identifies, states, refers to, deals with, or is in any manner whatsoever pertinent to that subject.

The term “record” means any written, recorded, or graphic matter of any nature whatsoever, regardless of how recorded, and whether original or copy, including, but not limited to, the following: memoranda, reports, expense reports,



214 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
 Washington, DC 20002
 (202) 546-4400
 heritage.org

books, manuals, instructions, financial reports, working papers, records, notes, letters, notices, confirmations, telegrams, receipts, appraisals, pamphlets, magazines, newspapers, prospectuses, inter-office and intra-office communications, electronic mail (emails), MMS or SMS text messages, instant messages, messaging systems (such as iMessage, Microsoft Teams, WhatsApp, Telegram, Signal, Google Chat, Twitter direct messages, Lync, Slack, and Facebook Messenger), contracts, cables, telexes, notations of any type of conversation, telephone call, voicemail, meeting or other communication, bulletins, printed matter, computer printouts, teletypes, invoices, transcripts, diaries, analyses, returns, summaries, minutes, bills, accounts, estimates, projections, comparisons, messages, correspondence, press releases, circulars, financial statements, reviews, opinions, offers, studies and investigations, questionnaires and surveys, and work sheets (and all drafts, preliminary versions, alterations, modifications, revisions, changes, and amendments of any of the foregoing, as well as any attachments or appendices thereto), and graphic or oral records or representations of any kind (including without limitation, photographs, charts, graphs, microfiche, microfilm, videotape, recordings and motion pictures), and electronic, mechanical, and electronic records or representations of any kind (including, without limitation, tapes, cassettes, disks, and recordings) and other written, printed, typed, or other graphic or recorded matter of any kind or nature, however produced or reproduced, and whether preserved in writing, film, tape, disk, videotape or otherwise. By definition, a “communication” (as that term is defined herein) is also a “record” if the means of communication is any written, recorded, or graphic matter of any sort whatsoever, regardless of how recorded, and whether original or copy.

The terms “and” and “or” should be construed broadly and either conjunctively or disjunctively to bring within the scope of this request any information which might otherwise be construed to be outside its scope. The terms “all,” “any,” and “each” should each be construed as encompassing any and all. The singular includes the plural number, and vice versa. The present tense includes the past and vice versa. The masculine includes the feminine and neuter genders.

The term “communication” means each manner or means of disclosure or exchange of information (in the form of facts, ideas, inquiries, or otherwise), regardless of means utilized, whether oral, electronic, by document or otherwise, and whether in an in-person meeting, by telephone, facsimile, e-mail (desktop or mobile device), text message, MMS or SMS message, regular mail, telexes, releases, or otherwise.



214 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 546-4400
heritage.org

“Communications with,” “communications from,” and “communications between” means any communication involving the related parties, regardless of whether other persons were involved in the communication, and includes, but is not limited to, communications where one party is cc’d or bcc’d, both parties are cc’d or bcc’d, or some combination thereof.

The term “person” is defined as any natural person or any legal entity, including, without limitation, any business or governmental entity or association, and all subsidiaries, divisions, partnerships, properties, affiliates, branches, groups, special purpose entities, joint ventures, predecessors, successors, or any other entity in which they have or had a controlling interest, and any employee, and any other units thereof.

The term “employee” means a current or former: officer, director, shareholder, partner, member, consultant, senior manager, manager, senior associate, permanent employee, staff employee, attorney, agent (whether de jure, de facto, or apparent without limitation), advisor, representative, attorney (in law or in fact), lobbyist (registered or unregistered), borrowed employee, casual employee, consultant, contractor, de facto employee, independent contractor, joint adventurer, loaned employee, part-time employee, provisional employee, or subcontractor.

A record bearing any notation not a part of the original text is to be considered a separate record. A draft or non-identical copy is a separate record within the meaning of this term.

Please consider all members of a document “family” to be responsive to the request if any single “member” of that “family” is responsive, regardless of whether the “family member” in question is “parent” or “child.”

This request for records includes any attachments to those records or other materials enclosed with those records when they were previously transmitted. To the extent that an email is responsive to our request, our request includes all prior messages sent or received in that email chain, as well as any attachments to the email.

In the interest of expediency and to minimize the research and/or duplication burden on your staff, please send records electronically if possible. If this is not possible, please notify me before sending to the mailing address listed below. If access to this request will take longer than twenty business days, please let me know when I might receive records or be able to inspect the requested records. Please produce



214 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
 Washington, DC 20002
 (202) 546-4400
 heritage.org

responsive documents as soon as they become available. In all cases, please communicate with me at the below email address.

Please comply fully with 5 U.S.C. § 552(b). Accordingly, without limitation to the foregoing, if any portion of this request is denied for any reason, please provide written notice of the records or portions of records that are being withheld and cite each specific exemption of the Freedom of Information Act on which the agency relies. Moreover, to the extent that responsive records may be withheld in part, produce all reasonably segregable portions of those records. Additionally, please provide all responsive documents even if they are redacted in full.

Fee Waiver Request

This request is primarily and fundamentally for non-commercial purposes. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, Heritage Foundation does not have a commercial purpose and the release of the information requested is not in Heritage Foundation's commercial interest. Heritage Foundation's mission is to formulate and promote public policies based on the principles of free enterprise, limited government, individual freedom, traditional American values, and a strong national defense. Heritage Foundation uses the information requested and analyzes it in order to educate the public through social media,¹ broadcast media² (traditional and nontraditional) and press releases.³ The requested information is in the public interest as this is an issue of national controversy which has been covered extensively by national broadcast media⁴ and national print media.⁵ The Department's investigation of Hunter Biden, son of President Biden, is an issue of national controversy that raises the appearance of a conflict of interest that would necessitate Special Counsel protections and authorities.⁶ However, to date, the Department of Justice has

¹ Heritage Foundation. [@ Heritage] (Accessed: 2022, February 18). 626.8K Followers Twitter. <https://twitter.com/Heritage>

² Fox News. (Accessed: 2022, February 18). Heritage Foundation launches Conservative Oversight Project aimed at 'exposing' Biden admin, leftist policies. <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/heritage-conservative-oversight-project-biden-admin-leftist-policies>

³ Heritage Foundation. (Accessed: 2022, February 18). Press. <https://www.heritage.org/press>

⁴ Fox News. (Accessed: 2023, March 3). *Garland slammed for acting as 'surrogate' for Biden as Hunter probe drags on: 'Weakest AG in 40 years'*. <https://www.foxnews.com/media/garland-slammed-acting-surrogate-biden-hunter-probe-draggs-weakest-ag-40-years>.

⁵ Washington Times. (Accessed: 2023, March 3). *Republicans demand DOJ give Special Counsel powers to prosecutor probing Hunter Biden*. <https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2022/sep/19/republicans-demand-doj-give-special-counsel-powers/>.

⁶ See generally Letter from 33 U.S. Senators, to Hon. Merrick B. Garland, Att'y Gen., Dep't of Justice (Sept. 16, 2022); General Powers of Special Counsel, 28 C.F.R. § 600.1 (2010).



214 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 546-4400
heritage.org

declined to appoint a Special Counsel in this matter, despite appointing Special Counsels in other investigations.⁷ This refusal plainly is a matter of great public interest.

Because this is a request by a member of the news media for information of public interest, made in my capacity as an author for the Daily Signal⁸ (a major news outlet⁹), I actively gather information of potential interest to our Daily Signal audience, and I use my editorial skills to turn raw materials into a distinct work, and I distribute that work to our Daily Signal audience through podcasts¹⁰ or articles. I request that you waive all applicable fees associated with this request.

If you deny this request for a fee waiver, please advise me in advance of the estimated charges if they are to exceed \$50. Please send me a detailed and itemized explanation of those charges.

⁷ Carrie Johnson, *A Special Counsel will probe government documents at Biden's home and private office*, NPR (Jan. 12, 2023).

⁸Daily Signal. (Accessed: 2022, February 18). Mike Howell. <https://www.dailysignal.com/author/mike-howell/>

⁹Daily Signal. [@DailySignal] (Accessed: 2022, February 18). 73.7K Followers Twitter. <https://twitter.com/DailySignal>.

¹⁰Apple. (Accessed: 2022, March 4). The Daily Signal Podcast. <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/the-daily-signal-podcast/id1313611947>



214 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 546-4400
heritage.org

Request for Expedited Processing:

Pursuant to 28 C.F.R. 16.5(e)(1)(iv), I request expedited processing for this request. I certify the following statement of facts in support of expedited processing to be true and correct pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 16.5(e)(3).

Background:

1. The investigation into Hunter Biden started in 2018.¹¹ The investigation involves Hunter Biden's foreign business dealings with Burisma¹² and CEFC China Energy¹³ as well as evidence found on a laptop belonging to Hunter Biden.¹⁴

2. On December 7, 2020, Congressman Ken Buck wrote a letter to Attorney General Barr requesting the appointment of a Special Counsel to investigate Hunter Biden. *See* App. C 001. On September 16, 2022, 33 Senators signed a letter to Attorney General Garland requesting “United States Attorney David C. Weiss be extended Special Counsel protections and authorities to conduct the Hunter Biden Investigation.” *See* App. C 002–007. The House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary wrote a letter to Attorney General Garland on February 28, 2023 regarding the Department of Justice’s refusal to appoint Special Counsel in the investigation of Hunter Biden.¹⁵

2. Recently, the Department appointed two Special Counsels: Jack Smith as Special Counsel to investigate former President Donald J. Trump as it concerns the criminal investigation of the retention of classified documents found at Trump’s Florida Mar-a-Lago property¹⁶; and Robert K. Hur as Special Counsel to investigate President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. as it concerns Biden’s handling of classified documents

¹¹ The Washington Post. (Accessed: 2023, March 5). *Federal agents see chargeable tax, gun-purchase case against Hunter Biden*. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2022/10/06/hunter-biden-tax-gun-charges/>.

¹² Politico. (Accessed: 2023, March 5). *The Hunter Biden investigations, Act I*. <https://www.politico.com/newsletters/politico-nightly/2023/02/08/the-hunter-biden-investigations-act-i-00081949>.

¹³ The Hill. (Accessed: 2023, March 8). *Hunter Biden controversy explained*. <https://thehill.com/opinion/white-house/3264088-hunter-biden-controversy-explained/>.

¹⁴ The Washington Post. (Accessed: 2023, March 5). *Federal agents see chargeable tax, gun-purchase case against Hunter Biden*. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2022/10/06/hunter-biden-tax-gun-charges/>.

¹⁵ House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary. (Accessed: 2023, March 1). <https://judiciary.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/republicans-judiciary.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/2023-02-28-jdj-to-garland-re-del.-us-atty.pdf>.

¹⁶ The Hill. (Accessed: 2023, March 7). *Who is Special Counsel Jack Smith?* <https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/3742261-who-is-special-counsel-jack-smith/>.



214 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 546-4400
heritage.org

found in his Delaware home's garage and a Washington office space used after his Vice Presidency.¹⁷

3. Even though FBI agents have stated there is more than enough evidence to criminally charge Hunter Biden, the Department has refused to prosecute Hunter Biden thus far.¹⁸ Despite the repeated requests of Members of Congress and Senators, the DOJ has not yet appointed Special Counsel for the Hunter Biden investigation.¹⁹

4. The following factual Appendices are attached and expressly incorporated herein and made part of this request (as are the factual sources cited therein).²⁰

- Appendix A is a collection of pertinent transcripts of network news television broadcasts, national newspaper articles, and press releases related to the need for a Special Counsel to investigate Hunter Biden and questioning the Department of Justice's refusal to do so.²¹
- Appendix B is a Congressional letter from the Committee on the Judiciary to Attorney General Garland questioning why a Special Counsel has not been appointed in the Hunter Biden investigation and requesting related documents.²²
- Appendix C is a Congressional letter from Representative Ken Buck and a letter signed by 33 Senators to Attorney General Barr requesting the

¹⁷ New York Post. (Accessed: 2023, March 7). *Who is Robert Hur, Special Counsel reviewing Biden classified docs?* <https://nypost.com/2023/01/12/robert-hur-the-special-counsel-reviewing-biden-classified-docs/>.

¹⁸ The Guardian. (Accessed: 2023, March 8). *Hunter Biden: reports say FBI has enough evidence for prosecution.* <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2022/oct/07/hunter-biden-reports-say-fbi-has-enough-evidence-for-prosecution>.

¹⁹ The Washington Examiner. (Accessed: 2023, March 5). *Jim Jordan rails against Special Counsel double standard in Hunter Biden investigation.* <https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/house/jim-jordan-special-counsel-double-standard-hunter-biden>.

²⁰ http://thf_media.s3.amazonaws.com/2023/Oversite Project/HBiden-SpecialCouncil AppendixA-C.pdf

²¹ http://thf_media.s3.amazonaws.com/2023/Oversite Project/HBiden-SpecialCouncil AppendixA-C.pdf

²² http://thf_media.s3.amazonaws.com/2023/Oversite Project/HBiden-SpecialCouncil AppendixA-C.pdf



214 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
 Washington, DC 20002
 (202) 546-4400
 heritage.org

Department of Justice appoint a Special Counsel to investigate Hunter Biden.²³

Expedited Processing is Warranted under 28 C.F.R. § 16.5(e)(1)(iv).

1. This provision provides that expedited processing shall be granted regarding: “A matter of widespread and exceptional media interest in which there exists possible questions about the government’s integrity which affect public confidence.”

Courts have held that the DOJ Regulation requires the requester to show: (1) that the request involves a “matter of widespread and exceptional media interest” (28 C.F.R. § 16.5(e)(1)(iv)); and (2) that the matter is one “in which there exists possible questions about the integrity of the government that affect public confidence” (*id.*). See *Edmonds v. FBI*, No. 02-cv-1294 (ESH), 2002 WL 32539613, *3 (D.D.C. Dec. 3, 2002). It is not necessary to show “prejudice or a matter of current exigency to the American public.” *Id.*

First, the DOJ Regulation requires showing that the matter about which questions of integrity have been raised is the subject of widespread national media attention. See *Am. Oversight v. DOJ*, 292 F.Supp.3d 501, 507–508 (D.D.C. 2018) (denying motion for expedited processing because general media interest in Solicitor General’s nomination is insufficient to show media interest in possible ethics questions concerning the nomination). There need not be a showing that the disclosure would shed considerable light on agency operations; only that there is “exceptional” and “widespread” media interest. See *CREW v. DOJ*, 870 F.Supp.2d 70, 81 (D.D.C. 2012), *rev’d on other grounds*, 746 F.3d 1082 (D.C. Cir. 2014). While the media interest need be “widespread” and “exceptional” it need not be overwhelming. See *ACLU*, 321 F.Supp.2d at 31–32 (rejecting DOJ’s position that requester’s citation to what the court described as “only a handful of articles” was insufficient to show “widespread and exceptional media interest” because those articles “were published in a variety of publications and repeatedly reference the ongoing national discussion about the Patriot Act and Section 215” (second quotation added)); *Edmonds*, 2002 WL 32539613, at *3 (numerous national newspaper and network television broadcasts

²³ [http://thf_media.s3.amazonaws.com/2023/Oversite Project/HBiden-SpecialCouncil_AppendixA-C.pdf](http://thf_media.s3.amazonaws.com/2023/Oversite%20Project/HBiden-SpecialCouncil_AppendixA-C.pdf)



214 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
 Washington, DC 20002
 (202) 546-4400
 heritage.org

concerning whistleblower’s allegations of security lapses in FBI translator program met test).²⁴

Second, the DOJ Regulation requires showing that “there exists *possible* questions about the government’s integrity that affect public confidence.” *CREW v. DOJ*, 436 F.Supp.3d 354, 361 (D.D.C. 2020) (*quoting* 28 C.F.R. § 16.5(e)(1)(4)) (emphasis by Court).²⁵ It does not “require the requester to prove wrongdoing by the government in order to obtain documents on an expedited basis.” *Id.* at 362. “The primary way to determine whether such possible questions exist is by examining the state of public coverage of the matter at issue, and whether that coverage surfaces possible ethics issues so potentially significant as to reduce public confidence in governmental institutions.” *Am. Oversight v. DOJ*, 292 F.Supp.3d 501, 508 (D.D.C. 2018). This is not an extraordinarily high bar. *See, e.g.*, *CREW*, 436 F.Supp.3d at 361 (complaint sufficient to survive a motion to dismiss where it alleged Attorney General’s action regarding disclosure of Mueller Report “supported an inference that at best, the Attorney General undertook to frame the public discussion on his own terms, and at worst that he distorted the truth”); *ACLU v. DOJ*, 321 F.Supp.2d 24, 32 (D.D.C. 2004) (allegations in press that Section 215 of the Patriot Act may be unconstitutional and reports that Members of Congress have alleged abuses of Section 215 “implicate[] government integrity” and hence are sufficient to meet test); *Edmonds*, 2002 WL 32539613, at *3–4 (test met where plaintiff alleged security lapses in FBI translators program, national news covered the issue, and two Senators expressed concern regarding “the significant security issues raised by plaintiff’s allegations and the integrity of the FBI”).²⁶

²⁴ *Cf.* 28 C.F.R. § 16.5(e)(3) (“The existence of numerous articles published on a given subject can be helpful in establishing the requirement that there be an ‘urgency to inform’ the public on the topic.”).

²⁵ To be sure, this standard does not require expedition of any questions concerning government integrity. *See, e.g.*, *White v. DOJ*, 16 F.4th 539, 544 (7th Cir. 2021) (test not met in case where records sought to cast doubt on requestors’ criminal conviction where requestor claimed he was subject to an elaborate government sting operation).

²⁶ DOJ has granted expedition under the DOJ Regulation in a number of circumstances. *See, e.g.*, *CREW v. DOJ*, 870 F.Supp.2d at 81 n. 14 (expedition granted to request seeking records on FBI’s closed investigation of Congressman DeLay for misconduct which did not result in charges, but received considerable media attention (subsequent history omitted)); *CREW v. DOJ*, 820 F.Supp.2d 39, 42, 46 (D.D.C. 2011) (expedition granted to request seeking information concerning possible deletion of Office of Legal Counsel emails where the possible deletion was flagged as a hindrance in an internal investigation, covered in the media, and was the subject of Congressional concerns); *Elec. Frontier Found. v. DOJ*, 565 F.Supp.2d 188, 189–91 (D.D.C. 2008) (expedition granted to request seeking information regarding storage of information obtained by National Security Letters in FBI’s Data Warehouse); *CREW v. DOJ*, No. 05-cv-2078 (EGS), 2006 WL 1518964, *1 (D.D.C. June 1, 2006) (expedition granted to request concerning government’s decision to seek a reduced penalty in tobacco



214 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
 Washington, DC 20002
 (202) 546-4400
 heritage.org

2. The facts amply support expedition here. There is extensive media coverage of concerns that the Department's investigation of Hunter Biden cannot possibly be independent without the appointment of a Special Counsel. *See* App. A at 006, 009, 013, 039, 076, 081, 083, 095–096, 101, 135, 137, 140, 142, 144, 155, 157, 160–161, 167, 169, 172, 174, 191–192, 194, 197, 200, 204–205, 207, 209, 215, 227, 244, 253, 255, 260, 281, 287. Similarly, national media regularly reports on concerns that political pressure—and thereby a lack of political independence—is preventing the prosecution of Hunter Biden. *See* App. A at 013, 019, 023–025, 035–037, 039, 041–042, 058, 086, 103, 141, 157–158, 172, 180, 194, 199–202, 240, 262, 272, 277, 284–285, 287, 311–313, 321, 329–330.

Additionally, there is sustained national media cover of,²⁷²⁸ and interest in, accusations by Senators and Members of Congress,²⁹³⁰ national news organizations,³¹ other public figures, and subject matter experts questioning why the Attorney General has not appointed Special Counsel to handle the Hunter Biden investigation, which demonstrates that those officials lack at a minimum, confidence that justice will be seen without a Special Counsel. At worst, these allegations reflect a direct lack of confidence in the integrity of the Department. Moreover, the Department's failure to appoint a Special Counsel in the Hunter Biden investigation when the FBI *itself* has stated it has enough evidence to criminally charge Hunter Biden can only

litigation where government's decision was subject to intensive news coverage and prompted concern from "several Congressman" which caused a request for an Inspector General investigation of "improper political interference" with the decision).

²⁷ Fox News. (Accessed: 2023, March 5). *Garland slammed for acting as 'surrogate' for Biden as Hunter probe drags on: 'Weakest AG in 40 years'*. <https://www.foxnews.com/media/garland-slammed-acting-surrogate-biden-hunter-probe-drags-weakest-ag-40-years>.

²⁸ Fox News. (Accessed: 2023, March 5). *Chuck Grassley grills Merrick Garland on independence of Hunter Biden investigation*. <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/chuck-grassley-grills-merrick-garland-independence-hunter-biden-investigation>.

²⁹ United States Senate. (Accessed: 2023, March 7). Letter to Attorney General Garland. https://www.rubio.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/cca78bc8-8336-4785-b4d8-d8226b6b663f/203D6DB0F989E1155730DD0613E3D694.hunter-biden-special-counsel-letter-final.pdf.

³⁰ House of Representatives. (Accessed: 2023, March 7). Letter to Attorney General Garland. <https://judiciary.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/republicans-judiciary.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/2023-02-28-jdj-to-garland-re-del.-us-atty.pdf>.

³¹ New York Post. (Accessed: 2023, March 5). *33 senators call for Hunter Biden Special Counsel, cite DOJ 'politicization'*. <https://nypost.com/2022/09/19/33-senators-call-for-hunter-biden-special-counsel-cite-doj-politicization/>.



214 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 546-4400
heritage.org

breed distrust in the Department's ability to independently investigate Hunter Biden and his activities without appointing a Special Counsel.³²

Thank you in advance for considering my request. If you have any questions, or feel you need clarification of this request please contact me at oversightproject@heritage.org.

Sincerely,

Mike Howell
Senior Advisor and Author at The Daily
Signal
The Heritage Foundation
214 Massachusetts Ave, NE
Washington, D.C. 20002

³² The Guardian. (Accessed: 2023, March 8). *Hunter Biden: reports say FBI has enough evidence for prosecution*. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2022/oct/07/hunter-biden-reports-say-fbi-has-enough-evidence-for-prosecution>.

Appendix A

NewsRoom

12/17/20 Wash. Times (D.C.) (Pg. Unavail. Online)
2020 WLNR 35995270

Washington Times (DC)
Copyright (c) 2020 News World Communications, Inc.

December 17, 2020

Section: Politics

Joe Biden says he's 'confident' son Hunter did nothing wrong

Jeff Mordock, THE WASHINGTON TIMES

President-elect Joseph R. Biden on Wednesday said he's confident his son, **Hunter Biden**, did nothing wrong amid a federal investigation and increasing calls for a **special counsel** to probe the younger Biden's business dealings.

"Are you confident your son, Hunter, did nothing wrong?" a reporter asked the elder Biden at a press conference to introduce Pete Buttigieg, a former South Bend mayor and presidential candidate, as his nominee for transportation secretary.

"I'm confident," Mr. Biden shot back.

The exchange marks only the second time, Mr. Biden has addressed his son's legal issues since they were publicly disclosed last week. At a press conference last week, Mr. Biden tersely responded to questions about Hunter by simply saying, "I'm proud of my son."

Hunter Biden issued a statement last week revealing federal prosecutors in Delaware are investigating his taxes. He said an objective review of the matter will conclude that his taxes were handled "legally and appropriately."

The probe, which began in 2018, is focused on his business dealings in Ukraine and China. Authorities are said to be looking into whether **Hunter Biden** violated tax and money laundering laws.

President Trump and others have demanded a **special counsel** investigate **Hunter Biden's** business dealings.

Sen. Tom Cotton, Arkansas Republican, has called for the Justice Department to appoint a prosecutor before Mr. Biden is sworn in on Jan. 20.

Attorney General William P. Barr on Monday announced he was stepping down on Dec. 23. If the Justice Department were to appoint a **special counsel**, the decision would likely come from incoming acting Attorney General Jeffrey Rosen.

---- Index References ----

News Subject: (Crime (1CR87); Criminal Law (1CR79); Financial Fraud (1FI18); Fraud (1FR30); Government Litigation (1GO18); Judicial Cases & Rulings (1JU36); Legal (1LE33); Social Issues (1SO05))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Jeffrey Rosen; Trump; Hunter Biden; Joseph R. Biden; William P. Barr; Joe Biden; Tom Cotton; Pete Buttigieg)

Word Count: 262

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

10/22/21 Wash. Times (D.C.) (Pg. Unavail. Online)
2021 WLNR 34615378

Washington Times (DC)
Copyright (c) 2021 News World Communications, Inc.

October 22, 2021

Section: Politics

Garland dodges question on **special counsel** for **Hunter Biden's** art sales

Dave Boyer, THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Attorney General Merrick Garland deflected a lawmaker's request Thursday to appoint a special counsel to investigate the high-priced art sales of presidential son Hunter Biden, saying only that he would take the question "under advisement."

"I'm not able to discuss any investigations, pending or otherwise, with respect to any citizen of the United States," Mr. Garland told Rep. Ken Buck, Colorado Republican, at a House Judiciary Committee hearing.

Mr. Buck opened his line of questioning about Hunter Biden by displaying on an easel a painting by impressionist Claude Monet, on sale at Christie's auction house for \$700,000.

Squinting at the witness table, the attorney general said, "I'm sorry, I can't read any of the words."

"You don't need to - you just need to look at this great painting," Mr. Buck said.

"Very beautiful," the attorney general said.

Mr. Buck then showed Mr. Garland a painting by Edgar Degas, which sold for \$500,000. Then the lawmaker showed a third painting, a colorful splotch, which drew laughter in the hearing room.

"The third painting - you may recognize this name - is a **Hunter Biden**," Mr. Buck told the attorney general. "The **Hunter Biden** painting sold for \$500,000 also."

Mr. Buck said that in 2019, President Biden's son "couldn't find a gallery to list his art."

"And what happened in 2020 that changed all that is his dad became president of the United States," Mr. Buck said. "Now a single piece of art from **Hunter Biden** sells for more than the average American home. By the way, Mr. Attorney General, this is the same **Hunter Biden** who's being investigated by your department and the IRS for tax fraud."

Launching into **Hunter Biden's** checkered history of sweetheart deals, Mr. Buck told the attorney general, "Selling fakes, or selling or having a fake skill set, is nothing new to **Hunter Biden**."

"When his dad was vice president, **Hunter Biden** received \$50,000 a month from a Ukrainian oligarch to sit on a board of an energy company. What was **Hunter Biden's** background in energy? Nada," Mr. Buck said.

He also pointed to **Hunter Biden** becoming "a private equity guru" with a Chinese firm linked to China's central bank when the elder Biden was vice president.

"With his dubious track record, inquiring minds might question why any art gallery would want to sell **Hunter Biden's** art," Mr. Buck said, adding that the Georges Berges Gallery in New York "had its COVID relief alone more than doubled by the Biden administration" to a total of \$80,000.

"In a survey of more than 100 art galleries in New York's 10th Congressional District, this particular art gallery received by far the largest SBA disaster loan [\$500,000]," Mr. Buck said. He also noted that the district is represented by House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jerrold Nadler, a Democrat who sat silently during the presentation in the hearing.

Mr. Buck asked, "Mr. Attorney General, who buys **Hunter Biden's** art? What benefits do they receive from the Biden administration? The American people want to know."

The lawmaker said he'd sent a letter to Mr. Garland requesting that he appoint a **special counsel**.

"Now, will you appoint a **special counsel** to investigate **Hunter Biden**?" he said.

Mr. Garland replied, "Apparently I just received the letter today from you, and we'll be taking it under advisement, but I wasn't aware that you had sent me a letter."

The White House has said buyers of **Hunter Biden's** art will remain anonymous, limiting the possibilities of wealthy buyers trying to gain influence with the administration. Ethics specialists have panned the arrangement.

---- **Index References** ----

Company: SRI NANDAA SPINNERS LIMITED; INDIAN REGISTER OF SHIPPING; BIDEN TOOL & SUPPLY-CERT ASTS; CHRISTIE GROUP PLC

News Subject: (Art (1AR38); Crime (1CR87); Criminal Law (1CR79); Fraud (1FR30); Government (1GO80); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Legislation (1LE97); Social Issues (1SO05); U.S. Legislation (1US12))

Industry: (Entertainment (1EN08))

Region: (Americas (1AM92); New York (1NE72); North America (1NO39); U.S. Mid-Atlantic Region (1MI18); USA (1US73))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Republican; House Judiciary Committee; Georges Berges Gallery; SBA; Democrat; White House; IRS; Biden; Christie) (Merrick Garland; Hunter Biden; Ken Buck; Claude Monet; Edgar Degas; Jerrold Nadler)

Word Count: 600

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

4/14/22 Wash. Times (D.C.) (Pg. Unavail. Online)
2022 WLNR 11845887

Washington Times (DC)
Copyright (c) 2022 News World Communications, Inc.

April 14, 2022

Section: Politics

Attorney general urged to appoint a **special counsel** to oversee Biden probe

Haris Alic, THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Ninety-five House Republicans are demanding that Attorney General Merrick Garland appoint a **special counsel** to investigate President **Biden's** son **Hunter Biden** for financial impropriety overseas.

Republican lawmakers, led by Rep. Carol Miller of West Virginia, sent a letter to the Justice Department on Wednesday urging Mr. Garland to ensure that current probes of **Hunter Biden's** business dealings are free of conflicts of interest.

"We believe that in the case of **Hunter Biden** a **Special Counsel** must be appointed to preserve the integrity of this investigation and any subsequent prosecution," the lawmakers wrote. "A **Special Counsel** would also ensure there is no bias in the investigation or undue influence from the White House."

The U.S. Attorney's Office currently has an open investigation of **Hunter Biden**. While few details are clear, the investigation appears to extend into tax evasion and whether the younger Mr. Biden failed to properly disclose foreign business interests to the government.

Since Mr. Garland was appointed and directly responsible to the president, it is improper for him to have an official say over any investigation into the Biden family, the lawmakers said.

"We are concerned that in the case of **Hunter Biden** the Department has an actual conflict of interest and certainly has the appearance of a conflict of interest that could prevent a fair and impartial investigation of his activities," they wrote. "You were nominated to your position by **Hunter Biden's** father and ultimately work for him."

The Justice Department did not immediately respond to requests for comment on this story.

During the 2020 presidential campaign, FBI investigators obtained a laptop belonging to **Hunter Biden** as part of a probe into money laundering. The laptop was abandoned at a Delaware repair shop and later turned over to news outlets and law enforcement officials. It exposed details of **Hunter Biden's** wheeling and dealing in foreign countries such as China and Ukraine where his father's political influence was prominent.

While the laptop provided fresh details, many of **Hunter Biden's** massively lucrative business arrangements had been raising eyebrows in Washington for years.

A top example is **Hunter Biden's** landing of a high-paying job in April 2014 on the board of directors of Burisma Holdings, a Ukrainian natural gas conglomerate. At the time, **Hunter Biden** had little experience in either the energy industry or Eastern Europe and was paid as much as \$50,000 per month for his service.

Shortly before the appointment, then-Vice President Joseph R. Biden was named as the Obama administration's point man on Ukraine.

"It appears that **Hunter Biden** used his position as [the] son of then-Vice President Biden to gain wealth and influence in foreign countries, using questionably sourced money to pay tax liabilities, and lobbying on behalf of foreign entities without proceeding through the proper channels," wrote the GOP lawmakers.

Adding to the appearance of impropriety, Hunter Biden joined Burisma's board at the same that its founder was courting Western leaders after having assets in Britain seized on suspicion of money laundering.

Reuters reported that a Ukrainian official with knowledge of Burisma's internal operations said in 2019 that Hunter Biden was only appointed to the company's board to protect against foreign scrutiny.

--- **Index References** ---

Company: U.S. Virgin Islands Office of Attorney General; Federal Bureau of Investigation; THOMSON REUTERS CORPORATION; BURISMA HOLDINGS LIMITED

News Subject: (Corruption, Bribery & Embezzlement (1EM51); Crime (1CR87); Criminal Law (1CR79); Financial Fraud (1FI18); Fraud (1FR30); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Money Laundering (1ML45); Social Issues (1SO05))

Region: (Americas (1AM92); CIS Countries (1CI64); Eastern Europe (1EA48); Europe (1EU83); North America (1NO39); U.S. Southeast Region (1SO88); USA (1US73); Ukraine (1UK09); West Virginia (1WE81))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (House Republicans; Republican; Justice Department; White House; Obama administration; GOP; U.S. Attorney's Office; FBI; Reuters; Burisma Holdings) (Hunter Biden; Merrick Garland; Carol Miller; Joseph R. Biden)

Word Count: 531

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

10/20/20 Wash. Times (D.C.) (Pg. Unavail. Online)
2020 WLNR 29779322

Washington Times (DC)
Copyright (c) 2020 News World Communications, Inc.

October 20, 2020

Section: Politics

Hunter Biden emails no Russia disinformation campaign, DNI John Ratcliffe says

Rowan Scarborough, Dave Boyer and Jeff Mordock, THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Director of National Intelligence John Ratcliffe said Monday that the emails from a laptop purportedly belonging to **Hunter Biden** are not part of a Russian disinformation campaign against Democratic nominee Joseph R. Biden, as House Republicans called for a **special counsel** to investigate.

Mr. Ratcliffe said there is no evidence that **Hunter Biden's** explosive emails have any connection to Moscow, and he specifically called out Rep. Adam B. Schiff, California Democrat and chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, for spreading the baseless conspiracy theory.

"It's funny that some of the people who complain the most about intelligence being politicized are the ones politicizing the intelligence," Mr. Ratcliffe said on Fox Business.

"Unfortunately, it is Adam Schiff who said the intelligence community believes the Hunter Biden laptop and emails on it are part of a Russian disinformation campaign," he said.

Mr. Ratcliffe, who was tapped by President Trump earlier this year for his post, said the U.S. intelligence community "doesn't believe that [Russian connection] because there is no intelligence that supports that. And we have shared no intelligence with Adam Schiff or any member of Congress."

Mr. Schiff, without evidence, immediately blamed Russia last week after the New York Post published a number of emails from a laptop owned by Hunter Biden, son of the Democratic presidential nominee.

The lawmaker who led the impeachment of Mr. Trump appeared to respond to the Biden controversy Monday on Twitter.

"Anticipating the harsh judgment of history, Trump's enablers are lashing out. At everyone. It will be said that when they found they lacked the courage to confront the most dangerous, unethical president in American history, they consoled themselves by attacking those who did," he wrote.

Mr. Biden again avoided answering questions about the accusations. He was at his home in Delaware preparing for the final presidential debate Thursday, aides said.

He bristled at a CBS News reporter who asked him about the accusations last week. "I have no response," he said. "I knew you'd ask it. I have no response. It's another smear campaign, right up your alley. Those are the questions you always ask."

House Republicans urged Attorney General William Barr on Monday to appoint a special counsel to probe accusations surrounding the laptop. The lawmakers want Mr. Barr to investigate claims that the former vice president played a role in his son's lucrative business dealings in Ukraine and China.

They said the American people deserve to know whether the Democratic presidential nominee "received foreign monies during his tenure in the Obama administration" and whether he "allowed his son to peddle access" to him with foreign business entities.

"If these reports about former Vice President Joe Biden and his son, Hunter, are true, the former vice president fell far short of his responsibility to uphold his constitutional oath and betrayed the sacred trust of the American people," the lawmakers wrote.

"We request that the Department of Justice immediately appoint an independent, unbiased special counsel to investigate the issues that we have raised - as well as any corresponding legal or ethical issues that might be uncovered from the former vice president's 47 years in public office," said the letter, obtained by The Washington Times.

Its 11 Republican signatories include Reps. Andy Biggs of Arizona, Paul A. Gosar of Arizona, Ted Yoho of Florida, Jody Hice of Georgia and Debbie Lesko of Arizona.

They wrote the letter after the New York Post published emails last week alleging that Hunter Biden introduced his father to a top executive at Ukrainian natural gas firm Burisma Holdings in 2015, roughly a year before Vice President Biden pressured the country's government to fire a prosecutor investigating the company.

The Biden campaign has insisted that the candidate never met with the executive, citing his official schedules, and has slammed the Post story as "not legitimate."

An email dated May 13, 2017, published by the Post includes a discussion of "remuneration packages" for six people involved in a business deal with a Chinese energy firm. The email identifies Hunter Biden as "Chair/Vice Chair" of the now-bankrupt company.

The email also includes a proposed equity split that references "10 held by H for the big guy." No other details were provided.

The Post and Fox News have reported "the big guy" is a reference to Joseph R. Biden.

Mr. Trump, campaigning in Arizona on Monday, told supporters that Mr. Biden would be facing federal prosecution by now for corruption if Mr. Barr weren't so "nice."

"Somebody else would have taken that thing and all that crap and corruption," Mr. Trump said of his attorney general. "But in many ways, Bill Barr is a wonderful human being and a very fair person. And he's not a person that wants to hurt people. He's a very fair man. And in many ways, and especially in that position, there's something very nice about it."

Mr. Trump said the FBI should be investigating both Bidens.

"You should call [FBI Director Christopher A.] Wray and ask him," Mr. Trump told reporters. "On its face, he is as guilty as he could be."

Mr. Schiff has consistently implied in recent years that Russians who hacked the Democrats' 2016 election computers are behind various conspiracies.

He and other Democrats said a Russian-tied Ukrainian politician influenced an investigation into **Hunter Biden's** finances by Republican senators. The senators said their staffs never talked to the operative or received any material from him.

The MacBook Pro laptop was left by **Hunter Biden** at a repair shop in Wilmington, Delaware, in April 2019, the shop owner told the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee.

Mr. Biden never retrieved the machine, so the shop owner took possession after three months, as was his legal right.

He was so disturbed by some of the contents that he provided the hard drive to the FBI in late 2019. He later provided copies to Rudolph W. Giuliani, President Trump's personal attorney.

The email cache shows Hunter Biden arranged a meeting with an executive from Ukraine's Burisma Holdings, an energy firm that placed Mr. Biden on its board of directors even though he had no experience in the energy business, and paid him millions of dollars from 2014 to 2019.

Mr. Biden also had a deal with a Chinese billionaire to pay him \$10 million a year for "introductions only."

White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows suggested there is more damaging information that ties the former vice president to wrongdoing. He also said it is Democrats who are spreading laptop disinformation.

"I'm not aware of any Russian disinformation campaign that would involve these emails or this laptop," Mr. Meadows said on Fox News. "And no defensive briefing, to my knowledge, has been given.

"All of this narrative that is out there that would suggest that it's not real, that's the disinformation. You know, Adam Schiff came on and said 'Oh, this is Russia, Russia, Russia.' And again, I can tell you, this is Adam Schiff, once again, trying to spin a story that's not accurate. I think in the days to come you will see that Joe Biden will have a lot to answer for."

S.A. Miller contributed to this report from Phoenix.

---- **Index References** ----

Company: GRAHAM HOLDINGS CO

News Subject: (Campaigns & Elections (1CA25); Global Politics (1GL73); Government (1GO80); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Legislation (1LE97); World Elections (1WO93))

Industry: (Security (1SE29); Security Agencies (1SE35))

Region: (Americas (1AM92); Arizona (1AR13); Asia (1AS61); CIS Countries (1CI64); Delaware (1DE13); Eastern Europe (1EA48); Europe (1EU83); New York (1NE72); North America (1NO39); U.S. Mid-Atlantic Region (1MI18); U.S. Southwest Region (1SO89); USA (1US73); Ukraine (1UK09))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Burisma Holdings) (Adam B. Schiff; Joseph R. Biden; Obama; Paul A. Gosar; John Ratcliffe; Ted Yoho; Trump; Hunter Biden; Andy Biggs; Mark Meadows; Christopher A. Wray; Debbie Lesko; Rudolph W. Giuliani; Joe Biden; Jody Hice; Bill Barr; William Barr)

Word Count: 1205

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

12/21/20 Wash. Times (D.C.) (Pg. Unavail. Online)
2020 WLNR 36426963

Washington Times (DC)
Copyright (c) 2020 News World Communications, Inc.

December 21, 2020

Section: Politics

Fate of Hunter Biden probe prosecutor a 'personnel decision': Biden spokeswoman

Jeff Mordock, THE WASHINGTON TIMES

President-elect Joseph R. Biden is promising to stay out of the federal investigation of his son Hunter Biden but will not pledge to protect the U.S. attorney leading the probe.

Incoming White House press secretary Jen Psaki on Sunday dodged questions about U.S. Attorney for Delaware David C. Weiss, who is leading the probe, keeping his job in the Biden administration.

"That's a personnel decision. We are far from there at this point in the process, given we have not announced an attorney general, a commerce secretary, a labor secretary, an education secretary," Ms. Psaki said on "Fox News Sunday." "We're going to allow the process to work how it should, which is for a Justice Department to be run independently by the attorney general at the top."

She said Mr. Biden's interviews of attorney general candidates will not include a discussion of the investigation of his son's taxes and business dealings with China.

Accusations of nepotism, corruption and influence peddling have swirled around **Hunter Biden** since his father was vice president in the Obama administration. Mr. Weiss' probe, which **Hunter Biden** acknowledged this month, is the first time the public has seen the feds go after him.

Republicans want Mr. Weiss shielded from being fired, but there is little they can do beyond marshaling public opinion in support of the probe.

GOP lawmakers also are pushing for a special counsel to handle the matter, which President Trump is considering as one of his final actions before leaving office Jan. 20.

"No matter how good Weiss may be and how much Weiss may be doing, if there is a shift in administrations, do you think Weiss and his subordinates would risk advancement by taking down the president's son and brother and anyone else who may be implicated?" Rep. Andy Biggs, Arizona Republican, told The Washington Times.

When presidents assume office, they typically fire all of the U.S. attorneys appointed by their predecessor. Mr. Biden is expected to follow suit, which puts Mr. Weiss in the crosshairs.

In the past, Mr. Biden blasted Republican presidents who have fired U.S. attorneys amid politically sensitive investigations.

As a senator from Delaware, Mr. Biden criticized President George W. Bush for firing eight U.S. attorneys, calling it "highly, highly unusual."

Yet he remained silent as vice president in 2009, when President Obama's attorney general, Eric H. Holder Jr., replaced all of Mr. Bush's U.S. attorneys.

In 1993, Mr. Biden defended President Clinton's firing of U.S. attorneys appointed by President George H.W. Bush. One of the fired U.S. attorneys was overseeing a corruption probe targeting Rep. Dan Rostenkowski, Illinois Democrat.

Mr. Biden said there was no political influence on the investigations. A new U.S. attorney later finished the investigation into Rostenkowski, who served jail time for his crimes.

Still, some Republican senators say protecting Mr. Weiss is better than unleashing a special counsel.

"If Joe Biden is sworn in as president on Jan. 20, then those U.S. attorneys who are involved in this investigation, [and] their staff absolutely must stay on," said Sen. Josh Hawley, Missouri Republican. "I mean, there can't be any talk of replacing them or transitioning them. Anybody at the Department of Justice, main DOJ, who's involved in this investigation must also be allowed to finish it and complete it. I mean, these are very serious allegations."

One way or another, Republicans are scrambling to keep the **Hunter Biden** probe alive.

Ross Garber, who teaches political investigations and impeachment at Tulane University School of Law, doesn't see much of a difference between keeping Mr. Weiss or appointing a **special counsel** because both will report to Mr. Biden's handpicked attorney general.

"I think the calls for a **special counsel** are misguided," Mr. Garber said. "There is a mistaken and naive belief that **special counsels** are independent. They are not."

Mr. Biggs said the party is facing "enormous pressure to act now."

If Republicans retain control of the Senate, which will be decided by two runoff elections in Georgia on Jan. 5, there would be little they could do to protect Mr. Weiss. U.S. attorneys serve at the pleasure of the president and can be fired at will.

Republicans would not be entirely powerless, however, if they retain the Senate. They could hold up the confirmation of Mr. Biden's nomination for attorney general unless Mr. Weiss stays in his job.

A similar scenario played out during Watergate. President Nixon's nominee for attorney general, Elliot Richardson, spent his confirmation hearing assuring senators that Watergate special prosecutor Archibald Cox would have full and independent control of the investigation.

"I would expect that before key Biden Justice Department positions are confirmed, the Senate is going to insist on satisfactory answers about how the **Hunter Biden** investigation is going to be handled," Mr. Garber said.

Mr. Biden has pledged to stay out of the Justice Department's affairs, repeatedly emphasizing the department's independence to contrast himself with President Trump.

That was before **Hunter Biden** disclosed he was under investigation. Since then, Joseph R. Biden has been mostly mum on the matter, saying only he is "confident" his son was not involved in wrongdoing and he is "proud" of him.

Mr. Trump has been consulting advisers about potentially appointing a special counsel. That decision would typically be made by the attorney general.

With current Attorney General William Barr stepping down this week, all eyes will be on Acting Attorney General Jeffrey Rosen.

If Mr. Rosen refuses the request, Mr. Trump could fire him and appoint someone else to follow the order.

Mr. Trump took to Twitter last week to deny reports that he wants a special counsel, saying he has "nothing to do" with the case.

S.A. Miller contributed to this report.

---- **Index References** ----

News Subject: (Campaigns & Elections (1CA25); Global Politics (1GL73); Government (1GO80); Government Litigation (1GO18); Judicial Cases & Rulings (1JU36); Legal (1LE33); Public Affairs (1PU31); World Elections (1WO93))

Region: (Americas (1AM92); Delaware (1DE13); North America (1NO39); U.S. Mid-Atlantic Region (1MI18); USA (1US73))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (David C. Weiss; Joseph R. Biden; Obama; Elliot Richardson; S.A. Miller; Josh Hawley; Ross Garber; Jen Psaki; Nixon; Archibald Cox; Jeffrey Rosen; George W. Bush; Trump; Hunter Biden; Eric H. Holder Jr.; George H.W. Bush; Andy Biggs; Dan Rostenkowski; Joe Biden; Clinton; William Barr)

Word Count: 966

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

10/21/20 Wash. Times (D.C.) (Pg. Unavail. Online)
2020 WLNR 29866390

Washington Times (DC)
Copyright (c) 2020 News World Communications, Inc.

October 21, 2020

Section: Politics

Donald Trump backs GOP's call for AG William Barr to appoint **special counsel** to probe **Hunter Biden**

Dave Boyer and Jeff Mordock, THE WASHINGTON TIMES

President Trump called on Attorney General William Barr on Tuesday to appoint a special counsel to investigate the laptop reportedly owned by Hunter Biden revealing his overseas business deals, and the top Republican on the House intelligence committee proclaimed emails from the laptop "authentic."

"We've got to get the attorney general to act. He's got to act fast," Mr. Trump said on "Fox & Friends." "He's got to appoint somebody. This is major corruption, and this has to be known about before the election."

The Justice Department did not respond to requests for comment.

Democratic presidential nominee Joseph R. Biden, Hunter Biden's father, spent another day in seclusion in Delaware without commenting on the matter. He has called the story a "smear campaign," but neither Mr. Biden nor his son has addressed whether the trove of emails is legitimate.

Mr. Trump, though, labeled the scandal "the laptop from hell" during a campaign rally in Erie, Pennsylvania on Tuesday night, calling Mr. Biden a corrupt politician.

"The Bidens got rich while Pennsylvania got robbed -- like the rest of our country," Mr. Trump told the crowd.

Rep. Jim Jordan of Ohio, the top Republican on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and a vocal Trump ally, said Republican committee staffers have independently authenticated through "numerous conversations" that the emails discovered on the laptop were sent to and from Hunter Biden.

"These emails are real. They're authentic," Mr. Jordan told reporters on a conference call organized by the president's reelection campaign.

Jenna Arnold, who campaigns on behalf of the Democratic nominee, said on Fox News on Sunday that nobody has claimed the emails are "inauthentic."

Asked whether he supports a special counsel investigation, Mr. Jordan said, "I'm for whatever it takes to get to the facts and the truth. This information has just come out and shows that [Mr. Biden] misled the American people when he told us back during impeachment that he had no involvement in his son's business dealings. Turns out that he in fact did."

A group of Mr. Jordan's Republican colleagues urged Mr. Barr in a letter Monday to appoint a special counsel. The president told supporters Monday that Mr. Biden would already be facing federal prosecution if Mr. Barr weren't such a "nice" and "fair" person.

Mr. Trump also has expressed frustration with Mr. Barr over the timing of an investigation by U.S. Attorney John Durham into the origins of the Russia probe against his campaign in 2016, which will not be completed by Election Day.

The laptop abandoned at a Delaware repair shop is at the center of what the president is calling a huge influence-peddling scandal showing that Mr. Biden, while serving as vice president, knew about and facilitated millions of dollars in payments to his son from businessmen in Ukraine and China.

The Trump team claims that Mr. Biden, thought to be referred to as "big guy" in one email, received a cut of some of his son's lucrative dealings. The email does not identify the "big guy" in the exchange.

The president said the bombshell, with two weeks remaining until voting ends on Nov. 3, has shifted the race in his favor. Mr. Biden has been leading in most state and national polls.

"It's just going very well," the president said. "I think he's imploding. You look at all the corruption in his family. That laptop, nobody has ever seen anything like that. He's gone into hiding. ... And things are changing fast, and the numbers at the polls are looking really good - really, really good."

Democrats including Rep. Adam B. Schiff of California, chairman of the House intelligence committee, accused Trump attorney Rudolph W. Giuliani of being a dupe of a Russian disinformation campaign after Mr. Giuliani brought the emails to the New York Post last week. Director of National Intelligence John Ratcliffe said Monday there is no evidence that the matter is part of a "Russian disinformation campaign."

Fox News reported that it has viewed an \$85 receipt from the repair shop with a signature thought to be that of Hunter Biden. Other documents indicate that the shop owner was contacted by the FBI.

The FBI reportedly is in possession of the laptop, seizing it through a grand jury subpoena, although the agency hasn't commented on the matter. FBI sources agree with Mr. Ratcliffe that the emails are not part of a Russian disinformation campaign, Fox reported.

Sen. Ron Johnson, Wisconsin Republican and chairman of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, said the FBI should brief lawmakers on the status of any investigation. The FBI reportedly seized the laptop on Dec. 17, 2019, in the midst of Mr. Trump's impeachment, raising questions about whether any information on the device could have been relevant to the subject of Ukraine corruption that was central to Democrats' case against the president.

In a series of tweets Tuesday, Mr. Johnson directed questions at Mr. Biden about his son's former business partners. One of them, Bevan Cooney, is serving a 30-month prison term for fraud. The other, Devon Archer, is awaiting sentencing on his conviction in the same scheme.

"Hunter Biden's business partner Devon Archer is now a convicted felon," Mr. Johnson said in a Twitter post. "New emails from an independent source show he & co-conspirators planned to 'put some honey' from this scheme 'in Hunter's pocket.' Isn't it time reporters ask @JoeBiden a few questions?"

George Mesires, **Hunter Biden's** attorney, has said Archer and Cooney used **Hunter Biden's** name without his knowledge to lend credibility to their business.

Mr. Johnson also asked Mr. Biden, "Why did you meet with Devon in the White House on April 16, 2014 - 5 days before you traveled to Ukraine, 6 days before Devon joined Burisma's board, and 28 days before Hunter joined Burisma's board?"

Burisma Holdings is a Ukrainian energy company that hired Hunter Biden for about \$4 million to serve on its board.

Mr. Johnson also tweeted at the former vice president, "And what about a Chinese national funding a \$100,000 shopping spree for your son, brother and sister-in-law? Was that another example of someone 'putting some honey' in their pockets?"

Andrew McCarthy, a former federal prosecutor who has written books on the Russia collusion probe, said there is no need for a special prosecutor to investigate the Bidens.

"As the Obama investigation of the Trump campaign showed, there is no reason the administration of the opposite party has to appoint a special counsel to investigate people connected to the opposition party," he said. "There is no reason to believe the Justice Department can't handle an investigation."

He cautioned that the results of any probe into the Bidens wouldn't be known until after the election.

"The people I know at the Justice Department wouldn't be looking at this in terms of the political calendar," he said. "There are a lot of strands of foreign funding at issue here, and that would take a long time to run it down."

Even if the Justice Department does uncover wrongdoing, it would have to keep it quiet because of guidelines that block federal prosecutors from bringing charges in a political case within 60 days of an election.

That doesn't mean the investigators aren't seriously looking into Hunter Biden's actions, Mr. McCarthy said.

"From everything I can see, there is a serious investigation going on," Mr. McCarthy said. "The FBI doesn't issue grand jury summons for nothing."

Federal authorities are reportedly investigating whether the emails are linked to a foreign intelligence operation.

The New York Post reported last week that the abandoned laptop hard drive contained evidence that **Hunter Biden** made the introduction of a Burisma executive to Vice President Biden in 2015. An email from Burisma adviser Vadym Pozharskyi thanked **Hunter Biden** for the "opportunity to meet your father and spen[d] some time together" in Washington.

Biden campaign officials have said his schedule for the date in question doesn't show a meeting with Mr. Pozharskyi.

In March 2016, Mr. Biden threatened to withhold \$1 billion in U.S. loan guarantees to Ukraine unless the government fired a prosecutor with jurisdiction over investigations into Burisma. He said Ukraine needed to install a prosecutor who would pursue corruption cases.

Cooney gave Breitbart News access to his Gmail account and said he believed he was the "fall guy" for Hunter Biden's business dealings and reported corruption. Breitbart said it has about 26,000 of Cooney's emails.

- Alex Swoyer contributed to this report.

--- Index References ---

News Subject: (Campaigns & Elections (1CA25); Crime (1CR87); Criminal Law (1CR79); Emerging Market Countries (1EM65); Fraud (1FR30); Global Politics (1GL73); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Social Issues (1SO05); World Elections (1WO93))

Industry: (Security (1SE29); Security Agencies (1SE35))

Region: (Americas (1AM92); Asia (1AS61); CIS Countries (1CI64); Delaware (1DE13); Eastern Europe (1EA48); Europe (1EU83); New York (1NE72); North America (1NO39); Pennsylvania (1PE71); Russia (1RU33); U.S. Mid-Atlantic Region (1MI18); USA (1US73); Ukraine (1UK09))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Burisma Holdings) (John Ratcliffe; Trump; Andrew McCarthy; Jenna Arnold; George Mesires; Adam B. Schiff; Donald Trump; Donald John Trump; Bevan Cooney; Joseph R. Biden; John Durham; Devon Archer; Hunter Biden; Jim Jordan; Breitbart; Alex Swoyer; Rudolph W. Giuliani; Ron Johnson; Vadym Pozharskyi; William Barr)

Word Count: 1412

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

7/22/22 Wash. Times (D.C.) (Pg. Unavail. Online)
2022 WLNR 22883886

Washington Times (DC)
Copyright (c) 2022 News World Communications, Inc.

July 22, 2022

Section: Politics

Hunter Biden probe is reaching critical stage: Report DOJ, Delaware prosecutors wrestling with possible tax charges, making false statement

Tom Howell Jr. and Jeff Mordock, THE WASHINGTON TIMES

A federal investigation into President Biden's son Hunter is reportedly reaching a critical stage as prosecutors weigh whether to bring charges ahead of the midterm elections.

The Department of Justice is discussing the case with Delaware-based prosecutors and consulting guidelines around politically sensitive cases, according to CNN, which cited people familiar with the talks.

Talks about charges have centered on potential tax violations and making a false statement regarding Hunter Biden's purchase of a firearm when he would have been prevented from doing so because of his struggles with drug addiction, the report said.

The probe, which began in 2018, is being led by David Weiss, the U.S. attorney in Delaware, who was appointed by President Trump. A spokesperson for Mr. Weiss and the lawyer representing Hunter Biden in the probe did not respond to requests for comment. It's another headache for President Biden, who faces the prospect of Republican investigations into his family's business ties if they win control of the House in November.

Rep. James Comer of Kentucky, the ranking member on the House Oversight and Reform Committee, vowed last month that his committee will investigate Hunter Biden if Republicans take control of the House. "I believe that his son is corrupt," Mr. Comer said of the president. It's also a fraught situation for Attorney General Merrick Garland, given that the probe hits close to home for the White House. Mr. Garland has fiercely defended the investigation's independence and pledged that there will be no political or other improper interference. Republicans have called for a **special counsel** to investigate **Hunter Biden**, though it's not clear whether the public has the appetite for another high-profile **special counsel** investigation. **Special counsel** Robert Mueller's findings are still being debated in Washington more than three years after his investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election wrapped up. John Durham, a special prosecutor appointed by then-Attorney General William Barr, is continuing his probe into the FBI's handling of reported links between Mr. Trump and Russia.

Hunter Biden has denied wrongdoing, and the president is not being investigated despite claims that his son leveraged his stature in foreign business dealings.

Sources familiar with the investigation confirmed the authenticity this year of **Hunter Biden's** abandoned laptop, which became a source of contention during the 2020 presidential election.

The laptop's existence, first reported by the New York Post in October 2020, was initially dismissed by the Bidens and mainstream media as Russian disinformation.

The laptop's hard drive contained emails, text messages, photos and other material detailing how **Hunter Biden** used his political connections to boost his overseas business dealings.

Sens. Charles E. Grassley of Iowa and Ron Johnson of Wisconsin, respectively the top Republicans on the Judiciary and Homeland Security committees, have presented bank records showing **Hunter Biden** and the president's brother, James Biden, receiving millions of dollars from companies connected to the communist Chinese regime.

The Chinese energy conglomerate CEFC and its executives paid \$4.8 million to firms owned and managed by **Hunter Biden** and his uncle for 14 months, according to government records, court documents, bank statements and documents from the laptop, Mr. Grassley said.

The White House has insisted that the president has never talked to his son about his far-flung foreign business dealings, despite the revelations depicting more complex and intertwined family financial relationships.

A Rasmussen Reports poll this week found that 69% of likely U.S. voters believed it was likely the president was aware of at least some of Hunter Biden's major foreign business dealings, including 49% who thought it was very likely.

Only 22% did not think it was likely that Mr. Biden was aware of his son's foreign deals, while 10% were not sure.

More notably, the majority (62%) of voters said the president personally profited from deals with Chinese-government-connected companies, including 44% who thought it was very likely. Thirty percent said they did not believe it was likely that the president profited from his son's Chinese deals.

The CNN report said investigators have narrowed their focus to tax- and gun-related charges instead of Hunter Biden's financial dealings.

Hunter Biden told associates this year that he paid off his more than \$1 million tax bill, a move that didn't eliminate the criminal probe but could be an attempt to lessen any penalties.

The Justice Department typically doesn't bring charges within 60 days of an election, but there is debate about whether that would apply in this case because the president is not on the ballot in the midterm elections.

In August 2018, during the last midterm cycle, prosecutors in New York charged Michael Cohen, Mr. Trump's former attorney, and then-Rep. Chris Collins, a New York Republican who was running for reelection.

---- **Index References** ----

Company: RASMUSSEN REPORTS, LLC; Federal Bureau of Investigation; Department of Justice; NEW YORK POST CORPORATION; JUDICIARY SQUARE; HOMELAND SECURITY CORPORATION; CABLE NEWS NETWORK, INC.; HSBC USA INC.; AnAn International Limited

News Subject: (Campaigns & Elections (1CA25); Emerging Market Countries (1EM65); Global Politics (1GL73); Government (1GO80); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Legislation (1LE97); Public Affairs (1PU31); U.S. Legislation (1US12); World Elections (1WO93))

Region: (Americas (1AM92); Asia (1AS61); CIS Countries (1CI64); Delaware (1DE13); Eastern Europe (1EA48); Europe (1EU83); New York (1NE72); North America (1NO39); Russia (1RU33); U.S. Mid-Atlantic Region (1MI18); USA (1US73))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (U.S.; House Oversight and Reform Committee; Republicans; White House; Russia; Justice Department; Rasmussen Reports; FBI; Department of Justice; New York Post; Judiciary; Homeland Security; CNN; New York Republican; CEFC) (Hunter Biden; David Weiss; David Weiss; President Trump; James Comer; Merrick Garland; Robert Mueller; Robert J. Mueller; John Durham; Martin John Durham; William Barr; John William Barr; Trump; Sens.; Charles E. Grassley; Ron Johnson; James Biden; Michael Cohen; Michael Cohen; Chris Collins; Chris Collins)

Word Count: 786

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

Republicans demand DOJ give special counsel powers to prosecutor probing Hunter Biden



*Hunter Biden leaves after President Joe Biden awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom to 17 people during a ceremony in the East Room of the White House in Washington, Thursday, July 7, 2022. (AP Photo/Susan Walsh) ** FILE ** more >*

By Jeff Mordock - *The Washington Times* - Monday, September 19, 2022

Senate Republicans are urging Attorney General Merrick Garland to confer the powers of a special counsel to the Delaware prosecutor investigating Hunter Biden for potential tax crimes and influence peddling.

In a letter sent Monday, more than 30 Senate Republicans said David Weiss, the Delaware U.S. attorney overseeing the investigation of President Biden's son, must be made a special counsel to prevent undue political interference.

"Given that the investigation involves the president's son, we believe it is important to provide U.S. Attorney Weiss with special counsel authorities and protections to allow him to investigate an appropriate scope of potentially criminal conduct, avoid the appearance of impropriety and provide additional assurance to the American people that the Hunter Biden investigation is free from political influence," they wrote.

GOP senators who signed the letter include John Cornyn of Texas; Charles E. Grassley of Iowa, the highest-ranking Republican on the Senate Judiciary Committee; and Minority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky.

A Justice Department spokesperson did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

A special counsel essentially has the same powers as a U.S. attorney and remains subject to the attorney general, so it would not expand Mr. Weiss' authority. But it would give him more independence to pursue the investigation and protect him from arbitrary firing.

Under federal law, a special counsel can be removed only for "misconduct, dereliction of duty, incapacity, conflict of interest or other good cause." An attorney general is also required to explain the firing of a special counsel to Congress.

An attorney general may overrule or block a special counsel on major steps such as whether to charge someone with a crime, but such decisions must also be explained to Congress.

The Republican senators say the move is necessary because after “highly credible” whistleblowers revealed that FBI officials sought to discredit negative information about Hunter Biden, Mr. Garland clamped down on whistleblower activity.

Mr. Garland last month issued a memo blocking Justice Department employees from communicating with Congress, directing all employees to contact lawmakers through the department’s office of legislative affairs.

In a memo to department employees, Mr. Garland said the policy is “to protect our criminal and civil law enforcement decisions,” and to guard against “partisans or other inappropriate influences.”

The Republicans say the memo chilled lawful whistleblower activity.

“Such a restriction is contrary to law and undermines the constitutional responsibility of Members of Congress to provide congressional oversight of the Executive Branch,” they wrote. “Clearly, this memorandum will discourage and deter whistleblowers from sharing information to report potentially criminal activity and fraud, waste, and abuse by the government.”

When President Biden took office last year, he removed sitting U.S. attorneys, except Mr. Weiss to avoid the appearance of political interference. Mr. Weiss was appointed by former President Donald Trump.

In testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee in April, Mr. Garland fiercely defended the investigation's independence.

When pressed by Sen. Bill Hagerty, Tennessee Republican, on how the American people could be confident the Justice Department is running a "serious investigation" into Hunter Biden, Mr. Garland gave a heated response.

"Because we put the investigation into the hands of a Trump appointee from the previous administration who is the United States attorney for the District of Delaware and because you have me as the attorney general who is committed to the independence of the Justice Department from any influence from the White House on criminal matters," Mr. Garland said.

He said the president has not tried to influence the probe and any effort by Mr. Biden to do so would "absolutely" be inappropriate.

• *Jeff Mordock can be reached at jmordock@washingtontimes.com.*

THREAT STATUS

The world is a pretty scary place.

**We'll help you navigate the hazards
at home -- and over the horizon.**

You may



Hunter Biden 'tax affairs' under federal probe; links to China funds emerge, sources say

By Jack Durschlag

Published December 10, 2020

Fox News



Good morning and welcome to Fox News First. Here's what you need to know as you start your day ...

Hunter Biden confirms grand jury investigation; links to China funds emerge, sources tell Fox News

President-elect Joe Biden's son Hunter Biden confirmed Wednesday that his "tax affairs" are under investigation by the U.S. Attorney's Office in Delaware. The younger Biden said he is taking the matter "very seriously" and is "confident" he handled his affairs "legally and appropriately."

A well-placed government source told Fox News that Hunter Biden was a subject/target of a grand jury investigation that began in 2018. According to the source, being a "target" means there is a "high probability that person committed a crime," while a "subject" is someone you "don't know for sure" has committed a crime.

The source said President-elect Biden is not a subject of any grand jury investigation at this time. The source also tells Fox News that this investigation was predicated, in part, by Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) regarding suspicious foreign transactions.

The SARs were regarding funds from "China and other foreign nations," another source familiar with the investigation told Fox News.

A Treasury Department official, who did not comment on the investigation, spoke broadly about SARs, telling Fox News that the reports are filed by financial institutions "if there is something out of the ordinary about a particular transaction." [CLICK HERE FOR MORE ON OUR TOP STORY.](#)

In other developments:

- Hunter Biden's China business deals [leading up](#) to 2018 probe detailed in Senate report
- Ric Grenell [calls out](#) CNN's Jake Tapper for belatedly covering Hunter Biden story

- Tucker Carlson: Hunter Biden tax investigation [confirms](#) what we knew and mainstream media covered up
- Hunter Biden's foreign transactions repeatedly [flagged](#) as potential criminal activity, Senate probe found
- Ron Johnson [pushes](#) back on calls for Hunter Biden special counsel
- GOP Rep. Ken Buck [calls for](#) Hunter Biden special counsel in letter to Barr

Missouri, 16 other states file brief supporting Texas suit to delay presidential elector appointment

Missouri led a group of 17 states that filed a brief with the Supreme Court on Wednesday afternoon supporting a Texas lawsuit aimed at delaying the appointment of presidential electors from Georgia, Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin.

The brief mirrors the argument of the Texas suit in saying that the states acted unconstitutionally when either their judiciaries or executive branches changed their elections laws.

The Texas suit, and the states that support it, say that only state legislatures may set laws regarding how states appoint their presidential electors.

"The integrity of our elections is of critical importance to maintaining our republic, both today and in future elections," Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt said in a statement. "The stakes of protecting our Constitution, defending our liberty and ensuring that all votes are counted fairly couldn't be higher. With this brief, we are joining the fight."

The Trump 2020 Campaign also filed a brief Wednesday, asking to join in the Texas suit.

"The illegal suspension or violation of state law thus calls directly into question the certification of the results of the elections in Defendant States for Vice President Joe Biden, Proposed Plaintiff in Intervention's opponent in the election," its brief said. "President Trump's interest in the outcome of this litigation could therefore not be more acute."

The brief filed by Missouri and the other states, which is officially a motion for leave to file a bill of complaint, also warns that the changes enacted by the state executives and judicial branches opened the states' elections up to potential fraud. [CLICK HERE FOR MORE.](#)

In other developments:

- Trump [touts](#) Texas Supreme Court case as 'the big one,' says 'we will be intervening'
- John Brennan [says](#) those trying to overturn election advocating for 'authoritarianism'
- In letter to Trump, House Republicans call for special counsel to investigate election

- Supreme Court [tosses](#) GOP bid to throw out PA mail ballots without hearing it

Michigan state lawmaker threatens 'Trumpers'; stripped of committee seats after viral video

Michigan state Rep. Cynthia Johnson was stripped of her committee seats by senior GOP state officials after the Democrat released a video on Facebook on Tuesday, as a response to Trump supporters who had left her threatening messages.



"So this is just a warning to you Trumpers. Be careful, walk lightly, we ain't playing with you. Enough of the shenanigans. Enough is enough," she said in a three-minute-long video, warning harassers that the FBI had already identified one of the individuals.

"And for those of you who are soldiers, you know how to do it. Do it right, be in order, make them pay," she continued.

Johnson posted the video after sharing a series of messages on her social media account, showing screenshots and voice recordings from people threatening the Democratic state representative.

Several of the messages included racial and misogynistic slurs, with one person calling her a "ghetto hood rat" and adding they hoped she would "choke on a chicken bone."

Another person left her a voice message telling her, "I hope you like burning crosses in your front yard." [CLICK HERE FOR MORE.](#)

In other developments:

- Giuliani [appears](#) with witnesses alleging voter fraud in heated Michigan hearing
- Trump legal team [celebrates](#) after Michigan judge allows probe of Dominion voting machines
- Nevada GOP [vows](#) appeal after judge dismisses Trump campaign's latest suit

[CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP](#)

TODAY'S MUST-READS:

- Swalwell's dad, brother no longer Facebook friends with Chinese spy after [reports](#) on continued ties
- California driver, 22, [held](#) in DUI crash that left 2 parents dead, 3 kids critically injured: reports
- SpaceX's Starship test flight [ends](#) in massive fireball, but Musk says it was still a success
- Top Republican in Wis. Assembly's elections committee [may](#) back attempt to flip state to Trump: report
- ID of man who [found](#) Rocky Mountains treasure chest revealed

THE LATEST FROM FOX BUSINESS:

- Los Angeles County supervisor [couldn't produce](#) COVID-19 studies to back up outdoor dining ban
- Cuomo says New York [tax hikes](#) likely on the way, even if Congress approves aid
- Delta Air Lines [puts](#) 700 passengers on no-fly list over COVID-19 mask rules
- DoorDash IPO [turns](#) CEO Tony Xu, co-founders Andy Fang, Stanley Tang into billionaires

- Apple, Google [to stop](#) X-Mode from collecting location data from users' phones

#The Flashback: [CLICK HERE](#) to find out what happened on "This Day in History."

SOME PARTING WORDS

Laura Ingraham claimed on Wednesday's "Ingraham Angle" that a school district in Falls Church, Va., cares more about taking the founding fathers' names off school buildings than it does about restoring in-person learning in schools.

"Falls Church has abandoned its original mission," she said. "Just as hundreds of schools across America are using the Covid excuse, the Falls Church school board since last March has closed its schools for in-person learning and turned its student body into 'Zoom-bots.'"

Not signed up yet for Fox News First? Click [here](#) to find out what you're missing.

Fox News' [Go Watch page](#) is now available, providing visitors with Pay TV provider options in their area carrying Fox News Channel & Fox Business Network.

Fox News First was compiled by Fox News' Jack Durschlag. Thank you for making us your first choice in the morning! We'll see you in your inbox first thing Friday.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/us/hunter-biden-tax-affairs-under-federal-investigation-links-to-china-funds-emerge-sources-say>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



KT McFarland: There is 'significant evidence' Hunter Biden has been 'compromised by Chinese'

By Yael Halon

Published December 16, 2020

Fox News

Former Deputy National Security Adviser K.T. McFarland echoed calls Wednesday from top Republican lawmakers urging President Trump to appoint a special counsel to investigate Hunter Biden's business dealings in China.

McFarland told "The Story" host Martha MacCallum that a probe is necessary to determine any "conflicts" that may exist for President-elect Joe Biden and his incoming administration.

TRUMP ASKING ABOUT POTENTIAL SPECIAL COUNSEL TO INVESTIGATE HUNTER BIDEN

"There's really significant evidence that his son has been compromised by the Chinese government, that there's a corruption, pay-to-play scandal," McFarland said. "I mean, is Joe Biden himself self compromised?"

The younger Biden has come under intense scrutiny over the past year over his business interests in Ukraine and China, as well as his father's alleged role in them.

HUNTER BIDEN SENT 'BEST WISHES FROM ENTIRE BIDEN FAMILY' TO CHINA FIRM CHAIRMAN

In newly uncovered correspondence between Hunter Biden and CEFC Chairman Ye Jianming, the younger Biden extended "best wishes from the entire Biden family," and urged the chairman to "quickly" send a \$10 million wire to "properly fund and operate" a joint venture with the now-bankrupt Chinese energy company.

According to McFarland, the email raises serious questions about the president-elect's involvement.

"This country needs to heal," she said. "And as long as there is this cloud ... over our president, where 50% of the population looks at that guy and says, 'You stole it and you are probably compromised by the Chinese', that doesn't do America any good. So let's have a special prosecutor come out, clear the air, if there's nothing there, great, and if there is something there, we need to know about it."

INTEL ASSESSMENT OVER CHINA ELECTION INTERFERENCE DELAYED

Her comments come hours after the intelligence community assessment focused on foreign election influence announced a delay in releasing their report, citing a dispute between senior intelligence analysts over whether China sought to influence the election in Biden's favor.

McFarland said the delay indicates a "pretty significant divide" within the intelligence community about whether and to what extent there was Chinese influence.

CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP

"Was it something to do with cyberattacks, was it something to do with the balloting, was it something to do with influence-peddling, was it something to do with bots and kind of stirring the pot?" she asked. "All of those things are a range of issues and I'm

assuming the reason it's delayed is because there's probably something explosive in there.""

Yael Halon is a reporter for Fox News Digital. Story tips can be sent to yael.halon@fox.com.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/mcfarland-significant-evidence-hunter-biden-chinese-government>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Hunter Biden probe: AG nominee Garland pressed by GOP lawmaker to keep US attorney handling case

By Tyler Olson

Published February 17, 2021

Fox News

Rep. Ken Buck on Wednesday sent a letter to President Biden's attorney general pick Judge Merrick Garland asking him to keep on the federal prosecutor who is in charge of the probe into Hunter Biden -- or otherwise appoint a special counsel.

The request by Buck, R-Colo., first obtained by Fox News, follows a notice from the Biden administration earlier this month requesting that Trump-appointed U.S. attorneys resign to transition the Department of Justice (DOJ) to prosecutors picked by the new president.

One exception to that was Delaware U.S. Attorney David Weiss, who is overseeing the federal tax investigation into Hunter Biden. White House press secretary Jen Psaki said that decision was "made in order to fulfill [Biden's] promise of maintaining independence."

Buck's letter Wednesday requests that Garland, who will oversee all federal prosecutors if confirmed, follow Biden's lead in keeping Weiss employed.



Hunter Biden, the son of new US President Joe Biden, attends his father's inauguration as 46th US President on January 20, 2021, at the US Capitol in Washington, DC. (Photo by JONATHAN ERNST / POOL / AFP) (Photo by JONATHAN ERNST/POOL/AFP via Getty Images) (Getty Images)

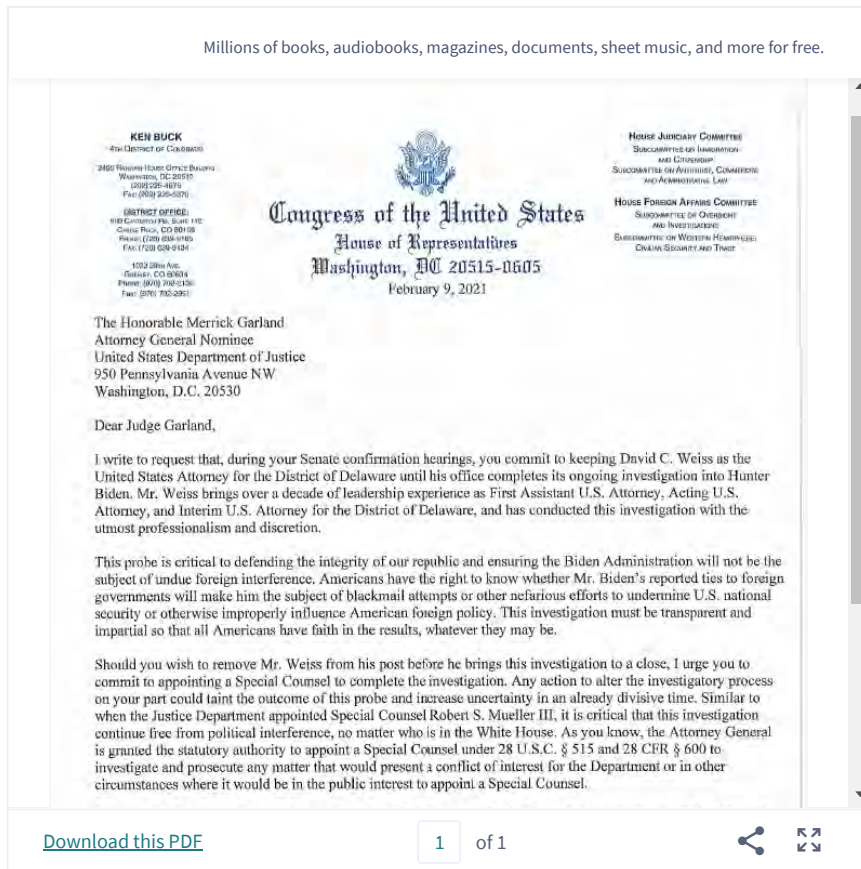
BIDEN DOJ ASKS TRUMP-APPOINTED US ATTORNEYS TO RESIGN

"I write to request that, during your Senate confirmation hearings, you commit to keeping David C. Weiss as the United States Attorney for the District of Delaware until his office completes its ongoing investigation into Hunter Biden," Buck wrote. "Mr. Weiss brings over a decade of leadership experience as First Assistant U.S. Attorney, Acting U.S. Attorney, and Interim U.S. Attorney for the District of Delaware, and has conducted this investigation with the utmost professionalism and discretion."

Buck continued: "This probe is critical to defending the integrity of our republic and ensuring the Biden Administration will not be the subject of undue foreign interference... Should you wish to remove Mr. Weiss from his post before he brings this investigation to a close, I urge you to commit to appointing a Special Counsel to complete the investigation."

Senate Republicans had already indicated that they intend to press Garland, a judge on the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals and

former President Barack Obama's one-time Supreme Court nominee, on how he would handle the Hunter Biden probe.



[Ken Buck Letter to Merrick ...](#) by [Fox News](#)

HUNTER BIDEN STILL 'WORKING TO UNWIND' INVESTMENT IN CHINESE FIRM

"Americans deserve to know that this investigation will not be hampered in any way by the change in administrations, and the attorney general nominee should make this point clear," a spokesperson for Senate Judiciary Committee member Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, previously told Fox News. "So yes, you can expect that Sen. Grassley will be asking about his role in this investigation."

"It is very likely the topic is raised," a spokesperson for Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., also previously told Fox News.

Hunter Biden's foreign entanglements have been a source of controversy for the Biden administration in its early days.

Earlier this month Psaki said that the younger Biden is still "working to unwind his investment" his investment with a Chinese equity

fund despite a promise from President Biden that his family would not hold foreign investments during his presidency.



In this Jan. 7, 2021, file photo President-elect Joe Biden's nominee for Attorney General Judge Merrick Garland speaks during an event at The Queen theater in Wilmington, Del. (AP Photo/Susan Walsh, File)

CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP

"No one in my family will have an office in the White House, will sit in on meetings as if they are a cabinet member, will, in fact, have any business relationship with anyone that relates to a foreign corporation or a foreign country," Joe Biden said before the presidential election.

But Biden has so far apparently kept his promise to stay out of any DOJ matters involving his family. Buck said Wednesday that Biden's AG pick should do the same.

"Any action to alter the investigatory process on your part could taint the outcome of this probe and increase uncertainty in an already divisive time," Buck wrote.

Fox News' Brooke Singman, Caitlin McFall, David Spunt and Ronn Blitzer contributed to this report.

Tyler Olson is a for Capitol Hill Producer for Fox News in Washington, D.C.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/hunter-biden-probe-ag-nominee-garland-pressed-by-gop-lawmaker-to-keep-us-attorney-handling-case>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Hunter Biden probe: Senate Republicans demand special counsel authority for prosecutor as inquiry heats up

By Tyler Olson

Published September 19, 2022

Fox News

EXCLUSIVE: Over 30 Senate Republicans are calling on Attorney General Merrick Garland to give the prosecutor investigating Hunter Biden special counsel authority as the investigation into the president's son heats up.

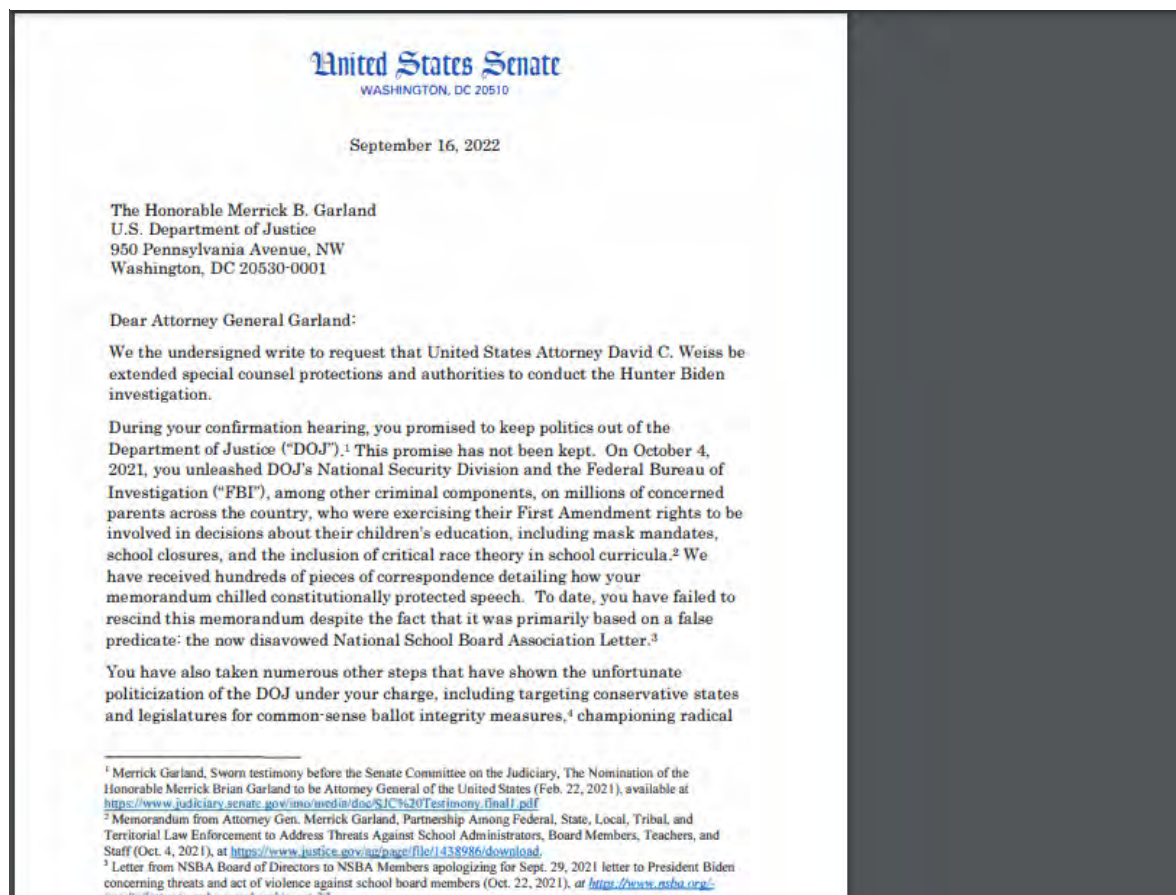
In a letter led by Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, Judiciary Committee Ranking Member Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, and Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., the senators warn of potential political interference in the high-profile probe being conducted by Delaware U.S. Attorney David Weiss, a prosecutor appointed by former President Donald Trump. The senators plan to send the letter later Monday, Cornyn's office told Fox News Digital.

"As detailed by Senator Grassley, 'highly credible' whistleblower have come forward to detail a 'widespread effort within the FBI to downplay or discredit negative information about' Hunter Biden," the letter reads. "Instead of encouraging FBI and DOJ whistleblower to report crimes and promote government transparency, you took the inexplicable step of chilling lawful whistleblower activity."

It continues: "Indeed, on August 30, 2022... you issued a memorandum prohibiting DOJ and FBI employees from communicating with 'Senators, Representatives, congressional committees, or congressional staff without advance coordination, consultation and approval by OLA.'"

HUNTER BIDEN SAID HE WOULD BE 'HAPPY' TO INTRODUCE BUSINESS ASSOCIATES TO TOP CCP OFFICIAL

Hunter-Biden-Special-Counsel-Letter-FINAL.pdf 1 / 6 - 71% +



2021.pdf?e=snd/hsah-FIR134852B40711324992687120409BF0072C3C7
* Press Release, Dep't. of Justice Off. of Public Affairs, *Justice Department Files Lawsuit Against the State of Georgia to Stop Racially Discriminatory Provisions of New Voting Law* (Jun. 25, 2021),
<https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-files-lawsuit-against-state-georgia-stop-racially-discriminatory>

The letter comes after a source told Fox News in July the Hunter Biden investigation has reached a "critical stage," with officials weighing possible charges for tax violations, possible foreign lobbying violations and more.



Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX) speaks to reporters ahead of a weekly Republican luncheon on Capitol Hill on June 22, 2022 in Washington, DC. (Photo by Brandon Bell/Getty Images)

HUNTER BIDEN: NEW YORK MAG IS LATEST MAINSTREAM OUTLET TO TAKE SCANDALOUS LAPTOP SERIOUSLY

When the Biden administration took power, the administration asked Weiss to stay in his role even amid turnover at many other U.S. attorney positions. This was to avoid the appearance of political interference.

The group of Senate Republicans led by Cornyn says that is not enough.



Attorney General Merrick Garland in Senate testimony earlier this year indicated that he is comfortable with how the investigation

into Hunter Biden is proceeding without a special counsel in place.

"Given the politicization of the DOJ under your watch and the importance of avoiding any appearance of impropriety, the undersigned request that you provide U.S. Attorney Weiss the full protections and authorities of a special counsel," the letter said. "This is one important action that you can take that will go a long way to restoring faith in our governmental institutions."

Garland in Senate testimony earlier this year defended the Justice Department's handling of the investigation, particularly in leaving Weiss, a Trump appointee, in charge of it. The attorney general, however, declined to specifically address the issue of whether to appoint a special counsel to look into the younger Biden and his business affairs.



The federal investigation into Hunter Biden and his tax affairs has reached a "critical stage," a source told Fox News this summer, as officials are looking into whether to charge President Biden's son with various tax violations, possible foreign lobbying violations and more. ((Randy Holmes via Getty Images))

"The investigation is being run and supervised by the United States attorney in Delaware who is an appointee of the previous administration, and continues on as the United States attorney," Garland said under questioning from Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.

[CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP](#)

"The question of whether to have a special counsel is one that's internal decision-making in the department so I don't want to make any judgments one way or another," he added. "But I'm quite comfortable with the United States attorney for that district continuing in the role he's playing."

Fox News' Brooke Singman, David Spunt and Bill Mears contributed to this report.

Tyler Olson is a for Capitol Hill Producer for Fox News in Washington, D.C.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/hunter-biden-probe-senate-republicans-demand-special-counsel-authority-prosecutor-inquiry-heats-up>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Garland slammed for acting as 'surrogate' for Biden as Hunter probe drags on: 'Weakest AG in 40 years'

By Bailee Hill

Published March 02, 2023

Fox News

Attorney General Merrick Garland faced an intense grilling on Capitol Hill over a variety of topics on Wednesday, one of them being the viability of the Hunter Biden investigation.

Critics have long alleged the Department of Justice has politicized the FBI, compromising its impartiality, and have worried the trend will impact the probe into Hunter's foreign business transactions.

Despite the concerns, Garland insisted during his testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee that the investigation will remain untouched from political influence.

HUNTER BIDEN, AN OBAMA AMBASSADOR AND CHINESE BUSINESSMAN: A 'VERY GOOD RELATIONSHIP'

But former Assistant FBI Director Chris Swecker was not convinced.

He accused Garland of being a "surrogate" for the Biden White House during "Fox & Friends First" on Thursday, dismissing the attorney general's pledge.

"Merrick Garland knows what he's supposed to do. He's the surrogate for the administration... he's proven that," Swecker told Ashley Strohmier and Todd Piro.

"So it's just a wink and a nod... He can pledge that he won't interfere all he wants, but there is no reason why the U.S. attorney in Delaware should be sitting on this case for well over a year."

"It's very clear to me, as someone who ran the criminal division of the FBI and was a former prosecutor before I went in the FBI, that they have the evidence," he continued. "Whatever evidence they have, they're just sitting on it, and they're delaying the decision."

Garland's critics have been quick to note that he has not yet appointed a special counsel on the Hunter Biden probe, as the case remains in the hands of Delaware U.S. Attorney David C. Weiss.

HUNTER BIDEN'S EX-WIFE SAYS BUSINESS PARTNER SCHWERIN 'MANAGED ALMOST EVERY ASPECT' OF THEIR FINANCES: MEMOIR

Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, pressed him on what would happen if Weiss needed to pursue the case against Biden outside his Delaware jurisdiction.

The attorney general assured the senator that Weiss would have "full authority" to make an outside referral.

However, Grassley said if that is the case, the probe may not be insulated from partisan influence after all if a judge, appointed by

the president, is responsible for approving potential charges.



President Joe Biden and his son, Hunter Biden, step off Air Force One, Saturday, Feb. 4, 2023, at Hancock Field Air National Guard Base in Syracuse, N.Y. The Bidens are in Syracuse to visit with family members following the passing of Michael Hunter, the brother of the president's first wife, Neilia Hunter Biden. (AP Photo/Patrick Semansky)

"If Weiss, the U.S. attorney there in Delaware, must seek permission from a Biden-appointed U.S. attorney to bring charges, then the Hunter Biden criminal investigation isn't insulated from political interference as you have publicly proclaimed," Grassley said during the hearing.

COMER TARGETS FORMER SERBIAN POLITICIAN'S LINK TO CCP, HUNTER BIDEN AS PROBE INTO BIDEN FAM BUSINESS CONTINUES

Despite Garland vowing to allow an independent Hunter Biden investigation, Swecker sounded the alarm the Justice Department's broader trend of what he called "political" targeting.

"He could not explain why the might and power of the Justice Department under his supervision only seems to fall on people who are on the right wing of the political spectrum who have conservative ideology," Swecker said. "I was looking for answers to those questions, and what I saw were dodges and passing the buck over to the agents that did it, it wasn't me."

"I think he's probably the poorest leader, the weakest attorney general I have seen in my 40 years in this business," he continued.

Hunter Biden has been under investigation since 2018 for potential tax and foreign lobbying violations related to his overseas business ventures.

CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP

He is facing both federal and congressional investigations after suspicious activity reports (SARs) were flagged, allegedly related to money funneled from China and other countries.

Separately, the president is also facing a special counsel over his alleged mishandling of classified material. They are the first

president-son duo to be under separate investigations at the same time.

Fox News' Elizabeth Elkind contributed to this report.

Bailee Hill is an associate editor with Fox News Digital. Story ideas can be sent to bailee.hill@fox.com

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/garland-slammed-acting-surrogate-biden-hunter-probe-drags-weakest-ag-40-years>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ

NewsRoom

11/19/22 FOX: Fox News Night (Pg. Unavail. Online)
2022 WLNR 37229548

FOX: Fox News at Night
Copyright (c) 2022 Fox News Network, Inc.

November 19, 2022

Garland Appoints **Special Counsel** To Investigate Trump; Trump Blasts 'Worst Politicization Of Justice'; Biden Claims Economic Action Is Starting T...

Garland Appoints **Special Counsel** To Investigate Trump; Trump Blasts 'Worst Politicization Of Justice'; Biden Claims Economic Action Is Starting To Kick In; Police Have No Suspects In Idaho Murder Investigation; Man Accused Of Mowing Down 25 Sheriff's Recruits Freed; Report: Justice Department Opens Up Live Nation Probe; Examining Fallout From Taylor Swift/Ticketmaster Fiasco; New Yorker Dives Into Feet Of Snow; Tackling COVID Windfalls And Possible Return Of Masks; Musk Tweets Survey About Whether To Reinstatement Trump

TRACE GALLAGHER, FOX NEWS HOST: Thank you, Greg. Good evening, everyone, and welcome to America's late News, FOX NEWS @ NIGHT. I'm Trace Gallagher in Los Angeles.

And breaking tonight, one day after Republicans laid out their plans to investigate Hunter Biden, the Justice Department appoints a special counsel to investigate Donald Trump. Some political analysts think the former president might use the announcement to his advantage. What does Victor Davis Hanson think? The FBI's profiling unit is now helping to investigate the brutal murders of four University of Idaho students. And we have brand new information about the roommates who were in the house when the killings happened and why they were not hard. Also breaking tonight, Ticketmaster apologizes to Taylor Swift and all of her fans. We'll have the very latest and talk to a former music company exec about the future of Big Time Ticket sales.

But we begin with the latest legal challenge facing former President Trump, just days after announcing his third presidential run. The White House correspondent Kevin Corke is live for us in the nation's capital with more on this. Kevin, good evening.

KEVIN CORKE, FOX NEWS WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT: Evening, Trace. While over 30 Senate Republicans have been pressing Attorney General Merrick Garland since September, frankly, to give the federal prosecutor who's been investigating **Hunter Biden** over the past several years as **Special Counsel** authorities. Well, we learned today that the A.G. has in fact appointed a **special counsel**, but not to investigate the president's son, but former President Donald Trump.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MERRICK GARLAND, U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL: Such an employee an appointment underscores the department's commitment to both independence and accountability in particularly sensitive matters.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CORKE: Times have changed here in D.C. Those sensitive matters, newly appointed special counsel Jack Smith will now look into. The entire investigation of classified documents that FBI agents say they seized from President Trump's Mar-a-Lago home back in August, as well as, quote, "any person or entity violated the law in connection with efforts to interfere with the lawful transfer of power following the 2020 presidential election or the certification of the Electoral College vote." You see how this is going? Interesting stuff in Washington. But as you can well imagine, the former president, well, he isn't having any of it. And no, he won't partake in the investigation.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: They want to do bad things to the greatest movement in the history of our country, but in particular, bad things to me but I've gotten used to it.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CORKE: Now, some of the experts that we've had a chance to speak with, frankly, think that this could work in President Trump's favor, giving him another way to stir up his base. Of course, we will learn a lot more, if that turns out in the weeks ahead. And we'll also probably learn how the former president might try to leverage this for his own political gain. Trace?

GALLAGHER: Indeed, we will, Kevin Corke. Back to you in moments. Thank you. So, the former president is getting another special counsel and the current president is getting a lot more questions that he won't answer. Let's bring in Hoover Institution Senior Fellow Victor Davis Hanson. Victor, it's always great to see you. I wanted to get your take on this tonight because it is, you know, goodbye, Robert Muller. Hello, Jack Smith. I want to play this soundbite from Merrick Garland, the Attorney General, about the special counsel, and I'll get your take on the other side. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

GARLAND: Based on recent developments, including the former president's announcement that he is a candidate for president in the next election and the sitting President's stated intention to be a candidate as well, I have concluded that it is in the public interest to appoint a special counsel.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: There is a theme out there that Merrick Garland believes that give -- this gives him political cover. Do you find that to be a fair assessment, Victor?

VICTOR DAVIS HANSON, SENIOR FELLOW, HOOVER INSTITUTION: No, I think it's going to -- it's going to boomerang. First, the timeliness, one of these post-midterm announcements. I mean, he knew he was going to do this, and he waited deliberately until after the midterms for political reasons. Just like the Sam Bankman-Fried Ponzi scheme that was exposed only after the midterm. So, it was -- it was politicized by the timing. The FBI has been leaking, I think, that exonerate themselves that there's no nuclear (PH) secrets in the trove found at the Trump Mar-a-Lago estate, and that's going to fizzle out. As far as the January 6th committee, he looked at everything Trump could possibly have done. They haven't issued any incriminating indictment. Mike Pence has said some things that are very disturbing but other than that, I don't think they're going to find much. And then it's the asymmetry, Trace.

GALLAGHER: Yes.

HANSON: I mean, we've got Hillary Clinton that hired illegally a foreign national to warp an election, destroy a transition and presidency, and nobody did anything. I think what they're counting on is sort of the antithesis to the Durham investigation. He was so over judicious, he didn't leak, the media suppressed any coverage of it. And he had to deal with a Northern Virginia dash

Washington left-wing jury. And they think, you know what, we're going to do the opposite. We're going to leak like Muller did, we're going to get the Washington Post, the New York Times in on it, and we've got left-wing juries that do not like Republicans, in general, and Donald Trump in particular.

GALLAGHER: Yes. Does this have to lead to a --

HANSON: So, I think that's the thing. And there's a lot of my --

GALLAGHER: Yes, does it lead to a **Hunter Biden**? Does it lead to a **Hunter Biden Special Counsel**?

HANSON: Absolutely. And there's a lot of ironies here, because, you know, there's a lot of -- Ron DeSantis's ascendant, apparently people believe in the Republican Party. And a lot of Republicans will think if you're going to do this to Donald Trump, either one of two things will happen. It will help DeSantis or it will gain sympathy for Trump. And then, the other irony is, there's going to come a day, Trace, when the Republican's control of the Senate, the House, and the presidency.

And they're going to have to decide, can this republic continue when the Democrats impeach a first-term president twice, they impeach him as a private citizen, they raid an ex-president's home, they investigate a presidential candidate with a special counsel. They determine which people can serve on committees, they tear up the State of the Union on national T.V. Do they really want to keep doing this? Because you're going to see a little glimpse of it when the Republicans take the House. But someday, they will -- they will suffer that in kind with these precedents that they've established.

GALLAGHER: Yes, I want to move on if I can, because President Biden was talking about his great economy again. Watch this, and we'll talk after.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: Look, we're talking about real money here to save people. And it's just going to start kicking in now. By taking action, we're making real progress and strengthening and stabilizing our economy, giving Americans across the country some breathing room.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: He's apparently not reading the Financial Times because Amazon, Facebook, Netflix, Peloton, Target, Wells Fargo, they're all coming out with either layoffs or bad numbers. The economy, when I see credit card debt going way up and it is way up, it is a bad sign. This economy is not going in a good direction and the President keeps saying it is.

HANSON: No, we had annual inflation last year of five percent. At the end of the year, this year, it will be eight. We have -- we're getting very high interest rates. The housing market is stagnant. As you say, unemployment is climbing up. We don't have a border. We're not energy insufficient -- sufficient. We pay here in California over \$6.00 a gallon for gasoline. After the Afghanistan debacle, we lost the turns overseas, and there is no border. It's not that it's porous. It ceased to exist. So, he's living in a fantasy land. I think everybody knows it.

GALLAGHER: Yes. Victor Davis Hanson, always great to have you on, sir. Great insight. Thank you.

HANSON: Thank you.

GALLAGHER: Well, breaking tonight, the FBI's profiling unit is now helping to investigate the murders of four University of Idaho students and new details about the two young women who were inside the house when the killings happen. Matt Finn is live with us here in Los Angeles. Matt, good evening.

MATT FINN, FOX NEWS NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Good evening, Trace. Well, this evening, police announced the two roommates who live with the four murdered University of Idaho students, have been ruled out as suspects. Also was a bystander seen in a food truck surveillance video with two of the victims hours before their murders. Now, police are stepping up their plea with the public for more information by releasing a map, highlighting some of the latest movements of the four murdered students before they were found dead Sunday. One friend says the four students, all under 21, were social butterflies. A lot of people came in and out of their shared house because of how welcoming they were. But that friend says one door had a keyless code entry, and it was not always locked.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MADISON FITZGERALD, FRIEND OF UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO VICTIMS: There were two points of entry to the house. Most frequently people use the door that was located on the basement, and then you took a set of stairs to get to the main floor. When I would go there, the code wouldn't be activated, so we could just open the door and get in.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

FINN: Police say the four University of Idaho students were stabbed to death with an edged weapon. The coroner says likely a large knife, adding that this was not a murder suicide. The victims were stabbed multiple times, most or all of them found dead in their beds. Police have not announced a suspect, motive, or the recovery of a murder weapon.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

AARON SNELL, IDAHO STATE POLICE: Part of the hard part of the investigation is that many of the people that we want to talk to have gone home because they're students. And so, the timeline of this investigation has expanded. Because, you know, we have to travel. And so, having those interviews that -- you know, in people's hometowns, takes a little bit more time.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

FINN: And a father of one of the victims said his daughter had defensive wounds on her body, Trace.

GALLAGHER: Yes, it's awful. Matt, if you would, stand by. I want to bring in the Idaho murder mystery. Let's bring in -- much of the country clearly shocked and baffled. With us now is Los Angeles County, Deputy District Attorney John Hatami. John, it's great to have you on because you look at the totality of all this, and it really is kind of stunning. Matt just laid it out for us here, you have these four students, right? We know this was an awful crime, there was blood coming out of the house. You attack four students with a knife, and there has got to be a lot of DNA evidence from whoever this suspect might be.

JOHN HATAMI, DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY, LOS ANGELES COUNTY: And my prayers go out to the families of these individuals who were killed. It's horrendous. You know, going to college, sending your daughters and your sons to college, and all of a sudden, something like this happens. However, I have trust in the police department that they're going to effectively investigate this. And they are going to do everything they can to find who the suspect is, and hopefully hold that individual accountable for these crimes.

GALLAGHER: Yes, I want to go back to Matt was saying, that the two college students, both they're young women, Matt, correct?

FINN: Yes.

GALLAGHER: These are young women, and they have now been cleared. They're - - now, do we know if they're not witnesses? If they're not suspects, do we know if they've been cleared and they're not witnesses in any capacity?

FINN: Police say they don't believe that they are involved in the homicides. But what we do know, Trace, is that there were six adults in this house. And you do have to wonder how a killer got into this home so discreetly, and slipped out so discreetly, and killed four people, plus two survivors. You wonder what they heard or might have seen.

GALLAGHER: And what do you make of that, John? I mean, they had to hear something, right? Unless they were inebriated and they were just passed out, which is a potential thing here. But you would think that somebody heard something. And that's the kind of the baffling thing here.

HATAMI: I think the police are just going to have to keep working and trying to find out exactly what happened in this case. Usually, with stabbings, that's a crime of passion. So, I think they should be able to narrow it down and try to find out who this person was. And they'll do everything they can to make sure that they hold this person accountable.

GALLAGHER: I want to put this timeline up on the screen if I can because this is -- we're talking about Saturday, November 12th, 8:57 p.m., the victim posts a picture online of herself and the three friends. Sunday, November 13th at 1:41 in the morning, two of the victims seen on surveillance video near a food truck, right? And then, 3:00 a.m., police say four victims stabbed to death inside the house. At 11:48 in the morning, police received a 911 call, John Hatami, for an unconscious individual inside the home. We know it was a gruesome crime. We don't know who called 911. We don't know if it was the two women who were inside the house. But who would call in an unconscious victim when you've got blood everywhere?

HATAMI: Right? It doesn't -- it doesn't add up at all. So, I think that, right now, we just have to hope and pray that the police department's able to actually uncover exactly what happened in this case.

GALLAGHER: Yes. Interesting. Matt, when you talk about did this person call 911? We still -- there's no evidence, there's no call released, nothing on that?

FINN: No, absolutely nothing released. And the coroner said it's not clear if all the victims were found in separate parts of the home where they're found in the house. You know, I feel like there's surveillance cameras everywhere nowadays, people have Ring cameras at the front of their doors. It's surprising to me that nearly a week later, we still have not seen a single suspect anywhere on video.

GALLAGHER: Yes, I want to move on if I can, John, and this is more in your neck of the woods. We're talking about the guy who allegedly mowed down 25 of the sheriff's deputy's recruits. The quoting here, his name is Nicholas Joseph Gutierrez. The quote comes from the sheriff saying, "The 22-year-old man accused of mowing down 25 Los Angeles Sheriff's recruits with his SUV was provisionally freed on \$2 million bond Thursday night, because investigators need more time to comb through the mountain of evidence against him." We know we -- this isn't part of just kicking these people out because they didn't commit a bad enough crime. There's something else at play here. But it's still kind of baffling to a lot of people in Los Angeles that all of a sudden, this guy who ran down all these people, is walking the streets.

HATAMI: And first off, Trace, I do want to say that my prayers also go out to these family members and these cadets. And I do hope that there's a speedy recovery for them. Here's the problem in Los Angeles, no one has any trust in the district attorney. No one has any confidence in the district attorney. And so, when he gets these really important cases, no one believes he's going to do the right thing. This is an individual who's never tried one case, never filed one case, never walked into court at one time. And there's 37 cities now have voted no confidence in this individual.

So, right now, we have a district attorney who has no idea what he's doing, no one has any trust in him. And so, you have a community that's unclear of what's going on in this type of case, where you have 25 cadets mowed down. You have video of

this incident. Five of these cadets were seriously injured. And people have so many questions about what's going on with the investigation in this case.

GALLAGHER: We switched, Matt, to the Idaho murders from this case, and we still don't know if he was speeding up going toward these deputies, if he put on the brakes. It doesn't appear like he put on the brakes. Matt, do you know?

FINN: I don't know. But the video certainly looks like he would have been able to see that large group of cadets.

GALLAGHER: And he sway -- he swayed, right? I mean, John, he swayed over, and we don't know what the cause of that. He said he was sleepy. He had marijuana in the car, no alcohol in his system, but something's amiss here.

HATAMI: Here's the thing, Trace, you can't even jog or run in Los Angeles without being afraid that you're going to be run down and killed. Especially if you're a police officer nowadays, it seems like everywhere you go, people are trying to attack you or hurt you. It's really, really shameful and disgraceful. And we have a D.A. who doesn't seem to know exactly what he's doing and doesn't understand what his job is, which is to protect the public, which he's failed to do.

GALLAGHER: Well, our best to those sheriff's recruits. John Hatami, Matt Finn, thank you both. Meantime, Taylor Swift is finally speaking out, and she is not happy that her fans are having major issues trying to get tickets to see her upcoming tour. Ticketmaster is blaming the delays on error messages, bots, Taylor herself for stoking unprecedented demand after not touring for four years. Ashley Strohmier live for us in New York with the very latest on this. Ashley, good evening.

ASHLEY STROHMIER, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Hi, Trace. And not only is Swift breaking her silence on the fiasco, but so is Ticketmaster now. They said, "We want to apologize to Taylor and all of her fans, especially those who had a terrible experience trying to purchase tickets. While it's impossible for everyone to get tickets to these shows, we know we can do more to improve the experience, and that's what we're focused on."

Now, initially, fans were not happy Swift kept her silence on the matter. But now she's saying she's having a hard time wrapping her head around what happens with claims they were assured multiple times that Ticketmaster could handle the demand. She said, "It's truly amazing that 2.4 million people got tickets, but it really, and I paraphrase here, ticks me off that a lot of them feel like they went through several bear attacks to get them." But the CEO of Liberty Media says, "It was a function of Taylor Swift. The site was opened up for 1.5 million verified Taylor Swift fans. We had 14 million hit the sites, including bots, which are not supposed to be here."

Now, the DOJ is also opening up an antitrust investigation into Ticketmaster's parent company, Live Nation, during a White House press briefing. Karine Jean-Pierre was asked about the White House's stance on the debacle. Listen to this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY: I would refer you to the Department of Justice on any investigation. I'm just not going to comment on any potential investigation from here on enforcement matter. From here, we respect their independence.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

STROHMIER: Yet Congresswoman Amy Klobuchar said they will be holding hearings on Ticketmaster this year because this isn't just a problem with Swift.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. AMY KLOBUCHAR (D-MN): It is not just about Taylor Swift. This has been going on. It's about a prices, hidden fees that are way too high. It's about site disruptions, and the kind of thing. And of course, you could anticipate it, but where else you're going to go to sell your tickets when there's only one game in town?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

STROHMIER: The investigation will focus on whether or not Live Nation is abusing its market dominance in the ticket industry. Trace?

GALLAGHER: And you wonder if Taylor Swift might be called to testify in that investigation.

STROHMIER: Right.

GALLAGHER: Ashley Strohmer, back to you a little bit later. Thank you. Well, now that you have the latest news concerning the Ticketmaster disaster. Up next, we'll be joined by a former Sony Music exec about the future of concert ticket sales, and why exactly Taylor Swift was trying to do the right thing. Plus, get the tissues ready, a chimpanzee reunited with her newborn might just bring you to tears. And a Christmas tree that makes beautiful music. The holidays are coming, and the day's best viral videos are next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

GALLAGHER: Well, Taylor Swift has already changed the world of music, and now she might also change the future of live music including how you get your tickets and how much you pay. We are joined by former Sony Music executive Seth Schachner. Seth, it's great to have you on here. I know you've been kind of following this for the past few days here. Do you buy Ticketmaster's excuse saying, listen, we just -- we're not ready for this type of demand.

SETH SCHACHNER, FORMER SONY MUSIC EXECUTIVE: It's hard to buy it for totally at face value. You know, so no. But, you know, what really happened here is a technology failure. And this is all about, you know, kind of boring, scalable infrastructure. You need to have technology that can handle massive traffic. And, you know, this was -- this was, you know, objectively unprecedented demand that came in for this for a bunch of basically good reasons. And the site couldn't handle it. So that part, I think, is actually just the truth of what happened. It was a failure on their part.

GALLAGHER: They say they couldn't handle demand, but Taylor Swift came out with a statement saying, quoting here, there are a multitude of reasons why people had such a hard time trying to get tickets, and I'm trying to figure out how this situation can be improved moving forward, I'm not going to make excuses for anyone, because we asked them multiple times, here's the key part, Seth, if they could handle this kind of demand, and we were assured they could.

SCHACHNER: OK. Well, you know, look, there's -- you know, I mentioned to you before we got on here, there's lots of other artists that have had these problems before. Harry Styles had it, you know, Phish has had some famous instance. This is not particularly new stuff. And, you know, this is -- this is a platform that has been out there for quite some time. And, you know, putting aside what happened yesterday, which was, I think, unprecedented, and probably pretty extraordinary. It's actually a pretty reliable platform. If you're going to book stadium tours, you know, this is probably the one that they're going to go into, rather than some new startup or, you know, smaller platform to sell tickets, basically. So --

GALLAGHER: I was interested to see that some publications, some media Web sites and entertainment sites were actually going after Taylor Swift, who among them slate in an op-ed said, quoting here, and Taylor Swift is a capitalist. Goes on to say, "I understand that she should earn money in exchange for her work. But nonetheless, it kind of sucks to be turning over the poetry of *Midnights* while capitalist Taylor is taking the opportunity to try to sell me a credit card and yet another shirt." Kind of a rough take out of the --

SCHACHNER: Yes.

GALLAGHER: -- maybe the world's biggest artist.

SCHACHNER: For sure there. But you know, look, she's doing a lot of great things creatively and on a business front. I think, here, she and actually Live Nation, were actually trying to do the right thing. They wanted to put tickets in the hands of her fans first, basically. And they also wanted to be smart about the pricing strategy to sort of push back on scalpers, on those secondary markets. And, you know, you see this a lot. Springsteen had a lot of flack as well around the prices. And this is what it is, there are bots that are out there. It's not a perfect situation. She is a capitalist, for sure. These guys have been through a pandemic, they lost touring for two or three years. So, you can expect to see it. And by the way, look at the demand. I think someone said she'd have to do 900 shows to admit -- met all the demand. So --

GALLAGHER: She's got a lot of people relying on her. What do you make of these congressional calls to break up Live Nation, Ticketmaster?

SCHACHNER: Not very much right now. I think, you know, there are some pretty funky stuff in terms of the way this business is structured. And I think it's totally fair to look at that. You know, there's been a lot of attention to when that merger was put together. You know, with the DOJ and proving it 12 years ago.

GALLAGHER: Right.

SCHACHNER: I think you got to look at exclusivities between venues and ticketing services. That's probably where I would probably look to free things up rather than surgically pulling the whole thing apart. That doesn't sound too realistic to me.

GALLAGHER: I want to put this up on the screen one more time. This is Ticketmaster's statement when they finally apologized. We want to apologize to Taylor and all her fans, especially those who had a terrible experience trying to purchase tickets. While it's impossible for everyone to get tickets to these shows, we know we can do more to improve the experience. And that's what we're focused on. All of a sudden, they realize, man, we're in the hot seat, and we need to come out with a better explanation than it's Taylor's fault.

SCHACHNER: Yes, I mean, look, someone needs to figure out a way to manage more traffic because I think this could happen again. She, you know, on a commercial level, you know, the last record, I think she's got 10 out of the top 10 tracks and billboard, and she hasn't been on the road in four years. So, they probably could have anticipated this a little bit better, for sure. So --

GALLAGHER: Yes. I keep saying my daughter got two tickets. They were supposed to be a lot less. They turned out to be a lot more. They're great, great seats. So, something has to change. Seth Schachner, it's great to have you on. Thank you for coming. Appreciate it.

(CROSSTALK)

SCHACHNER: Thank you for (INAUDIBLE)

GALLAGHER: Well, first up in tonight's "VIRAL VIDEOS," a chimpanzee at the Sedgwick County Zoo in Wichita, Kansas was reunited with her newborn after the two were separated for two days following an emergency C-section. It didn't take long for the mama to notice her baby was wrapped up in blankets, and she swiftly picked him up, and held him tightly. Staff at the zoo said the moment brought tears to their eyes. Well, Canadian actor Dan Payne made this video when he thought someone was trying to break it to his -- break into his home, turned out it was a bear. Bear who rummaged around the garage of his

Vancouver home. The actor wrote on Instagram, quoting here, had a fellow trying to break into my garage at 2:00 a.m. last night. We agreed to disagree and left on amicable terms.

Well Chinese state media shared a video of a flock of sheep that walked in circles for 12 days straight, circles mind you. Media outlet did not, however, offer an explanation as to why the Willie Walker's did what they did. On Twitter, they called it "The Great Sheep Mystery," on FOX NEWS @ NIGHT, we call it Mutton Gone Mad for walking in circles before.

Now this. Have you ever seen a Christmas tree make beautiful music? Well, follow along now, because it's time for the arrival of the Capitol Christmas tree. This year, it's a red spruce called Ruby that comes from Western North Carolina's Appalachian Mountains. After the holidays, Ruby goes back to North Carolina where instead of being tossed in a pile, it'll be turned into guitars and banjos and then donated. That is a Christmas tree to beat the band.

While New York City also prepping for holiday festivities with the big reveal of Macy's much anticipated holiday window display, it features Tiptoe the Reindeer. Who? And all her friends. This year's window theme is give love.

And while Western New York was slammed with snow overnight, this New Yorker decided to make the best of it. He went for a dive. His wife took videos he jumped from their hot tub into what looks like multiple feet of the white stuff, took him a few seconds to get back on his feet. He acts like he was having fun. We all know he wasn't. He froze his fanny off, right? You've been, done that. Not fun.

If you have viral video to share hit me up @TraceGallagher or @FoxNewsNight on social media.

Also going viral tonight this tweet from the NFL's Buffalo Bills, showing what used to be their home football field, the Highmark stadium. Well, now, the Highmark stands for snow more than three feet. But it won't affect the Bills game on Sunday because the Bills are shuffling off to Detroit.

Fox Weather's Katie Byrne has more on the snowstorm. Katie, good evening.

KATIE BYRNE, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT: Trace, you'll see the worst -- Trace, you'll see the worst of the snow in places like here south of Buffalo, where sadly the storm has turned deadly.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BYRNE: Erie County officials confirming two people have died while trying to shovel their yards. Now officials are urging people to hold off from shoveling this heavy wet snow that even led to a partial building collapse in Hamburg.

MARK POLONCARZ, ERIE COUNTY, NEE YORK EXECUTIVE: We are reminding everybody that you have to shovel smart because cardiac events, heart attacks are always occurring in these situations. And unfortunately, we appear to have lost our first two county residents as a result of that.

A travel ban remains in place for roughly half of Erie County, the rest of the county under travel advisories and major highways are shut down. Despite the road closures, officials have rescued dozens of stranded drivers.

LUIS CRUZ, VISITING NEW SENECA, NEW YORK: We got stuck. So an officer -- an officer was nice enough to help us out on us escorted us to near his hotel. And we've been here ever since.

BYRNE: The snow is expected to continue through Sunday. And around here, hotels are selling out with many of the people staying in them, linemen staging to potentially respond to any outages. Trace.

GALLAGHER: Katie, thank you. Well, here we go again with mask wearing. Why the biggest county in the country is strongly recommending you wear them in all public indoor settings.

And what happened to the nearly \$200 billion in COVID aid for America schools? Here's a hint, it didn't go to the kids, at least not yet. Micah Ali, President Emeritus of the Compton School Board joins us live on set, next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

GALLAGHER: Well, Los Angeles County and its health director who's not a doctor, by the way, is once again strongly recommending people wear masks indoors. The county is setting a 70 percent jump in newly reported COVID cases from last month, which is still nowhere near the highest during the pandemic. So far, it's not a mandate, but L.A. County loves mandates. So stay tuned.

Meantime, the first ones that normally find themselves back wearing masks are public school children, which reminds us to ask, what in the world happened to that \$190 billion pandemic windfall for public schools?

Let's bring in the President Emeritus of the Compton School Board, Micah Ali. Micah, it's always great to see you. I want to read this from the National Review and get your take on it. They said quoting here, the county, meaning L.A. County, announced Thursday that it is once again strongly recommending people resume masking, although it is not requiring it in most indoor venues. Last January, Los Angeles force students to wear high grade non-cloth masks indoors and outdoors in K through 12 public schools and be tested as a condition of returning to class."

You know, I know everybody knows only a matter of time, and the first ones who always get masks put on are the kids.

MICAH ALI, PRESIDENT EMERITUS, COMPTON SCHOOL BOARD: Yes, this is true. But I must say this trace Los Angeles County did in fact strike a little balance here because it's a recommendation and not an edict. And I must say, I got to say this on midterm elections, what was the theme choice one could argue that Governor Ron DeSantis received such praise overwhelmingly reelected with such a very large percentage because of the preservation of rights as well as choice, the same argument for Democrats.

GALLAGHER: Right.

ALI: Who, in fact, one women over by preserving a woman's right of choice on the abortion issue? So again, the common theme here is choice. You have to give parents and families choice to make decisions with respect to what's best for them, health, as well as education.

GALLAGHER: Throughout the entire pandemic, there was no choice, these kids had to wear these masks, and sometimes it was detrimental. We prove -- we've seen all of these studies now, the test scores are at all-time lows, it was detrimental. And they're blaming that on the shutdowns and the masks and just the whole concept of that.

ALI: Absolutely. And one will not refute that. As a matter of fact, we're seeing children struggling with developmental challenges, speech challenges. And so again, the mask did not do what all said it would. However, however, however, this is a recommendation. This is a recommendation and parents must be in a strong position to make a choice what's best for their child.

GALLAGHER: Recommendation for now, but I know L.A. county. They don't really like to stay with recommendations. I want to move on. American schools got \$190 billion in COVID money, right? The New York Times writes quoting as debates over masks and vaccines gender pronouns and racism have grown hostile in the culture at large, combine that with a competitive labor market inflation, and historically low teaching salaries, it's not hard to understand why over half of the National Education Association's members plan to leave or retire from teaching earlier than expected.

And that's what the 190 billion windfall, the teachers and the unions select. We don't have enough people to actually extract that money because you got all this red tape. And so we need more people. We need more teachers, we need more executives, and then we can talk about the kids.

ALI: Well, I will say this. Now, school districts do not benefit from a Defense Production Act. So even though it appears to be a tremendous amount of money, I would not categorize it as a windfall. School districts were placed, as well as charter school management organizations in a very precarious position to have to utilize procurement mechanisms, which slowed down the process with respect to HVAC systems, which of course, we have to upgrade and change filters.

In addition -- in addition, I wouldn't categorize it as a windfall, because how do you put a price on children's suffering?

GALLAGHER: Right.

ALI: In fact, I believe it's not enough money. And I further believe that with your help, perhaps a weaker lien on these guys, these new Republicans who just took over the House to fund the Individual Disabilities Education Act, fully funding for special ed, these things must occur. And we have to do it, we have to do it swiftly.

GALLAGHER: I want to get your take on what happened in the midterms, because you have all these people, these parents just outraged at these COVID lockdowns and mandates and, yet, school boards across the country, for the most part, kind of stayed the same way, that parents didn't throw the school board members out left and right, which was surprising. What do you make of that?

I believe school board members did in fact lose seats, many incumbents in and around this country. I know for a fact folks who lost their seats, but I can also tell you this, I can also tell you that many parents also understood that the local school board persons or local school board member was under direct guidance by the county as well as the state. In some instances, we had a measure of autonomy and a measure of authority but we also had to adhere to the guidelines as prescribed by the county as well as the state.

Fascinating stuff. Micah Ali, you're going to stick around with us for the Nightcap. Love to have you around. Thank you, sir. We appreciate that.

Well, first up in tonight's crime crisis roundup. A shooting in the Bronx this week left a 21-year-old man dead, another wounded. The gunman fired the shots while riding on an e-bike. Unknown if the victim, just days away from his 22nd birthday, was the intended target. So far, no arrests. No surprise.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I needed because I promised myself that I wouldn't be a burden of my wife.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: A 72-year-old Northern California man who suffers neuropathy calls his motorized scooter a lifeline, but now he has to go without because it was stolen while he was getting coffee. Welcome to California. Police have identified the suspect who made his getaway on the scooter, so far no arrests. No surprise.

Philadelphia police looking for the man who broke into the Crab Du Jour restaurant on North Broad Street and took about \$300 out of the cash register. He broke through the front window and fled in an unknown direction.

Also in Philly, a man pulled up to a McDonald's drive thru, pointed a handgun at an employee and shouted, give me the money. Instead of taking cash out of the register, he took the entire register. And an unknown amount of money and so far, say it with me. No arrests. No surprise.

Finally, a security guard at a methadone clinic in Buffalo is being called a hero after he overpowered a gunman with an AR-15. The suspect did fire a shot at the wall before the guard sprang into action as you saw, nobody was injured and, guess what, the suspect was arrested.

And really, what would Friday night be without a Nightcap? So grab a Scotch, whatever, and join the crew. We'll talk about snacks and beer and what you can and cannot talk about at Thanksgiving. We're just trying to help you avoid the next family feud. The Nightcap, coming up.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

GALLAGHER: Oh, he loves to stir it up. Elon Musk dropped another hammer on those freaked out by his takeover of Twitter posting a poll tonight asking if he should reinstate former President Trump. As those results roll in, Molly Line takes a look at the latest tweet storms. Hey, Molly.

MOLLY LINE, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT: Good evening, Trace. Billionaire Elon Musk is proving he has not only big money, but a big sense of humor, slamming back at the naysayers that have criticized his Twitter takeover on that very platform.

When a leaked e-mail to employees called for an extremely hardcore work ethic and Musk asked workers to decide swiftly if they would stay or leave with severance, high-profile critics like New York Democrat Congresswoman, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, chimed in tweeting. "Shout out to all the workers at Twitter. You built a vital place for connection and deserve so much better. Millions of people appreciate the space you built and the hard work that went into it. Thank you." Musk clapped back. "You're welcome."

Yesterday, despite the critics, Musk was crawling, tweeting, and we just hit another all-time high on Twitter usage. LOL.

Today, Twitter shut down is trending, but Musk seems unfazed, dropping a little foreshadowing with a tweeted spoiler alert, teasing freedom Fridays announcing new Twitter policy is freedom of speech but not freedom of reach. Negative hate tweets will be max deboosted and demonetized, so no ads or other revenue to Twitter.

You won't find the tweet unless you specifically seek it out which is no different from the rest of the internet. Musk then announce the reinstatement to Twitter of Kathy Griffin, who had been suspended earlier this month for impersonating Musk and other users like conservative satirical site, the Babylon Bee.

As for former President Donald Trump, Musk noted a decision has not yet been made. Trace.

Molly, thank you. Just two days before the start of World Cup, Qatar's banning beer sales at stadiums, odd, considering the country just signed a multimillion dollar deal with Budweiser. You know, the drink -- that beer stadium company where you sell beer. The small conservative Muslim country does not allow alcohol consumption in public except the rule was lifted for World Cup but not anymore.

Speaking of beer, for the lack thereof, our nightcap crew is back with Ashley Strohmer, Kevin Corke, Matt Finn, and Micah Ali. The topics best snacks to go along with your beer wine, or choice of drink. Kevin Corke, what do you drink with that 35 (inaudible)? Drink with 35 (inaudible)

CORKE: You make me laugh. I'm going to say -- you know wings are great. Don't get me wrong. I love wings, but I'm a nachos guy. I mean, I know -- a friend of ours, you and I can talk about, whose name begins with the letter C, is a nachos guy. I am a major nachos fan. So for me beer and nachos.

GALLAGHER: Copy that. Micah Ali, the newest man to the Nightcap. I know he's not drinking beer and snacks. Micah?

ALI: No, I'm not drinking beer. I really prefer tequila. And I like garlic peppered wings and a cigar.

GALLAGHER: Perhaps, perhaps, perhaps.

GALLAGHER: Ashley Strohmier, I don't want to get you in trouble, but what's the drink and what's the snack?

STROHMIER: So, you know what, I was -- I was kind of when the beer keg when we were talking about this. I'm kind of a Budweiser girl. And if I'm going to drink a beer, which is very, very rare. I have to have a big burger with it, a big cheeseburger.

GALLAGHER: Oh, man, you have just won the hearts of many Americans. We have Matt Finn, but he's not old enough to drink so we can't -- we got to let Matt out of it. No. Matt, what's your favorite?

FINN: You know? Actually, I'm with you in the Budweiser and the burger, but I'm going to say a cold beer and a hot pizza go together well.

GALLAGHER: What can you not talk about, Kevin Corke, very quickly on Thanksgiving with your family? My family, anything goes. I mean, we're one of the people that just you can say whatever. And I have every right to kick you out if I don't like it.

GALLAGHER: Micah Ali.

ALI: We talk about every single thing you name it, we talk -- and we talk about each other.

GALLAGHER: Not my family. Matt.

FINN: Talk about what you want. Just don't push each other's buttons, which is nearly impossible in Thanksgiving, right?

GALLAGHER: Ashley, can you talk about anything?

STROHMIER: You know what, I think I might be the button pusher and my family. So I don't know. I'm not the right one to ask that.

GALLAGHER: I will tell you. In our house, there are certain subjects that are off limits.

Thank you, Micah Ali. Thank you, Matt Finn. Ashley Strohmier, Kevin Corke, have a great weekend. And thank you for watching America's late news, FOX NEWS @ NIGHT. I'm Trace Gallagher in Los Angeles. We'll see you right back here on Monday. Have a great weekend.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

END

[Copy: Content and Programming Copyright 2022 Fox News Network, LLC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. Copyright 2022 VIQ Media Transcription, Inc. All materials herein are protected by United States copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, published or broadcast without the prior written permission of VIQ Media Transcription, Inc. You may not alter or remove any trademark, copyright or other notice from copies of the content.]

--- **Index References** ---

Company: Federal Bureau of Investigation; WELLS FARGO & COMPANY; Hoover Institution.; NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION; META PLATFORMS, INC.; LIVE NATION ENTERTAINMENT, INC.; LIBERTY MEDIA CORPORATION; BUFFALO BILLS INC.

News Subject: (Business Management (1BU42); Crime (1CR87); Sales & Marketing (1MA51); Social Issues (1SO05))

Industry: (Advertising (1AD82); Advertising & Public Relations (1AD83); Celebrities (1CE65); Entertainment (1EN08); Music (1MU57); Television Advertising (1TE28))

Region: (Americas (1AM92); California (1CA98); Idaho (1ID22); Kansas (1KA13); North America (1NO39); North Carolina (1NO26); U.S. Midwest Region (1MI19); U.S. Southeast Region (1SO88); U.S. West Region (1WE46); USA (1US73))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Peloton; Justice Department; Ticketmaster; Fiasco; 2022 Fox News Network, LLC; Senate Republicans; UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO VICTIMS; WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY; Electoral College; Republican Party; Democrats; DOJ; Department of Justice; Compton School Board; 2022 VIQ Media Transcription, Inc.; FBI; Wells Fargo; Hoover Institution; National Education Association; Facebook; Live Nation; Liberty Media; Buffalo Bills) (Merrick Garland; Donald Trump; Donald John Trump; Taylor Swift; Elon Musk; Elon Musk)

Word Count: 7790

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

3/2/23 FOX: Fox News Night (Pg. Unavail. Online)
2023 WLNR 7703781

FOX: Fox News at Night
Copyright (c) 2023 Fox News Network, Inc.

March 2, 2023

GOP Lawmakers Seek More Info On Tragic Murder Case; Gang Member In U.S. Illegally Allegedly Kills M.D. Woman; Lawmakers Ramp Up Focus On Deadly D...

GOP Lawmakers Seek More Info On Tragic Murder Case; Gang Member In U.S. Illegally Allegedly Kills M.D. Woman; Lawmakers Ramp Up Focus On Deadly Drug; Senators Grill Attorney General On Host Of Issues; Jury Hears Closing Argument After Crime Scene Visit; Chicago Police Officer Killed During Shootout; Christian School Forfeits Against Team With Trans Student; Randi Weingarten Now Sticking Up For Students; Media Credibility Crisis After COVID Lab Leak Report; NASA And SpaceX Set To Launch Four Astronauts To ISS; Kirk Cameron On Revivals On America's Campuses

TRACE GALLAGHER, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST (on camera): Thank you, Greg. Good evening, everyone and welcome to America's late news, FOX NEWS @ NIGHT. I'm Trace Gallagher in Los Angeles. And breaking tonight, a 20-year-old autistic woman allegedly raped and murdered by a 17-year-old believed to be an MS-13 gang member in the country, illegally. Tonight, Republicans asking why the Biden administration has zero sense of urgency when it comes to the crisis at our southern border. The Chief Correspondent Jonathan Hunt has more on the tragic case and the investigation by House Republicans. Jonathan, this has very disturbing details.

JONATHAN HUNT, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CHIEF CORRESPONDENT: It is a deeply troubling case, Trace, first reported by The Washington Examiner. It centers on a grieving mom, Tammy Nobles, looking for answers as to how and why an MS-13 gang member was able to not just to enter the US, but to stay here and then allegedly rape and murder her daughter.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

TAMMY NOBLES, AUTISTIC DAUGHTER RAPED AND KILLED: Came in her room, he startled her. She picked up the phone. She called her boyfriend, but it went to voicemail. And the voicemail was two minutes of 30 seconds of him with a struggle and him strangling her. They think that he raped her after she was dead.

HUNT (voiceover): Police in Aberdeen, Maryland where Kayla Hamilton was killed then learn the 17-year-old suspect was a gang member and had illegally entered the U.S. last March. He was apprehended at the border and handed over to Department of Health and Human Services Representatives. They are responsible for handling unaccompanied minors. It's not clear whether either Customs and Border Protection or HHS knew at the time that the teen was an MS-13 gang member.

House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jim Jordan is now demanding answers, writing to Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas saying, "Criminal aliens and gang members exploit the U.S. immigration system to harm Americans. The Biden administration's border and immigration policies only increase the likelihood that those criminal aliens will successfully enter and remain in the U.S."

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HUNT (on camera): Now, Congressman Jordan sent a similar letter to the Health and Human Services Secretary Javier Becerra. He told both secretaries he wants answers by March 13. We'll see if they're forthcoming, Trace.

GALLAGHER: Answers would be a good thing. Jonathan, back to you a bit later, thank you. Meantime, lawmakers focused on the Fentanyl crisis on Capitol Hill, Wednesday, with Attorney General Garland admitting to senators that current policy is not preventing Americans from dying. Meantime, plenty of emotion at the House Judiciary Committee hearing from a mother who testified that she never even heard of fentanyl until she lost her son, Logan. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ERIN RACHWAL, MOTHER: For all of us, losing Logan was like a bomb going off in the middle of our family that we had built her life around. This explosion killed our son and it killed Caden's brother.

REP. ANDY BIGGS (R-AZ): Now, I know our Democrat friends want us to believe that the, the farcical notion that all of the fentanyl crossing our borders is coming in through our ports of entry. They have said as much in recent hearings. They want you to believe that we're doing a good job detecting and seizing it before it can enter the country and destroy and take American lives, that's simply not true.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: House Majority Leader Steve Scalise tells Fox News Congress is working on legislation that could include permanently classifying fentanyl as a schedule one drug.

And now, the CDC has issued a warning to Americans planning to travel to Mexico for spring break: be very careful what medications you buy. There are major concerns about pills laced with fentanyl and other dangerous substances. Here's the Senior National Correspondent William La Jeunesse.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You name it, I got, Homie. 40 percent off on any medication.

WILLIAM LA JEUNESSE, FOX NEWS CHANNEL SENIOR NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT (voiceover): More than a million Americans each year buy prescription drugs in Mexico. This seller, typical. Greeting tourists looking for the cheaper meds that often don't require a script

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Cialis, Viagra, (INAUDIBLE), Oxycodone, Morphine --

LA JEUNESSE: But a new study calls that practice dangerous. UCLA sent in researchers to Mexican pharmacies posing as tourists to buy Xanax, Adderall, and Oxycodone. 44 percent of drugs were counterfeit. Oxy pills contain fentanyl and heroin. 82 percent of Adderall pills contain methamphetamine.

SHABBIR SAFDAR, PARTNERSHIP FOR SAFE MEDICINES: Now that the cartel has adopted Adderall with methamphetamine and learn to press those pills, our problem is going to get a lot worse before it gets a lot better.

LA JEUNESSE: The CDC is warning spring breakers about the counterfeit pills followed by the L.A. Times found 71 percent of the medications from three Mexican cities tested positive for fentanyl and methamphetamine.

SEN. RICK SCOTT (R-FL): I am shocked that more Americans aren't up in arms over what's going on.

LA JEUNESSE: At a meeting Tuesday hosted by a medical nonprofit, experts said it is difficult to tell cartel manufactured fake pills from the real thing. Packaging for other drugs like blood thinners also looked real, but the pills contain zero active ingredients. The only giveaway, the barcode here, somebody got lazy numbering it zero to nine.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

LA JEUNESSE (on camera): The bottom-line experts say to stay safe, buy your meds at U.S. pharmacies, not mail order, or Mexico. Trace.

GALLAGHER: Good advice, William. Thank you. So, Republican lawmakers are accusing the Biden administration of lacking a sense of urgency when it comes to the illegal immigration and fentanyl crisis. Let's bring in the panel: Townhall.com Managing Editor, Spencer Brown; and former DHS Deputy Assistant Secretary Jonathan Fahey. Gentlemen, thank you both for coming on. Jonathan, I want to play some more sound from a mom who lost her son to fentanyl because he bought a pill on Snapchat. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

RACHWAL: Our kids are at risk; every single kid is at risk. And even if there's kids that we're not seen, some kids are not dying, but they're dealing with addiction issues as well, very young, because these cartels these pills are they're being made to drive addiction. That's what they want. They want these kids to be addicted. It's a business.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: It is a business, Jonathan, and we are allowing this business to flourish.

JONATHAN FAHEY, FORMER DHS DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY: Yes, exactly. Every policy that this administration has implemented has been to help this business with this open borders policy. And you're talking about the people in Congress are saying there's no urgency on this issue. It's even worse than that, they aren't doing anything about this issue. In fact, they're encouraging massive illegal immigration for political purposes through this open border. So, you know, these, these stories are horrible, but we're going to hear many, many more of them because this administration doesn't have the interest or the will to even try to stop this.

GALLAGHER: And Spencer, I want to play some sound from the Texas Democratic Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee because she kind of did the obvious she blamed Trump. Look.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE (D-TX): While the previous administration was focused on China building a wall on the southern border, fentanyl came in through the front door and exploded in this country.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: Just to respond to the congresswoman, I want to put this up on the screen because for the record, this is the explosion of fentanyl in the past four years. When she blames the former president 2500 pounds were seized. Look at 2022, 14,000 pounds, and we are on pace to break that record, Spencer, this year.

SPENCER BROWN, MANAGING EDITOR, TOWNHALL.COM: Well, for the last two years, plus now the Biden administration's policy to handle this has been to abandon law and order at the border. And look at what it's done, you know, how many more stories do we have to have from parents from family members who have lost loved ones to either these deadly drugs that are coming over from the people who are coming in and being apprehended and then released as unaccompanied minors, apparently, unvetted not knowing where they came from.

And I think that's what makes these tragedies even worse, you know, it's bad enough the details of these cases, but then to find out that it could have been prevented, what will it actually take for the Biden administration to take this seriously, and do something about it other than claiming that oh, it's under control on the border is secure.

GALLAGHER: Moving on now to the MS-13 suspect, Jonathan, because Jonathan played some of this, this sound earlier, very hard to listen to. But here's a mom who lost her daughter, who was raped allegedly by an MS-13 gang member. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

NOBLES: He came in her room, he startled her. He raped her after she was dead, and just left her on the floor on her back, and then he went to lunch with his half-brother.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: People heard this, Jonathan, they were outraged. I mean, you know, there is worthy outrage in this story. But why is it so much more heart striking, than all these fentanyl stories that we hear all the time?

FAHEY: Yes, you know, it really is truly a tragedy. And the thing that's really awful about this is, this is an MS-13 gang member that came into the country. And instead of sending them back, they let them loose in the country. And this is consistent with the HSS policies. They don't even think having a gang tattoo on your forehead would be enough to deport you for being a gang member. They don't deport criminals; they don't deport gang members, and situations like this, as awful as they are, there's going to be more of them, and it's truly appalling.

GALLAGHER: Yes, your final thoughts on this, Spencer?

BROWN: Yes, I mean, this one gang member, you know, it's just one individual of more than 300,000, who have been characterized as unaccompanied minors and released into the country. So, if the U.S. government, the Biden administration failed to catch this, who knows who else they've missed in addition to all of these people on terror watchlist, who have been apprehended at the border, convicted criminals who were deported and then are caught trying to come in again. How, how much more can the country take before the Biden administration wakes up and realizes this isn't going to work?

GALLAGHER: And I say the same thing about fentanyl if you got 14,000 pounds coming through? How much did you miss? That's what I'm wondering. Spencer Brown, Jonathan Fahey, gentlemen, thank you.

Well, meantime, Attorney General Merrick Garland facing tough questions in a Senate hearing where Republicans brought up a number of contentious issues from the opioid epidemic to the **Hunter Biden** probe. The Senior National Correspondent Kevin Corke is live in D.C. with brand new information about this. Kevin, good evening.

KEVIN CORKE, FOX NEWS CHANNEL WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT: Evening, my friend. Attorney General Merrick Garland once again today pledge that the FBI would not repeat, would not go rogue with respect to **Hunter Biden's** business dealings investigation. This investigation he promised would be political influence free. Now, you may also recall that Garland previously promised not to interfere with U.S. Attorney David Weiss is probe into Biden and his foreign business

dealings. He repeated that pledge, as I mentioned today, but this is important. Garland has also refused to elevate wise to **Special Counsel** status to ensure his independence.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. CHUCK GRASSLEY (R-IA): If you provided the Delaware U.S. attorney with **special counsel** authority, isn't it true that he would need permission of another U.S. attorney to bring charges?

MERRICK GARLAND, U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL: Under the regulations, those kind of charging decisions would have to be brought, I would then have to authorize it and permit it to be brought in another jurisdiction, and that is exactly what I promised to do here.

CORKE (voiceover): Garland also denied allegations that he directed the criminal division of the DOJ to investigate parents who were angry about what critics have called out of control school boards. Garland said the opposite was actually true. In fact, he said he specifically reminded his team that the First Amendment protects vigorous debate.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CORKE (on camera): And also interesting, at least two senators brought up a controversy surrounding Ticketmaster and the fiasco related to Taylor Swift tickets. Garland acknowledged that the DOJ's probe was ongoing and he said the department knows all too well about the importance of industry competition. And if you're a fan of Taylor Swift, you've got that reference, Trace.

GALLAGHER: We have covered it often on this story, on the show. Kevin Corke live for us in D.C. Kevin, thank you. Meantime, jurors in the double murder trial of Alex Murdaugh visited the scene of the crime the family's 1700- acre hunting estate where prosecutors say Murdaugh killed his wife and son. Then there was the state's closing argument and the jury may have the case in a matter of hours Marianne Rafferty's live with a trial update. Marianne, good evening.

MARIANNE RAFFERTY, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT: Yes, those jurors getting to visit that that house to see everything. The prosecutor in the elec Murdaugh double murder trial, delivering a scathing final argument just after the jury made that visit to the crime scene.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

RAFFERTY (voiceover): That trip from entry to exit of the Murdaugh property took roughly two hours, the 12 members of the jury as well as the two alternates walked around and surveyed the area of the kennels where Maggie and Paul Murdaugh were shot and killed. They also were given access to the Murdaugh home. Now, you'll remember testimony from Alex Murdaugh described the home and its views of the kennels in detail. The tour came at the request of Murdaugh's defense, with the goal of demonstrating that gunfire at the 1700-acre hunting estate could go unnoticed by someone who was inside the Murdaugh home.

For their part, prosecutors were quick to note how Murdaugh refused to admit that he was at the family kennel the night of the murders until multiple friends and family testified that they recognize the voice of all three family members on a video Paul Murdaugh recorded just minutes before the apparent time of the shooting. And back in the courtroom, prosecutors sought to paint Murdaugh as a serial liar who killed his wife and son to create a "storm of events" that might distract from his financial schemes.

CREIGHTON WATERS, SOUTH CAROLINA CHIEF PROSECUTOR: MALE: The defendant is the person on which a storm was descending, and defendant is a person where his own storm would actually mean consequences for Maggie and Paul, and consequences for those who trusted him.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

RAFFERTY (on camera): And Murdaugh's defense will make their closing arguments Thursday, they're expected to again suggest that two shooters were responsible for the deaths and that Alex Murdaugh had nothing to do with those murders, Trace.

GALLAGHER: Yes, it's going to be fascinating. Marianne Rafferty, live for us. Marianne, thank you. We'll have legal analysis but first watch this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

WATERS: On the other hand, has fooled everyone, everyone, everyone who thought they were close to him, everyone who thought they knew he was, who he was -- he's fooled them all. And he fooled Maggie and Paul too. And they paid for it with their lives.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: For more, I want to make today's developments inside and outside the courtroom, let's bring in Criminal Defense and Trial Attorney, Brian Claypool. Brian, great to see you. If you're the defense going into closing arguments tomorrow, what are the points that you really want to hit?

BRIAN CLAYPOOL, CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEY: Three words, Trace? Where's the evidence? That's going to be the defense argument tomorrow. I mean, they're going to hammer the fact that the guns were not found, that there's very little blood anywhere, that, that, that the minor amount of gunshot residue could have come from somewhere else a year ago. And then you add in this evidence toward the end of the trial where two shooters based on the trajectory of the bullets and where the bullets ended up. And on top of that, then you had evidence that from an expert saying the shooter had to be between five-foot-two and five-foot-five, and Murtaugh six-foot-four. So, there's a lot to work with, in the defense closing argument.

GALLAGHER: When you see the crime scene. I mean, it was, it was horrific. Are you surprised after the trial, Brian, that there's not more physical evidence that was presented during the trial?

CLAYPOOL: Yes, I'm not real surprised about that. What I am surprised about, talking about like the brain matter of Paul being on the ground was the lack of human emotion coming from Murdaugh. I think that's his one area that's going to hurt in this case. I thought there should have been much more emotion when he testified. You see your, your loved ones dead right there. His soul was devoid of emotion, Trace, and I think that really is going to play against him when the jury deliberates.

GALLAGHER: The prosecution said this today, Brian, I'll get your response on the other side. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

WATERS: After an exhaustive investigation, there is only one person who had the motive, who had the means, who had the opportunity to commit these crimes. And also, who's guilty conduct after these crimes, the tracing.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: Were you compelled? Were you swayed at all by the prosecution?

CLAYPOOL: Look, this has been a heavyweight boxing match, Trace. And I think, I think prosecution had this in the middle of the of the trial. They had some good arguments when Murdaugh went in there lied to law enforcement. And then, you had all the evidence of the financial crimes, right? So, leading up to last couple of days, I thought the prosecution might be able to get a conviction. But when you, when you now look at the fact that there could have been another shooter, and then let's talk about this

evidence, nobody's talking about the coroner admits on the stand that the shooting could have taken place up until 10:00 at night. That is colossal, because now that gives an hour for somebody else to possibly have come in and committed the double murders.

GALLAGHER: Yes.

CLAYPOOL: So, is there a reasonable doubt? I think you might find one or one or two jurors that find it and I think you might end up with a hung jury.

GALLAGHER: The jury gets it possibly tomorrow, likely tomorrow? Today, whatever, whatever side of the coast, you're on. Brian Claypool, any last picks you think this is a not guilty?

CLAYPOOL: I think that no, he's definitely going to be, he's definitely not going to be not guilty. It's either a guilty or a hung jury. I predict a hung jury. And by the way, I think you're going to see several days of deliberation, up to four to five days. This will not be a quick a quick verdict.

GALLAGHER: Interesting. Brian Claypool, we'll get back to you as the verdict comes in. Thank you.

First up in tonight's "CRIME CRISIS ROUNDUP." This video out of Philadelphia shows two men dressed in black armed with semi-automatic weapons opened fire on a crowd as they stood outside a convenience store. The shooting happened just a few hours ago in West Philadelphia. Three people were injured. The shooters remained at large. A Chicago police officer was shot and killed this evening. The male officer was shot multiple times during a shootout on the southwest side. A large group of Chicago police officers gathered outside the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office tonight. The alleged shooter 18 years old, he is in custody and being treated himself for a gunshot wound.

Now, an update to a story we brought you last night. Three Kansas City police officers are recovering tonight after being shot while they served a search warrant. An 18-hour standoff came to an end with three people taken into custody and one man found dead inside the residence.

Well, breaking right now, we are minutes away and counting down to the scheduled launch of four astronauts into space from Cape Canaveral, Florida. Their destination: the International Space Station. Phil Keating, live for us at the Kennedy Space Center with more on this. Phil, is it a go?

PHIL KEATING, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT: As of right now, it certainly is. The propellants being loaded into the rocket and the Crew Access Arm has already pulled back from the stack, and the crew escape hatch is now armed. But as was the case Sunday night, everything all day long was going smoothly just as today, the weather was perfect as was today, and it was all systems go.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KEATING (voiceover): Right now, the SpaceX Falcon-9 rocket is right out there on launch pad 39-A, standing tall. And inside, the dragon crew capsule team is all strapped into their seats, helmets on ready to rocket into space. The issue that was spotted by ground teams two and a half minutes before blast off Monday morning involved an issue with the fuel ignition system used to ignite the rocket's big engines. The pressure just wasn't right so they called off the launch. NASA and SpaceX determined it was a clogged filter, that was replaced, so here we are hopefully looking solid for a blast off in just about 14 minutes and three seconds.

The crew is NASA astronaut Steven Bowen, the Commander; Warren Woody Hoberg, the Pilot; Russian Cosmonaut Andrey Fedyaev; and the first Arab Astronaut to launch from Florida, Sultan al-Nayedi from the United Arab Emirates. They all walked out of their Neil Armstrong building about their three hours ago waving and saying their I love yous and goodbyes to their family and friends before hopping into their Tesla's for the ride out to the launch pad. They're scheduled to spend six months

on the space station doing about 200 scientific research projects and maintenance on the orbiting outpost. So, they're not going to see all these people for half a year. Was the crew disappointed Monday morning when they scrubbed the launch so close to lift off? Absolutely.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

KEATING (on camera): But they all have done a more than a year of training on this. They know that's absolutely possible. Rocket Science is not easy. And once they do launch, they will then fly 24 and a half hours up to the International Space Station where they will dock very early Friday morning. And right now, 13 minutes away from the launch, no issues being declared by NASA at all. Trace.

GALLAGHER: Standby Phil, we'll see you in 13 minutes. Thank you. Coming up, the fight for religious freedom right here in America. A Christian College has asked the Supreme Court to hear a case on the new gender identity dorm rules under the Biden administration that would force schools to open up its dorm rooms and showers to men and women. And later, have you ever considered packing a doomsday bag? What would you put in it? Let us know on social media Twitter and Instagram, @TraceGallagher, weigh in. We'll show you the results and read the best responses in the "NIGHTCAP".

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

GALLAGHER: Well, first up in tonight's "REAL NEWS ROUNDUP," new FlightAware animation shows what the FAA called a close call at Boston Logan Airport happened Monday when a Learjet took off without clearance while a Jet Blue flight was getting ready to land on a crossing runway. FAA says the JetBlue pilot may have saved the day by pulling the plane up as the Learjet crossed beneath the planes reportedly as close as 500 feet. A series of similar incidents have taken place in recent weeks including last month at JFK and just last week at Hollywood Burbank Airport.

Meantime, a Vermont Christian High School girls' basketball team was forced to forfeit a state championship tournament game after they refused to play against a team that had a transgender student on its roster. Head of School, Vicki Fogg, explained to Fox Digital, quoting here: "We withdrew from the tournament because we believe playing against an opponent with a biological male, jeopardizes the fairness of the game and the safety of our players."

Next, a pilot project to buy and install five tech toilets and parks across New York City could end up costing taxpayers \$5.3 million, because, of course, red tape, don't you know. The high-end Portland loo brand toilets actually cost about \$185,000 each apparently because of their "graffiti proof wall panels" and open grading. The park's department blames the ballooning cost on installation. And did we mention red tape?

While the FOX NEWS @ NIGHT "COMMON SENSE DEPARTMENT" is wondering if you had a chance to catch the meltdown of national teachers' union boss, Randi Weingarten, at a student debt relief rally. She is irate about the challenge to President Biden's plan to forgive student loan debt and she is infuriated. The challenge has made its way to the Supreme Court. If you missed it, it's well worth a watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

RANDI WEINGARTEN, PRESIDENT, AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS: During the pandemic, we understood that small businesses were hurting, and didn't go to the Supreme Court to challenge it. All of a sudden, when it's about our students, they challenge it. That is not right. That is not fair.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: Were you listening? All of the sudden, she says, when it's about our students, they challenge it. So now, she's an advocate for students. The same woman who thought to keep schools closed during the pandemic saying, if they opened it would it would be sexist, racist, and every other -ist. And even after getting \$190 billion in federal aid to reopen safely, she demanded they remain closed and blamed COVID. When did COVID start running the schools? And remember, because of remote learning, the National Assessment of Education Progress found an unprecedented decline in reading and math scores, which is devastating for all kids, even worse for minority kids. Common sense thinks if Randi Weingarten was planning to melt down, she's not just late, she's truant.

Well, this week's report from the Department of Energy that concluded the COVID-19 likely originated from a lab leak in Wuhan, China has made many mainstream media outlets like the New York Times look very bad, after they've pushed the narrative that the lab leak theory was some sort of wild conspiracy theory. Let's talk about that and some new woke vocabulary words with KTTH Talk Radio Host, Jason Rantz. Jason, it's always great to see you. This is April 3rd in 2020, the New York Times writes the following, put this up: "Senior Trump administration officials have pushed American spy agencies to hunt for evidence to support an unsubstantiated theory that a government laboratory in Wuhan China was the origin of the Coronavirus outbreak. According to current and former American officials, the effort comes as President Trump escalates a public campaign to blame China for the pandemic." I mean, in hindsight, it's not just wrong and journalistically, awful, Jason, it's embarrassing.

JASON RANTZ, KTTH TALK RADIO HOST: It is embarrassing, but we saw a lot of embarrassing journalism or what we were supposed to pretend was journalism happen at that time. You had folks who decided simply because Donald Trump and some Republicans took a position that they would say the opposite no matter what. They did this with drugs. They did this with the vaccine early on anything that Donald Trump said, they instinctively decided to say that it's wrong, that it's part of a conspiracy, that it's fringe, whatever it happens to be. And then, suddenly, right now, what are they doing? They're walking it sort of back. They're saying, well, on the one hand, maybe it's not that big of a deal, but you know, actually, you know, it's still up in the air and really doesn't even matter. Do we have to know? Why would we know? Let's just move on?

GALLAGHER: Yes, you're talking about walking it back. They started to kind of walk it back 13 months later, May of 2021. Quoting here: "If it turns out that the COVID pandemic was caused by a leak from a lab in Wuhan, China, it will rank among the greatest scientific scandals in history, thuggishly covered up by a regime, more interested in propaganda than human life, catastrophic for the entire world." China, thuggishly covered it up? Your thoughts?

RANTZ: Yes, I think it was the New York Times and the general journalistic industry right now, that has covered it up. Obviously, we have to pay attention to China. They are the bad guys in all of this, but so too, are the journalists who decided to just completely push aside all of their integrity, because they wanted to go after Donald Trump. They bet against him on this particular issue, and they lost.

GALLAGHER: Yes, and they lost indeed. I wanted to get the woke words We have breaking news, Jason Rantz, we'll get back to you shortly. Meantime, back to Phil Keating, he's at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida. We appear to be, Phil, less than a minute away from launch is that fair?

KEATING: We are exactly one minute and two seconds away. The rocket is fully fueled at this point with the kerosene bass rocket fuel and the super cold liquid oxygen. So now, it's just a countdown, 52 seconds away from here. It's going to be a spectacular nighttime launch. Those are the, some of the best for everybody, all the spectators not only here at the press site, but all along 528 which takes you to Cocoa Beach. This is going to be a blast off. It's going to be loud; it's going to be bright; it's going to light up the night sky and it's going to be really thrilling to see as they always are. It's one of the best things about being based in Miami and covering the Space Coast, Trace. Well, we are now 20 seconds away. Let's take a listen to the live countdown to the commentators as this Falcon-9 rocket and Dragon capsule with crew six on board is now 10 seconds away. Let's watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: T-minus 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1. It is full power, and lift off of crew six. Go dragon, go falcon!

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Copy, one alpha.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Stage one, propulsion, nominal.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Power telemetry nominal.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Stage 1 title down.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: Phil, you're very lucky. I remember when I was in Orlando many, many years ago the shuttle launches at night were spectacular and I'm sure that was too.

KEATING: Oh, it absolutely was, and just so thunderous. It's like eight double bass drums all just super, super loud car alarms are going off, off to my right over here. That's how loud and the vibrations that was coming from it.

GALLAGHER: Yes, fantastic! Nice work, Phil. Thank you. It's a blast off. It's nice to see some more action at the Kennedy Space Center. That kind of brings us back several years. Phil Keating, live for you. Phil, thank you.

Up next, talk about growing pains. Actor Kirk Cameron takes on woke libraries holding drag queen story hours. He joins us here on set to talk more about wholesome alternatives. Plus, his thoughts on the Asbury College Revival spreading across the country.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

GALLAGHER: Well, in an effort to bring a wholesome alternative to drag queen story hours, Kirk Cameron went to Hendersonville, Tennessee, where he also got some negative pushback from a head library official until members of the community and the library's Board of Directors got wind of that and offered some pushback of their own. Let's bring in the author of the new book "As You Grow." He is also an Actor, Writer, Producer and Christian, welcome Kirk Cameron. Kirk, it's great to have you on here.

KIRK CAMERON, ACTOR AND WRITER: Thank you. Great to be with you.

GALLAGHER: I just want to make sure that we say that there was no drag queen shows in Hendersonville, Tennessee. But you did get some pushback for going there. Talk about that.

CAMERON: Yes, we had originally been denied by over 50 woke libraries that had previously held drag queen story hours. That changed when we threatened to search some constitutional rights. So, then libraries started asking us to come, and one of the libraries I wanted to go to was in the Nashville area. We, we, we got the invitation to come but then the head librarian said, actually now that we know who you are and what you're bringing, we don't want your movement at our library. And really, it was about as kind as a hornet to us and to our staff and to the community members who were standing out in the rain for a couple of hours when they could have been inside where it was nice and warm.

GALLAGHER: It's interesting, because we see the pictures of the rain, you couldn't let them inside here. The response, the outpouring, the people who wanted to come to the library was vast.

CAMERON: Oh, they were coming out of the woodwork. In fact, we had the city mayor, the county mayor, the county commissioners, some from the board of directors at the library, and about 700 people who came out before the library even

open and, Trace, we were there singing the national anthem around the flag in front of the library, hands over our hearts reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and praying, and then went into the library.

GALLAGHER: I'm curious, because if you got pushed back in Hendersonville, what about the libraries that are actually holding these drag show stories? I mean, what are they saying when you show up there?

CAMERON: Well, first, you have to apply to be able to have a story time there. And many of them just simply told us, we're not interested, our community doesn't align with your values. And I'm trying to remind them that the book I'm talking about is, is all about the Fruit of the Spirit.

GALLAGHER: Right.

CAMERON: Which is a biblical term for love, joy, kindness, patience, gentleness, self-control. So, which one of those values wouldn't you align with? I think it's really, maybe a worldview that they're, they're not agreeing with and they want to go woke, rather than back to the Judeo- Christian values that actually were the foundation for the freest country in the world.

GALLAGHER: You talk about the Fruit of the Spirit, what do you make of the Asbury University Revival and the revivals that are popping up around the country?

CAMERON: It's fascinating. I'm intrigued, I'm hopeful. We hope that these aren't just Jesus goosebumps that pass, but that these turn into spiritual mountains that begin to reform families, churches, and our government structure. We want things that will systemically change values and virtues back to those that lead to blessing and protection. So, I think only time will tell.

GALLAGHER: It's interesting. We talked to a young woman last night at Liberty University and we asked her, in fact, we told her, we said your generation is the least religious generation in history and she said this. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SUMMER SMITH, LIBERTY UNIVERSITY STUDENT: I think that our generation is going to be a real surprise. I think we're going to do a lot of unexpected things that people just don't expect at all, and they're going to be out of the blue. But one thing I really, really respect all my generation is, no matter what side you fall on, on any issue, or religion, you're always very hot or very cold, and our generation really wants the real thing.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: Lastly to you, Kirk. Do you, are you surprised when you travel the country and you hear people? Is there an appetite for this? Is there an appetite for, for Christ and for Christian values?

CAMERON: There is an insatiable appetite because I see as I travel across the country, going to hundreds of churches and schools, people are seeing the rotting, twisted, gnarled and bitter fruit that a woke, Marxist root produces. And so, when a false system begins to topple, it begins to show its true colors. People say, wait a minute, we don't like this, we want to go back to something that's actually going to produce sweet fruit, like liberty, and justice and blessing. And that's where I see people turning and going, let's go back to the ways that George Washington that Lincoln and our forefathers and mothers told us was the way faith in God, fearless faith, and moral integrity. And that's what people are wanting.

GALLAGHER: The book is called "As We Grow." Best of luck, Kirk Cameron, thank you for coming on. We appreciate it.

CAMERON: Thanks, Trace. Great to be with you.

GALLAGHER: Good stuff. Earlier we teased the story about the fight for religious freedom right here in America because of the breaking news with the rocket launch which was spectacular. We will have that story for you tomorrow night. Meantime, coming up, have you ever considered packing a doomsday bag, you know, to prepare for possibly the end of the world, the zombie apocalypse? And have you thought about what you would put in that bag? There's still time to weigh in on Twitter and Instagram, @TraceGallagher. The "NIGHTCAP" crew is next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

GALLAGHER: We are back with the "NIGHTCAP" crew: Marianne Rafferty, Jonathan Hunt, Kevin Cork, and the guy who was talking, that's Phil Keating, he's down at Kennedy Space Center. Tonight's topic is doomsday, and the question to you is have you ever considered packing a doomsday bag to prepare for the end of the world? And the big question here is what would you put in it, Phil Keating, who just watched the spectacular blast off? Doomsday bag, the zombie apocalypse coming to Florida, what's in your bag, Phil?

KEATING: Trace Gallagher, you want to be hanging with me -- a case Turley Zinfandel, a case of Willamette Valley Pinot Noir, a gold bar to chip off to get food and most importantly a lot of hair product because when doomsday comes, we got to look good.

GALLAGHER: You want to look good. And I want to be with Phil King, exactly right, but I don't want to have him -- we're not traveling. I'm not carrying a lot of stuff around. We're going to sit tight, wait for the zombies to come and just drink like madman. Thank you, Phil. Kevin Corke, what's in your doomsday backpack or bag?

CORKE: I hate to admit it but I actually have a go bag as a reporter, but it sort of doubles as my if-it-all-goes-down, I'm ready to go. It's got, it's got little bourbon in it. It's, it's got some, some MREs in it, but the most important thing I have in it is a compass because you never know.

GALLAGHER: Oh, you're trying to get out alive is what you're saying.

CORKE: Yes.

GALLAGHER: That's my whole thing is. So, we e asked, the poll results, do you or have you ever considered packing a doomsday bag and there it is? Yes, 52 percent on Twitter; 48, no. Instagram -- it's kind of the opposite, which is weird -- 34 percent say yes, and 66 say no on Instagram. I guess they're too busy taking selfies and here's one of the responses, Tonya says: "Ingredients for a Manhattan, water, photos, matches and a girl scout book on survival." Jonathan Hunt, you and your 26 children, you have to pack for all of your --

HUNT: I'm leaving all of them behind first a start. In my bag is going, one, my Golden Retriever puppy; two, one very good bottle of wine because I'm not carrying case or two, like Phil Keating.

GALLAGHER: Well, I'm going with Phil and not you.

HUNT: And three, I'm putting Phil Keating in my bag because he always brings the fun.

GALLAGHER: Yes, he would. And that's the whole thing is don't go with honey, he's got one bottle, he's going to give you one splash of wine. You're like, it's the end of days, my friend, and we got one bottle of wine? Marianne's got her, did I miss anybody? Here's the thing, we've got, we've got Michael Yon, "Peanuts and M&Ms, and a good bourbon." I think we have a common theme here, people. Peanut, M&Ms and good bourbon. We have Barbara Donovan who says, "Photos of my family at our special occasions." And that's kind of the interesting thing because as I was talking to my wife today, the first thing she said was, oh, yes, we got to have pictures of the kids, we got to have photos.

And I said what about the scotch, what about the other stuff? And she said, OK, yes, we can, we can throw a bottle of scotch in there. Also, you need matches. I think matches are key. You need a water, some water you need a little bit of food, maybe 72 hours probably charcuterie, probably the best to go with the wine that Phil Keating's bringing, right? And then you need some kind of a water filtration system. Lastly, Mary A., "The usual clothes, meds, whatnot, and a bottle of Tabasco sauce, because a few drops of good hot sauce makes anything edible." Phil Keating, 10 seconds if you want to wrap us up?

KEATING: It was a spectacular launch and everything is going well right now, they're on cruise control, and the rocket landed on the drone ship about east of South Carolina. So, very good mission so far.

GALLAGHER: Love it. Thank you, Phil, Jonathan, Marianne, Kevin, and thank you for watching America's late news, FOX NEWS @ NIGHT. I'm Trace Gallagher. What's in your bag? We'll see you right back here tomorrow night.

END

[Copy: Content and Programming Copyright 2023 Fox News Network, LLC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. Copyright 2023 VIQ Media Transcription, Inc. All materials herein are protected by United States copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, published or broadcast without the prior written permission of VIQ Media Transcription, Inc. You may not alter or remove any trademark, copyright or other notice from copies of the content.]

---- **Index References** ----

Company: National Aeronautics and Space Administration; Federal Bureau of Investigation; Washington Examiner; HOMELAND SECURITY CORPORATION; Fox Digital Entertainment, Inc.; SPACE EXPLORATION TECHNOLOGIES CORP.; American Federation of Teachers; United States of America

News Subject: (Crime (1CR87); Emerging Market Countries (1EM65); Minority & Ethnic Groups (1MI43); Race Relations (1RA49); Sexual Misconduct & Crimes (1SE01); Social Issues (1SO05))

Industry: (Aerospace (1AE56); Aerospace & Defense (1AE96); Library & Information Science (1LI40); Spacecraft & Satellites (1SP37))

Region: (Americas (1AM92); Asia (1AS61); China (1CH15); Eastern Asia (1EA61); Far East (1FA27); Florida (1FL79); Illinois (1IL01); Mexico (1ME48); North America (1NO39); Pennsylvania (1PE71); South Carolina (1SO63); Southern Asia (1SO52); Tennessee (1TE37); Texas (1TE14); U.S. Mid-Atlantic Region (1MI18); U.S. Midwest Region (1MI19); U.S. New England Region (1NE37); U.S. Southeast Region (1SO88); U.S. Southwest Region (1SO89); USA (1US73))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (GOP; Grill; Chicago; Christian School; Trans Student; COVID Lab; 2023 Fox News Network, LLC; Department of Health and Human Services Representatives; Customs and Border Protection; House Judiciary Committee; Fox News Congress; CDC; SHABBIR SAFDAR; DHS; Biden administration; DOJ; Cook County Medical Examiner's Office; Christian College; Supreme Court; FAA; Vermont Christian High School; Department of Energy; 2023 VIQ Media Transcription, Inc.; NASA; FBI; The Washington Examiner; Homeland Security; Fox Digital; SpaceX; AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS; U.S. government) (M.D. Woman; Randi Weingarten; Kirk Cameron; Kirk W Cameron)

Word Count: 7348

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

10/8/22 N.Y. Post 28
2022 WLNR 32148726

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

October 8, 2022

Section: OpEd

A Honest Prosecutor for Hunter

EDITORIAL

As prosecutors weigh charges against **Hunter Biden**, don't forget the many reasons to think the Joe Biden Justice Department shouldn't be making these calls.

The most recent evidence is the fact that sources close to the investigation felt the need to leak news that the feds have enough to bring tax- and gun-related charges. No way that happens unless people within Justice are seriously worried about even those puny charges getting squelched.

With good reason: Former Hunter partner Tony Bobulinski years ago corroborated to the FBI that the laptop emails said just what they seemed to: Millions flowed from Hunter's corrupt foreign dealing to the Biden family, and a slice of the cash was reserved for the "big guy," Hunter's dad Joe.

Then there's the fact that the investigation — despite ample evidence already made public — has limped along for years. If that laptop had been full of incriminating emails from Eric Trump and photos of Don Jr. smoking crack, does anyone doubt they'd have been in court long ago?

One reason FBI agents felt compelled to leak that they've had enough evidence for a criminal case for months is that they feel that David Weiss, the US attorney for Delaware, is sitting on a plainly prosecutable case.

Consider, too, that Weiss' boss, US Attorney General Merrick Garland, reports directly to Hunter's dad — a person of interest in this sordid affair. The whole situation screams out for a **special counsel**.

From start to finish, it's sure looked like the Biden mafia's clan interests have obstructed the functioning of the law here.

Unless outside counsel comes on, there's little hope justice will actually be served.

---- Index References ----

Company: Federal Bureau of Investigation

News Subject: (Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33))

Industry: (Computer Equipment (1CO77); Consumer Electronics (1CO61); Consumer Products & Services (1CO62); Electronics (1EL16); I.T. (1IT96); Notebook Computing (1NO17); PC (1PC82))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Justice Department; FBI) (Hunter Biden)

Edition: All Editions

Word Count: 277

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

10/9/22 N.Y. Post 11
2022 WLNR 32226315

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

October 9, 2022

Section: News

Is Hunter in DOJ sights, or are leaks just a feint?

MICHAEL GOODWIN

The deluge of reports saying the Department of Justice is wrestling with the **Hunter Biden** case raises two possibilities.

No. 1, it could mean the feds have enough evidence to indict him. No. 2, it could mean the public is being misled into thinking Justice ever was serious about prosecuting the president's son.

Bet the ranch on No. 2. The fix was in the moment Joe Biden took the oath and every leak aims to soften the ground for the final punt.

Even an honest and brave attorney general would have found it difficult to treat the son of the man who picked him as just another suspect. And Merrick Garland is neither honest nor brave.

He turned the Justice Department into the law enforcement division of the Democratic Party and is eager to prosecute its opponents. His probes of Donald Trump and his associates, unhappy parents at school board meetings and pro-life demonstrators reveal Garland as a bitter partisan.

Some say he has been hands-off in the Hunter case. Hogwash.

There's no way Garland was going to trust anyone else to run the protection racket. There are numerous ways for him to signal to underlings that Hunter gets the friend and family discount, which is why a **special counsel** should have been appointed.

But Garland didn't go that route because any honest probe of Hunter would inevitably lead to the president. Sitting on the son's case is the only way to protect the Big Guy.

The Bidens know this, which is why Joe is emptying the federal treasury to buy votes. If Republicans take Congress, a stalled agenda will be the least of his worries.

---- **Index References** ----

News Subject: (Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Political Parties (1PO73))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (DOJ; Department of Justice; Justice Department; Democratic Party; Republicans; Congress) (Hunter Biden)

Edition: All Editions

Word Count: 275

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

11/19/22 N.Y. Post 9
2022 WLNR 37265921

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

November 19, 2022

Section: News

TARGET: TRUMP AG SICS B'KLYN DOG ON DON **Special counsel** to weigh charges vs. former prez

SAMUEL CHAMBERLAIN and STEVEN NELSON

WASHINGTON — Attorney General Merrick Garland appointed a veteran prosecutor Friday to determine whether former President Donald Trump will face federal charges in connection with his attempts to reverse the 2020 election or his retention of sensitive government documents at his Mar-a-Lago resort.

Garland (inset) tapped Jack Smith, a former Brooklyn federal prosecutor and onetime Manhattan assistant district attorney, to take on the cases three days after the 76-year-old Trump announced his bid for the 2024 Republican presidential nomination.

"Based on recent developments, including the former president's announcement that he is a candidate for president in the next election and the sitting president's stated intent to be a candidate as well, I have concluded that it is in the public interest to appoint a **special counsel**," Garland said.

In a sign of the sensitivity of the cases, the AG looked beyond America's borders in selecting Smith, who has spent the past four years in The Hague as a specialist prosecutor of purported war crimes committed by an ethnic Albanian militia in Kosovo during its struggle to secede from Serbia in the late 1990s.

Trump vowed that he would refuse to participate in the **special counsel's** investigation.

"I'm not going to partake in this," the 45th president told Fox News Digital. "I have been going through this for six years — for six years I have been going through this, and I am not going to go through it anymore.

"I have been proven innocent for six years on everything — from fake impeachments to [former **special counsel** Robert] Mueller who found no collusion, and now I have to do it more?" the former president added. "It is not acceptable. It is so unfair. It is so political."

At the White House, press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre denied the Biden administration got a heads-up about Smith's appointment.

"We were not aware of this investigation," she told reporters. "Again, this is going to be up to the attorney general, up to the Department of Justice as it relates to a criminal investigation. But I can tell you that the president was not aware, we were not aware — we were not given advance notice."

Despite promises of a speedy probe by Garland and Smith, **special counsels** often end up investigating conduct well outside their initial scope — creating legal peril for their targets and often dragging their scrutiny on for years.

Garland has resisted GOP calls for a **special counsel** to take over the investigation of the Biden family's international business dealings after FBI whistleblowers alleged an internal coverup of evidence and testimony damaging to first son **Hunter Biden**, who is under federal investigation for tax fraud, money laundering and illegal foreign lobbying.

Smith will be the third **special counsel** to examine legal issues surrounding Trump in the past five years.

Mueller, the former FBI director, headed an investigation into whether Trump's campaign collaborated with Russia during the 2016 election.

Mueller's investigation concluded more than halfway through Trump's term in March 2019 without turning up evidence of a criminal conspiracy between Trump and Moscow.

In October 2020, then-Attorney General William Barr appointed John Durham to lead an investigation into the conduct of the FBI's Trump-Russia probe.

Durham secured an admission from FBI lawyer Kevin Clinesmith that he falsified documents used to monitor Trump campaign aide Carter Page but failed to convict former Hillary Clinton campaign attorney Michael Sussmann or key dossier source Igor Danchenko on charges they misled investigators.

---- Index References ----

Company: Federal Bureau of Investigation

News Subject: (Campaigns & Elections (1CA25); Crime (1CR87); Criminal Law (1CR79); Emerging Market Countries (1EM65); Financial Fraud (1FI18); Fraud (1FR30); Global Politics (1GL73); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Social Issues (1SO05); World Elections (1WO93))

Region: (Americas (1AM92); CIS Countries (1CI64); Eastern Europe (1EA48); Europe (1EU83); Kosovo (1KI38); New York (1NE72); North America (1NO39); Russia (1RU33); Serbia (1SE70); U.S. Mid-Atlantic Region (1MI18); USA (1US73))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Fox News Digital; White House; Department of Justice; GOP; Russia; FBI) (Donald Trump; B'KLYN DOG)

Edition: Sports+Late City Final

Word Count: 582

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

11/20/22 N.Y. Post 13
2022 WLNR 37367500

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

November 20, 2022

Section: News

AG Garland's the great pretender

MICHAEL GOODWIN

Merrick Garland belongs in Hollywood. His Friday performance where he pretended to be a squeaky-clean, by-the-books attorney general was completely persuasive — if you didn't know squat about the last two years.

Even those who didn't just come from Mars had to admire Garland's ability to keep a straight face while making the absurd claim that fairness dictates he appoint a **special counsel** to take over two probes into Donald Trump because Trump is running for president and Joe Biden says he intends to also.

The slippery reasoning survived the event because Garland made a fast exit left without taking questions. Otherwise, some pesky journo might have asked the obvious: If the prospect of a Trump-Biden showdown now triggers a conflict of interest for the Justice Department that requires an independent counsel, why wasn't a conflict triggered the moment Garland started the Trump probe?

After all, Trump was defeated by Biden two years ago and Biden is Garland's boss. And there's never been much doubt that both Trump and Biden aimed for a 2024 rematch. So why is there a conflict just now?

An even more glaring conflict emerged last April when Biden let it be known publicly he wanted Trump prosecuted. Within months, Garland turned his boss' wish into his command, and Trump became the subject of not one but two probes.

That was a red alert conflict of interest, yet Garland ignored the political implications of investigating his boss' former and possibly future opponent, convened a grand jury and orchestrated a raid on Trump's home and office at Mar-a-Lago.

Naturally, sensationalized FBI leaks about what the raiders found made Trump look like a traitor or madman, while more recent low-key leaks paint the documents as secret but benign.

Welcome to Justice, Garland style.

Then there's his slow-walking of the **Hunter Biden** case, which has been crying out for a **special counsel** since 2019 when Joe Biden announced he was running for president while Trump was the incumbent.

The initial blame for that mistake goes to Bill Barr, Trump's AG at the time. He left office with the **Hunter Biden** case in the hands of the federal prosecutor in Delaware, even as Joe Biden was about to become president.

There was no chance in hell the new president's son was going to be treated like any other private citizen under his father's attorney general, especially when there is so much evidence about Joe's involvement. Garland should have named a **special counsel** but didn't, and two years later, the Hunter case and Joe's role have disappeared into an FBI black box reserved for friends and family.

I've said it before: Merrick Garland is a partisan hack. But a clever one, maybe even Oscar worthy.

The deviousness of his Friday **special counsel** act goes well beyond conflicts of interest involving Trump or Biden. It's actually a brazen power grab in reaction to Republicans winning a House majority.

By outsourcing the Trump probes, Garland gives himself a weapon to target Republicans and a shield to wall-off GOP investigations and hearings.

That point is hidden in plain sight. In his statement about the probe into Trump's role in the post-election drama and the Capitol riot, Garland said **special counsel** Jack Smith would take over "the investigation into whether any person or entity unlawfully interfered with the transfer of power following the 2020 presidential election or with the certification of the Electoral College vote held on or about Jan. 6."

Hijacking Republicans

The order does not apply to rioters who entered the Capitol because those cases stay with federal prosecutors in the Washington, DC, office.

That means Smith has the writ to focus not only on Trump, but also on congressional Republicans, including potentially some whose "crime" was to vote against certification that day.

In effect, Smith takes over where Nancy Pelosi's one-sided Jan. 6 commission left off, fueling left-wing fantasies that Trump and scores of elected Republicans and even staffers will be prosecuted.

Some observers have noted another impact. Smith, they believe, will take possession of all the Jan. 6 committee records, including interviews never made public, and keep them confidential.

In other words, Republicans won the House, but Garland is thwarting access to the information they would need for their own probes, such as unreleased evidence about why Capitol Police were not better prepared and why some officers opened the doors for intruders.

The GOP will huff and puff and declare it unfair that their power has been hijacked. In response, Garland will feign indignation and insist he acted out of fairness.

Yet that still leaves the **Hunter Biden** case unresolved, and on that one, Garland may have been too cute by half. The unfinished case is already a target of incoming House chairmen who say they will investigate not just the son's lucrative foreign business but also the father's role.

Republican Reps. James Comer and Jim Jordan used a press conference to cite whistleblowers who allege the Biden family "flourished and became millionaires by simply offering access to the family."

"Was Joe Biden directly involved with **Hunter Biden's** business deals, and is he compromised? That's our investigation," said Comer, who will head the House Oversight Committee.

Biden's biggest threat

One important witness against the Bidens, perhaps the most important, is Tony Bobulinski, the former business partner of Hunter and Jim Biden. He has said for two years, including to the FBI, that Joe Biden was the "big guy" slated to get a secret 10% cut of a deal with a Chinese energy conglomerate.

The retired naval officer recently told me he now believes the business deals offered to the Bidens by Chinese firms were part of a Communist intelligence-gathering operation.

"Zero chance it was all random," he said of the lucrative overtures. "I believe Chinese intelligence officials infiltrated the Biden family. And I think eventually the FBI and Justice Department will peel it back and realize this was a Chinese intel operation."

Later, Bobulinski expressed hope that the full truth about the Bidens will be revealed.

"The good news for the American people is not only have I come forward, but in the last variety of months, multiple whistleblowers have come forward with a whole trove of facts that corroborate everything I've said, as well as add incremental information to it," he told Fox News. "And I think the American people are going to see those facts. I think they're going to be shocked by those facts. And hopefully justice is served."

All fair and decent Americans share his hope that justice is served, but it can't happen as long as the attorney general is a committed partisan.

Look at it this way: While Trump and Biden are both under investigation, there is no balance in the scales of justice because Garland simultaneously targets Trump and protects Biden.

Now that's a threat to democracy.

---- **Index References** ----

Company: Federal Bureau of Investigation

News Subject: (Campaigns & Elections (1CA25); Global Politics (1GL73); Government (1GO80); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Public Affairs (1PU31); World Elections (1WO93))

Industry: (Celebrities (1CE65); Entertainment (1EN08))

Region: (Asia (1AS61))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (AG Garland; Justice Department; House Oversight Committee; GOP; Electoral College; Capitol Police; FBI)

Edition: All Editions

Word Count: 1152

NewsRoom

OPINION > JUDICIARY

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY CONTRIBUTORS ARE THEIR OWN AND NOT THE VIEW OF THE HILL

Should a special counsel be named for the Hunter Biden investigation?

BY JONATHAN TURLEY, OPINION CONTRIBUTOR - 12/24/20 12:00 PM ET

Tweet

...

More



Getty Images

While Joe Biden continues to avoid specific answers on the [Hunter Biden scandal](#), there are talks at the Justice Department on whether to appoint a special counsel. The refusal of Biden to address the allegations has only fueled concerns of some conflicts for his Justice Department conducting this investigation. His stonewalling is making the best case for a special counsel, but some unknowns remain critical to the decision.

Attorney General [William Barr](#) left his role this week after public conflicts with [President Trump](#), particularly his opposition to a special counsel to investigate the 2020 election and the Hunter Biden scandal. Barr was not opposed to such an appointment. He converted

The issue is whether such grounds could emerge with regard to the Hunter Biden investigation. Justice Department regulations allow the appointment of a special counsel when it is in the public interest and an investigation or prosecution by a United States attorney or any litigating division of the Justice Department will “present a conflict of interest for the Justice Department or other extraordinary circumstances.”

The case for a special counsel

Clear conflicts are present in this investigation for Biden. Most obviously, the scandal involves his son. Biden has also stated repeatedly that “no one has suggested my son did anything wrong.” But that is certainly not true. Many people concur that Hunter was engaged in raw influence schemes around the world. That may not be a crime but it is ethically wrong. Yet Biden continued that claim after the disclosure that Hunter is the subject or target of a federal investigation. He has referred to the allegations as a continuation of political “foul play” targeting his family.

Democrats insisted that the dismissal by Trump of the Russia investigation as a “hoax” backed the appointment of a special counsel. Democrats like House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff also declared the laptop and emails of Hunter discovered before the election were “Russian disinformation” and that “this whole smear on Joe Biden comes from the Kremlin.” Biden responded affirmatively on whether the allegations are “Russian disinformation and a smear campaign.” Any crimes found by prosecutors would be an obvious embarrassment to Biden.

Further, serious apparent conflicts were revealed in the laptop and emails seized in the federal investigation. Biden has refused to say that the laptop and emails are genuine. He has refused to address contradictions in those emails. He has declined to address accounts of witnesses, like business associate Tony Bobulinski, over his direct knowledge or involvement, in conflict with his denials. The emails refer to payments, office space, and other benefits for his family from foreign countries like China.

Finally, Biden has more than a son or his own credibility at stake. This investigation started in 2018 with a suspicious activity report filed at the Treasury Department. That does not mean there was a crime, but foreign financial transactions were noted as suspicious, and there are indications that money laundering concerns could have been raised.

References to Biden in the emails could create liability. Further, one of the reasons Biden has not called Bobulinski a liar is that it would likely launch a defamation lawsuit with sworn depositions and discovery. Biden is well aware of the perils from such civil litigation. After

The case against a special counsel

Much of this decision depends on the specific scope and the underlying crimes of any investigations. Barr knew those facts when he rejected the need for a special counsel. If this is a narrow tax investigation, then this is likely near conclusion. The key is not the appointment of a special counsel but the continuation of the United States attorney in his role.

Under Barr, the Justice Department handled various investigations that affected Trump, from the probe by Robert Mueller to investigations into the business and advisers of Trump, like Rudy Giuliani and his aides. None needed special counsels. All continued without interference under Barr. There also is a reluctance to allow special counsels to proliferate unless there is little alternative. The potential to embarrass a president is not enough. If everyone is a special counsel, they are not so special.

The biggest issue is that using influence is legal. It is the favorite form of corruption in Washington. While you cannot give a politician like Biden an envelope full of money, you can give his son or other relatives millions in dubious contracts and loans. The special counsel regulations involve “an investigation or prosecution” only into criminal acts. Indeed, the Justice Department does not probe unethical conduct or simple lying.

This case against a special counsel appointment also is the case for an investigation by Congress. Democrats have demanded investigations of Trump family dealings in foreign countries, including calls for a special counsel. In 2018, Schiff wrote “he American people deserve to know that our president is acting in their interest and not his own financial interest, or because he has been compromised by a foreign power.” The fear was that Trump was beholden to foreign interests. The same fear exists now, and the same Democrats should support an investigation.

In the absence of clear crimes, Congress must investigate “suspicious activities” that could compromise a president or his administration. The Hunter Biden investigation does not warrant a special counsel, but the public deserves answers. The entire point of influence schemes is to sway important figures. The issue is whether the Chinese, Ukrainians, and other foreign actors received anything from their efforts.

Jonathan Turley is the Shapiro Professor of Public Interest Law at George Washington University. You can find his updates online [@JonathanTurley](#).

Townhall

TIPSHEET

Jim Jordan Wants to Know Why DOJ Hasn't Appointed a Special Counsel for Hunter Biden



Spencer Brown
February 28, 2023 7:30 PM

While U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland has appointed special counsels to probe the handling of classified documents by President Joe Biden and former President Donald Trump, he has not appointed one to handle investigations of Hunter Biden — and that has House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jim Jordan (R-OH) curious.

So, to get some answers with his power as chairman of the powerful Judiciary Committee, Jordan sent a letter to AG Garland on Tuesday looking to get his hands on some documents to better understand the situation and conduct oversight of Biden's Department of Justice.

"The Department's investigation of Hunter Biden, son of President Biden, raises the appearance of a conflict of interest that would necessitate special counsel protections and authorities," Chairman Jordan notes in his letter to Garland. "However, to date, you have declined to appoint a special counsel in this matter, despite appointing special counsels in other investigations."

As noted, there's a special counsel to investigate Joe Biden's sticky fingers when it came to classified documents from his time as vice president and a U.S. senator — so why not a special counsel to investigate his son?

“

pic.twitter.com/b6wAZ0aOkN

— Rep. Jim Jordan (@Jim_Jordan) [February 28, 2023](#)

”

"Your refusal to appoint a special counsel here is conspicuous in this context," Jordan added. With the aim of furthering the Judiciary Committee's oversight, Jordan asked Garland for documents and communications involved in the matter.

Specifically:

“ 1. All documents and communications sent or received by David Weiss or any employee of the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Delaware referring or relating to special counsel status for the investigation concerning Hunter Biden; and

2. All documents and communications between or among employees of the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Delaware and employees of any other U.S. Attorney’s Office with venue to bring charges against Hunter Biden or his associates in that jurisdiction.

”

Recommended



McCarthy Tells CNN Why He Gave J6 Security Footage to Tucker Carlson

Julio Rosas

Chairman Jordan requested this information from Attorney General Garland "as soon as possible" but set a deadline of 5:00 p.m. on March 14, just two weeks away.

Clearly, House Republicans are not messing around after their return to majority party status in the lower chamber of Congress, and the number of areas the Judiciary Committee — as well as Oversight and other committees — intend to bring some sunlight to the Biden administration's machinations is refreshing after two years of uninterested Democrat "oversight."

We'll have to wait and see what Chairman Jordan's request turns up from the Department of Justice, but it does seem curious indeed that a special counsel would be necessary — in Garland's view — to investigate Biden, but not to investigate his adult son who is close with and has been financially supported by his father.



Chuck Grassley grills Merrick Garland on independence of Hunter Biden investigation

By Elizabeth Elkind

Published March 01, 2023

Fox News

Attorney General Merrick Garland vowed that the federal investigation into Hunter Biden's business dealings would be free from political influence during a heated Judiciary Committee hearing on Wednesday.

Garland has pledged before not to interfere in Delaware U.S. Attorney David C. Weiss' probe into Hunter Biden and his foreign business dealings, which are currently under both federal and congressional investigations.

But Garland has come under scrutiny for not elevating Weiss to special counsel status to ensure his independence. On Wednesday, Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, pressed Garland on what would happen if Weiss needed to pursue the case against Biden outside his Delaware jurisdiction.

JOE BIDEN MET WITH AT LEAST 14 OF HUNTER BIDEN'S BUSINESS ASSOCIATES WHILE VICE PRESIDENT



Attorney General Merrick Garland is sworn in during a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing at the Capitol in Washington, D.C., on Wednesday. (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

Garland conceded that Weiss would have to refer the case to another district in that instance, though he maintained that the decision on whether to make an outside referral is entirely up to Weiss.

"[I]f it's in another district, he would have to bring the case in another district," Garland said. "But as I said, I promise to ensure that he's able to carry out his investigation and that he'd be able to run it. And if he needs to bring it in another jurisdiction, he will have full authority to do that."

Grassley replied by pointing out that the possibility of a referral means it could be up to a Biden appointee to pursue the case outside Delaware. "If Weiss, the U.S. attorney there in Delaware, must seek permission from a Biden-appointed U.S. attorney to bring charges, then the Hunter Biden criminal investigation isn't insulated from political interference as you have publicly proclaimed," he said.

HUNTER BIDEN'S EX-WIFE SAYS BUSINESS PARTNER SCHWERIN 'MANAGED ALMOST EVERY ASPECT' OF THEIR

FINANCES: MEMOIR



Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa., has been actively questioning the federal probe into Hunter Biden for months. (Olivier Douliery/AFP via Getty Images)

Grassley also asked Garland if Weiss could more effectively bring charges against Hunter Biden if he were made a special counsel.

"It's kind of a complicated question," the attorney general replied, adding that such a decision would have to be brought to him first. "I would then have to, you know, authorize it and permit it to be brought in the jurisdiction — and that is exactly what I promised to do here."

HUNTER BIDEN REVEALED LONGTIME BUSINESS PARTNER WAS VP BIDEN'S 'CLOSE CONFIDANT AND COUNSEL' IN 2014 EMAIL



President Biden and his son, Hunter Biden, step off Air Force One in Syracuse, New York, on Feb. 4, 2023. (AP Photo/Patrick Semansky)

[CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP](#)

In his closing question, Grassley pressed Garland on whether he believed "improper or unlawful" payments from a foreign government to "elected officials or other politically-exposed persons" would constitute a national security concern.

"If it's an agent of a foreign government asking someone and paying someone to do things to support that foreign government in

secret, yes, I definitely think that would be a national security problem," Garland said.

Elizabeth Elkind is a politics reporter for Fox News Digital.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/chuck-grassley-grills-merrick-garland-independence-hunter-biden-investigation>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



POLITICS

Senate Republicans seek special counsel authority for prosecutor in Hunter Biden criminal probe

PUBLISHED MON, SEP 19 2022 1:25 PM EDT UPDATED MON, SEP 19 2022 6:47 PM EDT

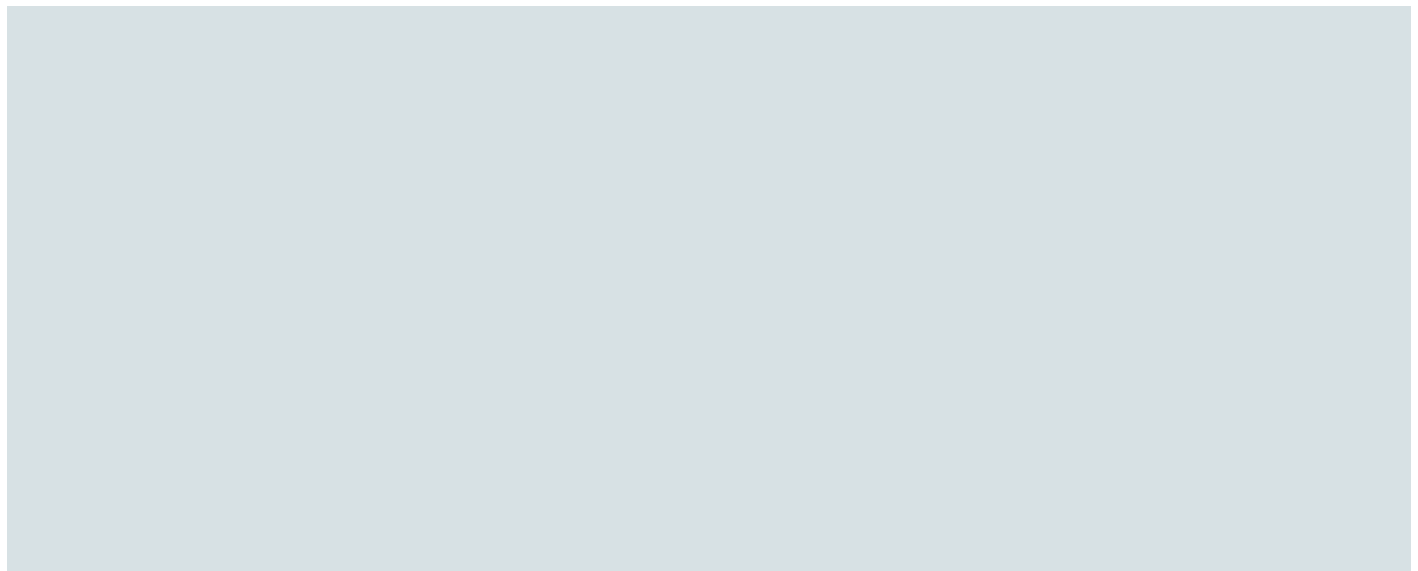


Dan Mangan
@_DANMANGAN

WATCH LIVE

KEY POINTS

- More than 30 Senate Republicans asked Attorney General Merrick Garland to give the federal prosecutor who has been investigating Hunter Biden “special counsel protections and authorities.”
- The group, which includes Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, wrote that the move is warranted because the criminal investigation involves President Joe Biden’s son.
- If Garland honors the request, it could give Republicans and Democrats in Congress insight into the grounds for any future decision on whether to prosecute Hunter Biden.



Senate overturns federal rule on ESG investments, Biden vows to veto



WATCH LIVE

[More than 30 Senate Republicans asked Attorney General Merrick Garland](#) on Monday to give the federal prosecutor who has been investigating Hunter Biden for several years “special counsel protections and authorities.”

The group, which includes Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, wrote in a letter to Garland that the move is warranted because the criminal investigation involves President [Joe Biden](#)’s son. They also contended it would “avoid the appearance of impropriety.”

Giving U.S. Attorney for Delaware David Weiss special counsel authority would also “provide additional assurances to the American people that the Hunter Biden investigation is free from political influence,” the letter argued.

If Garland honors the request, it could give Republicans and Democrats in Congress insight into the grounds for any future decision by Weiss on whether to prosecute Hunter Biden. Lawmakers might not otherwise get that justification if Weiss is not granted special counsel status.

Giving Weiss that status also would force Garland to explain to Congress any disagreement he had with an action proposed by Weiss during the probe, up to and including a recommendation that Hunter Biden be charged.

Former President [Donald Trump](#) and his GOP allies have for years cited Biden’s son and his business dealings in attacks against the president.

[Hunter Biden disclosed the existence of the criminal probe in late 2020](#), shortly after his father was elected president. He said that he had been informed that Weiss was looking into his “tax affairs.”

Senate overturns federal rule on ESG investments, Biden vows to veto



WATCH LIVE



“I take this matter very seriously but I am confident that a professional and objective review of these matters will demonstrate that I handled my affairs legally and appropriately, including with the benefit of professional tax advisors,” Hunter said at the time.

In their letter to Garland, the Republican senators wrote, “There is no way of knowing the entire scope of the investigation, but evidence seems to be mounting that Hunter Biden committed numerous federal crimes, including, but not limited, to tax fraud, money laundering, and foreign-lobbying violations.”

Hunter Biden has not been charged with any of those crimes, and it is not clear if he will ever be charged.

[An Arkansas woman who had a child by Hunter Biden out of wedlock testified](#) before a federal grand jury in Delaware earlier this year as part of the criminal probe, [her lawyer told CNBC](#) in March. The lawyer, Clint Lancaster, also said the woman had handed over a significant amount of his financial records to federal investigators.

“I expect him to be indicted,” Lancaster said about Biden at the time. “Just based on what I saw in his financial records, I would be surprised if he’s not indicted.”

Weiss’s office declined to comment when asked about the GOP senators’ letter to Garland, and



WATCH LIVE

Trump appointed Weiss as the top federal prosecutor in President Biden's home state. Weiss was allowed to remain in his job, unlike other U.S. attorneys appointed by Trump, and to continue the probe when President Biden took office.

Under federal law, the attorney general can appoint a special counsel when an investigation or prosecution of a person by a U.S. Attorney's office or the Department of Justice "would present a conflict of interest for the Department or other extraordinary circumstances."

A spokeswoman for Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, one of the signatories of the letter to Garland, said in an email to CNBC that if the attorney general complied with the letter's request, Weiss would "get the protections and authorities of special counsel, as [Trump's Attorney General William] Barr did with U.S. Attorney John Durham."

CNBC Politics

Read more of CNBC's politics coverage:

- [Mike Pence, possible Trump 2024 challenger, slams 'apologists for Putin' in the GOP](#)
- [Nikki Haley heads to fundraiser hosted by Wall Street executives](#)
- [Haunting photos show a year of Russia's war in Ukraine](#)
- ['I really want to go back to fight:' A wounded Ukrainian soldier reflects on his recovery](#)
- [U.S. unveils \\$2 billion in aid for Ukraine, sanctions and tariff hikes on Russia a year after invasion](#)
- [Trump, FBI Director Wray can be deposed in lawsuits by ex-](#)

[View More](#) ▾

Barr appointed Durham as special counsel to investigate the origins of the DOJ's investigation of Russian interference in the 2016 election and contacts between Trump's campaign and Russian individuals.

Senate overturns federal rule on ESG investments, Biden vows to veto



WATCH LIVE

The attorney general also is required under the law to notify the chairman and ranking minority member of both the Senate and House Judiciary committees with an explanation for any appointment of a special counsel, and similarly, with the removal of any special counsel.

The law says that when a special counsel concludes an investigation, the attorney general must notify those same members of Congress with “a description and explanation of instances (if any) in which the Attorney General concluded that a proposed action by a Special Counsel was so inappropriate or unwarranted under established Departmental practices that it should not be pursued.”

The law also says the attorney general can determine that public release of a special counsel’s reports “would be in the public interest.”

Closing Bell: Overtime

WATCH IN THE APP

UP NEXT | **Fast Money** 05:00 pm ET

TRENDING NOW



Lawyer may have saved Biden’s student loan forgiveness plan at Supreme Court, experts say



Elon Musk is set to reveal ‘Master Plan Part 3’ at Tesla Investor Day after the bell

Salesforce shares jump 13% on better-than-expected forecast

3

Georgia election official rips Marjorie Taylor Greene ‘conspiracies’ after tense meeting

4

20-year-old pays \$0 to live in a ‘luxury tiny home’ she built for \$35,000 in her backyard—look inside

5



NEWS

87

Rep. Jim Jordan: AG Garland's 'refusal' to appoint special counsel in Hunter Biden probe is 'conspicuous'

By [Victor Nava](#)

March 1, 2023 12:09am Updated

00:10 / 00:52

MORE ON:

HUNTER BIDEN

'Over a dozen sources' had Hunter Biden tips: Sen. Chuck Grassley grills AG

GOP rep accuses Treasury Department of ‘hindering’ Hunter Biden probe, failing to share 150 spending documents

Hunter Biden called his business partner a ‘close confidant’ to then-VP dad: email

GOP senator suggests Biden is ‘compromised’ by China because he ‘won’t stand up to dictators’

House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jim Jordan (R-Ohio) blasted Attorney General Merrick Garland Tuesday for his “refusal” to appoint a special counsel in the government’s criminal investigation of first son Hunter Biden.

Jordan **wrote in a letter to Garland** that the Justice Department’s investigation into President Biden’s eldest living son has the “appearance of a conflict of interest” and seems to meet the criteria necessary for a special counsel to be appointed.

“To date, you have declined to appoint a special counsel in this matter, despite appointing special counsels in other investigations. Your refusal to appoint a special counsel here is conspicuous in this context,” Jordan’s letter continued.

The Ohio Republican also requested that Garland provide the Judiciary Committee with documents from employees in the US Attorney’s Office for the District of Delaware relating to the status of a special counsel for the investigation and communications between employees of US attorney’s offices who could bring charges against the 80-year-old president’s troubled son, 53.

Jordan demanded that the information be turned over to the panel no later than March 14 at 5 p.m., as part of the House Judiciary Committee’s oversight of the DOJ.



Jim Jordan said the Justice Department's investigation into Hunter Biden has the "appearance of a conflict of interest."
Rod Lamkey – CNP/Sipa USA

To date, the DOJ has resisted cooperating with the Republican-led House Judiciary Committee.

Jordan has accused the DOJ of being "**scared to cooperate**" with the panel's investigations.

His calls for a special counsel in the Hunter Biden case come as the House Oversight Committee conducts its own expansive probe into the business dealings of the Biden family, including the first son.



Attorney General Merrick Garland was demanded by Jim Jordan to provide the Judiciary Committee documents from employees in the US Attorney's Office no later than March 14.

AP

Last week, House Oversight Committee Chairman James Comer (R-Ky.) **accused the Biden Treasury Department** of “operating in bad faith” by preventing his committee from accessing more than 150 bank reports of transactions tied to Hunter Biden.

Comer says Treasury had made “several excuses” to not comply with his Jan. 11 request for so-called “Suspicious Activity Reports” (SARs) — triggered by “unusual foreign or high-dollar transactions” executed by Hunter, first brother James Biden, their associates and related companies.

“The American people deserve transparency,” Comer tweeted on Monday. “Treasury’s failure to produce requested information related to the Biden family’s influence peddling schemes is unacceptable.”



Jordan has also requested for a special counsel in the Hunter Biden case, as the House Oversight Committee has its own probe into the business dealings of the Biden family.

87 What do you think? Post a comment.

Garland is slated to appear before the House Oversight Committee on Wednesday and face a grilling by Comer and other Republicans on the panel.

According to reports, federal agents investigating Hunter Biden **believe they have sufficient evidence** to charge him with tax crimes and for lying about his drug abuse on paperwork for a firearms purchase.

FILED UNDER CONGRESS, HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, HOUSE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE, HUNTER BIDEN, JIM JORDAN, JOE BIDEN, JUSTICE DEPARTMENT, MERRICK GARLAND, 3/1/23

NewsRoom

2/28/23 N.Y. Post 6
2023 WLNR 7444019

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

February 28, 2023

Section: News

Biden \$\$ probers 'blocked'

Jesse O'Neill

The Republican congressman spearheading the investigation into the first family's finances has accused Treasury Department officials of "operating in bad faith" by preventing his committee from accessing more than 150 bank reports of sketchy transactions tied to First Son **Hunter Biden**.

House Oversight Committee Chairman Rep. James Comer (R-Ky.) said the Treasury had made "several excuses" to not comply with his initial Jan. 11 request for so-called Suspicious Activity Reports — triggered by "unusual foreign or high-dollar transactions" executed by Hunter, First Brother James Biden, their associates and related companies.

Comer made the accusations in a Friday letter to Deputy Assistant Secretary for Oversight Isabella More, whom he invited to testify at a March 10 hearing focused on the department's "various justifications" for not providing the SARs and other documents.

"The American people deserve transparency," Comer tweeted Monday.

"Treasury's failure to produce requested information related to the Biden family's influence peddling schemes is unacceptable."

--- Index References ---

News Subject: (Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33))

Industry: (Healthcare (1HE06); Infectious Diseases (1IN99); SARS (1SA26); Upper Respiratory Disease (1UP05); Viral (1VI15))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Treasury Department; House Oversight Committee) (Hunter Biden)

Edition: All Editions

Word Count: 156

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom



[Sign In](#)

[Subscribe](#)

investigation

by [Jack Birle](#), [Breaking News Reporter](#) |

February 28, 2023 05:56 PM



Rep. [Jim Jordan](#) (R-OH) is demanding documents and answers from Attorney General [Merrick Garland](#) regarding the Justice Department of Justice's investigation of [Hunter Biden](#).

In a [letter](#) to Garland on Tuesday, Jordan expressed his concern about the "appearance of a conflict of interest" by the [DOJ](#) in not appointing a special counsel for investigations into President [Joe Biden](#)'s son.

[FIVE THINGS TO WATCH FOR WHEN ATTORNEY GENERAL MERRICK GARLAND IS GRILLED BY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE](#)

"To date, you have declined to appoint a special counsel in this matter, despite appointing special counsels in other investigations. Your refusal to appoint a special counsel here is conspicuous in this context," Jordan said in the letter.

He also requested documents from employees in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Delaware relating to the status of a special counsel for the Hunter Biden investigation, along with

communications between employees of U.S. attorney's offices who could bring charges against Biden.

Jordan has requested the information by March 14 at 5 p.m. as part of the [House Judiciary Committee](#)'s oversight of the DOJ.

The Justice Department has been resistant to cooperating with the Jordan-led Judiciary Committee, with the department [missing deadlines](#) for requested documents relating to classified documents investigations of Joe Biden and Jordan accusing the department of being "[scared to cooperate](#)" with investigations.

Jordan's calls for a special counsel to look at Hunter Biden's alleged criminal actions independently echos [earlier sentiments](#) by Republicans for separation from the Justice Department, which falls under the executive branch of which Joe Biden is the head.

The [House Oversight Committee](#), under the helm of Rep. [James Comer](#) (R-KY), has taken an active role in examining the business dealings of the Biden family, including of the president's son. The committee chairman recently said one of Hunter Biden's business partners has been [cooperating](#) with the committee's investigation into the junior Biden.

Comer is expected to grill Garland when he [testifies](#) before the Oversight Committee on Wednesday.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE FROM THE WASHINGTON EXAMINER](#)

The president's son has not been charged by the DOJ, but [reports in January](#) indicated the junior Biden could be charged with illegal tax deductions soon.

Opinion

[Republicans should condemn Bezalel Smotrich's incitement](#)

By: [Tom Rogan](#)

[The ACLU rediscovers the First Amendment, but only to protect Chinese spyware](#)

By: [Zachary Faria](#)

[US intelligence community has proven it can't investigate Havana Syndrome, it should let UK and Australia try](#)

By: [Tom Rogan](#)

NewsRoom

9/20/22 N.Y. Post 14
2022 WLNR 29924259

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

September 20, 2022

Section: News

GOP pushes for Hunter probe

Steven Nelson

One-third of the US Senate has signed a letter asking Attorney General Merrick Garland to give US Attorney David Weiss the powers of a **special counsel** to investigate First Son **Hunter Biden's** foreign business dealings.

In the Monday letter, the 33 Republicans cited the "politicization" of the Justice Department, a lack of public trust in the authorities, and recent whistleblower allegations of a coverup within the FBI of evidence and testimony damaging to the first son.

"Given the politicization of the DOJ under your watch and the importance of avoiding any appearance of impropriety, the undersigned request that you provide U.S. Attorney Weiss the full protections and authorities of a **special counsel**," the letter says.

Weiss, the US attorney for Delaware and a Trump administration holdover, has been leading the investigation of **Hunter Biden**.

---- Index References ----

Company: Federal Bureau of Investigation; THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE; UNITED STATES SENATE

News Subject: (Corruption, Bribery & Embezzlement (1EM51); Crime (1CR87); Criminal Law (1CR79); Fraud (1FR30); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Social Issues (1SO05))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (GOP; Justice Department; FBI; DOJ; US Senate) (Merrick Garland; David Weiss; Hunter Biden; U.S.)

Edition: Sports+Late City Final

Word Count: 136

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

9/21/22 N.Y. Post 15
2022 WLNR 30045993

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

September 21, 2022

Section: News

Hunter punters beware!

Michael Goodwin

The letter by 33 GOP senators asking Attorney General Merrick Garland to give the prosecutor running the **Hunter Biden** case **special counsel** status marks a turning point.

By calling the Department of Justice too "politicized" to be trusted, the senators proved they will not sit by quietly while the president's son gets a free pass.

The so-called FBI investigation is in its fourth year, with not a single charge filed. The scams clearly involve the Big Guy, who was asked about his son's businesses during the "60 Minutes" interview.

Scott Pelley softballted the question by asking about mere conflicts of interest when there is evidence the president himself got a share of the cash.

"There's not a single thing that I've observed at all that would affect me or the United States relative to my son Hunter," the president responded.

Remember that whopper, along with Biden's claims he never talked with Hunter about his foreign business and the laptop was Russian disinformation.

He lies because the truth will sink him.

---- Index References ----

Company: Federal Bureau of Investigation; Department of Justice

News Subject: (Business Management (1BU42); Corporate & Business Law (1XO58); Corporate Events (1CR05); Corporate Legal Management (1XO33); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (GOP; FBI; Department of Justice) (Merrick Garland; Hunter Biden; Big Guy; Scott Pelley)

Edition: Sports+Late City Final

Word Count: 170

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

12/21/22 N.Y. Post 11
2022 WLNR 41322707

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

December 21, 2022

Section: News

THE TWITTER FILES FBI 'relentless' in censor push

Caitlin Doornbos and Bruce Golding

The FBI's efforts to suppress The Post's scoop on **Hunter Biden's** laptop resembled an overseas "psychological operation" run by the CIA, said a reporter working on Elon Musk's "Twitter Files."

Independent journalist Michael Shellenberger said his latest reporting revealed a "disturbing pattern" of "relentless pressure by external FBI agents on Twitter to basically adapt its content moderation, also to share information."

And he said it all begs for a probe by a **special counsel**. "Then you had these forces inside Twitter — former FBI officials, particularly Jim Baker — who very strenuously argued for the censorship of the New York Post reporting on the **Hunter Biden** laptop and the emails that showed these very questionable business dealings with China and other countries," he said Monday on Fox News' "Tucker Carlson Tonight."

"So, Tucker, more investigative work needs to be done, but this looks like a kind of psychological operation that you would see the CIA conducting in foreign countries, not something that you would see intelligence agents in the United States perpetrating against both news organizations, but also social media platforms, namely Twitter and Facebook."

Shellenberger is one of three journalists hired by new Twitter owner Musk to search company records for evidence of previous "free speech suppression."

The FBI didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

---- Index References ----

Company: Federal Bureau of Investigation; FOX NEWS NETWORK, LLC; TWITTER, INC.

News Subject: (Censorship (ICE48); Civil Rights Law (1CI34); Intellectual Freedoms & Civil Liberties (1IN08); Legal (1LE33))

Industry: (Internet (1IN27); Internet Media (1IN67); Internet Regulatory (1IN49); Online Social Media (1ON38))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (FBI; Fox News'; TWITTER)

Edition: Sports+Late City Final

Word Count: 219

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

1/11/23 N.Y. Post 4
2023 WLNR 1180332

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

January 11, 2023

Section: News

CLASS' HOUSES US Top Secrets in Joe's office 'Iran, Ukr.' docs mixed with personal items

STEVEN NELSON and SAMUEL CHAMBERLAIN

MEXICO CITY — President Biden kept classified documents about Ukraine and Iran at his former DC think tank office, a report revealed Tuesday — as the president claimed he had no idea what the papers contained.

CNN reported that 10 documents with classified markings dated between 2013 and 2016 were found mixed in with Biden family papers — including details of the funeral arrangements for the president's late son, Beau — six days before the midterm elections

Some of the documents found at the Penn Biden Center for Diplomacy and Global Engagement in Washington were reportedly labeled "top secret," the highest level of government classification.

The three-year period covers major events of the Obama administration — including the Iran nuclear deal of 2015, the Maidan Revolution that overthrew then-Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich and Russia's subsequent invasion and annexation of Crimea in February of 2014.

It also includes the start of First Son **Hunter Biden's** association with Ukrainian natural gas company Burisma, which hired the now-52-year-old for its board in the spring of 2014 — despite Hunter having no experience in the energy industry.

During a joint news conference with Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador, Biden claimed in his first public comments about the matter that "I take classified documents, or classified information seriously."

Know-nothing prez

"When my lawyers were clearing out my office at the University of Pennsylvania . . . they found some documents in a box in a locked cabinet, or at least a closet," Biden said. "And as soon as they did, they realized there were several classified documents in that box. And they did what they should have done. They immediately called the [National] Archives . . . [and] turned them over to the Archives.

"And I was briefed about this discovery and surprised to learn that there were any government records that were taken there to that office," Biden went on. "But I don't know what's in the documents. My lawyers have not suggested I ask what documents they were."

Attorney General Merrick Garland has resisted calls to appoint a **special counsel** to investigate the Biden family's international business dealings, including Hunter's possible tax fraud and illegal foreign lobbying, even though the president says he intends to seek a second term in 2024.

Key details remain unknown about the Biden office discovery, including who oversaw the storage of the documents at the center.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken — who is also in Mexico City — was the Penn Biden Center for Diplomacy's managing director in 2018 and top White House adviser Steve Ricchetti was its managing director in 2019.

Biden himself earned nearly \$1 million from the University of Pennsylvania as an honorary professor from 2017 to 2019, despite just nine reported public engagements with students. After becoming president, he nominated the university's longtime president, Amy Gutmann, to be the US ambassador to Germany.

About the documents

n Discovered Nov. 2, 2022 at Penn Biden Center for Diplomacy and Global Engagement

n Found by Biden's personal lawyers while clearing office closet

n Biden used office from mid-2017 until launching his presidential campaign in spring 2019

n 10 documents dated between 2013 and 2016 reportedly have classified markings, some "Top Secret,"

n Include intelligence memos and material related to Iran, Ukraine and the United Kingdom

n Chicago US Attorney reportedly has submitted preliminary report to Attorney General Merrick Garland

---- Index References ----

Company: BURISMA HOLDINGS LIMITED; THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

News Subject: (Campaigns & Elections (1CA25); Emerging Market Countries (1EM65); Global Politics (1GL73); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); World Elections (1WO93))

Industry: (Security (1SE29); Security Agencies (1SE35))

Region: (Americas (1AM92); Asia (1AS61); CIS Countries (1CI64); Canada (1CA33); Eastern Europe (1EA48); Europe (1EU83); Gulf States (1GU47); Iran (1IR40); Mexico (1ME48); Middle East (1MI23); North America (1NO39); Pennsylvania (1PE71); U.S. Mid-Atlantic Region (1MI18); USA (1US73); Ukraine (1UK09); Western Asia (1WE54))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (CNN; Penn Biden Center for Diplomacy and Global Engagement; White House; Burisma; University of Pennsylvania) (Joe)

Edition: All Editions

Word Count: 555

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

8/27/22 N.Y. Post 8
2022 WLNR 27134038

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

August 27, 2022

Section: News

'Laptop' polling surprise

Bruce Golding

Nearly four out of five Americans who have been following the **Hunter Biden** laptop scandal believe that a "truthful interpretation" of the story would have changed the outcome of the 2020 presidential election, a new poll shows.

A similar percentage said they believed the computer is real, with just 11% saying they thought it was "created by Russia," according to the survey by the New Jersey-based Technometrica Institute of Policy and Politics (TIPP).

And 81% said US Attorney General Merrick Garland should appoint a **special counsel** to probe matters related to the first son's laptop, the existence of which was exclusively revealed by The Post in October 2020.

The poll results, published Wednesday, are based on responses from 437 adults who said they were following the laptop story "very" or "somewhat" closely when they were surveyed online this month, according to the TIPP.

On the 2020 election, 78% of the 437 respondents said it was "very" or "somewhat" likely that "a truthful interpretation of the laptop" would have resulted in the re-election of President Donald Trump instead of the election of President Biden.

--- Index References ---

Company: Post Holdings, Inc.

News Subject: (Campaigns & Elections (1CA25); Global Politics (1GL73); Government (1GO80); Public Affairs (1PU31); World Elections (1WO93))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Russia; Technometrica Institute of Policy and Politics; The Post) (Americans; Merrick Garland; President Donald Trump; Donald John Trump; President Biden)

Edition: Sports+Late City Final

Word Count: 177

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

8/17/22 N.Y. Post 31
2022 WLNR 25889907

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

August 17, 2022

Section: OpEd

FAST TAKES

Compiled by The Post Editorial Board

Conservative: If Biden Didn't Know . . .

"The White House continues to insist Joe Biden knew nothing about" last week's Mar-a-Lago raid, and The Wall Street Journal's William McGurn figures "presidential ignorance here (or at least the pretense of it) serves a useful political game," letting the White House comms people refuse to comment. But "do Americans really want an unelected attorney general making the unprecedented decision to send 30 FBI agents to the home of a former president and possible presidential candidate without at least running it by his boss, the sitting president?" If "unelected bureaucrats are exercising unchecked power against Americans," know "that many of the elective officeholders whose authority is being usurped don't complain because it also means they can get what they want done without assuming any of the political cost."

Centrist: Garland Bungled Raid Fallout

Attorney General Merrick Garland "has seemed largely reactive and rote in dealing with questions over bias or abuse in his department" after the FBI raid on Mar-a-Lago, chides Jonathan Turley at USA Today. "If there was one occasion for total transparency, including the release of the FBI affidavit, this was that moment," yet "there was no prepared statement or response for days, which allowed speculation and rage to grow." This added to public mistrust of the bureau, with its "documented history of false statements to courts and falsified evidence in support of a previous Trump investigation," even as Garland won't name a **special counsel** for **Hunter Biden**. The raid has "historic sweeping political implications," and while an AG "should not be motivated by optics in his decisions," Garland "also cannot ignore optics when they undermine the integrity of his department."

Patient advocate: Enforce Price-Posting Rules

Dems' Inflation Reduction Act extends "expanded pandemic-era" ObamaCare subsidies. Yet transferring costs to taxpayers won't address health care's "unaffordability crisis," fumes Cynthia A. Fisher at The Hill, but simply make it easier for insurers to hike premiums. Better: "health care price transparency," i.e., posting health-care prices upfront to let customers choose "the highest quality care at the lowest possible price." Recent federal transparency rules could usher in this "pro-consumer" marketplace, yet a PatientsRightAdvocate.org study found only 16% of hospitals complying, and Team Biden has so far fined just two hospitals out of thousands flouting the rules. Please "unleash a health care affordability revolution by boosting compliance through robust and timely enforcement."

Iranian target: Why Is Joe Still Seeking Deal?

"It has been somewhat surreal over the past few days," admits John R. Bolton at The Washington Post, "to be speaking publicly about Iran's plot to assassinate me and many other American citizens on American soil." More surreal is "that the Biden White House, faced with Iran's broad campaign of anti-U.S. terrorism, amounting to an act of war, is still obsessively grinding along to revive the 2015 Iran nuclear deal." Indeed, "Biden's bizarre policy of 'nuclear deal über alles' reflects an instinct for the capillary when it comes to Washington-Tehran relations. Iran's nuclear program is only a symptom of the real problem: the regime itself."

Libertarian: The Afghans We Left Behind

"One year after the U.S. withdrawal," nearly 80,000 "Afghans who assisted American forces are still stuck under Taliban rule," deplores Reason's Fiona Harrigan. "We have been unemployed for a year. Our children cannot go to school. We ourselves are in hiding," says a man who worked at Kabul's US embassy for four years. His relatives worked with Canadians, Germans and Brits, he says, and "all of them were transferred with dignity and respect, but I stayed here." Notes Harrigan: Helpers "contributed years of their lives to the U.S. military, but they were unable to access the visas Washington promised them — and the escape route that American politicians laid out" last summer. At current rates, many visa-eligible Afghans will still be waiting in 2029, when Biden could be finishing his second term.

---- Index References ----

Company: Federal Bureau of Investigation; USA Today Travel Media Group; WP COMPANY LLC; Iran

News Subject: (Government (1GO80); Public Affairs (1PU31))

Industry: (Healthcare (1HE06); Healthcare Regulatory (1HE04); Security (1SE29); Security Agencies (1SE35); U.S. National Healthcare Reform (1US09))

Region: (Afghanistan (1AF45); Americas (1AM92); Asia (1AS61); Gulf States (1GU47); Iran (1IR40); Middle East (1MI23); Western Asia (1WE54))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (White House; Wall Street Journal; The Hill; PatientsRightAdvocate.org; Team Biden; Iran; U.S.; Taliban; FBI; USA Today; The Washington Post; Tehran) (Joe Biden; William McGurn; Americans; Merrick Garland; Jonathan Turley; Trump; Hunter Biden; Cynthia A. Fisher; John R. Bolton; Fiona Harrigan; Afghans)

Edition: All Editions

Word Count: 659

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom



cnsnews.com¹

Sen. Ted Cruz: Special Counsel Must Examine ‘Connections Between Joe Biden and Hunter Biden’

Susan Jones | February 2, 2023 | 8:08am EST



(CNSNews.com) - The U.S. Justice Department tried to "take down" Donald Trump, but it is trying to "protect" Joe Biden, Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas) said Wednesday night, as he explained how we will know if the special counsel investigating Joe Biden is doing his job.



cnsnews.com¹

"We now know, Joe Biden's homes and offices have been raided by the FBI, not once, not twice, but three times," Cruz told Fox News's Sean Hannity. "We know that he was raided in November, and yet the FBI kept it a secret. The DOJ kept it a secret.

"They leak like a sieve when it concerns Donald Trump. But when it concerns Joe Biden, they keep it utterly secret. And at this point, Sean, is there a place Joe Biden doesn't leave documents? This is just becoming weird. Wherever he goes, he leaves a cache of classified documents," Cruz said.

Special counsel Robert Hur has just started his investigation into Joe Biden's alleged mishandling of classified documents, and Cruz said we'll know if Hur is doing his job if he connects the dots on influence-peddling:

"And there's a way to know whether that special prosecutor is actually trying to follow the law," Cruz said:

"In poker, you have a tell, you have some sort of signal that shows what you're really doing. Here's the tell.

"If the special prosecutor is following the law, they will be looking at the connections between Joe Biden and Hunter Biden. Because Hunter Biden made a career out of selling access to his father, and making millions of dollars from communist China, from Burisma in Ukraine, and they will be looking at those connections.

"If they are trying to protect the Biden White House, they will be trying to separate the two and say, well, look at Hunter for his drugs, for his tax evasion, but it's all personal. Don't connect him to the big guy.

"And I gotta say, on that laptop from hell, there are multiple e-mails right now that on the face of it appear to have been written relying on official government briefing documents. There's one e-mail right before Hunter Biden gets invited to be on the board of Burisma and to make \$83,000 a month.



cnsnews.com¹

"This email is incredibly detailed. It has 22 points, it's scholarly, it's erudite. It reads like the briefing paper that a government official gets before you take a trip abroad. It reads like a scene-setter.

"Joe Biden was going to Ukraine the very next week. And it raises an obvious question: Did Hunter Biden read the briefing materials Joe Biden was given, did he cut and paste them and put them in this e-mail?

"And then here's the \$64,000 question: Did those briefers include classified materials? If they did, then Joe Biden and Hunter Biden both likely committed criminal offenses.

"Now I don't know the answer to that. I know this e-mail was written by a Russia and Ukraine expert. And Hunter Biden is not a Russia and Ukraine expert.

"And so the special counsel needs to examine the briefings, and in particular, the classified briefings that Joe Biden received at the time, compare them to Hunter Biden's e-mail. And if there is a connection, that needs to be the focus of the criminal case."

Cruz said the evidence indicates that Hunter Biden "made a business out of selling access to daddy," possibly by reading materials assembled for his father when his father was vice president.

Cruz said if Robert Hur is willing to examine all the evidence, he will look at the trove of Joe Biden's documents stored at the University of Delaware; and he will search Hunter Biden's home and business addresses for documents he may have taken there.

NewsRoom

1/13/23 FOX: Tucker Carlson Tonight (Pg. Unavail. Online)
2023 WLNR 1400676

FOX: Tucker Carlson Tonight
Copyright (c) 2023 Fox News Network, Inc.

January 13, 2023

Another Trove Of Classified Documents Found Next To Biden's Corvette In His Delaware Garage; Matt Taibbi Unpacks New Twitter Files; Twitter Files...

Another Trove Of Classified Documents Found Next To Biden's Corvette In His Delaware Garage; Matt Taibbi Unpacks New Twitter Files; Twitter Files: Democrats Announced Devin Nunes Memo By Claiming It Was Pushed By Russian Bots; Bill Gates On His Personal Relationship With Jeffrey Epstein: Well, He Is Dead; Mayor Pete Is Fixing Equity And Transphobia; Simon Ateba Stands Up To Censorship In The White House; Lisa Marie Presley Dead At 54

JESSE WATTERS, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: I respect that.

My mom hate watches "PRIMETIME," too. Even some of the producers hate watch "PRIMETIME" from the control room. I can feel it.

DVR the show. Tucker Carlson is up next and always remember, I'm Watters, this is my world.

TUCKER CARLSON, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Good evening and welcome to TUCKER CARLSON TONIGHT.

It's hard to remember now, but it wasn't that long ago that Andrew Cuomo was not only the Governor of New York, but also a legitimate hero in the Democratic Party. Do you remember that? Cuomo was the Governor who legalized marijuana, who expanded Medicare, who passed strict gun control, who destroyed the NRA as a political force.

He was the Governor who, more than any other person in this country, including Tony Fauci, effectively defended lockdowns, masking, and vaccines. In fact, in the fall of 2020, Cuomo won an Emmy Award for his daily COVID briefings. He was an actual celebrity. He seemed like a future President, and everybody said so.

But within weeks of getting that Emmy, it began to fall apart. A number of women came forward to claim that Cuomo had once said impolite things in their presence.

By the standards of Andrew Cuomo's many scandals in office, it seemed like nothing, but for reasons they never explained, Democratic leaders, leaders of his party in Washington, took the scandal very seriously.

They described Cuomo's behavior as sexual harassment and they called for his resignation. By summer, it had worked. He was out of office and irreparably disgraced.

The people who hand out Emmys even took back the award and scrubbed Andrew Cuomo's name from their website. Andrew Cuomo was too immoral to share space with Hollywood actors -- and that's pretty immoral.

What exactly did Andrew Cuomo do wrong? He outlived his usefulness to the party. That's what he did. He stayed too long. Cuomo was in his 60s. He was White. He was male.

He was someone whose demographic profile represented the Democratic Party of the past, not of the future. He talked like a mafia don negotiating garbage contracts. He was a little embarrassing. Because of that, his own people iced him and they replaced him with someone who looked the part.

No one cried when Andrew Cuomo resigned. They just moved on. The Democratic Party is not a sentimental place.

It's hard not to think of Andrew Cuomo when you see what is happening to Joe Biden right now. Kamala Harris is certainly thinking about it. Harris was in a suspiciously good mood today. We know this because she was talking about electric school buses again. "I love electric school buses," she raved. "I just love them for so many reasons. Maybe because I went to school on a school bus. Raise your hand if you went to school on a school bus."

Harris was grinning the whole time, and why wouldn't she be grinning? That senile, White guy who claims to be her boss is finally going down, down, down, down, down, down. It's a happy day at Kamala Harris' house, but it's not a happy day at Casa Biden.

In fact, this is pretty clearly the beginning of the end for Joe Biden. We can't prove that. The future is unknowable, but holy smokes, it does not look good and it doesn't look good in a very recognizable way.

Somewhere in his basement rec room, drinking a Courvoisier on ice, Andrew Cuomo is chuckling to himself. He's seen this movie before.

Joe Biden's own aides keep finding stacks of felonies he has left around the place in his office, in his car, and instead of throwing this evidence in the fireplace, as under normal circumstances they would, they're sending these documents on to the Justice Department. That's not a good sign.

Meanwhile, Biden's Attorney General, the most unscrupulous, unethical Attorney General this country has ever had, has somehow decided that actually, in order to maintain his unsullied record of nonpartisanship, he's going to have to pass these documents, these stacks of felonies, on to an Independent Counsel, because that always works out well for a sitting President.

And by the way, in this case, the Independent Counsel is a Republican. Good luck, Joe Biden. Happy 80th birthday. Here's Merrick Garland.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MERRICK GARLAND, US ATTORNEY GENERAL: On the evening of November 4th, 2022, the National Archives Office of the Inspector General contacted a prosecutor at the Department of Justice and informed him that the White House had notified the Archives that documents bearing classification markings were identified at the office of the Penn Biden Center.

On November 14th, pursuant to Section 600.2 (b) of the **Special Counsel** regulations, I assigned US Attorney Lausch to conduct an initial investigation.

On December 20th, President Biden's personal counsel informed Mr. Lausch that additional documents bearing classification markings were identified in the garage of the President's private residence in Wilmington, Delaware.

This morning, President Biden's personal counsel called Mr. Lausch and stated that an additional document bearing classification markings was identified at the President's personal residence in Wilmington, Delaware.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: They got Joe Biden. His own people got Joe Biden, but they don't want to wreck the party in the process. Are you following this?

The Department of Justice knew on November 4th that Joe Biden had committed crimes. November 4th was four days before a pivotal Midterm Election, so naturally, the DOJ didn't issue a press release about it.

They didn't dispatch the FBI to raid Biden's home in Rehoboth and look through Dr. Jill's underwear drawer. No chance of that. Biden may be a terrible President, but he's still a Democrat. It's not like he's orange.

So Merrick Garland, who is -- and we cannot emphasize this enough -- a soulless hack who will do anything the Democratic Party requires of him. Merrick Garland kept the news secret long enough to keep other Democrats out of the blast zone. Why hurt everybody else? They're just trying to hurt one guy, it's Joe Biden.

So it wasn't until today that we knew Biden had been stashing state secrets in his Corvette. Here's FOX's Peter Doocy.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

PETER DOOCY, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT: Mr. President, classified material next to your Corvette. What were you thinking?

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: I'm going to get a chance to speak on all of this, God-willing soon, but as I said earlier this week, people, and by the way, my Corvette is in a locked garage, okay? So it's not like they are sitting out in the street, but anyway.

DOOCY: So, the material was in a locked garage?

BIDEN: Yes, as well as my Corvette, but as I said earlier this week, people know I take classified documents and classified material seriously.

I also said we're cooperating fully and completely with the Justice Department's review. As part of that process, my lawyers reviewed other places where documents from my time as Vice President were stored and they finished the review last night.

They discovered a small number of documents with classified markings in storage areas and file cabinets in my home and my personal library.

This was done in the case of the Biden Penn Center. The Department of Justice was immediately, as was done, the Department of Justice was immediately notified and the lawyers arranged for the Department of Justice to take possession of the document.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: So that kind of answers that question. If you're still wondering where there is an organized effort within the White House to hurt Joe Biden, all you need to know is this: His staff keeps putting him out there in public to talk, which, of course, he can't do. He can barely read a prepared statement.

Notice they did not do that during the last presidential campaign in 2020 because they knew it wouldn't help and they wanted the White House and it helps even less now, but they're doing it.

Why are they doing that now? Well, here's a guess.

Right after the Midterm Elections in November, Joe Biden made it clear he had no plans to step aside and make way for Kamala Harris or Gavin Newsom or Michelle Obama.

"I'm thinking of running again," he said, and he seemed to mean it. He shouldn't have said that. Next thing you know, he's got a **Special Counsel** crawling around his life armed with subpoena power and a big staff and a big budget. "That's how things work in Washington," they'll tell you.

Oh, no, it's not. No, it's not. Not unless you have no choice. If you're the President of the United States, a **Special Counsel** is the last thing you want. Why? Because you have no idea where that investigation will go. Ask Bill Clinton. He's still mad about it.

And that's why there was no **Special Counsel** appointed when **Hunter Biden's** laptop proved that the Biden family was selling influence to the Chinese government. That's why no **Special Counsel** ever interviewed Tony Bobulinski, because that was all before Joe Biden suggested he might run again and thwart the ambitions of the next generation of Democratic candidates.

So, Joe Biden is in very serious trouble tonight, but so potentially is the University of Pennsylvania, which paid Joe Biden \$900,000.00 for doing essentially nothing. Why would Penn do that? Well, we can't say for sure, but we did notice that as soon as the university paid off Joe Biden, Penn began collecting tens of millions of dollars a year from donors in China. What was that? Maybe the **Special Counsel** will get to the bottom of it. We sure hope so.

Meanwhile, everyone in Washington is pretending all this is normal. They know it's not normal, but they're too afraid to say otherwise, except for Hank Johnson. Hank Johnson is not afraid

Hank Johnson is too dumb to be scared. Hank Johnson is the Congressman from Atlanta who once famously worried that the island of Guam might "capsize" if too many people stood on one side of it. So, Hank Johnson is a confirmed non-genius, but he knows a setup when he sees one.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. HANK JOHNSON (D-GA): I'm suspicious of the timing of it. I'm also aware of the fact that things can be planted on people.

Places and things can be planted. Things can be planted in places and then discovered conveniently. That may be what has occurred here. I'm not ruling that out.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: So, we laughed at Hank Johnson when he said Guam might capsize. We're not laughing at him now.

The classified documents that Joe Biden "stored in his garage" and left at the Penn Center have been floating around for a full six years since Joe Biden left the Vice President's office in January of 2017.

So, it's fair to assume they've been moved around a lot, but they're suddenly surfacing now right after the Midterm Election? Why is that?

No one has even attempted a convincing explanation. Instead, the media is pretending to argue that it's not a big deal in the first place, that Joe Biden stored classified documents near his Corvette because he admitted doing it when he got caught and if you admit you've committed a crime, it's not a crime. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ANDREA MITCHELL, MSNBC HOST: There is another key difference between the cases, though. In Biden's case, his attorneys reported the discovery and cooperated by turning them over immediately. That was not the case, of course, with Trump.

PAULA REID, CNN SENIOR LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT: So, in the Mar-a-Lago case, that really does appear to be a much more complicated case.

CRISTOBAL ALEX, MSNBC: Of course, we're seeing a very big difference in what the Biden White House is doing around this and what Trump has done.

HARRY LITMAN, FORMER US ATTORNEY: Night and day. You have the inadvertent - - we don't even know if Biden had anything to do with it

JOHN BERMAN, CNN ANCHOR: There are important distinctions between this and the swirl of controversy around Donald Trump in the documents at Mar-a- Lago.

LAWRENCE O'DONNELL, MSNBC HOST: What you see in that documents case is a textbook example of the best possible way of handling the discovery of government documents after leaving office that should have been returned before leaving office.

What you see is the exact opposite of Donald Trump's behavior.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: These people are so filthy. If their team invaded Poland, they'd defend it. They'll say literally anything. "This is the exact opposite of Donald Trump's behavior." All right, Larry O'Donnell.

What they're forgetting is that the Trump raid took place in August, not that long ago, and a lot of people still remember the details from it. Trump and his lawyers met with Federal investigators and showed them the classified documents that had been stored at Mar-a-Lago, and the FBI told Trump's lawyers, "Hey, put a lock on the door of the storage room." So, they did.

Then, when Trump's attorneys volunteered that there were more classified documents at Mar-a-Lago, volunteered -- including the famous cocktail napkin -- the FBI showed up with guns, and everyone knows that, including everyone you just saw in the clip. They are lying and that's a problem because they're trying to obscure the saddest fact of modern life, which is there is now an obvious double standard in American justice, and that means we have no justice at all.

That's a tragedy for this country. It'll be a long time before we recover from it. Joe Biden is partly responsible. He helped introduce this corruption into our system, and in one of those weird twists of fate that was probably inevitable, but still feels like actual justice, Joe Biden is about to suffer greatly for it.

Matt Whitaker is the former acting Attorney General of the United States. He joins us tonight to assess.

Mr. Whitaker, thank you so much for coming on.

MATT WHITAKER, FORMER ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES: Hi, Tucker.

CARLSON: So explain, if you would, why the Trump case and the Biden case are really not as different as they're telling us on MSNBC?

WHITAKER: Well, on the one hand, they aren't different because we're dealing with classified documents, and we're dealing with the statute that applies to them and they're handling. But on the other hand, we're dealing with a former President who had a lot of latitude while President to declassify those documents that were in his possession, and Joe Biden, as Vice President had no power to declassify those documents that were in his possession.

I think it's also an interesting fact, in this case, Tucker, that the UPenn documents were in a manila folder marked "personal." And so you open it up and all these marked classified documents are in a personal folder.

You know, this is not good for Joe Biden. However, I think ultimately, you know, this is going to get down to where Jim Comey was at with Hillary Clinton, and it is going to come down to applying the standard of the statute to the facts as we have them.

There is nothing in the statute about locked garages, certainly, and there is really nothing about whether or not you know, you disclosed it, as soon as you found it.

I mean, Joe Biden had these for, to your point, over six years.

CARLSON: Right. So I mean, whether or not you think this is an organized effort from within the Democratic Party to prevent Biden from running again, I think it's really clear that it is. I'm still confused as to why we don't know the details.

Why haven't they told us why they were searching six years later for these documents? Who was doing it? Like what is this? And why won't they tell us?

WHITAKER: Well, there are a lot of facts we don't know. If you remember, famously, in the Mar-a-Lago case, they spread out the documents on the carpet, took a picture, sent that to the media, made sure that everyone saw the evidence. In this case, we don't know much about the contents of the documents. We don't know much about why.

We were told that is because he was moving out of the Penn offices and his lawyers were going through the documents, but then why go through the garage? You know why -- and really, the other thing that is very concerned about this case, Merrick Garland waited four weeks to appoint a **Special Counsel** when he knew on December 20th that he had a major problem and they were hoping that this never saw the light of day and that's really a sad fact about this whole case is they didn't want the American people even know this had happened.

CARLSON: Yes, and that is, I would say the definition of corruption, we have a right to know. Former acting Attorney General of the United States, Matt Whitaker, thank you so much.

WHITAKER: Thanks, Tucker. Great seeing you.

CARLSON: So Richard Painter served as Chief White House Ethics lawyer in the second Bush administration. In 2018, he ran for Senate in Minnesota. And as he did, by this time, he was an Independent or a Democrat.

He ran this ad which caught our attention, and we asked him about it on the show. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

RICHARD PAINTER, FORMER CHIEF WHITE HOUSE ETHICS LAWYER: Some people see a dumpster fire and do nothing but watch the spectacle. Some are too scared to face the danger or they think it will benefit them if they just let it keep on burning.

Others shrug and say, oh, all of this talk about dumpster fire, it is just fake news.

CARLSON: If you came to Washington and served in the Congress, and you were walking down a street on Capitol Hill, and you saw a dumpster on fire, how would you respond to it?

PAINTER: Well, I think I'd call the Fire Department on that one.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: Richard Painter, not a fireman, but a law professor at the University of Minnesota. As we said the Chief White House Ethics lawyer, we thought we would speak to him again about a new dumpster fire.

Mr. Painter, thank you so much for coming on tonight. So you were very tough in your criticism of the last administration. What's your assessment of what we're learning about Joe Biden?

PAINTER: Well, this is a dumpster fire for sure. I gave the lectures in the Bush White House on how to handle classified information with the Director of the National Archives, and I talked to people who worked on other administrations, my friend, Craig Keshishian who worked in the Reagan administration.

We've had the same rules in every administration. First, whether it's classified or not, you do not take it out of there. If you did not bring it into the White House, you do not take it out -- any documents.

Second, if it's classified, it has to be stored in a Sensitive Compartmentalized Information Facility, a SCIF. Well, the Penn Biden Center is not a SCIF. This is a think tank set up by a university whose President raised tens of millions of dollars from the Chinese. She is now the Ambassador to Germany, conveniently forgot about the Chinese money in her confirmation hearing.

The garage in your home is not a SCIF. You can store your Chevrolet, your Corvette in the garage, not classified information. So even as President of the United States, now, he cannot keep classified documents in that garage.

I have no idea what is going on here, but this is a dumpster fire for sure.

CARLSON: So there are -- just to put it in some context, there are apparently over a billion classified Federal documents in circulation -- a billions. So that is more than three for every man, woman, and child in America.

Clearly, we are over classifying everything. I'm not defending Biden, but I am saying, if you wanted to take somebody out, if you want to stage a political coup from within, classification laws are the laws that you'd get them on, aren't they?

PAINTER: Well, yes, a classification -- there is an awful lot of classified stuff, an awful lot of over classified stuff, that's for sure. But these documents may very well have been very critical to our National Security. Of course, we don't know what's in them. That's the whole point of classification the Justice Department does.

But we need to find out what was going on here. So maybe this was over classified and it is no biggie. That's one possibility. The other is that these were very important documents that were important to our national security.

And once again, I'm very concerned, you had all sorts of people coming in and out of that Penn Biden Center and they said they were in a locked closet. I mean, what kind of a lock was on that closet? And once again, it's not a SCIF. So I'm very concerned about this and I think there needs to be a full investigation.

CARLSON: So let me just ask you, since you served as an attorney in the White House in Ethics where if somebody said to you, look, we have this information as part of a criminal investigation, but we can't announce it immediately, as we typically do, we are going to hold it until after an election cycle. Would you think that was an ethical approach?

PAINTER: I would not condone any timing of announcements based on election cycles. There are some regulations the Department of Justice about not announcing certain investigations right before an election, whatever those regulations are, you follow them to the letter, but bottom line is, you do not make your decisions when you have discretion. You do not make your decisions with respect to official action to influence an election. That's a violation of the Hatch Act, and that can get you in very serious trouble.

CARLSON: Yes, or used to. Richard Painter, good to see you tonight. Thank you so much

PAINTER: Well, thank you, Tucker.

CARLSON: So it's going to be years before we really understand what's happened in this country over the past, say six years if we ever really understand it, if it's ever fully exposed, but we're getting a lot more information than we had say last week from the Twitter Files, and in particular about the Russia collusion hoax.

How did that take place? Matt Taibbi, the journalist who has been on that story for six years has access to the Twitter files and will tell us what he is finding after the break.

Plus, Eric Swalwell bounced off the Intel Committee. He says it's unfair, but there's a reason, we happen to know what it is and we will tell you just ahead.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: Whatever you think of Elon Musk, you've got to be grateful for getting facts out there, which he has done since he took over Twitter. He has released a lot of information that answers questions about what was really happening behind the news stories we've been watching for the past five or six years.

So today Matt Taibbi of Substack, who has been one of the main reporters going through these files reported on a new batch that shed light on the Russia collusion hoax.

So in 2018, under Devin Nunes, who was then running the House Intel Committee, that Committee prepared a confidential memo confirming that the Department of Justice had spied on the Trump campaign, which is completely illegal over the top without recent precedent.

So rather than address this as an attack on core civil liberties, Democrats in the House dismissed Devin Nunes as a tool of Putin. Adam Schiff and Dianne Feinstein claimed that he Twitter hashtag calling for the memos release was "linked to Russian influence operations."

Okay, so if you wanted to see the facts about domestic spying, you were working for Putin. But that was a lie. We now know for sure.

Newly revealed documents prove that Twitter and these Democrats knew it was false and kept saying it. We know this because of Matt Taibbi's reporting. He is the author of "Griftopia" and he joins us tonight.

Matt, thank you so much for coming on. So, I'm not sure if I summarized that fairly, but I'll hand it to you. What do we know now?

MATT TAIBBI, AUTHOR, "GRIFTOPIA": Well, I think we know a lot about how a lot of these Russia-gate stories came to be, people just lied. In this case, even when Twitter had more or less conclusive proof that there were no Russians involved in the release the memo hashtag, even when they informed media, and elected officials, even when they pleaded with members of the Senate not to go public because it would make them look "foolish," they went ahead and did it anyway, despite being informed of the truth, that of course, Twitter knew internally because they were looking at the raw data.

So this is I think, a template of how these stories came to be. You know, politicians in the media just simply overrode what the facts were and things being the way that were, there was a real mania at the time, this was the peak of the sort of McCarthyite hysteria about this subject. There was just no turning back.

CARLSON: So five years later, we're now engaged in a hot war with Russia, which we are. I mean, there are Americans fighting the war in Ukraine against Russia. So I wonder how much of this was designed to divert attention from things they didn't want exposed? And how much of it was an effort to whip Americans into a frenzy about Russia?

TAIBBI: I think at the time, it seemed much more about diverting attention from the Nunes memo, because remember, there were two sets of fake stories that came out at the time. One was that the story was being amplified by Russian bots. And that story, by the way, was repeated by virtually every major news organization in America and in some other countries, too, like the CBC did that story.

But the other story was that the Nunes memo was not just fake, and not just completely devoid of any important revelations, but grounds for him to potentially be removed from his position at the Intel Committee. MoveOn.org had a petition about it.

Of course, we found out two years later through the Inspector General's report that virtually everything in the Nunes memo had been proved correct.

So I think that's what they were doing. They were just trying to deflect from an uncomfortable truth by calling him a Russian proxy.

CARLSON: Really quick, since I know that you're keeping score. Has any news organization that printed false allegations then apologized now in light of the truth coming out?

TAIBBI: Not only have they not apologized, but not one of the news organizations that I reached out to for comment about this particular issue responded to me. So that which suggests to me that they know exactly what happened, they know exactly how responsible they were.

Again, this isn't a left or right issue. This is just simply a fact issue.

CARLSON: I agree.

TAIBBI: They needed to be able to ask Twitter what was going on? And I don't think most of these news organizations did that and now they're reluctant to admit it.

CARLSON: Yes, and they are attacking you.

Matt Taibbi, thank you for your reporting and for telling us about it tonight. I appreciate it.

TAIBBI: Thanks for having me on, Tucker.

CARLSON: So Devin Nunes ultimately left the House Intel Committee. In fact, he left the House of Representatives. Eric Swalwell of California went on the Intel Committee, and now he is getting booted off the Intel Committee and he is very mad about it.

He went on television yesterday to claim he is being ejected from this Committee out of "pure vengeance." Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. ERIC SWALWELL (D-CA): Chris, the only person who supports this is my wife who is like, great, you're going to be home to change more diapers. I love it.

But the truth is, Chris, it's purely vengeance. And I just want to walk your viewers through this because this happened nearly 10 years ago.

The FBI told me that someone who had been helping our campaign in a district with 35 percent Asian-Americans may be working with the Chinese government. I did what I hope every one of my colleagues would do, which was to help the FBI get this person out of the country.

It's only now that a Trump Intel official had leaked my cooperation to suggest that there was some wrongdoing on my part.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: Yes, it is just political vengeance says Eric Swalwell, but that's not true, and actually, we did some reporting on this because what actually happened is important.

So the last Director of National Intelligence went to Capitol Hill and briefed the Intel Committees about foreign espionage threats. And at the time, he recommended to the so-called Gang of Eight that Eric Swalwell, the man you just saw be removed from the House Intel Committee, the most sensitive Committee in the House of Representatives. Why? Because he'd been compromised by China.

And that's not an overstatement. A Chinese spy helped get Eric Swalwell elected to the Congress, a Chinese spy raised money for Eric Swalwell's campaign, a Chinese spy campaign for Eric Swalwell. A Chinese spy placed staffers in Eric Swalwell's office.

But the main problem and the main problem that the Intel Community had with Eric Swalwell is that he had sex with a Chinese spy. Now, we've made fun of him over the years for this, but it's real, and Swalwell has never denied it, because he can't deny it and everyone who's looked into it knows that it's true.

So we're not here to cast aspersions on Eric Swalwell's personal life. But if you're having sex with a Chinese spy, sorry, you can't be on the house Intel Committee. It's that simple.

Ghislaine Maxwell seems to be enjoying prison. In fact, she is teaching etiquette classes to her fellow inmates. Okay, that's pretty amusing. But when are we going to get the list of people who showed up at Jeffrey Epstein's orgy island. That would be nice to know. We're still waiting. More than that next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: Ghislaine or Ghislaine or however you pronounce name her name, we never figured out, anyway, the Maxwell woman who worked for Jeffrey Epstein is now serving 20 years for sex trafficking. Apparently, now that she is behind bars, she is teaching her fellow inmates a class on respect, consideration, and honesty. So she is making good use of her time.

But what is interesting is that the rest of us out here in the free world still don't know anything more about Jeffrey Epstein's clients. We haven't seen the videotape, we haven't seen the list and we are not any closer to learning the truth.

Why, for example, do the richest people in the world, Bill Gates, for example, spent so much time around Jeffrey Epstein? Well, last year, Bill Gates did an interview on PBS that we hadn't seen until recently that is worth watching. Watch this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JUDY WOODRUFF, PBS NEWSHOUR HOST: What did you do when you found out about his background?

BILL GATES, CO-FOUNDER OF MICROSOFT: Well, you know, I've said I regretted having those dinners, and there is nothing -- absolutely nothing new on that.

WOODRUFF: Is there a lesson for you, for anyone else looking -- looking at this?

GATES: Well, he's dead. So you know, in general, you always have to be careful.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: Is there a lesson Bill Gates from this whole story? Well, he's dead.

Jesse Kelly is the host of "The Jesse Kelly Show." He is not dead, very much alive, joining us tonight. "He's dead," says Bill Gates. What do you make of that?

JESSE KELLY, HOST, "THE JESSE KELLY SHOW": I think that makes him the same thing everyone else does, Tucker, wealthy, powerful men in the history of mankind, all have access to things. they have access to better steaks and hotter women and faster cars, and they also have access to people who can make other people disappear if they're going to make problems for you.

Today is not different than history has always been.

CARLSON: That's right. No, and you're absolutely right. And I think a lot of us who grew up in the 80s maybe imagine that this was totally different from every other society in history, but maybe it's not. But as a legal matter, like, why don't we have a right to know the details of this case?

KELLY: Well, we have a right, Tucker. What we don't have is a country that was interested in providing these things.

I mean, for instance, Imagine if we had a Federal law enforcement arm that was actually investigating sex crimes against underage women instead of busting pastors for reading Bible verses at abortion centers, we don't have that.

Instead, we have Bill Gates out there running around scot-free, who was so close to this man, that his wife, by her own admission, left him in part because of his relationship with him. Bill Gates, who is out there selling athletes on giving their whole heart to their team, which they seem to be doing a lot lately, and yet no one seems to be interested anymore, and just how many trips he took to that island.

CARLSON: Well, it's pretty unbelievable if you think about it. I mean, people interviewed Bill Gates all the time. He's always out there talking about how he is ending malaria or something. Why doesn't anyone just say, "What? Your wife left you because of the time you spent with Jeffrey Epstein?" Like, why is everyone afraid of Bill Gates? I don't understand.

KELLY: It's not that they're afraid of Bill Gates, Tucker. It's that everybody who interviews Bill Gates since he will never come on your show and will never come on my show, everyone who interviews Bill Gates is perfectly fine with young women being sex trafficked, as long as the guy who is doing the sex trafficking is pushing some form of enviro-communism on a global level.

They wouldn't care if Bill Gates had aborted and/or molested eight billion women. That wouldn't matter at all as long as he's out there pushing the elimination of gas stoves and everyone drinking poop water, then he is a- okay by them.

CARLSON: Jesse Kelly, always a brazing interview. Love to see you tonight. Thank you so much for that.

KELLY: Be good, brother.

CARLSON: So Karine Jean-Pierre is now the White House spokesperson and her appointment was booked to defeat racism.

What's kind of weird is she has banned Africa's finest and most famous reporter, Simon Ateba from asking questions in the briefing room. What is that exactly? Simon Ateba joins us next to explain his view on it.

We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: Lisa Marie Presley has passed away at the age of 54. She was the only child of Elvis and Priscilla Presley, enormously famous in her young life, disappeared from public view pretty much over the last few years.

Today, she was rushed to the hospital after suffering cardiac arrest in her home in Calabasas, California. She passed away in a hospital in Los Angeles.

Rest in peace.

Air travel you may have noticed came to a complete halt in the United States yesterday morning for the first time since 9/11. Mayor Pete Buttigieg runs the Transportation Department, was asked why is this happening? No one can find airplane in the United States of America and he had no idea. He said so on camera.

He has now zeroed in on one possible culprit.

Buttigieg is blaming somebody's fat fingers for a mistake in a "routine entry" into a database. So one wrong keystroke and no more air travel in America, it seems like an overstatement, but we've seen examples like this before. Remember when that employee in Hawaii sent out an alert about a nuclear attack?

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

WFXT REPORTER: There were a lot of heart pounding conversations between loved ones after an emergency alert went out in Hawaii warning of an incoming ballistic missile, but no one had the answers available for nearly 40 minutes.

So video shows just how terrifying it was across the State in those 38 minutes. Students from the University of Hawaii at Manoa running for shelter. Many ended up huddling in a classroom.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: Well, a couple of obvious lessons here. One, could it be we're too dependent on technology that doesn't always work; and two, if your system can be brought down because one person typed one wrong letter into a database, maybe it's a pretty fragile system. We don't know.

Pedro Gonzalez is the associate editor of "Chronicles" Magazine. He joins us tonight.

Pedro, what do you make of this?

PEDRO GONZALEZ, ASSOCIATE EDITOR, "CHRONICLES" MAGAZINE: Well, Tucker, thanks for having me.

Well, the system that failed and resulted in the FDA grounding all those flights is actually 30 years old and it is not due for an update for another six years. And I was actually trapped in an airport yesterday for several hours, and ultimately, it's probably going to take me longer to get back to my family.

But when I was thinking about this, clearly, I was filled with a warm and fuzzy feeling because our transportations czar is married to a man and believes roads are racist. So, all of this is actually progress, except it's not. Change is not the same thing as progress, obviously.

We're witnessing the third-worldification of US infrastructure and Mayor Pete is actually the ideal guy to oversee this decline. He has all of the right credentials under the rubric of liberalism. I think that's important. People say he's not qualified. He actually is.

He has all of these important, but ultimately meaningless credentials stapled to his goofy forehead, and he can claim status with a sacred victim group.

Pete Buttigieg does not ask questions when the government wants to ban your gas stove to fight climate change, and when it can't put airplanes safely in the sky. He also has all the right bromides at hand. In other words, he's ready to say a whole lot of nothing.

CARLSON: It's just weird that people put up with this. I mean, it is one thing that you've got all your like freaky theories about sex changes or whatever, but ultimately you kind of have to make sure the planes don't crash, that they can take off in the first place, the power grid works. People should not put up with a degradation in the basics. Why are they?

GONZALEZ: I think because we've gotten used to this. It seems like inertia. And it's not just happening on the level of government. I mean, remember, think back to the summer of St. George Floyd.

Citigroup, one of the sleaziest organizations, one of the sleaziest financial institutions in the world, rehabilitated itself, it rebranded itself, not by changing structurally, like you said, you would expect an organization like that to change structurally, instead, Citi just came out against racism, and then suddenly, people stopped demanding change, and they settled for well, Citi opposes racism and that's good enough for me.

CARLSON: It's so true that I'm chuckling at it. You're absolutely right. Pedro Gonzalez, great to see you tonight. Thank you.

GONZALEZ: Thank you.

CARLSON: So the White House Press Secretary doesn't -- despite the title -- exists to convey information, but to withhold it. And in this White House, the Press Secretary bans any reporter who asked real questions, and that includes, and especially includes a man called Simon Ateba.

Simon Ateba is the most famous, and we would say finest reporter in all Africa and that means the Karine Jean-Pierre does not want to talk to him at all. She hasn't called on him in more than four months.

Now, the White House says that Karine Jean-Pierre will not meet with Simon Ateba until next year, which of course means never.

Simon Ateba is with Today News Africa. He joins us tonight.

Simon, thank you so much for coming on. So on what grounds will she just not meet with you?

SIMON ATEBA, TODAY NEWS AFRICA: First of all, thank you for having me, Tucker, on your show.

CARLSON: Of course.

ATEBA: It is the most watched show, and I'm always glad to be here. You know, as the voice of Africa in the US, I love the US. I always love freedom. I love democracy. And even if you paid me \$100 million to move to China, I will not move to China, I would like to be in the US. Because the ideals of the US is the ideals, you know that -- those are the things that I love and those are the things that most Africans also love.

I feel like Karine Jean-Pierre, she has no clue what is happening in Africa. She doesn't understand that China is expanding, and also spreading disinformation and misinformation against the US that they are competing against the US.

Competition is good, but then when competition comes with destroying democracy, that becomes a problem, and she doesn't know that that's why she discriminate against me. She has not called on me for the past four months.

And so last week, I tried to meet with her. She told me she will not meet with me until 2024. Maybe.

CARLSON: I wonder if it's the case that she doesn't call on you because she doesn't want to hear about Chinese influence in Africa?

ATEBA: Yes, I feel like she doesn't take serious questions. She wants to have questions that she has received in advance. She doesn't want -- I ask tough questions. I ask tough question. I ask about, you know, many things that happen in Africa, including immigration, for instance, how does it make sense that Africans who are here, for instance, who came legally, applied for asylum legally, have to wait for six years, for their cases to even be heard, and their cases are not heard after six months?

But to see people crossing, just walking across the border, and then they have all the benefit the next day? How is that fair to Africans?

CARLSON: Well, that seems like a completely reasonable question, and you have the authority to ask it.

Simon Ateba, we are rooting for you in the White House briefing room. We hope they'll change their minds and stop what they're doing.

But in the meantime, you always have a place here on this show. Thank you. Good to see you.

ATEBA: Thank you for having me.

CARLSON: As we told you at the outset of the segment, Lisa Marie Presley has just died at the age of 54. Obviously, a tragedy for her family but it also feels like maybe the end of something. We've got more on that story after the break.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: Lisa Marie Presley, the only child of Elvis and Priscilla Presley has passed away -- just passed away at the age of 54. She was rushed to the hospital earlier today after reportedly suffering cardiac arrest at home in Calabasas, California.

She was seen just two days ago attending the Golden Globes for the film "Elvis." She is survived by her mother, Priscilla Presley who confirmed the news just moments ago.

Lisa Marie Presley was one of the most famous people in the world as a young girl, famous in a way that no American will ever be again, because it was a much more united country then.

We don't know too much about her life after childhood because she lives her privately, but what we do know suggests, a pretty effervescent life. At one point she was married to Michael Jackson.

She is gone tonight.

Lisa Marie Presley, 54.

That's it for us tonight. We will be back tomorrow. We hope that you have the best night with the ones you love.

END

[Copy: Content and Programming Copyright 2023 Fox News Network, LLC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. Copyright 2023 VIQ Media Transcription, Inc. All materials herein are protected by United States copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, published or broadcast without the prior written permission of VIQ Media Transcription, Inc. You may not alter or remove any trademark, copyright or other notice from copies of the content.]

---- Index References ----

Company: Federal Bureau of Investigation; UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA; VIQ MEDIA TRANSCRIPTION INC.; THE NATIONAL SECURITY GROUP, INC.; TWITTER, INC.; THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

News Subject: (Emerging Market Countries (1EM65); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Minority & Ethnic Groups (1MI43); Race Relations (1RA49); Social Issues (1SO05))

Industry: (Broadcast TV (1BR25); Celebrities (1CE65); Entertainment (1EN08); Press Releases (1PR19); TV (1TV19); TV Stations (1TV23); Traditional Media (1TR30))

Region: (Africa (1AF90); Americas (1AM92); Asia (1AS61); CIS Countries (1CI64); California (1CA98); China (1CH15); Delaware (1DE13); Eastern Asia (1EA61); Eastern Europe (1EA48); Europe (1EU83); Far East (1FA27); Guam (1GU35); Hawaii (1HA58); Islands (1IS89); Micronesia (1MI30); Minnesota (1MI53); North America (1NO39); Oceania (1OC40); Pacific Islands (1PA78); Pennsylvania (1PE71); Russia (1RU33); U.S. Mid-Atlantic Region (1MI18); U.S. Midwest Region (1MI19); U.S. West Region (1WE46); USA (1US73))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (National Intelligence; Democrats; Bush White House; 2023 Fox News Network, LLC; FOX NEWS CHANNEL; Democratic Party; NRA; Justice Department; National Archives Office of the Inspector General; Department of Justice; Penn Biden Center; Biden Penn Center; MSNBC; CNN; Senate; Congress; Fire Department; Russia; House Intel Committee; CBC; House of Representatives; PBS; Transportation Department; University of Hawaii; Citi; FBI; University of Minnesota; VIQ Media Transcription, Inc.; National Security; Twitter; University of Pennsylvania) (Joe Biden; Matt Taibbi; Devin Nunes; Bill Gates; Bill Gates; Jeffrey Epstein; Jeff E. Epstein; Simon Ateba; Lisa Marie Presley)

Word Count: 7628

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

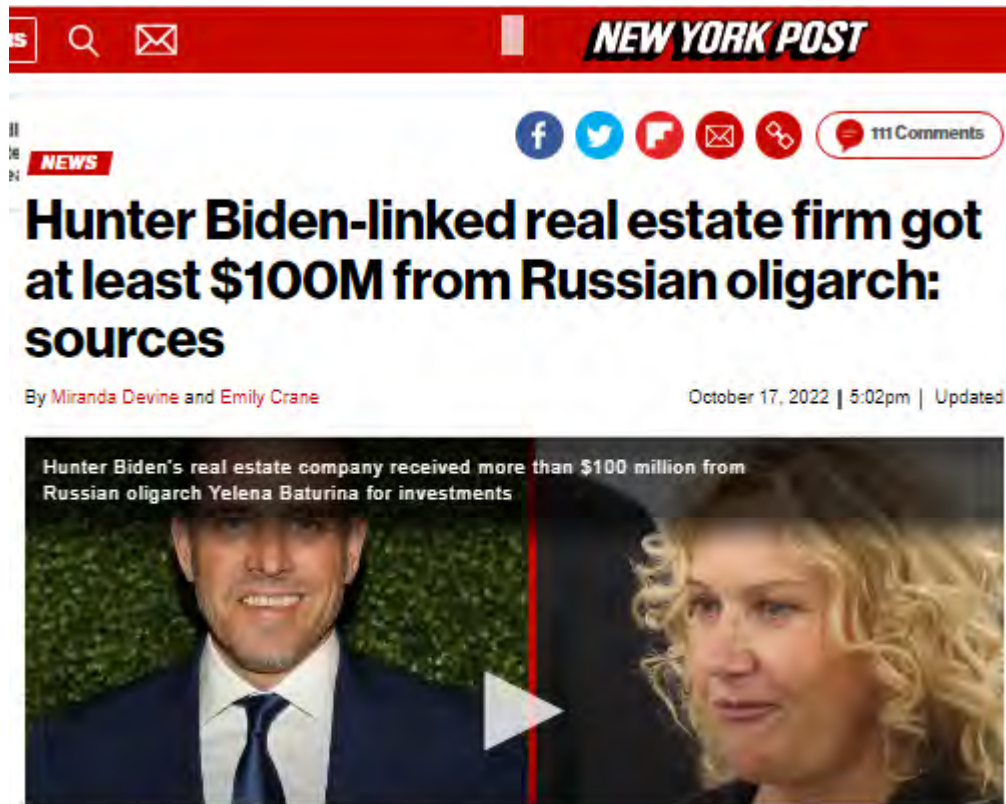
NewsRoom

Jim Jordan Demands to Know Why DOJ Has Not Appointed Special Counsel in Hunter Biden Investigation

gellerreport.com/2023/03/jim-jordan-demands-to-know-why-doj-has-not-appointed-special-counsel-in-hunter-biden-investigation.html/

By Pamela Geller - on March 1, 2023

March 1, 2023



As if we don't know why this treacherous coup of government hasn't appointed a special counsel into the most corrupt President in American history.

Washington Examiner: Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH) is demanding documents and answers from Attorney General Merrick Garland regarding the Justice Department of Justice's investigation of Hunter Biden. In a letter to Garland on Tuesday, Jordan expressed his concern about the "appearance of a conflict of interest" by the DOJ in not appointing a special counsel for investigations into President Joe Biden's son. The Justice Department has been resistant to cooperating with the Jordan-led Judiciary Committee, with the department missing deadlines for requested documents relating to classified documents investigations of Joe Biden and Jordan accusing the department of being "scared to cooperate" with investigations (Daily Mail). Spencer Brown: Clearly, House Republicans are not messing around after their return to majority party status in the lower chamber of Congress, and the number of areas the Judiciary Committee — as well as Oversight and other committees — intend to bring some

sunlight to the Biden administration's machinations is refreshing after two years of uninterested Democrat "oversight" (Townhall).

The Truth Must be Told

Your contribution supports independent journalism

Please take a moment to consider this. Now, more than ever, people are reading Geller Report for news they won't get anywhere else. But advertising revenues have all but disappeared. Google AdSense is the online advertising monopoly and they have banned us. Social media giants like Facebook and Twitter have blocked and shadow-banned our accounts. But we won't put up a paywall. Because never has the free world needed independent journalism more.

Everyone who reads our reporting knows the Geller Report covers the news the media won't. We cannot do our ground-breaking report without your support. We must continue to report on the global jihad and the left's war on freedom. Our readers' contributions make that possible.

Geller Report's independent, investigative journalism takes a lot of time, money and hard work to produce. But we do it because we believe our work is critical in the fight for freedom and because it is your fight, too.

Please contribute here.



or

Make a monthly commitment to support The Geller Report – choose the option that suits you best.

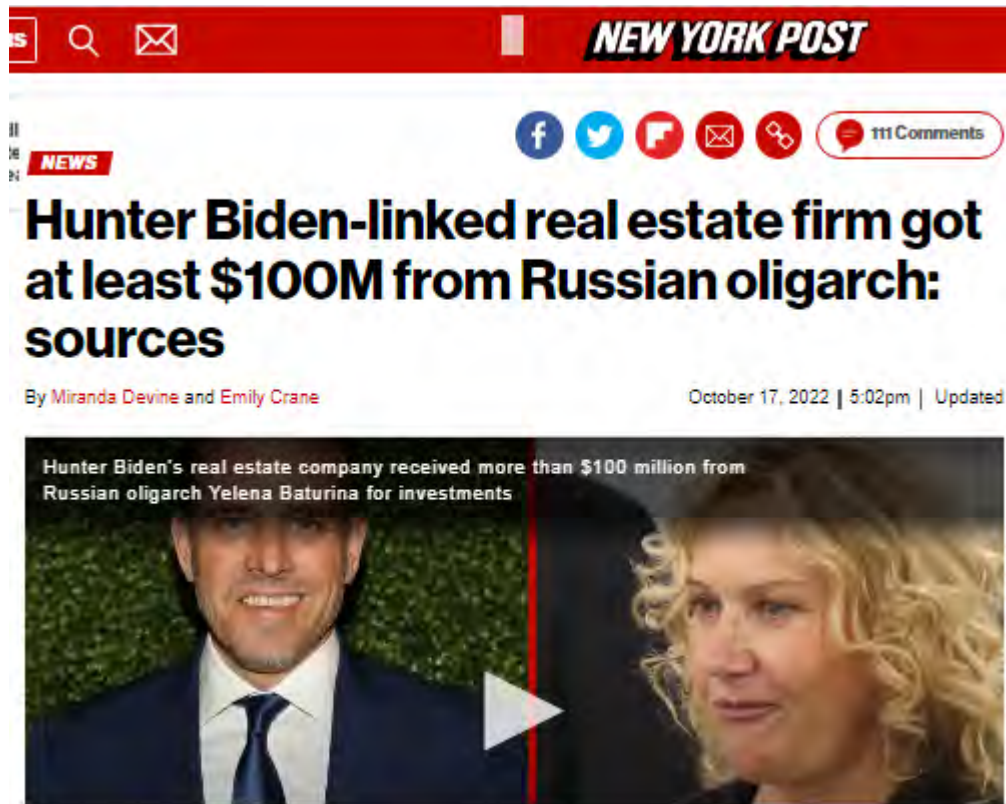
- **\$25.00 here**
- **\$50.00 here**
- **\$75.00 here**
- **\$100.00 here**
- **\$250.00 here**

Jim Jordan Demands to Know Why DOJ Has Not Appointed Special Counsel in Hunter Biden Investigation

gellerreport.com/2023/03/jim-jordan-demands-to-know-why-doj-has-not-appointed-special-counsel-in-hunter-biden-investigation.html/

By Pamela Geller - on March 1, 2023

March 1, 2023



As if we don't know why this treacherous coup of government hasn't appointed a special counsel into the most corrupt President in American history.

Washington Examiner: Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH) is demanding documents and answers from Attorney General Merrick Garland regarding the Justice Department of Justice's investigation of Hunter Biden. In a letter to Garland on Tuesday, Jordan expressed his concern about the "appearance of a conflict of interest" by the DOJ in not appointing a special counsel for investigations into President Joe Biden's son. The Justice Department has been resistant to cooperating with the Jordan-led Judiciary Committee, with the department missing deadlines for requested documents relating to classified documents investigations of Joe Biden and Jordan accusing the department of being "scared to cooperate" with investigations (Daily Mail). Spencer Brown: Clearly, House Republicans are not messing around after their return to majority party status in the lower chamber of Congress, and the number of areas the Judiciary Committee — as well as Oversight and other committees — intend to bring some

sunlight to the Biden administration's machinations is refreshing after two years of uninterested Democrat "oversight" (Townhall).

The Truth Must be Told

Your contribution supports independent journalism

Please take a moment to consider this. Now, more than ever, people are reading Geller Report for news they won't get anywhere else. But advertising revenues have all but disappeared. Google AdSense is the online advertising monopoly and they have banned us. Social media giants like Facebook and Twitter have blocked and shadow-banned our accounts. But we won't put up a paywall. Because never has the free world needed independent journalism more.

Everyone who reads our reporting knows the Geller Report covers the news the media won't. We cannot do our ground-breaking report without your support. We must continue to report on the global jihad and the left's war on freedom. Our readers' contributions make that possible.

Geller Report's independent, investigative journalism takes a lot of time, money and hard work to produce. But we do it because we believe our work is critical in the fight for freedom and because it is your fight, too.

Please contribute here.



or

Make a monthly commitment to support The Geller Report – choose the option that suits you best.

- **\$25.00 here**
- **\$50.00 here**
- **\$75.00 here**
- **\$100.00 here**
- **\$250.00 here**

Rep. Jim Jordan Asks Why DOJ Hasn't Appointed a Special Counsel for Hunter Biden

[GP thegatewaypundit.com/2023/02/rep-jim-jordan-asks-why-doj-hasnt-appointed-a-special-counsel-for-hunter-biden/](https://thegatewaypundit.com/2023/02/rep-jim-jordan-asks-why-doj-hasnt-appointed-a-special-counsel-for-hunter-biden/)

Feb. 28, 2023 10:30 pm



Rep. Jim Jordan of Ohio is wondering why the Department of Justice hasn't appointed a special counsel for Hunter Biden.

It's an excellent question.

If one of Trump's sons had done even a fraction of what Hunter Biden has, Democrats would treat it like a matter of national security, and everyone knows it.

Townhall reports:

Jim Jordan Wants to Know Why DOJ Hasn't Appointed a Special Counsel for Hunter Biden

While U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland has appointed special counsels to probe the handling of classified documents by President Joe Biden and former President Donald Trump, he has not appointed one to handle investigations of Hunter Biden — and that has House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jim Jordan (R-OH) curious.

So, to get some answers with his power as chairman of the powerful Judiciary Committee, Jordan sent a letter to AG Garland on Tuesday looking to get his hands on some documents to better understand the situation and conduct oversight of Biden's Department of Justice.

"The Department's investigation of Hunter Biden, son of President Biden, raises the appearance of a conflict of interest that would necessitate special counsel protections and authorities," Chairman Jordan notes in his letter to Garland. "However, to date, you have declined to appoint a special counsel in this matter, despite appointing special counsels in other investigations."

As noted, there's a special counsel to investigate Joe Biden's sticky fingers when it came to classified documents from his time as vice president and a U.S. senator — so why not a special counsel to investigate his son?

You can see his letter below:

pic.twitter.com/b6wAZ0aOkN

— Rep. Jim Jordan (@Jim_Jordan) [February 28, 2023](#)

Why hasn't DOJ appointed a special counsel for the Hunter Biden investigation?
<https://t.co/Q17LbQ0sMw>

— House Judiciary GOP (@JudiciaryGOP) [February 28, 2023](#)

Voters know Hunter has shady connections.

A new poll showed 73% of registered voters believe Hunter Biden did something illegal or unethical in his business dealings in Ukraine and China. <https://t.co/66VeLFoH3X>

— Breitbart News (@BreitbartNews) [February 28, 2023](#)

Republicans shouldn't wait for the DOJ to act. They should launch their own investigation.



Garland refuses to answer Hunter Biden investigation question, doesn't commit to appointing special counsel

By Kyle Morris

Published April 26, 2022

Fox News

Attorney General Merrick Garland on Tuesday refused to provide an update on the federal tax and finance investigation into Hunter Biden as he defended the probe and dismissed the need to appoint a special counsel.

In a hearing before the Senate Appropriations Committee, Garland told senators there would be no political or improper interference into the Hunter Biden investigation.

HUNTER BIDEN LAPTOP: ABC, CBS, NBC SPENT ONLY 25 MINUTES OVER 18 MONTHS COVERING SCANDAL, STUDY SAYS



Hunter Biden, Attorney General Merrick Garland (Drew Angerer/Getty Images | Greg Nash/Pool/AFP/Getty Images)

Under questioning from Sen. Bill Hagerty, R-Tenn., who expressed concern over the fairness of the investigation that has caused Americans to question their "confidence" in the Justice Department, Garland did not say whether he has been briefed on the Hunter Biden investigation, which is being overseen by David Weiss, the U.S. attorney for the District of Delaware.

"He is supervising the investigation," Garland said of Weiss. "I'm not at liberty to talk about internal Justice Department deliberations, but he is in charge of that investigation. There will not be interference of any political or improper kind."

Pressed further on the matter and asked whether any senior officials in the Justice Department were being briefed on the investigation, Garland said, "Again, he is the supervisor of this investigation and, you know, the normal processes of the department occur. But he is the supervisor of this investigation."

Highlighting public statements made in defense of the Biden family by top members of the administration, Hagerty asked Garland

how Americans could have confidence that the department would conduct a "serious investigation."



Sen. Bill Hagerty questions Attorney General Merrick Garland regarding the investigation of Hunter Biden's laptop during a Senate hearing at the Capitol on April 26, 2022. (Greg Nash - Pool/Getty Images)

"Because we put the investigation in the hands of a Trump appointee from the previous administration, who is the United States attorney for the district of Delaware," Garland responded. "And because you have me as the attorney general who is committed to the independence of the Justice Department from any influence from the White House and criminal matters."

HUNTER BIDEN'S EX-LOVERS COULD COME BACK TO HAUNT HIM AS FEDERAL GRAND JURY INVESTIGATES HIS TAX AFFAIRS

Hagerty, pointing to an "obvious conflict of interest," then asked Garland under what circumstances he would appoint a special counsel to investigate the matter.

"I think this is a fact and law question in each case, determining it and depending upon how cases go forward and the question of whether the Justice Department, with its normal processes, should continue," Garland said. "I think our internal deliberations have to stay within the department."



Attorney General Merrick Garland speaks during a Senate Appropriations Subcommittee hearing in Washington on Tuesday, April 26, 2022. (Greg Nash/The Hill/Bloomberg via Getty Images)

While President Biden has vowed not to interfere with investigations being conducted by the Justice Department, comments from several key officials from the White House, including White House chief of staff Ron Klain and White House press secretary Jen

Psaki, have raised concern.

Earlier this month, Klain said the president is "confident that his son didn't break the law" as he insisted that "no one at the White House has involvement in" the investigation.



White House chief of staff Ron Klain attends an event with governors of western states and members of the Biden administration June 30, 2021 in Washington. (Getty Images)

Both Psaki and Biden have maintained that the president has not spoken with his son about his business dealings.

Hunter Biden first revealed in December 2020 that his "tax affairs" were under federal investigation.

[CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP](#)

The Senate Homeland Security Committee and Senate Finance Committee conducted an investigation in 2020 into Hunter's foreign business dealings during his father's tenure as vice president and discovered that there were at least four large transactions that banks flagged as "potential criminal activity" to the Treasury Department's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network.

One of the suspicious transactions was a \$100,000 payment from a subsidiary of CEFC China Energy – which was at the time owned by Chinese billionaire Ye Jianming – to Hunter's law firm, Owasco, in 2017. To date, Hunter has not been criminally charged.

Fox News' Houston Keene and Jake Gibson contributed to this article.

Kyle Morris covers politics for Fox News. Story tips can be sent to kyle.morris@fox.com and on Twitter: [@RealKyleMorris](https://twitter.com/RealKyleMorris).

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/garland-question-hunter-biden-investigation-special-counsel>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - [New Terms of Use](#) - [FAQ](#)



DOJ officials in 'ongoing discussions' about Hunter Biden special counsel, some say it's 'warranted': sources

By Brooke Singman

Published December 24, 2020

Fox News

High level officials within the Justice Department are in "ongoing discussions" on whether to appoint a special counsel to take over the investigation into Hunter Biden, with some believing it is "warranted," two sources familiar told Fox News Wednesday.

Attorney General Bill Barr, who resigned from his post last week and had his last day at the Justice Department Wednesday, said earlier this week that he had "not seen a reason" to appoint a special counsel to probe President-elect Joe Biden's son, who is under federal investigation for his "tax affairs."

BARR SAYS HE HAS 'NO PLAN' TO APPOINT SPECIAL COUNSEL TO TAKE OVER HUNTER BIDEN INVESTIGATION

But one source familiar told Fox News on Wednesday that it is an "open discussion."

"It is an ongoing discussion," the source told Fox News. "No decisions have been made either way."

Another source told Fox News that some high level DOJ officials believe a special counsel is "warranted," and cited the special counsel statute.

"It was passed to deal with a potential conflict of interest of the attorney general or the president of the United States," the source told Fox News. "A president-elect coming in, where his appointed attorneys will be investigating his son? That's textbook conflict."

President-elect Joe Biden was asked during a press conference Tuesday whether the issue of the federal investigation into Hunter has come up with his team and with attorney general candidates.

"No, no. I guarantee you I'm going to do what I said," Biden responded. "The attorney general of the United States of America is not the president's lawyer. I will appoint someone I expect to enforce the law as the law is written, not guided by me."

And his incoming White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki said this week that Biden "will not be discussing an investigation of his son with any attorney general candidates."

"He will not be discussing it with anyone he is considering for the role and he will not be discussing it with a future attorney general," Psaki told Fox News. "It will be up to the purview of a future attorney general in his administration to determine how to handle any investigation."

The discussions within the Justice Department come as Barr steps down, and as acting Attorney General Jeffrey Rosen takes the helm.

Barr on Monday said he had no plan to appoint a special counsel for that investigation before he left the Justice Department.

"I think to the extent that there's an investigation, I think that it's being handled responsibly and professionally," Barr said Monday about the investigation into Hunter Biden. "To this point I have not seen a reason to appoint a special counsel and I have no plan to do so before I leave."

Meanwhile, in his first--and only--interview since being named acting attorney general, Rosen told Reuters that he would continue

"to do things on the merits and to do things on the basis of the law and the facts."

"That's how I thought about it from the beginning and that's how I'll think about it through the end," Rosen told Reuters last week



U.S. Deputy Attorney General Jeffrey Rosen holds a news conference to announce the results of the global resolution of criminal and civil investigations with an opioid manufacturer at the Justice Department on Oct. 21, in Washington. (Photo by Yuri Gripas-Pool/Getty Images)

The Justice Department declined to comment.

Republicans, for weeks, have demanded that a special counsel be appointed to continue the federal investigation into Hunter Biden to ensure that it continues through the incoming Biden administration. President Trump reportedly had been discussing a potential special counsel for that investigation.

HUNTER BIDEN UNDER FEDERAL INVESTIGATION FOR 'TAX AFFAIRS;' LINKS TO CHINA FUNDS EMERGE, SOURCES SAY

Hunter Biden confirmed earlier this month that he is under federal investigation for his "tax affairs."

A well-placed government source told Fox News that Hunter Biden has been a subject/target of the grand jury investigation. According to the source, a "target" means that there is a "high probability that person committed a crime," while a "subject" is someone you "don't know for sure" has committed a crime.

The source said President-elect Biden is not a subject of any grand jury investigation at this time.

The source also told Fox News that this investigation was predicated, in part, by Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) regarding suspicious foreign transactions.

Another source familiar with the investigation told Fox News the SARs were regarding funds from "China and other foreign nations."

A Treasury Department official, who did not comment on the investigation, spoke broadly about SARs, telling Fox News that SARs are filed by financial institutions "if there is something out of the ordinary about a particular transaction."

The official told Fox News that the mere filing of a SAR does not mean there has been a criminal act, or violation of regulations, but instead, flags that a transaction is "out of the ordinary" for the customer. The official noted, though, that a SAR could be part of a money laundering or tax investigation.

The investigation, according to a source familiar with the matter, began in 2018.

The Biden Transition Team declined to comment.

Brooke Singman is a Fox News Digital politics reporter. You can reach her at Brooke.Singman@Fox.com or [@BrookeSingman](https://twitter.com/BrookeSingman) on

Twitter.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/hunter-biden-special-counsel-justice-department>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Trump asking about potential special counsel to investigate Hunter Biden after Barr resignation

By Tyler Olson

Published December 16, 2020

Fox News

President Trump is talking to advisers about asking for a special counsel to be appointed to continue investigating Hunter Biden, the son of President-elect Joe Biden, according to a report.

The news, reported by the Associated Press, comes as Trump's days in office dwindle and questions swirl about how a Biden administration would handle the ongoing Justice Department investigation into Hunter Biden. The president-elect has dodged repeated questions about the investigation into his son since it became public this month.

Hunter Biden said in a statement last week that the U.S. Attorney's Office in Delaware is investigating his "tax affairs" and that he is taking the matter "very seriously" and is "confident" he handled his affairs "legally and appropriately."



Former WFP USA Board Chair Hunter Biden speaks during the World Food Program USA's 2016 McGovern-Dole Leadership Award Ceremony at the Organization of American States on April 12, 2016 in Washington, DC. Biden has come under intense scrutiny in the past year over his business dealings. (Kris Connor/WireImage)

HUNTER BIDEN EMAIL SHOWS \$400G UNREPORTED INCOME FROM BURISMA, STATES HE NEEDS TO 'AMEND' TAX RETURNS

According to the Associated Press, Trump has spoken with White House Counsel Pat Cipollone and chief of staff Mark Meadows about whether he should push to have incoming Acting Attorney General Jeffrey Rosen appoint a special counsel on the matter. Rosen is taking over the Justice Department after Trump said earlier this week that Attorney General William Barr is leaving the department.

The president said in a tweet that his relationship with Barr "has been a very good one." But the resignation came on the heels of Trump expressing outrage that the investigation into Hunter Biden had not been made public before the presidential election.

It's unclear whether or not Rosen would agree with Trump that a special counsel on Hunter Biden is warranted. According to the Associated Press, Trump is considering potentially firing Rosen if he does not make the special counsel appointment and replacing

him with someone who might -- though no final decision has been made.

The White House did not immediately return Fox News' request for comment.

The younger Biden has come under intense scrutiny in the past year for his role on the board of Burisma Holdings, a Ukrainian gas company, while his father as vice president was in charge of U.S. policy toward Ukraine. Trump was impeached last year after allegedly withholding U.S. aid to Ukraine on a condition that the country investigate Joe Biden and Hunter Biden. Hunter Biden's other business dealings, including in China, and his father's alleged role in them, have also come under scrutiny.



In this Nov. 7, 2020, file photo, President-elect Joe Biden, right, embraces his son Hunter Biden, left, in Wilmington, Del. Biden's son Hunter says he has learned from federal prosecutors that his tax affairs are under investigation. (AP Photo/Andrew Harnik, Pool)

HUNTER BIDEN REQUESTED KEYS FOR NEW 'OFFICE MATES' JOE BIDEN, CHINESE 'EMISSARY' TO CEFC CHAIRMAN, EMAILS SHOW

The transition teams for Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris addressed the investigations into Biden's son in a statement last week.

"President-elect Biden is deeply proud of his son, who has fought through difficult challenges, including the vicious personal attacks of recent months, only to emerge stronger," it read.

In response to in-person questions from Fox News' Peter Doocy on whether his son committed a crime and whether the president-elect has spoken to his son since the news of the investigation into him was revealed, Biden simply said "I'm proud of my son."

A special counsel appointed to probe Hunter Biden would add to the list of high-profile special counsel investigations in recent years. Most notable is former special counsel Robert Mueller, who investigated Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election and whether or not the Trump campaign colluded with the Russian government. The probe ended up bringing no charges directly related to such an alleged conspiracy but did successfully prosecute numerous Trump associates for other crimes.

HUNTER BIDEN UNDER FEDERAL INVESTIGATION FOR 'TAX AFFAIRS;' LINKS TO CHINA FUNDS EMERGE, SOURCES SAY

Barr himself appointed U.S. Attorney John Durham as a special counsel to continue to investigate alleged FBI mishandling and misconduct in the 2016 probe into alleged Trump campaign collusion with the Russian government. That appointment essentially ensures that Durham, whose findings have been highly anticipated by Republicans, will continue his work even once Biden

assumes office.



U.S. Deputy Attorney General Jeffrey Rosen holds a news conference to announce the results of the global resolution of criminal and civil investigations with an opioid manufacturer at the Justice Department on October 21, 2020, in Washington, DC. Rosen will soon be the acting attorney general and would have the authority to order a special counsel investigation into Hunter Biden. (Photo by Yuri Gripas-Pool/Getty Images)

The fallout from the FBI's handling of the Russia investigation has led to years of congressional investigations and hearings, and multiple firings. But Democrats have publicly worried that the Durham investigation is overly politicized.

Durham's appointment as a special counsel also was not made public ahead of the presidential election, even though it happened in October.

CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP

Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, meanwhile, has said that he will continue congressional investigations into Hunter Biden despite criticism he's received over it.

"Based on all the facts known to date, Joe Biden has a lot of explaining to do," Grassley said in floor remarks this week. "I learned a lesson long ago when I first started my oversight focus and that is: no matter how difficult the media or the other side of the aisle makes it to find the facts – never give up, keep working hard. The American taxpayer deserves nothing less."

Fox News' Evie Fordham, Thomas Barrabi and The Associated Press contributed to this report.

Tyler Olson is a for Capitol Hill Producer for Fox News in Washington, D.C.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/trump-potential-special-counsel-hunter-biden-barr-resignation>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Sen. Lindsey Graham calls for special counsel to investigate Hunter Biden

By Thomas Barrabi

Published December 16, 2020

Fox News

Sen. Lindsey Graham said Wednesday that he "absolutely" supports calls for the appointment of a special counsel to investigate Hunter Biden's business dealings in Ukraine and China.

Graham, R-S.C., told reporters Wednesday that he has not yet spoken with Trump about the situation, but he added that he believes the appointment of a special prosecutor is a "good idea." The senator called for the special counsel to probe whether "any crimes were committed" and determine any "conflicts" that exist for President-elect Joe Biden's incoming administration.

JOE BIDEN BREAKS SILENCE ON HUNTER FOR FIRST TIME SINCE FEDERAL INVESTIGATION SURFACED

"I'm absolutely calling on a special counsel to look at all things Hunter Biden, to see if he presents a conflict with the Biden administration regarding his business dealings with Ukraine, which is overrun with Russian agents, and the activity he had with the Chinese government," Graham said.

Hunter Biden's overseas business dealings were the subject of intense scrutiny in recent months. President Trump and other prominent critics have accused Hunter Biden of leveraging his father's political influence during his time as vice president in the Obama administration to enrich himself through dealings in Ukraine and China.

The president-elect's son disclosed earlier this month that the U.S. attorney's office in Delaware was investigating his "tax affairs." Earlier Wednesday, Joe Biden said he was "confident" that Hunter hadn't committed a crime.

Graham pointed to the appointment of a special counsel to investigate the Trump campaign's ties to Russia after the 2016 election as a precedent for a similar look at Hunter Biden's dealings.

CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP

"Let me just say this: If you believe a special counsel was needed to look at the Trump world regarding Russia, how can you say there's no need for a special counsel regarding Hunter Biden?" Graham said.

Trump has spoken with top administration officials, including White House chief of staff Mark Meadows, about the possible appointment of a special counsel, the Associated Press reported earlier this week. The president was reportedly "angry" that outgoing Attorney General William Barr did not disclose the federal investigation into Hunter Biden prior the 2020 election.

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/sen-lindsey-graham-special-counsel-investigate-hunter-biden>



Special counsel for Hunter Biden case may be 'warranted,' some at DOJ say: sources

By Jack Durschlag

Published December 24, 2020

Fox News



Good morning and welcome to Fox News First. Here's what you need to know as you start your day ...

Justice Department officials in 'ongoing discussions' on Hunter Biden special counsel, sources say

High-level officials within the Justice Department are in "ongoing discussions" on whether to appoint a special counsel to take over the investigation into Hunter Biden, with some believing it is "warranted," two sources familiar told Fox News on Wednesday.

Attorney General William Barr, who stepped down Wednesday after announcing his resignation last week, said earlier this week that he had "not seen a reason" to appoint a special counsel to probe Joe Biden's 50-year-old son, who is under federal investigation for his "tax affairs."

Meanwhile, in his first -- and only -- interview since being named acting attorney general, Jeffrey Rosen told Reuters he would continue "to do things on the merits and to do things on the basis of the law and the facts."

Republicans, for weeks, have demanded that a special counsel be appointed to continue the federal investigation into Hunter Biden to ensure that it continues through the incoming Biden administration. President Trump reportedly had been discussing a potential special counsel for that investigation. [CLICK HERE FOR MORE ON OUR TOP STORY.](#)

In other developments:

- Hunter Biden still [owns](#) 10% stake in Chinese private equity firm, business records show
- Jonathan Turley: Joe Biden [dodges](#) questions on Hunter by ridiculing reporters. But why talk about ponies?
- Barr [says](#) he has 'no plan' to appoint election, Hunter Biden special counsels
- Biden's claim he [won't discuss](#) Hunter case with AG pick shows need for special counsel: Sen. Kennedy
- KT McFarland: Hunter Biden [should be investigated](#) by special counsel — national security demands it

- Rand Paul [opposes](#) Hunter Biden special counsel but says federal probe must continue

Trump heads to Mar-a-Lago for Christmas with government funding, coronavirus stimulus unresolved

President Trump headed to Palm Beach, Fla., on Wednesday to celebrate Christmas -- with the coronavirus stimulus bill and a government spending plan both still in limbo due to his dissatisfaction with the proposals.



Trump will spend the holiday at his golf club resort Mar-a-Lago.

The president sent shockwaves throughout Washington Tuesday night when he pushed out a Twitter video of himself blasting the omnibus package. House and Senate leaders reached agreement on coronavirus relief after months of being at an impasse.

The president has five days to sign the bill or the government will shut down.

He demanded lawmakers amend the coronavirus stimulus package they passed Monday to include \$2,000 checks for individuals instead of \$600 checks. He also insisted that "wasteful and unnecessary" items be cut from the year-end spending package that was attached to the pandemic aid. [CLICK HERE FOR MORE.](#)

In other developments:

- Kevin McCarthy [slams](#) Pelosi, calls for House GOP to reject foreign aid in coronavirus bill
- Socialists [blast](#) Kamala Harris in COVID-19 relief battle saying she has been 'nowhere to be found'
- Chaffetz [blasts](#) 'wasteful spending and misplaced priorities' in omnibus package
- Pelosi [presses](#) McCarthy to agree to bigger stimulus checks after Trump intervention
- Trump [puts](#) GOP on its heels with 11th-hour stimulus demands, throws wrench into Georgia Senate race
- Flashback: Trump in 2018 on massive spending bill 'nobody read': 'I [will never sign](#) another bill like this'

Trump issues new wave of 26 pardons, three commutations

President Trump issued a wave of 26 pardons and three commutations Wednesday, with prominent recipients including former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort and adviser Roger Stone.

Both were convicted in former Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into foreign interference in the 2016 election.

Trump has now pardoned four people convicted in that investigation, including former national security adviser Michael Flynn and former campaign adviser George Papadopoulos, who pleaded guilty to lying to the FBI.

Manafort, who was released to home confinement due to COVID-19 concerns, had been sentenced to more than seven years in prison for financial crimes related to his work in Ukraine and was among the first people charged as part of Mueller's investigation into alleged ties between the Trump campaign and Russia. [CLICK HERE FOR MORE.](#)

In other developments:

- Roger Stone [reacts](#) to pardon, calls Trump 'greatest president since Abraham Lincoln'
- Former Rep. Chris Collins [released](#) from prison after Trump pardon
- George Papadopoulos ['ecstatic'](#) over Trump pardon, hints at possible lawsuit

[CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP](#)

TODAY'S MUST-READS:

- 7 things Joe Biden [promised](#) to do his first day in office
- Tucker Carlson: The [slow, painful death](#) of California
- Emotional Rush Limbaugh [thanks](#) listeners, supporters in final broadcast of 2020
- Nevada charter school's students [were instructed](#) to link aspects of their identity with oppression: lawsuit
- Coronavirus mortality rate [could drop](#) 2 weeks from vaccination of 1 million people
- Coronavirus [forces](#) NBA to postpone Rockets-Thunder season opener

THE LATEST FROM FOX BUSINESS:

- Bond king Bill Gross' blasting of 'Gilligan's Island' theme song was harassment, judge rules
- On the cusp of Brexit trade deal, EU and UK [hash out](#) final details
- US cyber agency [says](#) SolarWinds hackers are 'impacting' state, local governments
- China [steps up](#) pressure on Alibaba with anti-monopoly probe
- NRA [invests](#) at least \$4.5 million in Georgia runoff elections
- Video game revenues in 2020 [set](#) to top sports, movie industries
- Nuro [gets](#) green light to operate driverless delivery service in California

#The Flashback: [CLICK HERE](#) to find out what happened on "This Day in History."

SOME PARTING WORDS

Roger Stone, a longtime GOP consultant and lobbyist, discussed the pardon he received from President Trump on Wednesday during an appearance on "Tucker Carlson Tonight."

"We have confirmation from the White House media office that it is indeed accurate," Stone told host Tucker Carlson. "We're very happy. I have an enormous amount of gratitude to God Almighty for giving the president the strength and courage to recognize my prosecution was a completely politically motivated witch hunt and my trial was a Soviet-style show trial in which the judge denied us any powerful line of defense."

Not signed up yet for Fox News First? Click [here](#) to find out what you're missing.

Fox News' [Go Watch page](#) is now available, providing visitors with Pay TV provider options in their area carrying Fox News Channel & Fox Business Network.

Fox News First was compiled by Fox News' Jack Durschlag. Thank you for making us your first choice in the morning! Have a Merry Christmas. We'll see you again Monday.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/us/special-counsel-for-hunter-biden-case-may-be-warranted-some-at-doj-say-sources>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by FactSet. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



KT McFarland: Hunter Biden should be investigated by special counsel — national security demands it

By K.T. McFarland

Published December 17, 2020

Fox News

I believe the outgoing Trump administration should appoint a special counsel to investigate President-elect Joe Biden's son Hunter, especially regarding Hunter's connections to China, which could pose a threat to our national security.

I'm not a fan of special counsels, since I was one of the people dragged over the coals by Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation of bogus charges that the Trump presidential campaign colluded with Russia in 2016 to help Donald Trump be elected president.

I was collateral damage in an effort by senior officials in the intelligence community, the Justice Department and the Obama administration to undermine the Trump administration.

TRUMP ASKING ABOUT POTENTIAL SPECIAL COUNSEL TO INVESTIGATE HUNTER BIDEN AFTER BARR RESIGNATION

It is especially galling since we now know through declassified documents and handwritten notes and testimony of those involved that there was never substance to the Russia collusion story or the prosecution of my boss, National Security Adviser Michael Flynn.

The truth is that the entire Russia collusion story was a hoax invented to cripple the Trump presidency.

MORE FROM OPINION

Cal Thomas: Hunter Biden investigations -- where has the mainstream media been?

Gutfeld on the expanding Hunter Biden investigation

NY Post Editorial Board: Left-wing media ignored Hunter Biden scandal to protect dad Joe before election

Despite the wrongful targeting of me and the wrongful prosecution of Flynn — who was the victim of a grave injustice and was very appropriately pardoned by President Trump on Nov. 25 — I believe a special counsel is needed to investigate the son of president-elect Biden.

I have come to this conclusion not out of a desire for payback, or even because of potential crimes the Hunter Biden might have committed. I believe that only with a special counsel can we uncover just how deeply and broadly the Chinese Communist Party has gotten its hooks into our ruling elites. If the Chinese can bribe the former vice president's son, they will go after anyone.

And it's obvious that a Justice Department headed by an attorney general selected by Joe Biden will not be eager to investigate and possibly prosecute the son of the president. President-elect Biden has already come to his son's defense. So it is a clear and blatant conflict of interest for anyone appointed by Joe Biden to run an investigation of Hunter Biden.

KT MCFARLAND: THERE IS 'SIGNIFICANT EVIDENCE' HUNTER BIDEN HAS BEEN 'COMPROMISED BY CHINESE'

We now have abundant evidence of China's influence operations targeting American politicians, academics, business executives and other influential people to serve as China's cheerleaders and apologists. China has co-opted them with money, contracts, donations, and in some cases even sexual favors.

Just last week it was revealed that 2 million Chinese Communist Party members have been sent abroad to infiltrate and embed themselves in multinational organizations, foreign governments and global businesses.

The intelligence community estimates that China steals \$600 billion a year in American intellectual property. As Director of National Intelligence John Ratcliffe recently explained, China's goal is to "rob, replicate and replace" American products.

China has hacked into personal, medical and financial files of half the American population. We're not sure why, but some believe it is to create a massive database to use in artificial intelligence.

Others believe China is acting to create a file on every American similar to what the Chinese Communist Party has done with every Chinese citizen. The party uses this information to stifle criticism and ensure conformity.

Chinese officials openly brag that for 40 years they have cultivated "friends" at the highest levels of the American elites. Is Hunter Biden one of these friends?

It is of the utmost and urgent importance that we discover what the Chinese Communists are doing, who they have targeted and how we can stop them from continuing this hostile action directed against the United States.

Finally, a transparent look at influence peddling could go a long way toward healing the divisions in the country today. Half of America distrusts the other half. Half of our citizens believe the 2016 election was stolen the other half believe the 2020 election was stolen.

A significant percentage of our people think President-elect Biden is compromised by the Chinese government; just as a significant percentage of the country thinks President Trump was compromised by the Russians.

CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP FOR OUR OPINION NEWSLETTER

America has not been this divided since the Civil War. We cannot go on like this. Faith in our elections, institutions and leaders are prerequisites for our democracy to survive.

Our government needs to show the American people that no one is above the law, and it needs to be open and transparent about foreign influence peddling. We are past the point where our people automatically trust our leaders to do the right thing.

There are serious claims against the Biden family that will dog the Biden presidency. President-elect Biden himself should want to clear his family's name of these grave allegations.

CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP

If a special counsel finds no evidence of wrongdoing we can all move on. But if there is something to these charges, the American

people deserve to know who they have elected as president and whether he has been compromised by a foreign power.

As usual, sunlight is the best disinfectant. We could certainly use a little more sunlight these days.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE FROM KT MCFARLAND](#)

K.T. McFarland was President Trump's Deputy National Security Advisor. She is a board member of the American Conservative Union and author of the best-selling book, *Revolution: Trump, Washington and "We the People."*

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/opinion/hunter-biden-special-counsel-kt-mcfarland>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Garland's double standard: A special counsel for Trump but not Hunter and Joe Biden

By Gregg Jarrett

Published November 21, 2022

Fox News

From the moment he was sworn in as attorney general, Merrick Garland set out to transform the Department of Justice into a zealous political organ. Without conscience, he weaponized his immense powers to protect President Biden while punishing his adversaries. Garland's appointment of a special counsel to take over the DOJ's investigations of Donald Trump offers further proof.

U.S. government regulations specify that a special counsel will be named whenever there exists a conflict of interest or even the appearance of one. Garland cited Trump's announcement that he is again running for president in 2024 and Biden's stated intention to do the same. The impropriety of an incumbent candidate's administration investigating his opponent is self-evident.

Yet, the attorney general continues to ignore an even greater conflict of interest as he presides over an FBI and U.S. attorney investigation of Hunter Biden that directly implicates his father, the president.

How convenient and dishonest. It bears the unmistakable stench of a double standard.

ATTORNEY GENERAL GARLAND NAMES SPECIAL COUNSEL TO INVESTIGATE TRUMP ON MAR-A-LAGO DOCUMENTS, JAN. 6

The probe has gone nowhere during Biden's presidency, and no charges have been filed. More than a dozen FBI whistleblowers have stepped forward to expose the political bias that has deeply infected the investigations that were effectively shut down.

The evidence contained on the infamous laptop alone constitutes a compelling case of influence peddling, fraud, bribery, tax evasion, and violations of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, as well as the Foreign Agents Registration Act. Tens of millions of dollars flowed into Biden bank accounts from foreign interests and governments who appear to have paid enormous sums of money for access to Joe Biden and promises of influence. Entities in China, Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Romania, and several other countries poured money into Biden coffers with Hunter's father as an expected beneficiary. Allegedly \$40 million came from Russia, some \$30 million from China, and roughly \$11 million from Ukraine.

Volumes of documents and the damning statements of one of Hunter's primary business partners incriminate President Biden as complicit in his son's lucrative schemes. It is ludicrous for Joe to claim he knew nothing about the nefarious dealings and never spoke with Hunter about it. Photographs and emails directly contradict this. And so do visitor records showing that the elder Biden met repeatedly with his son's partners during the Obama administration. One of them logged 19 separate visits to the White House.

It is the definition of a conflict of interest for the attorney general to oversee a criminal investigation of his boss and his son. Americans have little reason to trust that Garland will disassociate himself from any decision to prosecute. He has personal motivation—his own job security—to cover up wrongdoing and obstruct criminal culpability. It is no coincidence that Garland's special counsel announcement involving Trump came just one day after Republicans in the House of Representatives vowed to launch hearings into the illicit money-making ventures.

Come January, the newly installed House Oversight Committee will likely issue subpoenas to the Treasury Department to produce the more than 150 Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) evidencing millions of dollars in overseas cash that was transferred into Biden-related accounts. U.S. banks flagged a staggering number of these transactions and notified the financial crimes unit at Treasury. But Joe Biden reversed long-standing policy by refusing to produce the documents voluntarily to members of congress. Will Garland enforce these subpoenas as vigorously as he enforced the January 6th committee's subpoenas? Doubtful. He's been running a protection racket for the Bidens, and there are no signs that it will stop. His appointment of former DOJ prosecutor Jack Smith as special counsel to investigate Trump shrewdly shifts the media's focus.

TRUMP ELEVATES MAR-A-LAGO RAID BATTLE TO SUPREME COURT

There is reason to be suspicious that Smith will be the impartial special counsel that federal regulations demand. The last one selected to investigate Trump, Robert Mueller, assembled a team of partisans. So, we've seen this act before. Smith's promise to proceed swiftly suggests that he may rely on many of Garland's existing prosecutors who have demonstrated that they are neither

neutral nor fair. His prior employment at the Justice Department in the Obama administration raises legitimate questions about his objectivity in a politically charged case. Mueller lieutenant, Andrew Weissmann, endorsed the appointment of Smith, which should tell you all you need to know about his predisposition.

In raiding Trump's Mar-a-Lago residence to recover documents, Garland criminalized a dispute with the National Archives over material governed exclusively by the provisions of the Presidential Records Act, which is a civil statute that contains no criminal remedy. The Act affords a former president extraordinary discretion to access and control presidential material. Hence, the proper recourse was for Garland to file a motion in court to compel enforcement of his subpoena seeking documents that may or may not be classified and/or privileged. Instead, he chose to ignore the language of the Act and descend upon Trump's home with a phalanx of armed FBI agents under the guise of criminal statutes that have little relevance. He snookered a magistrate into signing an overly broad general search warrant that is strictly prohibited by the Fourth Amendment. Personal effects without evidentiary value were seized, along with the disputed documents.

CLICK HERE TO GET THE OPINION NEWSLETTER

In court filings, Trump's legal team cited a 2012 dispute over records that Bill Clinton took with him when he departed office, including tapes that were arguably classified. No one raided Clinton's home. The matter was litigated in civil court. A federal district judge in New York ruled that custody of the records rests squarely in the hands of a former president. District Judge Amy Berman Jackson stated that "the National Archives does not have the authority to designate materials as 'presidential records.' It lacks any right, duty, or means to seize control of them." The court concluded that a former president has sole responsibility to categorize a record as personal or presidential.

In her ruling, the judge adopted the very argument made in court by the DOJ that Clinton was entitled to keep whatever he wanted. Fast-forward 10 years and Garland is arguing against his department's own interpretation of the law. Why? Because it is Trump, not Clinton. Garland's flagrant abuse of power is partisan politics at its worst. It has contaminated the attorney general's tenure from the outset.

The same is true of Garland's decision to direct the new special counsel to investigate whether Trump "unlawfully interfered with the transfer of power" after the 2020 election or with the Electoral College vote count. Despite the best efforts of the one-sided January 6th committee, no credible evidence has emerged that Trump committed any crimes. Indeed, no criminal referral has been made by the committee. It should be remembered that Democrats employed the exact same tactics of contesting electors in the 2016 presidential contest when Trump was the winner.

CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP

The pursuit of Trump by Garland is about politics, not national security. The latter is simply a convenient pretext. The true intent is to bludgeon Trump with the cudgel of investigations and threatened prosecutions. At the same time, Garland turns a blind eye to the mountain of evidence that Joe and Hunter Biden fattened family bank accounts by selling out America and jeopardizing its national security in the process.

Merrick Garland presides over a Department of Injustice that manipulates the law for political gain. It smacks of retribution against Republicans for denying him a seat on the U.S. Supreme Court. At least Americans can be thankful for that.

CLICK HERE TO READ MORE FROM GREGG JARRETT

Gregg Jarrett is a Fox News legal analyst and commentator, and formerly worked as a defense attorney and adjunct law professor. He is the author of the No. 1 New York Times best-selling book "The Russia Hoax: The Illicit Scheme to Clear Hillary Clinton and Frame Donald Trump." His latest book is the New York Times bestseller "Witch Hunt: The Story of the Greatest Mass Delusion in American Political History"

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/opinion/garlands-double-standard-special-counsel-trump-hunter-joe-biden>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



House Republicans urge Barr to appoint special counsel to probe alleged Biden revelations

By Adam Shaw

Published October 19, 2020

Fox News

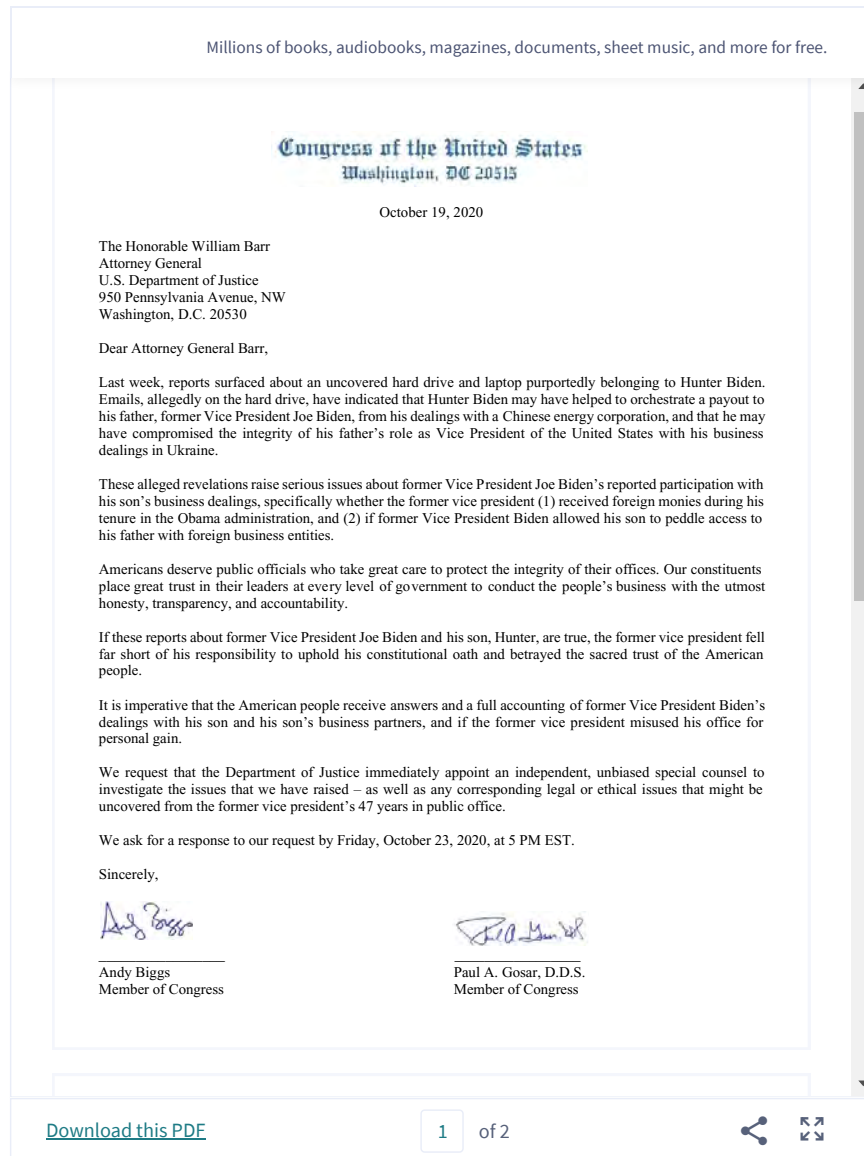
EXCLUSIVE: House Republicans on Monday wrote to Attorney General William Barr, urging him to appoint a special counsel to investigate alleged revelations coming from a laptop purported to have belonged to Joe Biden's son Hunter -- specifically the elder Biden's alleged participation in his son's business dealings.

"These alleged revelations raise serious questions about former Vice President Joe Biden's reported participation with his son's business, dealings, specifically whether the former vice president (1) received foreign monies during his tenure in the Obama administration and (2) if former Vice President Biden allowed his son to peddle access to his father with foreign business entities,"

the letter, obtained by Fox News, says.

HOUSE REPUBLICANS ASK FBI IF IT HAD HUNTER BIDEN'S ALLEGED LAPTOP DURING TRUMP'S IMPEACHMENT

[Letter to AG Barr Special Counsel Hunter Biden by Fox News on Scribd](#)



The letter is signed by 11 Republicans, including Reps. Andy Biggs, R-Ariz., Paul Gosar, R-Ariz., Ted Yoho, R-Fla., and Andy Harris, R-Md.

The letter was written after the New York Post published emails last week suggesting that Hunter Biden introduced his father to a top executive at Ukrainian natural gas firm Burisma Holdings in 2015 -- one year before the then-vice president allegedly pressured the country's government to fire a prosecutor who had launched an investigation into the company.

The Biden campaign has said that Joe Biden never met with that executive and has pushed back on the New York Post reporting.

RATCLIFFE SAYS HUNTER BIDEN LAPTOP, EMAILS 'NOT PART OF SOME RUSSIAN DISINFORMATION CAMPAIGN'

"Investigations by the press, during impeachment, and even by two Republican-led Senate committees whose work was decried as 'not legitimate' and political by a GOP colleague have all reached the same conclusion: that Joe Biden carried out official U.S. policy toward Ukraine and engaged in no wrongdoing," Biden campaign spokesman Andrew Bates said last week. "Trump administration officials have attested to these facts under oath."

Another email published by the Post, dated May 13, 2017, and obtained by Fox News, includes a discussion of "remuneration packages" for six people in a business deal with a Chinese energy firm. The email appeared to identify Hunter Biden as "Chair / Vice Chair depending on agreement with CEFC," in an apparent reference to now-bankrupt CEFC China Energy Co.

The email includes a note that states, "Hunter has some office expectations he will elaborate." A proposed equity split references

"20" for "H" and "10 held by H for the big guy?" with no further details. Fox News spoke to one of the people who was copied on the email, who confirmed its authenticity. Sources told Fox News that "the big guy" is a reference to the former vice president.

While Biden has not commented on that email, or his alleged involvement in any deals with the Chinese Energy firm, his campaign said it released the former vice president's tax documents and returns, which do not reflect any involvement with Chinese investments.

SOURCE ON ALLEGED HUNTER BIDEN EMAIL CHAIN VERIFIES MESSAGE ABOUT CHINESE FIRM

Biden, prior to the emails surfacing, repeatedly has claimed he's "never spoken to my son about his overseas business dealings."

But the Republican lawmakers said it was "imperative" that there was "a full accounting of former Vice President Biden's dealings with this son and his son's business partners, and if the former vice president misused his office for personal gain,"

"If these reports about former Vice President Joe Biden and his son, Hunter, are true, the former vice president fell far short of his responsibility to uphold his constitutional oath and betrayed the sacred trust of the American people," the letter says.

"We request that the Department of Justice immediately appoint an independent, unbiased special counsel to investigate the issues that we have raised -- as well as any corresponding legal or ethical issues that might be uncovered from the former vice president's 47 years in public office," the lawmakers wrote.

CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP

Meanwhile, Director of National Intelligence John Ratcliffe on Monday said that Hunter Biden's laptop "is not part of some Russian disinformation campaign," amid claims from House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff and other Democrats suggesting otherwise.

"Let me be clear: the intelligence community doesn't believe that because there is no intelligence that supports that. And we have shared no intelligence with Adam Schiff, or any member of Congress."

Fox News' Brooke Singman, Sam Dorman and Mike Emanuel contributed to this report.

Adam Shaw is a politics reporter for Fox News Digital, primarily covering immigration and border security.

He can be reached at adam.shaw2@fox.com or on Twitter.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/house-republicans-barr-special-counsel-biden>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Barr says he has 'no plan' to appoint election, Hunter Biden special counsels

By Brooke Singman

Published December 21, 2020

Fox News

Attorney General William Barr on Monday said he has "no plan" to appoint a special counsel to take over the federal investigation into Hunter Biden's "tax affairs," or one to probe allegations of widespread voter fraud in the 2020 presidential election.

Barr announced last week that he would depart from his post as attorney general on Dec. 23 — before the end of the Trump administration.

BARR ANNOUNCES RESIGNATION

Republicans have demanded that a special counsel be appointed to continue the federal investigation into Hunter Biden to ensure that it continues through the incoming Biden administration. President Trump reportedly had been discussing a potential special counsel for that investigation.

But Barr on Monday said he has no plans to appoint a special counsel for that investigation, or one to review the election, before he leaves the Justice Department.

"I think to the extent that there's an investigation, I think that it's being handled responsibly and professionally," Barr said Monday about the investigation into Hunter Biden. "To this point I have not seen a reason to appoint a special counsel and I have no plan to do so before I leave."

Hunter Biden confirmed earlier this month that he is under federal investigation for his "tax affairs."

A well-placed government source told Fox News that Hunter Biden has been a subject/target of the grand jury investigation. According to the source, a "target" means that there is a "high probability that person committed a crime," while a "subject" is someone you "don't know for sure" has committed a crime.

The source said President-elect Biden is not a subject of any grand jury investigation at this time.

The source also told Fox News that this investigation was predicated, in part, by Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) regarding suspicious foreign transactions.

Another source familiar with the investigation told Fox News the SARs were regarding funds from "China and other foreign nations."

HUNTER BIDEN UNDER FEDERAL INVESTIGATION FOR 'TAX AFFAIRS;' LINKS TO CHINA FUNDS EMERGE, SOURCES SAY

A Treasury Department official, who did not comment on the investigation, spoke broadly about SARs, telling Fox News that SARs are filed by financial institutions "if there is something out of the ordinary about a particular transaction."

The official told Fox News that the mere filing of a SAR does not mean there has been a criminal act, or violation of regulations, but instead, flags that a transaction is "out of the ordinary" for the customer. The official noted, though, that a SAR could be part of a money laundering or tax investigation.

The investigation, according to a source familiar with the matter, began in 2018.

Trump, before Barr's resignation, hit the attorney general, calling it a "big disappointment" that he knew about the federal investigation into his opponent's son and did not disclose it before Election Day.

"Why didn't Bill Barr reveal the truth to the public, before the Election, about Hunter Biden. Joe was lying on the debate stage that

nothing was wrong, or going on - Press confirmed" Trump tweeted last week. "Big disadvantage for Republicans at the polls!"

BARR: DOJ YET TO FIND WIDESPREAD VOTER FRAUD THAT COULD HAVE CHANGED 2020 ELECTION RESULTS

A source told Fox News, though, that the president did not ask for Barr's resignation.

Meanwhile, Barr on Monday said he is "sure" there was voter fraud in the 2020 presidential race but stopped short of calling for a special counsel investigation.

The attorney general said he sees "no basis" for the federal government to seize voting machines and examine them for possible fraud.

"Off the top of my head, I'm not going to opine on a constitutional issue as far as the power goes," Barr said Monday.

He added, though, that "there are fraud and unfortunately in most elections I think we're too tolerant of it."

"I'm sure there was fraud in this election, but I was commenting on the extent to which we had looked at suggestions or allegations of systemic or brace fraud that could affect the outcome of the election, and I already spoke to that, and I stand by that statement," he said.

Earlier this month, Barr said the Justice Department has not uncovered evidence of widespread voter fraud that could change the outcome of the 2020 presidential election, despite claims by Trump and his campaign's legal team.

Barr, during an interview with The Associated Press earlier this month, said U.S. attorneys and FBI officials have been working to follow up on specific complaints and information they have received but have not uncovered enough evidence that would change the outcome of the election.

"To date, we have not seen fraud on a scale that could have affected a different outcome in the election," Barr told The Associated Press.

CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP

Despite his decision not to appoint special counsels for the Hunter Biden probe or to look into the 2020 election, Barr earlier this month made it public that he appointed U.S. Attorney from Connecticut John Durham, who had been reviewing the origins of the Trump-Russia probe since spring 2019, as special counsel to ensure that investigation could continue.

"Before the election, as you know, I designated John Durham as a special counsel because I wanted to provide him and his team with assurance that they'd be able to finish their work, and they're making good progress now, and I expect they will be able to finish their work," Barr said. "And I am hoping that the next administration handles that matter responsibly."

BARR APPOINTS JOHN DURHAM AS SPECIAL COUNSEL TO INVESTIGATE ORIGINS OF TRUMP-RUSSIA PROBE

Barr appointed Durham as special counsel in October, but it was not made public that he had done so until Dec. 1.

"On May 13, 2019, I directed John Durham, U.S. Attorney for the District of Connecticut, to investigate certain intelligence and law-enforcement activities surrounding the 2016 presidential election," Barr wrote in a letter to the Senate and House Judiciary committees dated Dec. 1.

DECLASSIFIED TRUMP-RUSSIA PROBE DOCUMENTS TO DATE: WHAT TO KNOW

"Although I had expected Mr. Durham to complete his work by the summer of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as additional information he uncovered, prevented him from doing so."

Barr said he "decided to appoint Mr. Durham as a Special Counsel to provide him and his team with the assurance that they could complete their work, without regard to the outcome of the election" and that he appointed Durham with "the powers and authority of a Special Counsel" on Oct. 19.

In a scope order, obtained by Fox News, Barr stated that Durham "is authorized to investigate whether any federal official, employee, or any other person or entity violated the law in connection with the intelligence, counter-intelligence, or law-enforcement activities directed at the 2016 presidential campaigns, individuals associated with those campaigns, and individuals associated with the administration of President Donald J. Trump, including but not limited to Crossfire Hurricane and the investigation of Special

Counsel Robert S. Mueller, III."

Under U.S. code, the special counsel would produce a "confidential report" and is ordered to "submit to the Attorney General a final report, and such interim reports as he deems appropriate in a form that will permit public dissemination."

Brooke Singman is a Fox News Digital politics reporter. You can reach her at Brooke.Singman@Fox.com or [@BrookeSingman](https://twitter.com/BrookeSingman) on Twitter.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/barr-no-special-counsel-election-hunter-biden>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Rep. Jim Jordan calls for special counsel investigation into Hunter Biden emails

By Yael Halon

Published October 20, 2020

Fox News

Rep. Jim Jordan, R-Ohio, echoed President Trump's call for Attorney General Bill Barr to tap a special counsel to investigate alleged revelations about Hunter Biden's overseas business dealings in the wake of last week's bombshell New York Post reports.

Jordan and a handful of House Republicans have reportedly urged Trump to appoint a special counsel to investigate the younger Biden "for years" after demands for answers from FBI Director Christopher Wray turned up empty.

Reps. Andy Biggs, R-Ariz., Paul Gosar, R-Ariz., Ted Yoho, R-Fla., and Andy Harris, R-Md., also penned a letter to Barr urging him to appoint a special counsel to further investigate the 2020 Democratic nominee and his ties to his son's overseas business dealings.

"Let's get to the facts, let's figure out exactly how much Joe Biden knew about this," Jordan told "The Story" Tuesday, "because it sure looks like Joe Biden misled the American people when he said 'Oh, I didn't have any contact with Hunter Biden about what my son was involved in ...' It sure looks like he misled the entire country.

TRUMP URGES BARR TO APPOINT SOMEONE TO PROBE HUNTER BIDEN BUSINESS DEALINGS

"Let's get to the bottom of that versus what these folks are now saying."

Two senior administration officials told Fox News Tuesday that the FBI is in possession of the laptop purportedly belonging to Hunter Biden, but declined to confirm or deny the existence of an investigation into the laptop or the emails.

Fox News also learned that the FBI and Justice Department officials concur with an assessment from Director of National Intelligence John Ratcliffe that the laptop is not part of a Russian disinformation campaign targeting Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden.

JORDAN DEMANDS ANSWERS WHETHER FBI IS INVESTIGATING HUNTER BIDEN

"First of all, of the people who said it was Russian disinformation, these are the same people who told us the fake [Steele] dossier was real ... so I don't put a lot of stock into those guys," Jordan said. "They've misled us for three and a half years in the whole Trump-Russia investigation.

"These are now the same people who are telling the Russians are running some disinformation operation. No one is buying it."

CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP

Jordan said his office had received "several calls over the weekend that confirmed to us that these emails are authentic" and later took aim at Big Tech for trying to "cancel this information from the American people just days before the election for the highest office in this land."

Asked whether he thought a special counsel appointment was likely to occur before Election Day, Jordan said, "I certainly hope so."

Yael Halon is a reporter for Fox News Digital. Story tips can be sent to yael.halon@fox.com.

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/jim-jordan-special-counsel-investigation-hunter-biden-emails>

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Rep. Buck: Mueller set 'precedent' that demands Hunter Biden special counsel

By Charles Creitz

Published December 24, 2020

Fox News

House Judiciary Committee member Rep. Ken Buck said Thursday that he is disappointed Attorney General Bill Barr refused to name a special counsel to investigate Hunter Biden, the 50-year-old son of President-elect Joe Biden.

Buck, R-Colo., told "Bill Hemmer Reports" that the establishment of former FBI Director Bob Mueller as a special counsel investigating alleged Russian collusion involving President Trump is a precedent that calls for another prosecutor to take up an investigation into the younger Biden's foreign business and related affairs.

Joe Biden has continued to deny any involvement in his son's affairs or that he would interfere in any way in the proceedings, rebuffing a Wednesday question from Fox News by telling correspondent Peter Doocy his Justice Department will work "totally on its own" when it comes to his son.

"I wrote a letter to Attorney General Barr over a month ago and asked for a special counsel," Buck told host Rick Leventhal. "I think the precedent is clear with Robert Mueller. I think when you look at the activities of Hunter Biden and his father, at the time his father was vice president, it's clear corruption; a number of statutes implicated."

He added that the Trump Justice Department, under Acting Attorney General Jeff Rosen, could lower the pressure on Biden by appointing a special prosecutor.

"It would really relieve the Biden administration of the conflict-of-interest burden if a special counsel was appointed right now."

In his letter, Buck wrote that a special counsel appointment would be "critical to defending the integrity of our republic" and to ensure the Biden administration will not be influenced by foreign interference.

"Americans have the right to know whether Mr. Biden's reported ties to foreign governments will make him the subject of blackmail attempts or other nefarious efforts to undermine U.S. national security or otherwise improperly influence American foreign policy," the lawmaker wrote.

Buck added that the IRS and FBI are involved in the current investigation into Hunter Biden.

"In addition to that, there's this cloud, Buck said. "I think that he may very well be cleared. If he's clear, so be it. Let the investigation do that. If he's not cleared, I think it's all very important that we have independent prosecutors and not prosecutors that are ultimately working for his father in this case."

CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP

The lawmaker dismissed Joe Biden's claim of an independent Justice Department, referencing former Attorney General Eric Holder, who famously dubbed himself President Obama's "wingman."

"For one, I don't think that happened when [Biden] was the vice president, Buck said. "I don't think Barack Obama appointed attorney generals who enforced the law and I don't think this president is going to do that. They're going to appoint attorney generals that will enforce the law the way they see it."

And if the same holds true, an investigation into Hunter Biden may be lackluster.

"In the case of a criminal investigation like this -- that could very well implicate the president -- they will not aggressively pursue this

investigation," Buck said.

Charles Creitz is a reporter for Fox News Digital.

He joined Fox News in 2013 as a writer and production assistant.

Charles covers media, politics and breaking news, and has covered the annual CPAC conference for Fox News Digital.

Charles is a Pennsylvania native and graduated from Temple University with a B.A. in Broadcast Journalism. Story tips can be sent to charles.creitz@fox.com.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/rep-buck-mueller-set-precedent-that-demands-hunter-biden-special-counsel>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Lindsey Graham calls for Hunter Biden special counsel on 'Fox & Friends': 'The laptop is real'

Published September 20, 2022

Fox News

Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., said Tuesday on "Fox & Friends" that an independent special counsel is needed to look into Hunter Biden's laptop and business dealings. Graham said the matter should be handled in the same way as Robert Mueller looking into Russia's meddling in the 2016 election.

HUNTER BIDEN PROBE: SENATE REPUBLICANS DEMAND SPECIAL COUNSEL AUTHORITY FOR PROSECUTOR AS INQUIRY HEATS UP

LINDSEY GRAHAM: *I believe that you should have somebody looking at Hunter Biden other than a Delaware prosecutor. We're having a prosecutor in the guy's home state. The prosecutor is a fine fellow, but can you imagine what the left would do if I suggested we should not have had a special counsel in the Mueller investigation? We had a guy. It worked. What I am saying is, given all the evidence is coming out about Hunter Biden, the laptop is real. Every media outlet in this country suppressed a story, including social media. The laptop is real. They said it wasn't. I want somebody outside of politics, Delaware politics, looking at Hunter Biden like they looked at Trump. That's not unfair.*

WATCH THE FULL INTERVIEW:

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/lindsey-graham-calls-hunter-biden-special-counsel-fox-friends-laptop-real>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Sen. Cotton urges special counsel protections in Hunter Biden probe: Can't trust Garland not to politicize

Published September 20, 2022

Fox News

Arkansas Sen. Tom Cotton and more than 30 other Republican senators have called on Attorney General Merrick Garland to provide special counsel protections for the U.S. attorney who is investigating Hunter Biden. On "America Reports" Tuesday, Cotton argued it is a necessary step to keep the investigation from being politicized by the Department of Justice.

LINDSEY GRAHAM CALLS FOR HUNTER BIDEN SPECIAL COUNSEL ON 'FOX & FRIENDS': 'THE LAPTOP IS REAL'

SEN. TOM COTTON: *I don't think we can trust Attorney General Merrick Garland not to politicize this investigation the way he's politicized the Department of Justice. Remember last year when he sicked the Feds on parents attending school board meetings or earlier this year when he refused to enforce the law and arrest protesters outside of Supreme Court justices' homes in clear violation of federal law. We're not even asking for the appointment of a special counsel as happened, for instance, against Donald Trump. We're merely asking the attorney general to provide special counsel protections to the U.S. attorney who is already investigating Hunter Biden's many crimes. I think that's a necessary step to ensure that that investigation is not politicized.*

WATCH THE FULL INTERVIEW BELOW:

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/sen-cotton-urges-special-counsel-protections-hunter-biden-probe-cant-trust-garland-politicize>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Levin calls for special counsel to investigate Biden family: 'We need to know what the hell is going on'

By Yael Halon

Published April 03, 2022

Fox News

"Life, Liberty and Levin" host Mark Levin blamed the "corrupt, opportunistic" media for covering up the [Hunter Biden](#) laptop story, and called for a federal special counsel to investigate the Biden family in light of emerging information.

Levin began his show Sunday taking the press to task for deliberately concealing information pertaining to Hunter Biden's laptop when it was first reported in 2020, noting how prominent news outlets collectively disregarded the story as a baseless right-wing conspiracy or an effort of Russian disinformation.



FILE - Then Vice President-elect, Sen. Joe Biden, D-Del., left, stands with his son Hunter Biden. (AP Photo/Charles Dharapak, File) (AP Photo/Charles Dharapak, File)

WAPO EDITORIAL BOARD ADMITS HUNTER BIDEN LAPTOP STORY IS A 'RECKONING' FOR THE MEDIA

"The media here during the last election, when they were confronted with a true story about Hunter Biden's laptop,... the media covered it up. What did Big Tech oligarchs do, they not only covered it up, but they banned New York Post, they banned other media outlets or any individual who dare to refer to it," he said.

"This is the state of media in America," Levin continued. "We do not have a free press. We have a corrupt media. We have a media

that sings from one sheet, a media that regurgitates down the line."



The New York Times confirmed the authenticity of Hunter Biden's infamous laptop. ((Randy Holmes via Getty Images))

The same media outlets that rejected the damning revelations as unsubstantial are now admitting there was legitimacy all along. However, Levin said the lack of faith in the media to hold the Biden family accountable demands the appointment of a federal special counsel to investigate the questionable overseas transactions.

NEW YORK TIMES STEALTH-EDITS REPORT ON HUNTER BIDEN LAPTOP STORY, SCRUBS 'UNSUBSTANTIATED' FOLLOWING BACKLASH

"Ladies and gentlemen, we need a federal special counsel. We cannot leave it to Garland and the political appointees at the Department of Justice. We need an experienced, competent, independent federal prosecutor who puts together a team to investigate Joe Biden, his family, the dealings with communist China, the dealings with Ukraine and Russia, and Romania, the dealing with all of these governments," Levin said.



Mark Levin calls for the appointment of a federal special counsel to investigate President Biden and his family. (Photo by Chip Somodevilla/Getty Images | Fox News)

Levin said there is "ton of evidence" that would have caused an investigation if anyone else was president. He also lambasted Democrat controlled Congress for not holding a single hearing.

[CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP](#)

"We need a Biden crime family committee, and we need one now," he said. "We need to know what the hell is going on. China is

our biggest enemy, they're staring us down, and it is my contention we have a man in the Oval Office who is corrupt."

Yael Halon is a reporter for Fox News Digital. Story tips can be sent to yael.halon@fox.com.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/levin-federal-special-counsel-hunter-biden-laptop>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Arizona congresswoman backs calls for Hunter Biden special counsel

By Brittany De Lea

Published December 28, 2020

Fox News

Rep. Debbie Lesko, R-Ariz., supported calls among some of her colleagues on Monday to appoint a special counsel to investigate [Hunter Biden](#), the son of President-Elect [Joe Biden](#).

Responding to a tweet penned by Rep. Andy Biggs, R-Ariz., Lesko said she joined Biggs in calling for a special counsel to look into Hunter Biden—and had sent a letter to the attorney general asking him to do so.

A representative for the congresswoman confirmed to Fox News that she had sent the letter earlier this month, reasoning that a special counsel would be the only way to ensure a thorough and complete investigation is carried out.

REP. BUCK: MUELLER SET 'PRECEDENT' THAT DEMANDS HUNTER BIDEN SPECIAL COUNSEL

The Delaware U.S. Attorney is investigating Hunter Biden's taxes – a probe that has been ongoing since 2018 but was only recently publicly disclosed.

Hunter Biden has a complex network of international business dealings.

His involvement with Ukrainian energy company Burisma in 2014 has come under intense scrutiny, and was a repeated target of President Trump during his campaign for the 2020 presidency.

The younger Biden was paid \$50,000 per month to serve on the board of Burisma, sparking concerns about the perceptions of a conflict of interest given the fact that his father was involved in U.S. policy toward Ukraine.

Hunter Biden also has connections to Chinese and Russian nationals that have raised eyebrows.

CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP

The president-elect has expressed [confidence](#) in his son, and has also suggested that it is "foul play" for Republicans to use Hunter as a way to personally attack him.

Former Attorney General Bill Barr, who served out his last day last week, said he did not see the need for a special counsel to look into the situation. Jeffrey Rosen is currently serving as acting AG.

However, there are a [growing number of Republicans](#) who are expressing their [frustration](#) with this situation.

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/congresswoman-special-counsel-hunter-biden>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - [New Terms of Use](#) - [FAQ](#)



GOP Rep. Ken Buck calls for Hunter Biden special counsel in letter to Barr

By Brooke Singman

Published December 07, 2020

Fox News

EXCLUSIVE: Republican Rep. Ken Buck on Monday urged Attorney General William Barr to appoint a special counsel to investigate Hunter Biden's business dealings and a laptop purportedly belonging to him in order to ensure an investigation "free from political interference."

In a letter sent to Barr, obtained by Fox News, Buck, R-Colo., urged him to "appoint a Special Counsel to investigate Mr. Hunter Biden's conduct and the contents of his laptop that is currently in the Federal Bureau of Investigation's possession."

LAPTOP CONNECTED TO HUNTER BIDEN LINKED TO FBI MONEY LAUNDERING PROBE

"This investigation is critical to defending the integrity of our republic and ensuring a potential Biden Administration will not be the subject of undue foreign interference," Buck wrote. "Americans have the right to know whether Mr. Biden's reported ties to foreign governments will make him the subject of blackmail attempts or other nefarious efforts to undermine U.S. national security or otherwise improperly influence American foreign policy."

Buck noted that the attorney general has the ability to appoint a special counsel to "investigate and prosecute any matter that would present a conflict of interest for the Department or other extraordinary circumstances."

"Similar to when the DOJ appointed Special Counsel Robert S. Mueller III, it is critical that this investigation continue free from political interference, no matter who is in the White House," Buck wrote. "We must guarantee the integrity of our government and the security of our republic."

He added: "As such, I urge the DOJ to appoint a Special Counsel to investigate Hunter Biden's actions and the potentially incriminating contents of his laptop to ensure this important investigation will be completed."

The laptop and emails in question were first obtained by The New York Post in October. The Post revealed that Trump attorney Rudy Giuliani provided them with emails allegedly belonging to Hunter Biden. The emails related to Hunter Biden's work with Ukrainian natural gas firm Burisma Holdings, as well as his work with a Chinese energy firm.

President-elect Joe Biden, while on the campaign trail, repeatedly denied any involvement with, or knowledge of, his son's foreign business dealings.

A Biden transition official declined to comment on Buck's request. The Justice Department declined to comment.

FBI IN POSSESSION OF LAPTOP ALLEGEDLY BELONGING TO HUNTER BIDEN

Fox News first reported in October that the FBI was in possession of the laptop purportedly belonging to Hunter Biden.

Fox News also first reported that the FBI's subpoena of a laptop and hard drive purportedly belonging to Hunter Biden came in connection with a money laundering investigation in late 2019, according to documents obtained by Fox News and verified by multiple federal law enforcement officials who reviewed them.

RATCLIFFE SAYS HUNTER BIDEN EMAILS, LAPTOP 'NOT PART OF SOME RUSSIAN DISINFORMATION CAMPAIGN'

It is unclear, at this point, whether the investigation is ongoing or if it was directly related to Hunter Biden.

The FBI has declined to confirm or deny the existence of an investigation into the laptop or the emails, as is standard practice.

The Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is also investigating Hunter Biden's business dealings.

Buck's request for a special counsel also comes just days after Barr made public the appointment of U.S. Attorney John Durham

from Connecticut as special counsel to continue investigating the origins of the Russia probe into the Biden administration.

In a scope order, obtained by Fox News, Barr stated that Durham as special counsel "is authorized to investigate whether any federal official, employee, or any other person or entity violated the law in connection with the intelligence, counter-intelligence, or law-enforcement activities directed at the 2016 presidential campaigns, individuals associated with those campaigns, and individuals associated with the administration of President Donald J. Trump, including but not limited to Crossfire Hurricane and the investigation of Special Counsel Robert S. Mueller, III."

CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP

Under U.S. code, the special counsel would produce a "confidential report" and is ordered to "submit to the Attorney General a final report, and such interim reports as he deems appropriate in a form that will permit public dissemination."

Fox News' Jake Gibson contributed to this report.

Brooke Singman is a Fox News Digital politics reporter. You can reach her at Brooke.Singman@Fox.com or [@BrookeSingman](https://twitter.com/BrookeSingman) on Twitter.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/gop-rep-ken-buck-hunter-biden-special-counsel>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Turley: 'Colossal failure' for AG Garland not to appoint Hunter Biden, January 6th special counsels

Published August 10, 2022

Fox News

Fox News contributor Jonathan Turley explained on "The Brian Kilmeade Show" on Wednesday why Attorney General Merrick Garland should have appointed special counsels to investigate Hunter Biden and probe the events of January 6th.

TRUMP RAID LEAVES ME WITH 8 IMPORTANT QUESTIONS AS A SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE MEMBER

JONATHAN TURLEY: Merrick Garland has refused to appoint a special counsel on the Hunter Biden matter. And he's also obviously not appointed any special counsel with regard to Jan. 6. In my view, that is an astonishing and colossal failure on the part of the attorney general. There is no basis I could think of for not appointing a special counsel in both of those circumstances: Hunter Biden's scandal now has the president directly contradicted in what he has told the public for years. We now have meetings at the White House with business associates of Hunter Biden. Joe Biden's denials appear now to be untrue. And at issue is an information influence-peddling scheme that may have generated millions. How could you possibly, as attorney general, not appoint a special counsel? Then you go to Jan. 6. You have a grand jury by the administration of the man who was the opposing candidate and it's investigating the man who may be his opponent in the next election. Just there alone, without getting to anything else, it is bizarre to suggest that a special counsel is not needed. That's why we had the special counsel with Nixon. Everyone celebrates Archibald Cox. Where's the Archibald Cox? Where are the people saying, "Let's do it the way we did with Richard Nixon?"

WATCH THE FULL INTERVIEW:

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/turley-colossal-failure-ag-garland-appoint-hunter-biden-january-6th-special-counsels>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Ron Johnson demands probe of 'scheme' to suppress Hunter Biden info

By Kelly Laco

Published July 26, 2022

Fox News

EXCLUSIVE: Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wis., is demanding the Department of Justice open an internal investigation or appoint a special counsel, following new whistleblower allegations that the DOJ and FBI illegally suppressed information on Hunter Biden and that the FBI was "weaponized" against sitting members of the Senate.

The Wisconsin senator's demands come the day after Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, revealed that new "highly credible whistleblowers" at the DOJ and FBI shared information with his office detailing a "pattern of active public partisanship" at the agencies pertaining to investigations into the Trump campaign and suppression of information on the Hunter Biden probe.

Johnson, who serves as the ranking member on the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, wrote a follow-up letter Tuesday to Attorney General Merrick Garland, FBI Director Chris Wray, Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines and DOJ Inspector General Michael Horowitz.

In the letter, he says the new whistleblower information confirms there was a "scheme" in place among FBI officials to discount derogatory information about the president's son Hunter Biden by labeling it as "disinformation."

GRASSLEY PRESSES DOJ, FBI FOR TRANSPARENCY ON 'PARTISAN' POLITICIZATION OF AGENCIES, HUNTER BIDEN PROBE



NBC News authenticated the contents of Hunter Biden's laptop on May 19. (BRENDAN SMIALOWSKI/AFP via Getty Images)

Both Johnson and Grassley recounted events between July and October 2020, during which the FBI, including Assistant Special Agent in Charge Timothy Thibault, FBI Supervisory Intelligence Analyst Brian Auten and Democratic senators, gave Republicans investigating the Hunter allegations the runaround on information, falsely alleging that the GOP was advancing "foreign disinformation" regarding the now-president's son.

An Aug. 6, 2020 meeting, GOP senators now allege after whistleblower corroboration, was explicitly intended to "undermine" their investigation into Hunter Biden.

"If these recent whistleblower revelations are true, it would strongly suggest that the FBI's August 6, 2020 briefing was indeed a targeted effort to intentionally undermine a Congressional investigation," Johnson wrote in the Tuesday letter. "The FBI being weaponized against two sitting chairmen of U.S. Senate committees with constitutional oversight responsibilities would be one of

the greatest episodes of Executive Branch corruption in American history," Johnson continues.

"For nearly two years I have sought to get information from the FBI and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) about the purpose of, and who ordered, this briefing. On May 3, 2021, Senator Grassley and I reiterated these requests in a letter to Directors Wray and Haines. Both failed to provide complete responses," Johnson stated.



Hunter Biden's ex-wife detailed how she heard about the affair between Biden and his brother's widow Hallie in her new memoir. (REUTERS/Joshua Roberts)

The senator stated that the FBI's integrity is now being called into question and the agency can "no longer be trusted to investigate Hunter Biden with integrity and the equal application of law." Additionally, he states that Garland has failed to provide both Grassley and him "assurances" that the DOJ probe will be free from conflicts of interest.

"The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) may be able to provide an objective review of this matter, but it has not been forthcoming to Senator Grassley or me. If the OIG is unwilling or unable to conduct an investigation into the potential political targeting of U.S. Senators by federal law enforcement entities, then the appointment of a Special Counsel would be fully justified and long overdue," concluded Johnson.

[CLICK TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP](#)

Grassley wrote Monday to the FBI and DOJ, stating that the new whistleblower information provided to his office "involves concerns about the FBI's receipt and use of derogatory information related to Hunter Biden, and the FBI's false portrayal of acquired evidence as disinformation."



Sen. Ron Johnson (R-WI) arrives to a news conference with Republican senators to discuss the origins of COVID-19 on June 10,

2021 in Washington, DC. (Anna Moneymaker/Getty Images)

"In light of these allegations, I remain very concerned that political bias by a select group of Justice department and FBI officials has infected the Justice Department and FBI's usual process and procedure to open and pursue high-profile and politically charged investigations," Grassley wrote, demanding further explanation from the agencies.

The federal investigation into the [first son's tax affairs](#) has reached a "critical stage," a source told Fox News last week. Officials are looking into whether to charge President Biden's son with various tax violations, possible foreign lobbying violations and more.

A separate source told Fox News that the federal grand jury looking into Hunter Biden's business dealings wrapped up its latest term late last month but said no charges have been filed.

The DOJ confirmed receipt of the letter but did not comment beyond that.

FBI and ODNI did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Kelly Laco is a politics editor for Fox News Digital.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/ron-johnson-demands-probe-scheme-suppress-hunter-biden-info-says-fbi-weaponized-against-senators>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Hunter Biden probe confusion 'textbook example' of why a special counsel should be appointed, Turley says

By Yael Halon

Published July 25, 2022

Fox News

The federal investigation [into Hunter Biden](#) has reached a critical stage, but with no indictments issued and the recent disbandment of the grand jury, the need for an impartial special counsel has become abundantly clear, Fox News contributor and legal scholar Jonathan Turley said Monday.

The president son's tax affairs have been under federal investigation since 2018 in a probe conducted by Delaware U.S. Attorney David Weiss. But with the grand jury tasked with investigating his overseas business activity reportedly disbanding, it could mean time is running out for the president's son, Turley told "America Reports" host John Roberts.

"Usually with the expiration of a grand jury, we'll see a case either carried over or the issuing of indictments," he explained. "The assumption is that the work before this grand jury may have been completed. And so there are these lingering questions about what the status is. Are they working on a plea, do they have sealed indictments, or have they found no basis to indict at all."

TONY BOBULINSKI TELLS TUCKER JOE'S DENIALS OF INVOLVEMENT IN SON'S DEALS 'A BLATANT LIE'



NBC News reported this week on the contents of Hunter Biden's laptop as the president's son remains under a federal tax investigation. (AP Photo/Andrew Harnik)

The odds of Hunter walking away without charges are slim, Turley said, pointing to "credible claims" of his alleged tax violations, possible foreign lobbying violations, reports of him lying on a firearm purchase form, among other offenses.

"There seems to be credible claims of federal crimes here, from tax fraud to the violation of registration of FARA, which is the registration of foreign agents, to even smaller offenses like false statements on gun forms. It's hard to believe that they would walk away from those crimes," he said.

Turley said Delaware U.S. Attorney Weiss' handling of the probe so far underscores why the appointment of a special counsel is

necessary for investigations of this nature.



FILE - Then vice Ppresident-elect, Sen. Joe Biden, D-Del., left, stands with his son Hunter during a re-enactment of the Senate oath ceremony in the Old Senate Chamber on Capitol Hill in Washington. (AP Photo/Charles Dharapak, File)

"This is really an example, rather textbook example, of why special counsels need to be appointed in these cases," Turley said. He added that while he has "a lot of respect" for Weiss, "too many lingering questions remain about his failure to call key witnesses associated with Hunter.

CLICK HERE TO GET FOX NEWS APP

"Nobody is casting aspersions on Mr. Weiss, but there are these questions as to why many of these witnesses have not been called and whether the investigation itself is artificially narrow," Turley said. "We're talking about an influence-peddling scheme that netted millions of dollars for Hunter Biden, but his uncle is also involved, and the president is all over these records."

"All of that would seem to make him a rather relevant witness," he added. "But there's no indication he has been called."

Yael Halon is a reporter for Fox News Digital. Story tips can be sent to yael.halon@fox.com.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/hunter-biden-probe-confusion-textbook-example-special-counsel-should-appointed-turley>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Rep. Donalds calls for Hunter Biden special counsel to investigate 'corruption' in White House

Published April 04, 2022

Fox News

Rep. Byron Donalds, R-Fla., is calling for a special counsel to investigate the Hunter Biden scandal, arguing President Biden is fully aware of what is going on as his son faces a federal investigation over his international business dealings. Rep. Donalds addressed the Republican vow to investigate after the 2022 elections on "Fox & Friends" Monday, warning the issue "speaks to corruption in the White House."

LEVIN CALLS FOR SPECIAL COUNSEL TO INVESTIGATE BIDEN FAMILY: 'WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON'

BYRON DONALDS: We need to investigate that in the oversight committee, that's what Republicans will be doing when we take back the House, but we need to go one step further. We need to have a special counsel with subpoena power because we have to get to this matter now. So much is happening around the world. This is not just about something going on in the other party. This speaks to corruption in the White House.

WATCH THE FULL INTERVIEW FROM "FOX & FRIENDS" BELOW:

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/hunter-biden-laptop-emails-byron-donalds>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Biden, Hunter make presidential history as first father-son duo under separate investigations

By Brooke Singman

Published January 20, 2023

Fox News

President Biden and his son Hunter have made history as the first president-son duo to be simultaneously – but separately – under federal investigation.

Attorney General Merrick Garland last week appointed former U.S. Attorney Robert Hur as special counsel to investigate the president's possible unauthorized removal and improper retention of classified documents and records discovered at the Penn Biden Center in Washington D.C., and in his private residence in Wilmington, Delaware.

Separately, Hunter Biden has been under federal investigation since 2018 for his tax affairs – an investigation that was predicated, in part, by suspicious activity reports (SARs) regarding some foreign transactions. Those SARs, according to sources familiar with the investigation, involved funds from "China and other foreign nations."

WHITE HOUSE REFUSES TO SAY IF BIDEN WOULD SIT FOR INTERVIEW WITH SPECIAL COUNSEL IN CLASSIFIED RECORDS PROBE



President Joe Biden and his son Hunter Biden are both under federal investigation, a presidential first. (Nicholas Kamm/AFP via Getty Images)

"This is the first time that in American history we have a sitting president and one of his children – in this case, his son – who are under formal investigation in the United States," Heritage Foundation President Dr. Kevin Roberts, a historian of early American history, told Fox News Digital. "In thinking about this, investigating it, and putting all politics aside, I cannot think of an example that even gets close to this."

"I think it is important that as Americans strive to get out of the morass of current politics, and especially the unethical nature it seems of this current administration, that we realize the truth first," Roberts continued. "And in this case, the truth hurts."

It is also the first time in presidential history that a sitting president – Biden – and a former president – Donald Trump, who is running again for the White House in 2024 – are separately, but at the same time, under special counsel investigation for the same

matter: retention of classified records.



Former President Trump and President Joe Biden (Getty Images)

In November, Garland appointed former DOJ official Jack Smith as special counsel to investigate Trump's retention of classified records at his Mar-a-Lago home in Palm Beach, Florida, after the FBI conducted an unprecedented raid, seizing documents bearing classification markings, some of which were "top secret."

"It speaks to the era we're in," Roberts said.

TEAM INVESTIGATING TRUMP CLASSIFIED DOCS INCLUDES SEASONED DOJ OFFICIALS WHO PROSECUTED HIS TOP ALLIES

This is the second time Trump has been at the center of a special counsel investigation. During his administration, Special Counsel Robert Mueller was chosen to investigate whether the Trump campaign colluded with Russia to influence the 2016 presidential election.

Trump's eldest son, Donald Trump Jr., faced criticism for a meeting he held at Trump Tower in New York City with Russian lawyer Natalia Veselnitskaya in the summer of 2016.



President-elect Donald Trump, Donald Trump Jr. and Ivanka Trump at a news conference in the lobby of Trump Tower in New York. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

Music publicist Rob Golstone offered to broker the get-together with Veselnitskaya, writing in an email that she could provide "very

high level and sensitive information" or "dirt" compromising former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's election chances.

"If it's what you say, I love it," Trump Jr. wrote in response.

That meeting came under scrutiny in Mueller's investigation. But Trump Jr. was never named a subject or target of that special counsel probe, which, after nearly two years of investigating, yielded no evidence of criminal conspiracy or coordination between the Trump campaign and Russian officials during the 2016 presidential election.



Special Counsel Robert Mueller investigated alleged collusion between President Trump and Russia. (AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster, File)

"I say this not as a partisan, or as an ideologue, but just as someone who specializes in reading the facts, there are two gigantic differences, and the first is that Donald Trump Jr. was not formally implicated, and Hunter has been," Roberts said. "The second is that so much of the origins of Mueller's investigation were not only inaccurate, but they were spurious."

He added: "I see them as qualitatively different."

TRUMP TARGETED: A LOOK AT THE INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING THE FORMER PRESIDENT; FROM RUSSIA TO MAR-A-LAGO

Former U.S. Attorney for Connecticut John Durham was appointed as special counsel in the spring of 2019 to investigate the origins of the Trump-Russia probe. Durham's investigation is ongoing.



Special Counsel John Durham (Reuters/Julia Nikhinson)

As for President Biden, Roberts said Americans are "miffed, mostly by his unwillingness and apparent inability to defend himself."

"It only creates more suspicion that, not unlike the situation in Watergate, not unlike the situation in President Harding's administration in the 1920s, not unlike the situation with President Grant in the 1870s – there could be even more to the story," Roberts said. "I think a lot of Americans are expecting the other shoe to drop, which may be even worse than what the former vice president – current president – apparently did with classified documents."

HUNTER BIDEN PROBE: 2022 MARKED FOURTH YEAR — AND COUNTING — OF INVESTIGATION

Roberts suggested that "shoe" could be a link from the Biden classified records investigation to Hunter's completely separate federal investigation into his foreign business dealings.



The investigations into President Biden and his son mark the first time this has happened to a sitting president. (Kris Connor/WireImage)

"Every time you encounter a Joe Biden problem, Hunter is at least in the background, if not directly involved, and every time you encounter Hunter, the opposite is true – his father, the president, is involved almost always," Roberts said, adding that there could be a "connecting of dots between being financially compromised and conflicted with the Chinese Communist Party."

Classified records were found inside the Washington, D.C., offices of the Penn Biden Center think tank on Nov. 2, 2022, but the discovery was only disclosed to the public last week. A second stash of classified documents were also found inside the president's garage at his home in Delaware, and over the weekend, additional classified records were found inside the president's home in Delaware.



Robert Hur was named special counsel to investigate the classified documents found in Biden's former office and home. (Jabin Botsford/The Washington Post via Getty Images)

The White House has said it was cooperating with that DOJ review, and maintains it will continue its full cooperation with Special Counsel Hur's investigation.

The White House has been peppered with questions about the number of classified documents found, the level of classification of the documents, and whether the content of the documents had anything to do with foreign nations – specifically whether they could relate to the president's son Hunter Biden, and his business dealings with China and other foreign nations.

JOE BIDEN 'WAS AWARE' AND POTENTIALLY 'INVOLVED' IN SON HUNTER'S CRONY BUSINESS DEALINGS: WHISTLEBLOWERS

The questions intensified amid revelations that Hunter spent a significant amount of time living at the Wilmington home in the last several years and could have had access to the records.

The White House has repeatedly declined to comment on the contents of the classified records, as well as the levels of the classification, because the records "have been turned over to proper authorities and will be part of the ongoing investigation."



Attorney General Merrick Garland appointed a special counsel to oversee the Justice Department's investigation into former President Donald Trump and his handling of classified documents. (Anna MoneyMaker/Getty Images)

Throughout Biden's time in office, the White House has fielded questions about Hunter's suspicious foreign business dealings and the investigation, which is being led by David Weiss, the U.S. attorney for Delaware.

The president has repeatedly denied speaking to his son about those business ventures. Biden has also denied, since the 2020

campaign, having any knowledge about or involvement in his son's business ventures.



President Biden waves alongside his son Hunter Biden after attending Mass at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Johns Island, South Carolina, on Aug. 13, 2022. (Nicholas Kamm/AFP via Getty Images)

Fox News first reported the existence of some type of investigation involving Hunter Biden in October 2020, ahead of the last presidential election. It became known then that the FBI had subpoenaed the laptop purportedly belonging to Hunter Biden in the course of an existing money laundering investigation.

Hunter Biden confirmed the investigation into his "tax affairs" in December 2020, after his father was elected president.

Fox News reported in July that the federal grand jury looking into Hunter Biden's business dealings wrapped up its latest term in June of this year and had expired. A source told Fox News at the time that no charges had been filed.



President Obama, Vice President Joe Biden, and Biden's son Hunter (AP Photo/Nick Wass, File)

A former senior Justice Department official told Fox News at the time, however, that the government does not need to have an active grand jury in order to file charges as part of a plea agreement. Sources told Fox News last fall that federal investigators were weighing whether to charge Hunter with various tax and foreign lobbying violations, false statements and more.

[CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP](#)

As for the historic nature of a sitting president and the first son being under investigation, Roberts said:

"I lament that this is true for the sake of the republic, but if we're going to fix it, we've got to call it out," he said. "And hopefully, we

will never return to another example like this because it says a lot about the state of American politics."

Brooke Singman is a Fox News Digital politics reporter. You can reach her at Brooke.Singman@Fox.com or [@BrookeSingman](https://twitter.com/BrookeSingman) on Twitter.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/biden-hunter-presidential-history-first-father-son-duo-separate-investigations>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Schweizer calls for Hunter Biden independent counsel, says Garland can otherwise 'direct' DE prosecutor

By Charles Creitz

Published May 01, 2022

Fox News

Author and investigative journalist Peter Schweizer called for an independent counsel to be appointed in Hunter Biden's federal probe being litigated in Delaware.

Schweizer warned that U.S. Attorney for Delaware David Weiss, a Trump appointee, can ultimately be "directed" in certain ways by Attorney General Merrick Garland.

"This is a tailor-made case for an independent counsel," he told former Reagan Justice Department chief of staff Mark Levin on "Life, Liberty & Levin."

"It's an investigation involving the family of the president. The attorney general is, of course, appointed by the president. And he's the one who's going to direct this U.S. attorney that has this grand jury in Delaware — so you need an independent counsel."

EX-HUNTER BUSINESS PARTNER SAYS JOE BIDEN'S DENIALS 'A BLATANT LIE'



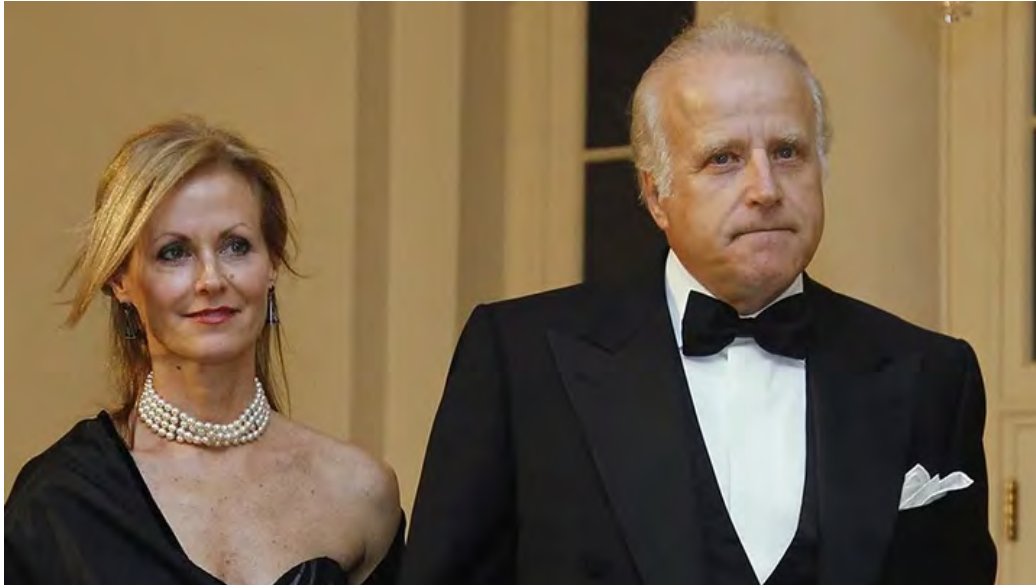
Hunter Biden (AP/Andrew Harnik)

Schweizer added that if it was clear the investigation stopped at the behavior of the younger Biden, there would be no such concern. But, because of reportage on Hunter Biden's laptop and alleged evidence he collected funds from U.S. overseas rivals like China, it is clear-cut that an independent counsel be named.

"There is lots of evidence ... some of that money ended up with Joe Biden," he said. "The money was fungible. It moved around. It

went to James Biden and others."

FLASHBACK: JIM BIDEN REFUSES FOX NEWS' QUESTIONS



James and Sara Biden. (AP Photo/Haraz N. Ghanbari)

Schweizer said part of the blame for the lack of a special prosecutor lies with the White House, but surmised Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell might not favor such an appointment because of his own family's overseas business ties.

McConnell's reported connections, through the shipping firm owned by relatives of his wife Elaine, are "more legitimate" than that of Hunter and Joe Biden's alleged connections, Schweizer clarified, adding he believes the senator probably doesn't want the topic discussed.

CLICK TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP



Peter Schweizer

"This is not a subject he wants to have a national conversation about: the efforts by Beijing to curry favor with American political figures and their families by giving them sweetheart deals," he said.

Schweizer also warned that without an independent prosecutor, if Hunter Biden is indicted and settles, the information therein could

legally remain hidden from the American people — while a counsel would have to produce a public report.

Charles Creitz is a reporter for Fox News Digital.

He joined Fox News in 2013 as a writer and production assistant.

Charles covers media, politics and breaking news, and has covered the annual CPAC conference for Fox News Digital.

Charles is a Pennsylvania native and graduated from Temple University with a B.A. in Broadcast Journalism. Story tips can be sent to charles.creitz@fox.com.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/hunter-biden-laptop-probe-peter-schweizer-delaware-special-counsel-levin>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Andy McCarthy on Hunter Biden: There must be a special counsel

Published April 28, 2022

Fox News

Fox News contributor Andy McCarthy told "America Reports" on Wednesday that there must be a special counsel for the federal investigation into Hunter Biden.

HUNTER BIDEN ASSISTANT BELIEVED JOE BIDEN WOULD COVER LEGAL FEES TIED TO BUSINESS DEALS: 2019 EMAIL

ANDY MCCARTHY: When they say there won't be political interference in the investigation, there is already significant political interference in the investigation. And the reason I say that is the Justice Department is bound by a clear regulation. Special counsel regulation that clearly says if there is a matter in which the Department of Justice is conflicted and it's in the public interest, the attorney general is supposed to appoint a special counsel. So, Attorney General Garland is trying to make it about his personal integrity. He looks at you indignantly and says "don't you trust me to do this without political interference?"

...

The purpose of the regulation is to take that out of his hand. If there is an investigation like you have the Biden Justice Department having to investigate the Biden family, that creates an obvious conflict of interest, and you have a public interest situation as you do whenever you do as somebody with national security responsibilities is getting foreign streams of revenue, then that's a clear case for a special counsel. So if he's not appointing one you already have political interference because they are not following the law.

WATCH FULL VIDEO BELOW:

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/andy-mccarthy-hunter-biden-must-be-special-counsel>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - [New Terms of Use](#) - [FAQ](#)



Media continues to downplay, ignore Hunter Biden scandal as GOP lawmakers call for special counsel

By Brian Flood

Published December 17, 2020

Fox News

Republican lawmakers have called for incoming acting Attorney General Jeffrey Rosen to appoint a special counsel to probe Hunter Biden's overseas business dealings and tax affairs, but evening newscasts on NBC, CBS and ABC hardly felt it was worth mentioning.

"Biden's defenders in the broadcast networks largely covered up the calls for accountability while 'NBC Nightly News' openly scoffed at the idea," Media Research Center analyst Nicholas Fondacaro wrote after watching all three broadcasts.

JOE BIDEN BREAKS SILENCE ON HUNTER FOR FIRST TIME SINCE FEDERAL INVESTIGATION SURFACED

Fondacaro noted that NBC White House correspondent Kristen Welker -- who moderated a presidential debate between President Trump and Joe Biden -- "spent only 26 seconds on calls for a special counsel" and "made it seem as though those calls were only coming from Trump."

It wasn't only Trump, as Sen. Lindsey Graham said Wednesday that he "absolutely" supports calls for the appointment of a special counsel to investigate Hunter Biden's business dealings in Ukraine and China.

Graham, R-S.C., told reporters Wednesday that he has not yet spoken with Trump about the situation, but he added that he believes the appointment of a special prosecutor is a "good idea." The senator called for the special counsel to probe whether "any crimes were committed" and determine any "conflicts" that exist for President-elect Joe Biden's incoming administration.

HUNTER BIDEN IN 2017 SENT 'BEST WISHES' FROM 'ENTIRE BIDEN FAMILY' TO CHINA FIRM CHAIRMAN, REQUESTED \$10M WIRE

While Fondacaro wasn't a fan of NBC's coverage, ABC and CBS skipped the story altogether.

"While NBC only spent 26 seconds on the story (during a report moaning about Trump's refusal to concede), that was 26 more seconds than ABC's 'World News Tonight' and 'CBS Evening News' gave it," Fondacaro wrote.

Hunter Biden's overseas business dealings were the subject of intense scrutiny in recent months but the mainstream media has downplayed the scandal from the jump. NPR has called it a waste of time, CNN president Jeff Zucker was caught on a conference call instructing staffers to ignore the story and it was famously censored by Twitter prior to the election.

Trump and other prominent critics have accused Hunter Biden of leveraging his father's political influence during his time as vice president in the Obama administration to enrich himself through dealings in Ukraine and China.

The president-elect's son disclosed earlier this month that the U.S. attorney's office in Delaware was investigating his "tax affairs." Earlier Wednesday, Joe Biden said he was "confident" that Hunter hadn't committed a crime.

CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP

Graham pointed to the appointment of a special counsel to investigate the Trump campaign's ties to Russia after the 2016 election as a precedent for a similar look at Hunter Biden's dealings.

Meanwhile, correspondence between Hunter Biden and CEFC Chairman Ye Jianming from 2017 shows the president-elect's son extending "best wishes from the entire Biden family," and urging the chairman to "quickly" send a \$10 million wire to "properly

fund and operate" the Biden joint venture with the now-bankrupt Chinese energy company.

Fox News' Thomas Barrabi and Brooke Singman contributed to this report.

Brian Flood is a media reporter for Fox News Digital. Story tips can be sent to brian.flood@fox.com and on Twitter: [@briansflood](https://twitter.com/briansflood).

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/hunter-biden-scandal-special-counsel-ignored>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Biden's claim he won't discuss Hunter case with AG pick shows need for special counsel: Sen. Kennedy

By David Rutz

Published December 21, 2020

Fox News

Sen. John Kennedy, R-La., said President-elect Joe Biden's claim he would not discuss the investigation into his son with his attorney general pick was why a special counsel was needed on the matter.

Incoming White House press secretary Jen Psaki told "Fox News Sunday" that Biden would have an independent Justice Department and, to that end, would not discuss his son Hunter Biden with his pick to run it.

"When I heard that, I thought to myself, whoever wrote that for her did it after their morning beer," Kennedy said on "America's Newsroom." "That implies that Mr. Biden thought about talking to his nominee but decided against it, and that's why we need a special counsel."

Biden has announced many of his Cabinet nominees but has yet to name his choice for attorney general.

BIDEN WILL NOT DISCUSS HUNTER BIDEN PROBE WITH ATTORNEY GENERAL CANDIDATES: PSAKI

Biden has said he is "confident" his son, who is under federal investigation for his tax affairs and overseas business dealings, did nothing wrong. Republicans are calling for the Justice Department to appoint a special counsel for fear that once Biden enters the White House, he will fire the U.S. attorney in Delaware overseeing his son's case. It is traditional for new presidents to remove all current U.S. attorneys when they take office.

Kennedy said it is unclear if Biden is mixed up in any wrongdoing, but a special counsel would help get to the bottom of the matter.

"President Obama put Mr. Biden in charge of the foreign affairs of two countries ... Ukraine and China," he said. "In both cases, his son walked away with millions and millions and millions of dollars worth of contracts. I'm not saying there was any illegality, but the appearance that gave was that America's foreign policy can be bought."

Kennedy also discussed the coronavirus relief bill agreed upon by leaders of Congress over the weekend, saying the \$900-billion package should provide "real help" but should have come sooner. If it passes as expected, it will be only the second relief package from Washington since the pandemic hit, and the first since March.

TOP DEMOCRATS SEE \$900B COVID RELIEF PACKAGE AS JUST THE BEGINNING

"I don't want to say anything to upset anybody at the last minute, but you've got to be careful with old people, as most of us in Congress are," Kennedy said. "They don't like being old in the first place, so they get kind of touchy, and these negotiations were very touchy and we had to be patient, but I think we are going to have a reasonably good result today. It gives more money to small business. It gives more money to the American people. It gives more money to vaccine distribution."

CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP

The relief provides \$600 payments to people who made up to \$75,000 in 2019, with the payments tapered off for those making up to \$99,000. It also provides payments to small businesses hurt by the pandemic, expanded unemployment benefits, and tax breaks

for companies that took money from the Paycheck Protection Program.

David Rutz is a senior editor at Fox News. Follow him on Twitter at @davidrutz.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/hunter-biden-attorney-general-pick-special-counsel-kennedy>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Grassley, Johnson accuse Garland of ignoring Trump special counsel's conflicts, DOJ's double standard

By Brooke Singman

Published December 07, 2022

Fox News

EXCLUSIVE: Republican Sens. Chuck Grassley and Ron Johnson are accusing Attorney General Merrick Garland of ignoring potential conflicts of interest posed by naming Jack Smith as special counsel to oversee the investigations into former President Trump, and they say that the Justice Department has a double standard when deciding which cases qualify for the appointment of a special counsel.

Grassley and Johnson argued in a letter to Garland sent Wednesday that Smith, a former Justice Department official, has "overtly political and professional connections" related to people involved in the case, and they say the special counsel statute is not being applied evenly and without regard for partisan affiliation.

Garland appointed Smith in November to oversee the investigation into "whether any person or entity unlawfully interfered with the transfer of power following the 2020 presidential election or the certification of the Electoral College vote" and the Justice Department's investigation into Trump's potential mishandling of classified information.

MAR-A-LAGO PROBE: FEDERAL APPEALS COURT HALTS SPECIAL MASTER REVIEW IN SETBACK FOR TRUMP'S LEGAL TEAM



FILE - Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa (Susan Walsh/Pool/AFP via Getty Images)

Over the summer, Grassley warned Garland that former FBI Assistant Special Agent in Charge Timothy Thibault and former DOJ Election Crimes Branch Director Richard Pilger were "deeply involved in the decisions to open and pursue election-related investigations against President Trump."

At the time, whistleblowers told Grassley that the Thibault-Pilger investigation's predating document was based on information from "liberal nonprofit American Oversight." In the investigation's opening memo sent to the upper levels of the DOJ for approval, however, whistleblowers claimed Thibault and Pilger "removed or watered-down material connected to the aforementioned left-wing entities that existed in previous versions and recommended that a full investigation — not a preliminary investigation — be

approved."



FILE - Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wis. (AP Photo/Morry Gash)

Garland approved that investigation.

Based on Smith's scope memo, Grassley and Johnson wrote that the Thibault-Pilger investigation is included in the special counsel's jurisdiction.

They also point out that Smith has a prior relationship with Pilger. Smith was in charge of the DOJ's Public Integrity Unit while Pilger was in charge of the Election Crimes Branch.

"Accordingly, Mr. Smith is now overseeing an investigation that was allegedly defective in its initial steps and an investigation which his former subordinate [Pilger] was involved in opening," Grassley and Johnson wrote. They said Smith and Pilger also overlapped during the IRS's improper targeting of nonprofit conservative groups during the Obama administration.

TRUMP SAYS HE 'WON'T PARTAKE' IN SPECIAL COUNSEL INVESTIGATION, SLAMS AS 'WORST POLITICIZATION OF JUSTICE'

On the issue of double standards, Grassley and Johnson said other high-profile investigations of Democrats did not result in the appointment of independent prosecutors.

"Notwithstanding the Justice Department's failure to appoint a special counsel in the Hunter Biden criminal matter in the face of overwhelming evidence of conflicts and the public interest requiring it, your decision to appoint Mr. Smith in light of legitimate questions with respect to his objectivity is yet another political decision by the Biden Justice Department, not the absence of one,"

they wrote.



FILE - U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland (Anna MoneyMaker/Getty Images)

Grassley and Johnson slammed Garland by saying that "instead of appointing a special counsel devoid of overtly political connections and professional connections to the very individuals that were involved in opening the criminal matters that apparently he is now overseeing, you chose a special counsel wrapped-up (sic) in both."

"The Justice Department's track record with respect to informing Congress and the public that it has prevented potential or actual conflicts from infecting investigations leaves much to be desired," they wrote.

Grassley and Johnson again pressed Garland on whether Nicholas McQuaid, the former principal deputy assistant attorney general for the DOJ's Criminal Division, was recused from the investigation into Hunter Biden in light of his "conflicts of interest" — a question the senators have been asking, and the DOJ has been dodging, for months.

JORDAN SEEKS TESTIMONY FROM GARLAND, WRAY, OTHERS IN HOUSE JUDICIARY PROBES OF DOJ, FBI

McQuaid, who joined the DOJ in 2021 to lead the criminal division, is a former colleague of the attorney now representing Hunter Biden in the face of a years-long federal investigation into his tax affairs that began in 2018.

"The Department's past failure to comply with legitimate congressional oversight requests with respect to compliance with ethical standards does not engender trust in the Department's decision-making process in appointing Mr. Smith," they wrote.



Jack Smith was appointed to be special counsel looking into two major Trump investigations. (Justice Department)

Hillary Clinton's private email server and mishandling of classified information while she served as secretary of state. At the time, Clinton was the Democratic nominee for president of the United States.

Grassley and Johnson pointed to then-FBI Director James Comey's drafting of an exoneration statement for Clinton "before interviewing her and 16 other relevant witnesses."

EXCLUSIVE: FBI ALLEGEDLY ENGAGING IN 'PURGE' OF CONSERVATIVE EMPLOYEES, RETALIATING AGAINST WHISTLEBLOWERS: JIM JORDAN

"The kid-gloves treatment given to Secretary Clinton by the Justice Department is different than the apparent treatment given to former President Trump," they wrote. Trump is currently the only declared Republican presidential candidate for 2024.

"The Department has failed to explain that discrepancy and that failure has cast doubt as to whether or not its actions are political in nature," they wrote. "If the Department opens an investigation, it must be done without regard to party, privilege or power."

"Given the incriminating circumstances on the part of the FBI, the Department must explain its actions," they said.

Neither the Justice Department nor the FBI immediately responded to Fox News' request for comment.

Brooke Singman is a Fox News Digital politics reporter. You can reach her at Brooke.Singman@Fox.com or [@BrookeSingman](https://twitter.com/BrookeSingman) on Twitter.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/grassley-johnson-accuse-garland-ignoring-trump-special-counsels-conflicts-dojs-double-standard>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Trump urges Barr to 'act fast,' 'appoint somebody' to probe Hunter Biden business dealings

By Brooke Singman, Adam Shaw

Published October 20, 2020

Fox News

President Trump on Tuesday said Attorney General William Barr needs to “act” and “appoint somebody” after nearly a dozen House Republicans urged him to tap a special counsel to investigate alleged revelations coming from a laptop purported to have belonged to Joe Biden’s son Hunter.

During an exclusive interview with “Fox & Friends” on Tuesday, the president criticized his Democratic opponent and Hunter Biden, saying he “walked around like a vacuum.”

HOUSE REPUBLICANS URGE BARR TO APPOINT SPECIAL COUNSEL TO REVIEW HUNTER BIDEN LAPTOP

“This is the laptop from hell,” Trump said. “Even if he didn’t get all of this money, you can’t go to China and have the son walk out with \$1.5 billion. ... You can’t go to Ukraine with \$83,000 a month. ... You can’t get \$3.5 million from the mayor of Moscow’s wife.”

“And you didn’t have a job before your father was vice president,” Trump continued. “You can’t go and go with your father and every stop you make, you pick up \$1 billion.”

He added: “The vice president got a kickback, and everybody knows it, and they’ve known it a long time.”

The president was referring to an email allegedly belonging to Hunter Biden, and obtained by Fox News. The email, dated May 13, 2017, includes a discussion of “renewal packages” for six people in a business deal with a Chinese energy firm. The email appeared to identify Hunter Biden as “Chair/Vice Chair depending on an agreement with CEFC,” an apparent reference to now-bankrupt CEFC China Energy Co.

The email includes a note that “Hunter has some office expectations he will elaborate.” A proposed equity split references “20” for “H” and “10 held by H for the big guy?” with no further details.

Fox News spoke to one of the people who was copied on the email, who confirmed its authenticity. Sources also told Fox News that “the big guy” was a reference to the former vice president.

While Biden has not commented on that email or his alleged involvement in any deals with the Chinese energy firm, his campaign said it released the former vice president’s tax documents and returns, which show no involvement with Chinese investments.

“We’ve got to get the attorney general to act,” Trump said. “He’s gotta act, and he’s gotta act fast, and he’s gotta appoint somebody.” The president added: “This is major corruption, and we have to know about this before the election. The attorney general has to act.”

HOUSE REPUBLICANS ASK FBI IF IT HAD HUNTER BIDEN'S ALLEGED LAPTOP DURING TRUMP'S IMPEACHMENT

The president’s calls on Barr come after nearly a dozen House Republicans including Reps. Andy Biggs, R-Ariz., Paul Gosar, R-Ariz., Ted Yoho, R-Fla., and Andy Harris, R-Md., penned a letter to Barr urging him to appoint a special counsel.

“These alleged revelations raise serious questions about former Vice President Joe Biden’s reported participation with his son’s business, dealings, specifically whether the former vice president (1) received foreign monies during his tenure in the Obama administration and (2) if former Vice President Biden allowed his son to peddle access to his father with foreign business entities,” the letter, exclusively obtained by Fox News, says.

The letter was written after the New York Post published emails last week suggesting that Hunter Biden introduced his father to a top executive at Ukrainian natural gas firm Burisma Holdings in 2015 -- one year before the then-vice president allegedly pressured

the country's government to fire a prosecutor who had launched an investigation into the company's founder.

The Biden campaign has said that Joe Biden never met with that executive and has pushed back on the New York Post reporting.

Biden, prior to the emails surfacing, repeatedly has claimed he's "never spoken to my son about his overseas business dealings."

But the Republican lawmakers said it was "imperative" that there was "a full accounting of former Vice President Biden's dealings with this son and his son's business partners, and if the former vice president misused his office for personal gain,"

"We request that the Department of Justice immediately appoint an independent, unbiased special counsel to investigate the issues that we have raised -- as well as any corresponding legal or ethical issues that might be uncovered from the former vice president's 47 years in public office," the lawmakers wrote.

RATCLIFFE SAYS HUNTER BIDEN LAPTOP, EMAILS 'NOT PART OF SOME RUSSIAN DISINFORMATION CAMPAIGN'

Meanwhile, Democrats, including House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff, D-Calif., have tried to cast the laptop and the emails on them as Russian disinformation. Schiff, over the weekend, said it came "from the Kremlin."

But Director of National Intelligence John Ratcliffe on Monday said that Hunter Biden's laptop "is not part of some Russian disinformation campaign," amid claims from Schiff and other Democrats suggesting otherwise.

"Let me be clear: the intelligence community doesn't believe that because there is no intelligence that supports that. And we have shared no intelligence with Adam Schiff, or any member of Congress."

CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP

Ratcliffe went on to say that it is "simply not true."

"Hunter Biden's laptop is not part of some Russian disinformation campaign," Ratcliffe said, adding again that "this is not part of some Russian disinformation campaign."

Brooke Singman is a Fox News Digital politics reporter. You can reach her at Brooke.Singman@Fox.com or [@BrookeSingman](https://twitter.com/BrookeSingman) on Twitter.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/trump-william-barr-act-hunter-biden-business-dealings>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Biden's defense of Hunter puts Justice Department in 'untenable' position: Jonathan Turley

By Yael Halon

Published April 04, 2022

Fox News

Fox News contributor and George Washington University law professor Jonathan Turley said Monday the case for a special counsel to investigate the Biden family has become "absolutely clear" as a Delaware investigation into Hunter Biden heats up.

White House Chief of Staff Ron Klain on Sunday insisted that President Biden is "confident" that Hunter "didn't break the law" but the president's continuing defense of Hunter puts the Department of Justice in an "untenable position," Turley told "America Reports."

"You have this absolute defense from the White House. Attorney General Merrick Garland has refused to appoint a special counsel. I have no idea how he has reached that conclusion," Turley said.



Jonathan Turley calls for an independent special counsel to investigate the Biden family. (Fox News)

REP. DONALDS CALLS FOR HUNTER BIDEN SPECIAL COUNSEL TO INVESTIGATE 'CORRUPTION' IN WHITE HOUSE

But, he continued, "There is a serious appearance, if not a real conflict of interest here. It's impossible to investigate these emails without running across the president repeatedly. And so how do you do that as the Justice Department under this president?"

The conflict, said Turley, highlights the need for an independent special counsel to investigate the larger Biden family.

"You know, Hunter Biden may be many things, but he is certainly not without blame. I mean, this was a raw and open influence scheme worth millions of dollars and the Biden family is known for influence peddling, they have been accused, including the uncle

or the brother of the president for years," said Turley.



A Delaware indictment threatens to charge Hunter Biden with criminal activity. (Photo by Teresa Kroeger/Getty Images)

The mounting risk of a Delaware indictment stemming from Hunter Biden's laptop forced the media to "pivot" their coverage after working to keep it out of the headlines for 18 months, Turley said.

HUNTER BIDEN: MSNBC, ABC, CBS SIDESTEP AUTHENTICATED LAPTOP THEY DISMISSED IN 2020 WHILE ADDRESSING DOJ PROBE

"These media outlets had no choice but to pivot because there is a serious risk now of an indictment coming out of Delaware, that indictment very likely if it does come out would cite evidence from the laptop, so they had to make this pivot in anticipation of that risk," he told host Sandra Smith.

As for the media's newest narrative which attempts to diminish any connection between President Biden and Hunter's questionable transactions, Turley said pointedly, "It doesn't mean the president committed crimes, but the suggestion there's no connection is perfectly bizarre."

Yael Halon is a reporter for Fox News Digital. Story tips can be sent to yael.halon@fox.com.

Print Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/biden-defense-hunter-biden-justice-department>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Turley: There are now serious questions about a Biden family 'influence-peddling operation'

Published October 13, 2021

Fox News

Constitutional law expert Jonathan Turley joined "Fox & Friends" Wednesday to discuss a new report alleging that Hunter and Joe Biden previously held shared bank accounts. Turley said it's time for an independent special counsel to be appointed to look into the allegations.

JOE BIDEN COULD GET DRAWN INTO THE FBI PROBE INTO HIS SON HUNTER: REPORT

JONATHAN TURLEY: With these disclosures, we have accounts being used to pay both Hunter and Joe Biden and money being reimbursed to Hunter Biden from an individual associated with a company called Rosemont Seneca. Now that's a company that has been tied to payments from China and Russia. And so this is getting more and more serious. The question is why the Justice Department hasn't considered the appointment of a special counsel. We know there's a criminal investigation into the tax issues, possible money laundering. But there are also serious questions about whether the Biden family conducted an extensive influence-peddling operation involving not just Hunter but his uncle and potentially the president of the United States.

WATCH THE FULL INTERVIEW BELOW

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/joe-hunter-biden-finances-influence-peddling-investigation-turley>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Graham vows to hold Dems, media accountable over Hunter Biden: 'We're not going to sweep this under the rug'

By Yael Halon

Published December 17, 2020

Fox News

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Lindsey Graham doubled down Thursday on his calls for President Trump to appoint a special counsel to investigate Hunter Biden's business dealings in China.

Graham, R-S.C., told "The Story" that a probe is necessary to determine whether President-elect Joe Biden and his incoming administration are "compromised" and vowed to hold the media and Democrats accountable despite their efforts to "sweep this under the rug."

"I know Joe and Jill. And I have no joy in my heart that Hunter Biden is going through difficult times," Graham told host Martha MacCallum. "But we can't live in a country where for three, two-and-a-half years, you go after Trump and the Trump family and Russia. We are not going to sweep this under the rug. My big fear is that the media could give a damn about this investigation and Democrats would gladly sweep it under the rug if they could."

"I am convinced," he added, "that the only avenue available is either special counsel or a Republican Senate to get to the bottom of this."

TRUMP ASKING ABOUT POTENTIAL SPECIAL COUNSEL TO INVESTIGATE HUNTER BIDEN

The younger Biden has come under intense scrutiny over the past year over his business interests in Ukraine and China, as well as his father's alleged role in them.

In newly uncovered text messages obtained by Fox News, Hunter's former business associates hint at a push to "get Joe involved" in a joint venture with Chinese energy company CEFC and make the venture appear to the Chinese as a "truly family business".

The development comes one day after Fox News released what Graham called "damning" correspondence between Hunter Biden and CEFC Chairman Ye Jianming, in which the younger Biden extended "best wishes from the entire Biden family," and urged the chairman to "quickly" send a \$10 million wire to "properly fund and operate" a joint venture with the now-bankrupt Chinese energy company.

HUNTER BIDEN IN 2017 EXTENDED 'BEST WISHES' FROM THE 'ENTIRE BIDEN FAMILY' TO CHAIRMAN OF CHINESE ENERGY FIRM, REQUESTS \$10 MILLION WIRE

According to Graham, the email raises serious questions about the president-elect's involvement.

"I like him. I have a lot of respect for him," he said of the president-elect, "but I find it hard to believe that if you are in charge of overseeing corruption in the Ukraine as vice president under the Obama administration, you didn't know your own son was on the board of Burisma, one of the most corrupt gas companies in Ukraine."

Graham also scolded the media for their "pathetic" coverage of the ongoing probes into the younger Biden.

"All of this chatter about the family being involved to impress the Chinese, could you imagine if this were Trump emails, if you had information of the Trump family trying to impress the Chinese to get a joint venture with the Chinese energy company?" he said. "So, the American media is pathetic when it comes to investigating allegations against Democrats. The rule of law in this country apparently is that if you are Republican, you are assumed to be guilty."

With Biden set to take office next month, Graham said he fears the media will give the Biden family a pass, reiterating that "without some support, lack of special counsel, this will be swept under the rug."

"What I am trying to do is tell Democrats you should care," he said. "You came to me and you asked me to support legislation

to protect Bob Mueller from being fired without cause to get to the bottom of all things Russia and Trump. I agreed.

"I thought it was important that somebody outside of politics look at the accusations against President Trump and his family when it came to Russia," he said. "I feel very strongly that the evidence in the Biden case is a mountain compared to what they had regarding Trump and Russia and the same Democrats are completely ignoring this."

CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP

The question remains whether "Hunter Biden's business dealings and his attempts to do business with the Communist Chinese Party through their associates, has compromised Joe Biden's ability to effectively wage foreign policy," Graham argued.

"Somebody outside of politics should look at this just like they looked at Trump. To give Biden a pass after what happened with the Trump family would set a scenario in this country [where] it is not about what you did, it's about the party you are in."

Yael Halon is a reporter for Fox News Digital. Story tips can be sent to yael.halon@fox.com.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/lindsey-graham-hunter-biden-not-sweep-under-rug>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Hunter Biden investigation: Grassley, Johnson demand answers on possible recusal of DOJ, Delaware officials

By Brooke Singman

Published May 10, 2022

Fox News

Republican Sens. Chuck Grassley and Ron Johnson on Tuesday demanded answers on whether a top Justice Department official and Delaware state officials involved in the federal investigation into Hunter Biden's tax affairs have recused themselves due to potential conflicts of interest, and slammed the Justice Department for casting "a cloud" of "serious suspicion" over the probe.

In a letter to U.S. Attorney for Delaware David Weiss, who is leading the investigation, Grassley, R-Iowa, and Johnson, R-Wis., questioned whether Nicholas McQuaid, who serves as the current principal deputy assistant attorney general for the Justice Department's criminal division, "has or had any role in the Hunter Biden criminal case and whether he has been recused from it."

DOJ HIRE IS FORMER COLLEAGUE OF HUNTER BIDEN DEFENSE ATTORNEY

Grassley and Johnson first raised questions about McQuaid to Attorney General Merrick Garland in February 2021, when McQuaid served as acting assistant attorney general for the Justice Department's criminal division.

McQuaid, who spent the years prior to joining the Justice Department as a partner in the New York office of law firm Latham & Watkins, worked with Christopher Clark, who is currently representing Hunter Biden.

As principal deputy assistant attorney general for the criminal division, McQuaid has oversight of criminal investigations.

"This association creates a clear conflict of interest yet the Department has failed to provide adequate responses to answer the threshold questions about whether Mr. McQuaid has or had any role in the Hunter Biden criminal case and whether he has been recused from it," Grassley and Johnson wrote.

"In light of Mr. McQuaid's clear conflicts in the Hunter Biden investigation, Attorney General Garland's silence draws serious suspicion and has cast a cloud over the investigation – a cloud that could easily be removed if the Justice Department showed a modicum of transparency," they added.



Vice President-elect Joe Biden with his son Hunter on Capitol Hill on Jan. 6, 2009. (AP Photo/Charles Dharapak, File)

The senators went on to note that they "are unaware of any information that would call into question" Weiss' "ability to lead this

investigation."

GARLAND REFUSES TO ANSWER HUNTER BIDEN INVESTIGATION QUESTION, DOESN'T COMMIT TO APPOINTING SPECIAL COUNSEL

Last month, during Senate testimony, Garland was pressed on how Americans could have confidence that the Justice Department would conduct a "serious investigation" into the president's son.

"Because we put the investigation in the hands of a Trump appointee from the previous administration, who is the United States attorney for the district of Delaware," Garland responded, referring to Weiss.



Attorney General Merrick Garland speaks at the Department of Justice on Jan. 5, 2022, in Washington. (Carolyn Kaster-Pool/Getty Images)

"And because you have me as the attorney general who is committed to the independence of the Justice Department from any influence from the White House and criminal matters."

Despite the lack of concern with Weiss' leadership, Grassley and Johnson took issue with the fact that "Delaware is the Bidens' home state and Hunter Biden has acknowledged his connections with state officials in the past."

FEDERAL INVESTIGATION CONTINUES INTO HUNTER BIDEN EVEN AFTER HE PAID HIS TAX BILL

The senators referenced communications between Hunter Biden and his Chinese business partners in May 2018, in which he purportedly said he would "bring suit in the Chancery Court in Delaware – which as you know is my home state and I am privileged to have worked with and know every judge in the chancery court."



Sen. Chuck Grassley (Susan Walsh/Pool/AFP via Getty Images)

"This statement raises questions about the Bidens' possible undue influence over judicial officers in the Delaware Court of Chancery and raises concerns that his asserted influence extends beyond the Court of Chancery," Grassley and Johnson wrote.

The senators went on to request information on which employees in the U.S. Attorney's Office in Delaware have been recused from the investigation, and requested details on their identities and the timeline of their recusal.

The senators also demanded all communications between the U.S. Attorney's Office and McQuaid, as well as information on whether the Justice Department is providing "sufficient resources and support" to "properly execute the Hunter Biden criminal case."

HUNTER BIDEN UNDER FEDERAL INVESTIGATION FOR 'TAX AFFAIRS'; LINKS TO CHINA FUNDS EMERGE, SOURCES SAY

The senators also requested information on whether grand jury subpoenas have been issued to "Wells Fargo, USAA, Bank of America, TD Bank, JPMorgan Chase, PNC, Morgan Stanley, Citibank, Bank of New York Mellon, Bank of China and First National Bank of Omaha" for records related to Hunter Biden, his uncle, James Biden, Sara Biden, business partners John Walker, Eric Schwerin, Devon Archer and corporate entities "linked to them, including but not limited to, Hudson West III and the Lion Hall Group."

The senators also requested information on whether Weiss believes a special counsel should be appointed to take over the investigation.

The senators demanded answers by "no later than May 23, 2022."

Hunter Biden has been under federal investigation for his "tax affairs" since 2018, according to a source familiar with the matter.



Sen. Ron Johnson (Bill Clark/CQ-Roll Call, Inc via Getty Images)

Fox News first reported in December 2020 that Biden was a subject/target of the grand jury investigation. A well-placed government source told Fox that a "target" means that there is a "high probability that person committed a crime," while a "subject" is someone you "don't know for sure" has committed a crime."

The federal investigation into Hunter Biden was predicated, in part, by Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) regarding foreign transactions.

Another source familiar with the investigation told Fox News in December 2020 that the SARs were regarding funds from "China and other foreign nations."

HUNTER BIDEN REQUESTED KEYS FOR NEW 'OFFICE MATES' JOE BIDEN, CHINESE 'EMISSARY' TO CEFC CHAIRMAN, EMAILS SHOW

A Treasury Department official, who did not comment on the investigation, spoke broadly about SARs, telling Fox News that SARs

are filed by financial institutions "if there is something out of the ordinary about a particular transaction."

The official told Fox News that the mere filing of a SAR does not mean there has been a criminal act, or violation of regulations, but instead flags that a transaction is "out of the ordinary" for the customer. The official noted, though, that an SAR could be part of a money laundering or tax investigation.

Meanwhile, the grand jury continues to investigate Hunter Biden's international business dealings – even after he paid off a tax liability following the announcement of the probe into his "tax affairs."

[CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP](#)

Hunter Biden, weeks after the 2020 presidential election, released a statement acknowledging the federal investigation of his "tax affairs."

"I take this matter very seriously, but I am confident that a professional and objective review of these matters will demonstrate that I handled my affairs legally and appropriately, including with the benefit of professional tax advisors," Biden said in the December 2020 statement.

Fox News' Ronn Blitzer contributed to this report.

Brooke Singman is a Fox News Digital politics reporter. You can reach her at Brooke.Singman@Fox.com or [@BrookeSingman](https://twitter.com/BrookeSingman) on Twitter.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/hunter-biden-grassley-johnson-possible-recusal-doj-delaware-officials>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - [New Terms of Use](#) - [FAQ](#)



RNC Chairwoman McDaniel: Americans deserve answers about Hunter Biden

By Ronna McDaniel

Published October 19, 2021

Fox News

Hunter Biden – Joe Biden's son, the one who is currently under investigation for tax evasion and money laundering – is now an "acclaimed artist."

Even though he has zero artistic training and only recently started painting, his pieces are selling for up to \$500,000. That's more than seven times the amount of money the average U.S. family makes in a year, and it's totally unreasonable: even the art critic at The Washington Post claimed that Hunter's art is worth barely \$1,000. So, what are people paying the other \$499,000 for?

The answer is as disappointing as it is unsurprising: corruption. Hunter Biden's "art" sure appears to be just a creative way to launder money and sell access to the Biden presidency.

RNC CHAIRWOMAN MCDANIEL: BIDEN'S RADICAL SPENDING – HE PROMISED MODERATION AND WE GOT SANDERS SOCIALISM

Even Obama's former ethics chief described the scam as "absolutely appalling." The Biden family isn't even trying to hide the scheme. They're doing this in the open because Hunter Biden has a history of getting away with things just like this.

MORE FROM OPINION

David Bossie: Biden-Fauci COVID surprise coming? Sinking poll numbers, crises may bring course correction

Liz Peek: Biden team off to UN climate summit as their green energy policies fuel inflation at home

Reps. Stefanik & Foxx: Dems want to control your kid's education. We're putting parents in the driver's seat

This marks the one-year anniversary of one of Hunter's most brazen disasters ever. In October 2020, the New York Post reported that Hunter Biden had abandoned a laptop filled with scandalous, corruption-related emails at a computer repair shop.

The laptop's contents included messages confirming Hunter's outreach to foreign business markets, complete with assurances that a certain deal would include "10% for the big guy." If you can't figure out who "the big guy" is, I'll give you a hint: it's probably the same man who is busy presiding over an eye-popping series of crises and comfortably splitting his time between the Oval Office and his Delaware vacation home.

Of course, Big Tech and the mainstream media worked overtime to bury the laptop story, dismissing it without proof as Russian misinformation and trying to scrub it from social media with the election just weeks away. Politico recently confirmed that the story was in fact accurate.

Joe Biden himself may become a target in an ongoing FBI investigation into Hunter's finances.

Remember Burisma, the shadowy Ukrainian energy company that inexplicably paid Hunter Biden over \$83,000 per month to sit on its board, despite his total lack of relevant experience in the international energy arena? How about Hunter's ties to China? Business Insider has reported that Hunter openly touted high-level contacts in the Chinese government while trying to secure a \$2 million retainer to unfreeze a Democrat donor's Libyan assets.

[CLICK HERE TO GET THE OPINION NEWSLETTER](#)

And recently, a trove of released emails revealed that Joe Biden's brother-in-law, Jack Owens, asked Hunter to help him secure a business license in China. That bit of backdoor scheming paid off: a year later, then-Vice President Biden's assistant invited Owens to a State Department event with Chinese President Xi Jinping and Joe Biden. It really does pay to know the Bidens.

Joe Biden himself may become a target in an ongoing FBI investigation into Hunter's finances. The reason? According to new reporting from The Daily Mail, for a period of time while Joe Biden was vice president, the two shared a bank account and paid each other's bills. This was while Hunter was traveling in the shadiest corners of the international market, receiving ill-gotten sums of money on the strength of his father's name.

According to emails regarding that shared bank account, at one point, Joe Biden even owed Hunter money. Biden's historic mismanagement of the American economy makes more sense when you consider that he was once in debt to *Hunter Biden*.

[CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP](#)

The American people deserve an independent special counsel to investigate every aspect of Hunter's shady financial dealings – especially considering his and Joe Biden's shared bank account.

Just how deep do Hunter's schemes go, and how much did Joe Biden know about them? We need an independent, transparent investigation to ascertain the truth about the Biden family's shocking history of open, self-enriching corruption.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE FROM RNC CHAIRWOMAN McDANIEL](#)

Ronna McDaniel (@GOPChairwoman) is Chairwoman of the Republican National Committee.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/opinion/hunter-biden-americans-deserve-answers-rnc-chairwoman-ronna-mcdaniel>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ



Comer says investigation into Hunter Biden must go on unimpeded

By Edmund DeMarche

Published December 11, 2020

Fox News

Rep. James Comer, a Republican and ranking member on the House Oversight Committee, said Thursday that the federal investigation into Hunter Biden must not—in any way—be obstructed when his father takes office.

WILL JOE BIDEN FIRE INVESTIGATORS?

Hunter Biden confirmed the existence of a tax investigation being conducted by the U.S. Attorney's Office in Delaware. He said in a statement that he just learned about the investigation and takes the matter seriously, but he said he is "confident that a professional and objective review of these matters will demonstrate that I handled my affairs legally and appropriately, including with the benefit of professional tax advisors."

HUNTER BIDEN 'TAX AFFAIRS' UNDER FEDERAL INVESTIGATION; LINKS TO CHINA EMERGE, SOURCES SAY

The transition team said in a statement obtained by the Associated Press that read, "President-elect Biden is deeply proud of his son, who has fought through difficult challenges, including the vicious personal attacks of recent months, only to emerge stronger."

A source told Fox News that the investigation started back in 2018.

Joe Biden, the president-elect, has not said whether he will commit to keeping U.S. Attorney David C. Weiss in his position once he takes office. His team did not immediately respond to an email from Fox News.

Comer, a Republican from Kentucky, said in a statement that there has been "serious concerns" about Hunter Biden's foreign business dealings for years "and the mainstream media's lack of reporting during the election and Big Tech's censorship didn't erase these facts."

He said the investigation "must continue unimpeded."

"Joe Biden must not replace the current U.S. Attorney for the District of Delaware now that his son is under federal investigation," he wrote.

GOP REP. KEN BUCK URGES BARR TO APPOINT SPECIAL COUNSEL TO INVESTIGATE HUNTER BIDEN FOREIGN BUSINESS DEALINGS, LAPTOP

Hunter Biden has a history of international affairs and business dealings in a number of countries.

Trump and his allies have accused him of profiting off his political connections, and have also raised questions about his work in Ukraine at the time his father was vice president and leading the Obama administration's dealings with the Eastern European nation.

Fox News' Morgan Phillips and Brooke Singman contributed to this report

Edmund DeMarche is a senior news editor for FoxNews.com. Story tips can be sent to Eddie.DeMarche@fox.com and Twitter [@EDeMarche](https://twitter.com/EDeMarche).

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/comer-says-investigation-into-hunter-biden-must-go-on-unimpeded>

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ

Grassley urges FBI to disclose documents on Biden foreign business deals for Hunter Biden probe



Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, asks question during the Senate Judiciary Committee oversight hearing, Thursday, Sept. 29, 2022, on Capitol Hill in Washington. (AP Photo/Mariam Zuhaib) ****FILE**** [more >](#)

By Dave Boyer - *The Washington Times* - Monday, October 17, 2022

Sen. Charles E. Grassley is calling on the FBI to disclose records that he says will show the Biden family engaging in potentially criminal pay-to-play

business deals in China.

The Iowa Republican says it's not clear whether those records have been shared with the federal prosecutor investigating presidential son Hunter Biden.

In a letter to Attorney General Merrick Garland, FBI Director Christopher A. Wray and Delaware U.S. Attorney David Weiss, Mr. Grassley said several whistleblowers have contacted him about specific potentially incriminating documents that the FBI possesses.

He said his investigative staffers have viewed such records.

"Enough is enough – the Justice Department and FBI must come clean to Congress and the American people with respect to the steps they have taken, or failed to take, relating to the Hunter Biden investigation," Mr. Grassley, the ranking Republican on the Senate Judiciary Committee, wrote in a letter disclosed Monday.

Mr. Weiss has been investigating Hunter Biden on potential tax and gun-control violations. Federal agents reportedly believe they have enough evidence to charge him.

SEE ALSO: Inside Hunter Biden's cash ties to communist China's 'political warfare' machine

With his letter, Mr. Grassley attached a contract signed by Hunter Biden,

presidential brother James Biden and three other business associates.

It was part of an arrangement designed to funnel \$5 million from the Chinese communist government-connected CEFC to Hunter and James Biden to compensate them for work done while Joe Biden was vice president, Mr. Grassley said, citing an FBI interview summary of Hunter Biden's business partner Tony Bobulinski.

The lawmaker said the FBI has records showing that Hunter Biden "yelled at CEFC officials at a meeting for failing to fund the joint venture."

"That same document notes that as of July 2017 the money still had not been transferred and James Biden considered calling CEFC officials and threatening to withdraw Biden family support from future deals," Mr. Grassley wrote.

Mr. Grassley also said the FBI has a document within its possession that notes that then-Vice President Joe Biden met with Hunter Biden and his business associates at a conference in Los Angeles on May 2, 2017, and May 3, 2017.

"The meetings have been publicly disclosed; however, the fact that the FBI maintains documents referencing these data points has not been made public before," Mr. Grassley wrote.

He added: "Based on allegations provided to my office, the information provided by Mr. Bobulinski formed a sufficient basis to open a full field investigation on pay-to-play grounds; however, it is unclear whether the FBI did so and whether the information is part of the ongoing criminal investigation by U.S. Attorney Weiss.

Hunter Biden probe is reaching critical stage: Report

DOJ, Delaware prosecutors wrestling with possible tax charges, making false statement



*Hunter Biden leaves after President Joe Biden awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom to 17 people during a ceremony in the East Room of the White House in Washington, Thursday, July 7, 2022. (AP Photo/Susan Walsh) ** FILE ** more >*

By Tom Howell Jr. and Jeff Mordock - *The Washington Times* - Thursday, July 21, 2022

A federal investigation into President Biden's son Hunter is reportedly reaching a critical stage as prosecutors weigh whether to bring charges ahead of the midterm elections.

The Department of Justice is discussing the case with Delaware-based prosecutors and consulting guidelines around politically sensitive cases, according to CNN, which cited people familiar with the talks.

Talks about charges have centered on potential tax violations and making a false statement regarding Hunter Biden's purchase of a firearm when he would have been prevented from doing so because of his struggles with drug addiction, the report said.

The probe, which began in 2018, is being led by David Weiss, the U.S. attorney in Delaware, who was appointed by President Trump.

A spokesperson for Mr. Weiss and the lawyer representing Hunter Biden in the probe did not respond to requests for comment.

It's another headache for President Biden, who faces the prospect of Republican investigations into his family's business ties if they win control of the House in November.

Rep. James Comer of Kentucky, the ranking member on the House Oversight and Reform Committee, vowed last month that his committee will investigate Hunter Biden if Republicans take control of the House.

"I believe that his son is corrupt," Mr. Comer said of the president.

It's also a fraught situation for Attorney General Merrick Garland, given that the probe hits close to home for the White House. Mr. Garland has fiercely defended the investigation's independence and pledged that there will be no political or other improper interference.

Republicans have called for a special counsel to investigate Hunter Biden, though it's not clear whether the public has the appetite for another high-profile special counsel investigation.

Special counsel Robert Mueller's findings are still being debated in Washington more than three years after his investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election wrapped up. John Durham, a special prosecutor appointed by then-Attorney General William Barr, is continuing his probe into the FBI's handling of reported links between Mr. Trump and Russia.

Hunter Biden has denied wrongdoing, and the president is not being investigated despite claims that his son leveraged his stature in foreign business dealings.

SEE ALSO: Treasury Dept. blocking probe into Hunter Biden's business dealings, says top GOP lawmaker

Sources familiar with the investigation confirmed the authenticity this year of Hunter Biden's abandoned laptop, which became a source of contention during the 2020 presidential election.

The laptop's existence, first reported by the New York Post in October 2020, was initially dismissed by the Bidens and mainstream media as Russian disinformation.

The laptop's hard drive contained emails, text messages, photos and other material detailing how Hunter Biden used his political connections to boost his overseas business dealings.

Sens. Charles E. Grassley of Iowa and Ron Johnson of Wisconsin, respectively the top Republicans on the Judiciary and Homeland Security committees, have presented bank records showing Hunter Biden and the president's brother, James Biden, receiving millions of dollars from companies connected to the communist Chinese regime.

The Chinese energy conglomerate CEFC and its executives paid \$4.8 million to firms owned and managed by Hunter Biden and his uncle for 14 months, according to government records, court documents, bank statements and documents from the laptop, Mr. Grassley said.

The White House has insisted that the president has never talked to his son about his far-flung foreign business dealings, despite the revelations depicting more complex and intertwined family financial relationships.

SEE ALSO: Kevin McCarthy pledges to investigate Hunter Biden if GOP wins House

A Rasmussen Reports poll this week found that 69% of likely U.S. voters believed it was likely the president was aware of at least some of Hunter Biden's major foreign business dealings, including 49% who thought it was very likely.

Only 22% did not think it was likely that Mr. Biden was aware of his son's foreign deals, while 10% were not sure.

More notably, the majority (62%) of voters said the president personally profited from deals with Chinese-government-connected companies, including 44% who thought it was very likely. Thirty percent said they did not believe it was likely that the president profited from his son's Chinese deals.

The CNN report said investigators have narrowed their focus to tax- and gun-related charges instead of Hunter Biden's financial dealings.

Hunter Biden told associates this year that he paid off his more than \$1 million tax bill, a move that didn't eliminate the criminal probe but could be an attempt to lessen any penalties.

The Justice Department typically doesn't bring charges within 60 days of an election, but there is debate about whether that would apply in this case because the president is not on the ballot in the midterm elections.

In August 2018, during the last midterm cycle, prosecutors in New York charged Michael Cohen, Mr. Trump's former attorney, and then-Rep. Chris Collins, a New York Republican who was running for reelection.

- *Tom Howell Jr. can be reached at thowell@washingtontimes.com.*
- *Jeff Mordock can be reached at jmordock@washingtontimes.com.*

NewsRoom

12/10/20 Wash. Times (D.C.) (Pg. Unavail. Online)
2020 WLNR 35230041

Washington Times (DC)
Copyright (c) 2020 News World Communications, Inc.

December 10, 2020

Section: Politics

Hunter Biden under federal investigation over taxes

Jeff Mordock, THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Hunter Biden, the son of presumed President-elect Joseph R. Biden, said Wednesday that the U.S. attorney in Delaware is investigating his taxes.

In a statement released by his father's transition team, the younger Mr. Biden said federal prosecutors in Delaware have contacted his attorney, but did not offer any more details.

"I take this matter very seriously but I am confident that a professional and objective review of these matters will demonstrate that I handled my affairs legally and appropriately, including with the benefit of professional tax advisors," the statement read.

In a separate statement, the Biden-Harris transition team offered support and cast him as a victim, but did not attack this specific case as illegitimate.

"President-elect Biden is deeply proud of his son, who has fought through difficult challenges, including vicious personal attacks of recent months, only to emerge stronger," they said.

A spokesperson for the U.S. Attorney in Delaware declined to comment.

Federal tax investigations usually include the IRS Criminal Division and the FBI, although it is not known whether either are involved in the Biden probe. Neither agency responded to requests for comment.

The investigation began in 2018, before Attorney General William P. Barr took over the Justice Department, according to CNN.

That same report said the probe concerns the younger Mr. Biden's foreign dealings, principally in China, and related counter-intelligence worries.

Although it is not officially known why he is under investigation, his business dealings have raised questions from Republicans.

Allegations of money laundering, shady business dealings in China and other countries, as well as other financial improprieties by **Hunter Biden** constantly dogged his father's campaign.

Yet none of the accusations or shady dealings have resulted in criminal charges or, until now, have been officially known to have resulted in an investigation.

Rep. Ken Buck, Colorado Republican, earlier this week asked Attorney General William P. Barr to appoint a special counsel to investigate Mr. Biden's role on the board of a Ukrainian energy company, despite having no experience in the field, when his father was vice president and handling U.S. relations with Ukraine.

Mr. Buck said the FBI is in possession of emails on a hard drive that are "potentially incriminating."

That hard drive exists on a laptop belonging to Hunter Biden, which was brought to the news media by President Trump's personal attorney, Rudolph W. Giuliani.

FBI agents took possession of the laptop in 2019, according to a computer repair technician in Delaware who has a copy of the subpoena.

Despite the attention created by the laptop, it is unclear whether its contents are part of the investigation by Delaware prosecutors.

In October, Sinclair Broadcasting reported that the FBI had opened a criminal investigation into **Hunter Biden**. At the time, the Biden campaign ignored the report.

Two Senate Republicans last month released a report showing that **Hunter Biden** had close financial ties to a Chinese tycoon linked to that country's ruling Communist Party.

Finance Committee Chairman Charles Grassley of Iowa and Homeland Security and Government Affairs Chairman Ron Johnson said the ties "create counterintelligence and extortion concerns," as the elder Mr. Biden becomes president next month.

The report, based on newly uncovered documents, shows suspicious wire transfers from Russian and Ukrainian oligarchs to Mr. Biden in 2014, while his father was vice president. Documents turned over by a former business associate Tony Bobulinski were also part of the part.

News of the investigation creates a challenge for the incoming Biden Justice Department. It raises potential conflict of interest questions as federal prosecutors continue to probe the case.

Michael Ahrens, communications director for the Republican National Committee, noted that David Weiss, the U.S. Attorney for Delaware, was recommended for the position by the state's two Democratic senators.

"It's going to be hard to attack this Hunter Biden investigation as partisan when it's being run by a U.S. Attorney who was highly recommended by Delaware's two Dem senators and later confirmed by voice vote," he wrote on Twitter.

Delaware Sens. Tom Carper and Chris Coons, both Democrats, praised Mr. Weiss after his nomination. Mr. Carper called him an "excellent choice for U.S. Attorney" while Mr. Coons praised him as an "excellent nominee."

The elder Mr. Biden said this week his son's business dealings won't create a conflict of interest.

"My son [and] my family will not be involved in any business, any enterprise that is in conflict with or appears to be a conflict whether the appropriate distance from the presidency and government," Mr. Biden said in an interview with CNN.

Dave Boyer contributed to this report.

--- Index References ---

News Subject: (Crime (1CR87); Criminal Law (1CR79); Financial Fraud (1FI18); Fraud (1FR30); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Social Issues (1SO05); Tax Law (1TA64); Taxation (1TA10))

Industry: (Accounting, Consulting & Legal Services (1AC73); Security (1SE29); Security Agencies (1SE35))

Region: (Americas (1AM92); Asia (1AS61); CIS Countries (1CI64); Delaware (1DE13); Eastern Europe (1EA48); Europe (1EU83); North America (1NO39); U.S. Mid-Atlantic Region (1MI18); USA (1US73); Ukraine (1UK09))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Joseph R. Biden; Ken Buck; Charles Grassley; Dave Boyer; K. David Boyer; Trump; Harris; Hunter Biden; Michael Ahrens; Chris Coons; William P. Barr; John William Barr; David Weiss; Rudolph W. Giuliani; Ron Johnson; Donald R. Johnson; Tom Carper; Tony Bobulinski)

Word Count: 772

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

2/19/21 Wash. Times (D.C.) (Pg. Unavail. Online)
2021 WLNR 5528703

Washington Times (DC)
Copyright (c) 2021 News World Communications, Inc.

February 19, 2021

Section: Politics

Ken Buck demands Merrick Garland keep prosecutor investigating **Hunter Biden**

Jeff Mordock, THE WASHINGTON TIMES

A conservative lawmaker on Wednesday urged President Biden's pick for attorney general, Judge Merrick Garland, to keep on the federal prosecutor in Delaware investigating **Hunter Biden** or appoint a **special counsel**.

Rep. Ken Buck, Colorado Republican, said Delaware U.S. Attorney David Weiss, who is probing the president's son's taxes, must remain in his post until the investigation is complete.

In a letter to Judge Garland, Mr. Buck said the investigation is critical to "ensuring the Biden Administration will not be subject of undue foreign interference."

"Mr. Weiss brings over a decade of leadership experience ... and has conducted this investigation with utmost professionalism and discretion," the lawmaker wrote.

"This investigation must be transparent and impartial so that all Americans have faith in the results, whatever they may be," Mr. Buck continued.

Judge Garland's confirmation hearing is scheduled for next week and Republican senators are expected to press him about the **Hunter Biden** probe.

Earlier this month, the Biden administration requested that all Trump-appointed U.S. attorneys resign. Incoming presidents typically remove the previous administration's U.S. attorneys in favor of their hand-picked prosecutors.

Mr. Weiss was not asked to resign. White House press secretary Jen Psaki said last month that the decision was made to "fulfill [President Biden's] promise of maintaining independence."

---- Index References ----

News Subject: (Government (1GO80); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Legislation (1LE97); U.S. Legislation (1US12))

Region: (Americas (1AM92); Delaware (1DE13); North America (1NO39); U.S. Mid-Atlantic Region (1MI18); USA (1US73))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Hunter Biden; Biden; Ken Buck; David Weiss; Jen Psaki; Merrick Garland)

Word Count: 217

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

4/8/22 Wash. Times (D.C.) (Pg. Unavail. Online)
2022 WLNR 11145315

Washington Times (DC)
Copyright (c) 2022 News World Communications, Inc.

April 8, 2022

Section: Politics

White House insists Biden unaware of son's deals despite new revelations

Kerry Picket and Dave Boyer, THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The White House is still insisting that President Biden has never talked to son Hunter Biden about his far-flung foreign business dealings, despite new revelations depicting more complex and intertwined family financial relationships.

Press secretary Jen Psaki answered "yes" this week when asked by a reporter whether the president has refrained, to this day, from talking to Hunter Biden about the lucrative deals including China and Ukraine.

She also refused to comment on reports that the elder Mr. Biden wrote a recommendation for college admission in the U.S. for a son of one of Hunter Biden's Chinese business associates.

And she dodged questions about whether the president would support the Justice Department appointing a special counsel to investigate Hunter Biden's dealings.

"The president has never had a conversation with the Department of Justice about any investigations into any member of his family," she said. "They would make those decisions independently."

But the connections between the president and his son's enormously profitable business deals, which were largely ignored by the mainstream media before the 2020 election and suppressed on social media by Silicon Valley, are now getting fresh scrutiny.

Much of the information stems from liberal news outlets belatedly authenticating data from **Hunter Biden's** laptop computer, which had been abandoned at a Delaware repair shop before the 2020 presidential election.

The computer, first reported by The New York Post in October 2020, contained texts, emails, financial documents and other files, including information about **Hunter Biden's** lucrative international business deals. The Washington Times also obtained the hard drive and reported in January 2021 that the elder Mr. Biden had at least 10 opportunities to know about his son's extensive foreign cash flow.

The information from the laptop includes a college recommendation letter for Brown University that the then-former vice president wrote in 2017 for the son of a **Hunter Biden** Chinese business associate, according to the book "Laptop from Hell," written by Miranda Devine.

Hunter Biden also reportedly persuaded his father to write a recommendation for the business associate's daughter.

Sens. Chuck Grassley of Iowa and Ron Johnson of Wisconsin, respectively the ranking Republicans on the Judiciary and Homeland Security committees, have presented bank records showing **Hunter Biden** and the president's brother, James Biden, receiving millions of dollars from companies connected to the communist Chinese regime.

The Chinese energy conglomerate CEFC and its executives paid \$4.8 million to firms owned and managed by **Hunter Biden** and his uncle for 14 months, according to government records, court documents, newly released bank statements and documents from the laptop, Mr. Grassley noted.

Former **Hunter Biden** business partner Tony Bobulinski disclosed in October 2020 that **Hunter Biden** introduced him to Joe Biden in May 2017, reportedly describing Mr. Bobulinski to his father as "the one who's helping us with the business we're doing with the Chinese."

Mr. Bobulinski identified Joe Biden as "the big guy" with a 10% share in a planned deal with CEFC China Energy, saying the former vice president told him, "keep an eye on my son and brother and look out for my family."

Bank records released by the GOP senators this week indicate that James Biden's company, the Lion Hall Group, received payments from a Chinese-financed consulting group in 2018, before his brother announced he was running for president.

Mr. Grassley said James Biden and Hunter Biden received monthly retainers - \$100,000 to Hunter and \$65,000 to James.

On Tuesday, Mr. Johnson also described a meeting the then-vice president had on April 16, 2014, with his son's business partner, Devon Archer, at the White House.

The elder Mr. Biden made an official trip to Ukraine on April 21, and **Hunter Biden** joined the Ukrainian energy firm Burisma a month later. Burisma was under investigation for corruption.

Mr. Biden later demanded the Ukrainian prosecutor be fired and used the threat of cutting off U.S. aid to make that happen.

Hunter Biden was paid up to \$83,000 a month to sit on the energy company's board from 2014 to 2019, but his father disputed his actions to oust the prosecutor had anything to do with his son's involvement in the firm.

Mr. Johnson has promised to reveal more information.

"The evidence is stunning and it is growing," Mr. Johnson said. "These records show extensive connections between the Biden family and elements of the communist Chinese regime. We're talking high-dollar transactions ... We expect Democrats and the media to continue to use their power to smear us and cover up for the Bidens. But the truth has a power of its own, and we intend to continue to reveal the truth."

In addition, hundreds of deleted gigabytes of digital content from **Hunter Biden's** laptop are set to be released.

Jack Maxey is hiding in Zurich, Switzerland, and shelling out more information from **Hunter Biden's** laptop, the Daily Mail first reported.

He and his information-technology experts claim they have discovered "450 gigabytes of deleted material."

Mr. Maxey formerly co-hosted the podcast "The War Room" with Steve Bannon, an ex-adviser to President Trump.

Kash Patel, a former federal prosecutor and Trump administration official, told The Washington Times that Hunter Biden "was using his father's leverage for personal gain."

"It's an ethical violation for government employees to allow family members to benefit in that way and exert influence that's against the law," Mr. Patel said. "If he knowingly utilized his father to participate in that scheme, then [this father] is also a part of that conspiracy to perpetrate a fraud."

In such cases, prosecutors typically pursue charges of wire fraud, bank fraud and mail fraud related to the transfer of illicit money through various bank accounts, he said.

The Times reached out to Hunter Biden's attorney for comment but did not hear back.

The younger Mr. Biden is under federal investigation related to his taxes and foreign business deals, which have been raising eyebrows about ethical improprieties in Washington since his father was vice president under President Obama.

In 2010, when Hunter Biden was running his investment firm Rosemont Seneca Partners, he traveled to China and scored meetings with several major state-owned businesses.

He later became associates with Chinese banker Jonathan Li and his private equity fund Bohai Capital and attempted to attain a license for Bohai to do business in the U.S. for a year, but he was unable to do so.

However, Hunter Biden flew on Air Force Two in 2013 for his father's meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping. The New Yorker reported that Hunter Biden met with Mr. Li and introduced him to his father at the hotel. Bohai Harvest's license to operate in the U.S. was approved 10 days after that introduction.

More recently, a witness who testified before the Hunter Biden grand jury was asked to name the "big guy" in Hunter's proposed deal with CEFC, the Chinese energy conglomerate.

The "big guy" came from an e-mail exchange found in Hunter's laptop that showed one of his business partners, James Gilliar, outlined the proposed percentage distribution of equity in a company created for a joint venture with CEFC China Energy Co.

The March 13, 2017, plan included "10 held by H for the big guy?"

Mr. Bobulinski has told The New York Post, "I have heard Joe Biden say he has never discussed his dealings with Hunter. That is false."

In a 2019 text message to his daughter Naomi, Hunter Biden wrote, "I hope you all can do what I did and pay for everything for this entire family for 30 years."

"It's really hard," he wrote. "But don't worry, unlike Pop [Joe], I won't make you give me half your salary."

Current White House chief of staff Ron Klain claimed last Sunday on ABC's "This Week" that the dealings of Hunter and the president's brother are "private matters."

"They don't involve the president," he said. "And they certainly are something that no one at the White House is involved in."

However, Fox News reported that when Mr. Klain emailed Hunter Biden in 2012 asking for \$20,000 for a foundation that looks after the vice president's residence, he advised the younger Mr. Biden to "keep this low key" to prevent "bad PR."

Mr. Klain was previously chairman of the nonprofit Vice President's Residence Foundation after exiting Mr. Biden's vice-presidential team in 2011.

In an email to Hunter Biden, Mr. Klain said he had to "tackle a piece of unpleasant business."

"The tax lawyers for the VP Residence Foundation have concluded that since the Cheney folks last raised money in 2007 and not 2008, we actually have to have some incoming funds before the end of this fiscal year (i.e., before 9/30/12 – next week) to remain eligible to be a 'public charity,'" wrote Mr. Klain, referring to former Vice President Dick Cheney.

- Rowan Scarborough contributed to this report.

---- Index References ----

Company: DAILY MAIL LIMITED; ABC ARBITRAGE SA; THE WASHINGTON TIMES LLC; BURISMA HOLDINGS LIMITED; BROWN UNIVERSITY; Bohai Leasing Co., Ltd.; Bohai Harvest RST (Shanghai) Equity Investment Fund Management Co. Ltd.; Department of Justice; NEW YORK POST CORPORATION; FOX NEWS NETWORK, LLC; HOMELAND SECURITY CORPORATION; LION GROUP HOLDING LTD.; Rosemont Seneca Partners; CHINA CEFC ENERGY COMPANY LIMITED

News Subject: (Crime (1CR87); Criminal Law (1CR79); Emerging Market Countries (1EM65); Fraud (1FR30); Government (1GO80); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Legislation (1LE97); Social Issues (1SO05); U.S. Legislation (1US12))

Industry: (Computer Equipment (1CO77); Consumer Electronics (1CO61); Consumer Products & Services (1CO62); Electronics (1EL16); I.T. (1IT96); Notebook Computing (1NO17); PC (1PC82))

Region: (Americas (1AM92); Asia (1AS61); CIS Countries (1CI64); Central Europe (1CE50); China (1CH15); Eastern Asia (1EA61); Eastern Europe (1EA48); Europe (1EU83); Far East (1FA27); New York (1NE72); North America (1NO39); Switzerland (1SW77); U.S. Mid-Atlantic Region (1MI18); USA (1US73); Ukraine (1UK09); Western Europe (1WE41))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (White House; Justice Department; Hunter Biden; Republicans; Judiciary; GOP; U.S.; Democrats; Vice President's Residence Foundation; Daily Mail; ABC; The Washington Times; Burisma; Brown University; Bohai Capital; Bohai Harvest; Department of Justice; The New York Post; Fox News; Homeland Security; Lion Hall Group; Rosemont Seneca Partners; CEFC China Energy Co.) (Hunter Biden; Press; Jen Psaki; Miranda Devine; Sens.; Chuck Grassley; Ron Johnson; Ron B. Johnson; James Biden; Tony Bobulinski; Joe Biden; Devon Archer; Devon Archer; Burisma; Jack Maxey; Steve Bannon; President Trump; Kash Patel; Trump; President Obama; Jonathan Li; Yu Li; President Xi Jinping; Xi Jinping; James Gilliar; Naomi; Pop; Ron Klain; Dick Cheney; Richard B. Cheney; Rowan Scarborough)

Word Count: 1460

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

4/12/22 Wash. Times (D.C.) (Pg. Unavail. Online)
2022 WLNR 11575262

Washington Times (DC)
Copyright (c) 2022 News World Communications, Inc.

April 12, 2022

Section: Politics

President's sister points finger at conservatives for troubles faced by **Hunter Biden**

Kerry Picket, THE WASHINGTON TIMES

President Biden's younger sister Valerie Biden Owens is blaming supporters of former President Donald Trump for the scrutiny that her nephew, **Hunter Biden**, is receiving related to contents from his laptop and a federal investigation into his taxes and foreign business deals.

Mrs. Owens said she does not think the younger Biden brought upon himself the various scandals that have engulfed the family. Instead, in an interview with USA Today on Sunday, she blamed conservatives for lobbying unfair personal attacks at him.

"Trump and his right-wing followers have continued to do whatever they can to discredit the family and therefore to bring Joe down," she said.

"Hunter walked through hell. He didn't wake up and say, 'Aunt Val, I think I'm going to be an addict. And so whatever happens, it's my responsibility,'" she said, lauding her nephew for having "courage" and "strength" to overcome his addictions to crack cocaine and alcohol.

President Biden's younger sister, who helped raise Hunter and his older brother Beau after the boys lost their mother as young children in a fatal auto accident, is on a book tour for her new memoir, "Growing Up Biden: A Memoir."

Mrs. Owens also defended her brother from criticism over how he delivers his remarks.

"My brother's a stutterer, and he still stutters and tries to get things out," she said. "And what did really make me mad and drive me crazy was when he would go to speak, and there would be a hesitancy, and the critique from the bad guys, the right wing, was that he's not smart; he didn't know what he was saying."

According to the president's sister, she often talks to him at around 10 p.m.

"When he calls, I don't talk about what happened with Putin today," she said. "We talk about family."

Mrs. Owens worked as a campaign manager for all seven of the elder Biden's Senate campaigns. She also served as a senior political adviser to her brother during all three of his presidential campaigns. Additionally, President Barack Obama nominated her as an advisor to the United Nations 71st General Assembly.

Republicans, including Sens. Chuck Grassley of Iowa and Ron Johnson of Wisconsin, have discussed on the Senate floor various Chinese business deals set up by **Hunter Biden** and James Biden, his uncle, and questioned how the president's family could financially benefit from Communist Chinese regime through alleged influence peddling.

Sixty-seven House Republicans last month sent a letter to Attorney General Merrick Garland calling for him to appoint a **special counsel** to investigate **Hunter Biden**.

The federal probe into **Hunter Biden** was first launched in 2018 and is moving quickly as prosecutors from the U.S. Attorney's Office in Delaware are reportedly looking into grand jury testimony related to sources of his overseas income.

---- **Index References** ----

Company: U.S. Virgin Islands Office of Attorney General; UNITED NATIONS SECURITIES ASSOCIATION; USA Today Travel Media Group

News Subject: (Campaigns & Elections (1CA25); Government (1GO80); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Legislation (1LE97); U.S. Legislation (1US12); U.S. President (1US75))

Industry: (Celebrities (1CE65); Entertainment (1EN08))

Region: (USA (1US73))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Senate; House Republicans; U.S. Attorney's Office; United Nations; USA Today) (Hunter Biden; Valerie Biden Owens; President Donald Trump; Joe; Val; Beau; Putin; President Barack Obama; Sens.; Chuck Grassley; Ron Johnson; James Biden; Merrick Garland)

Word Count: 470

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

4/8/22 Wash. Times (D.C.) (Pg. Unavail. Online)
2022 WLNR 11145214

Washington Times (DC)
Copyright (c) 2022 News World Communications, Inc.

April 8, 2022

Section: Opinion

Lawless leftists are destroying America

Cheryl K. Chumley, THE WASHINGTON TIMES

America's great democratic-republic cannot last without a) moral and virtuous people; b) an informed and concerned citizenry; and c) law and order that feeds into a blind justice system.

Check, check and again, check - these are all areas where the Marxists masquerading as Democrats have torn into and torn apart in recent years.

America is one globalist turn of the screw from losing its Constitution and with it, independence, sovereignty and the concept of God-given individualism.

The lawlessness of the left is everywhere.

Just look at these headlines: "White House ignores calls for a **special counsel** investigation of **Hunter Biden**," Breitbart wrote.

"Emails reveal Biden's big favor for son of Hunter's Chinese investment partner," Fox News wrote.

"California city to give universal income to transgender, nonbinary residents," Fox News also wrote.

"Biden administration expected to extend student loan pause this week," The Hill wrote.

"Disney executive wants more LGBTQIA, minority characters," the New York Post wrote.

Everywhere you look, leftists have inserted their claws, dug in deep and spread their wicked ways. The repercussion is a nation awash in turmoil, divided by special interest politics and consumed by fight after fight after fight over issues and matters and topics that just a few short years ago, were barely blips on the radar marking controversies.

Who would have thought that America, a land founded on a quest for religious freedom, a country raised to greatness on principles of Judeo-Christian beliefs, a nation populated by citizens who regarded their individual rights as resting in God, not government - who would have thought such an exceptional America could have fallen so quickly to the likes of gay demands, then transgender demands, then the demands of the ever-expanding LGBTQIA crowd? How many letters can a human be?

The end result is chaos.

And it's in the chaos that the left makes its greatest gains.

Fear, chaos, division, deception - these are all tools of leftists, these are all tools of evil. Socialists have infiltrated the school system to train the emerging generations to hate America, detest capitalism and regard the Constitution as inherently racist, in immediate and dire need of reform.

The borders have become places where President Biden and his band of White House pretend-pro-America politicians open wide the country to those who want to sneak in illegally; to those who have nefarious designs to exploit U.S. resources and people for personal benefit; to those who would corrupt America's voting systems; to those even who would carry out physical attacks on American citizens.

Billionaire leftists have poured money into the justice system so as to guarantee that the lawless have no consequences to pay for their illegal actions.

And as for America's moral compass? America's virtuous base?

The churches - once upon a time closed by a coronavirus! - are failing in their basic missions to teach biblical principles to the masses.

Today's churches in America are more apt to tell congregants that Jesus would embrace socialism than to teach principles of accountability, individual choice and personal responsibility. Sin? Punishment for sin?

Shh. That hurts feelings.

And those with hurt feelings aren't likely to tithe.

America's future is at a fork in the road.

If the next generation is to have freedom as the founders envisioned - as rooted in the concept of God-given, not government-granted - then America must return to a time where schools actually educated children; where politicians actually did the bidding of constituents; and where the people, by and large, were guided by biblical teachings.

But the greatest of the three is church.

An America that's not rooted in God is an America that will fall on government bloat. It's impossible to have the "God-given" without the "God" at the helm.

• Cheryl Chumley can be reached at cchumley@washingtontimes.com or on Twitter, [@ckchumley](https://twitter.com/ckchumley). Listen to her podcast "Bold and Blunt" by clicking [HERE](#). And never miss her column; subscribe to her newsletter by clicking [HERE](#). Her latest book, "Socialists Don't Sleep: Christians Must Rise Or America Will Fall," is available by clicking [HERE](#).

---- **Index References** ----

Company: NEW YORK POST CORPORATION; FOX NEWS NETWORK, LLC; TWITTER, INC.; THE WALT DISNEY COMPANY

News Subject: (Christianity (1CH94); Minority & Ethnic Groups (1MI43); Race Relations (1RA49); Religion (1RE60); Social Issues (1SO05))

Industry: (Coronavirus (1CV19); Healthcare (1HE06); Infectious Diseases (1IN99); Political Science (1PO69); Science (1SC89); Science & Engineering (1SC33); Social Science (1SO92); Viral (1VI15))

Region: (Americas (1AM92))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Democrats; America; White House; Hill; New York Post; Fox News; Twitter; Disney) (God; Hunter Biden; Breitbart; Jesus; Cheryl Chumley)

Word Count: 681

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

10/22/21 Wash. Times (D.C.) (Pg. Unavail. Online)
2021 WLNR 34615244

Washington Times (DC)
Copyright (c) 2021 News World Communications, Inc.

October 22, 2021

Section: Politics

AG Garland defends Jan. 6 prosecutions, faces fire over school board memo He's hit with tough questions in first oversight Hill appearance

Dave Boyer and Emily Zantow, THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Merrick Garland's memo about angry parents at school board meetings was a flashpoint in his appearance Thursday before the House Judiciary Committee, with Republicans accusing the attorney general of chilling time-honored dissent in communities grappling with issues such as critical race theory and mask mandates.

Conservative lawmakers repeatedly pressured Mr. Garland about why he issued the Oct. 4 memo, which directed the FBI to investigate a "disturbing spike" in threats of violence, harassment and intimidation against school officials. They also accused him of having a conflict of interest because his son-in-law leads an education firm that markets curricula related to critical race theory.

Rep. Jim Jordan, Ohio Republican, noted that Mr. Garland issued the directive just five days after the National School Boards Association requested help from President Biden to quell stormy meetings across the country. The lawmaker called it "a snitch line on parents ... who object to some racist, hate-America curriculum."

"If that's not political, I don't know what is," Mr. Jordan told the attorney general. "Americans are afraid. They tell me, for the first time, they fear their government. I think your memo ... was the last straw. It was the catalyst for a great awakening that is just getting started. Americans are pushing back because Americans value freedom."

The attorney general said the sources for his finding of a "disturbing spike" in threats were primarily the NSBA letter and news reports.

Mr. Garland repeatedly told lawmakers that his memo addressed threats of violence and actual violence, not free speech. He said the Justice Department "supports and defends the First Amendment rights of parents to complain as vociferously as they wish about the education of their children, about the curriculum taught in schools."

"That is not what the memorandum is about at all, nor does it use the words 'domestic terrorism' or 'Patriot Act,'" Mr. Garland said. "I can't imagine any circumstance in which the Patriot Act would be used in the circumstance of parents' complaint about their children."

He said FBI agents won't be attending school board meetings and that his memo was intended to foster cooperation with state and local law enforcement agencies.

On other hot-button issues, Mr. Garland fared little better. He seemed to struggle to respond to questioning by Rep. Tom McClintock, California Republican, about the Justice Department's role in enforcing immigration judges' orders. The department oversees immigration judges.

Trump White House adviser and immigration hard-liner Stephen Miller tweeted that it was a "stunning exchange."

"Garland refused to say that illegals who skipped court hearings should be found & deported and seemed scarily clueless about the fact that Biden's DHS has barred ICE officers from doing so," he wrote.

Mr. Garland deflected Democrats' questions on whether his department would pursue former President Donald Trump for suspected legal violations. He also dodged a question from Rep. Ken Buck, Colorado Republican, on whether he would appoint a **special counsel** to investigate **Hunter Biden's** high-priced art sales. The attorney general said he would take it "under advisement."

"The Department of Justice has a long-standing policy of not commenting on investigations," Mr. Garland said. "I'm going to have to rest on that."

Democrats also zeroed in on voting rights, prosecution of hate crimes and investigations into the pro-Trump riot at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6. Mr. Garland said the Justice Department "has undertaken an extraordinary effort to ensure that the perpetrators of criminal acts on Jan. 6 are held accountable."

The attorney general called the attack on the Capitol "an intolerable assault, not only on the Capitol and the brave law enforcement personnel who sought to protect it, but also on a fundamental element of our democracy: the peaceful transfer of power."

Committee Chairman Jerrold Nadler, New York Democrat, told Mr. Garland that the Jan. 6 attack is part of a "growth in extremist ideology [that] is echoed in an epidemic of violence and intimidation directed at our health care professionals, teachers, essential workers, school board members and election workers."

"There is a broader pattern here. In each of these cases - former President Trump's big lie, the rise in hate crimes against citizens of Asian descent, and the growing threats of violence against public servants - the same set of individuals have leveraged the same sorts of misinformation, stoked the same sorts of grievances and shown remarkably little interest in solving our problems," Mr. Nadler said in his opening statement.

Republicans steered the hearing time and again to Mr. Garland's memo about school board meetings.

Under questioning by Rep. Chip Roy, Texas Republican, Mr. Garland said he was unaware of a high-profile rape case in the Loudoun County, Virginia, school system that led to one heated school board meeting.

"This sounds like a state case, and I'm not familiar with it. ... I don't know any of the facts of this case," Mr. Garland told the lawmaker. "No, I do not think that parents getting angry at school boards for whatever reason constitute domestic terrorism. It's not even a close question."

Mr. Roy said later on social media, "It defies logic that the Attorney General of the United States, having issued a memorandum targeting parents at school boards, is unaware of the absolute travesty of Loudoun County and the treatment of Scott Smith [the father of the girl who said she was raped] in advance of a radical, woke, leftist agenda."

Rep. Steve Chabot, Ohio Republican, said it was "deeply disturbing" that the White House chose to "sic" Mr. Garland on parents.

"Not in a million years did we dream that one day we'd see the Justice Department treat parents as domestic terrorists," Mr. Chabot said. "Parents speaking up at a school board meeting ... is clearly a First Amendment activity. ... These parents have every right to be heard, even if former Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe [a candidate for governor again this year] thinks otherwise. We don't need you, your Justice Department and the FBI trampling on the rights of American parents who just want the best possible education for their children."

Mr. Garland rejected accusations by Rep. Mike Johnson, Louisiana Republican, that he has a conflict of interest with his son-in-law's work for an education firm that pushes school curricula related to critical race theory.

"There are no conflicts of interest that anyone could have," Mr. Garland testified.

Mr. Johnson noted that Mr. Garland's son-in-law, Xan Tanner, co-founded Panorama Education, which he said has pushed ideas related to critical race theory and provided services to school districts across the country. The relationship has raised questions about how much Mr. Garland's family could benefit from a crackdown on protests against school boards.

"The very basis of [parents'] objection is the curricula that your son-in-law is selling," Mr. Johnson told the attorney general. "Why wouldn't you submit to a simple ethics review? You are not respecting our rules. ... This is a great concern."

Mr. Johnson said federal regulations require ethics reviews in cases where officials' actions could benefit his family, "and your son-in-law clearly meets that definition." The lawmaker said the issue is "worthy of investigation."

Mr. Garland replied, "There's nothing in this [Oct. 4] memorandum on the kinds of curriculum that are taught. This memorandum is aimed at violence and threats of violence."

Asked again whether he sought ethics guidance before issuing the memo, Mr. Garland replied, "This memorandum was not related to the financial interests of anyone. This memorandum is aimed at violence and threats of violence."

"You don't get to make that decision yourself," Mr. Johnson said. "Your impartiality is being called into question."

"I am exquisitely aware of the ethics requirements," said Mr. Garland, a former federal judge.

"But you're not following them," Mr. Johnson responded.

Central to critical race theory is the idea that U.S. laws and institutions are inherently racist and that Whites still oppress Blacks and other people of color more than 150 years after the end of slavery and decades after advances of the civil rights movement.

Many Republican lawmakers say this school of thought is spreading dangerously through American classrooms, workplaces and government offices. It grew out of a field called critical legal theory, which took root in the 1970s, according to the American Bar Association.

---- Index References ----

Company: SRI NANDAA SPINNERS LIMITED; Federal Bureau of Investigation; DHEHAN STAINLESS PIPE Co., Ltd.; AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION; National School Boards Association; DEMOCRAT PRINTING

AND LITHOGRAPHING COMPANY INC.; PANORAMA EDUCATION LLC; GARLAND HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION; THE NEW YORK TIMES COMPANY

News Subject: (Education (1ED85); Government (1GO80); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Legislation (1LE97); Minority & Ethnic Groups (1MI43); Race Relations (1RA49); Social Issues (1SO05); U.S. Legislation (1US12))

Region: (Americas (1AM92); North America (1NO39); Ohio (1OH35); Texas (1TE14); U.S. Midwest Region (1MI19); U.S. Southwest Region (1SO89); USA (1US73))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (AG Garland; House Judiciary Committee; Republicans; Republican; Justice Department; ICE; Department of Justice; Democrats; Louisiana Republican; White House; FBI; DHS; American Bar Association; National School Boards Association; Democrats'; Panorama Education; Garland; New York Democrat) (Merrick Garland; Jim Jordan; Hunter Biden; Tom McClintock; President Donald Trump; Stephen Miller; Stephen J. Miller; Ken Buck; Jerrold Nadler; Chip Roy; Attorney General of the United States; Scott Smith; Scott P. Smith; Steve Chabot; Terry McAuliffe; Mike Johnson; Mike Johnson; Xan Tanner; Xan Tanner)

Word Count: 1397

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

10/20/20 Wash. Times (D.C.) (Pg. Unavail. Online)
2020 WLNR 29779349

Washington Times (DC)
Copyright (c) 2020 News World Communications, Inc.

October 20, 2020

Section: Politics

House GOP pushes AG William Barr for **special counsel** to investigate Biden revelations

Jeff Mordock, THE WASHINGTON TIMES

House Republicans on Monday urged Attorney General William P. Barr to appoint a **special counsel** to probe allegations stemming from a laptop reportedly belonging to Joseph R. **Biden's** son **Hunter**.

The lawmakers want Mr. Barr to probe claims that the elder Biden played a role in his son's alleged lucrative business dealings in Ukraine and China.

They say the American people deserve to know whether the former vice president "received foreign monies during his tenure in the Obama administration" and if he "allowed his son to peddle access" to him with foreign business entities.

"If these reports about former Vice President Joe Biden and his son, Hunter, are true, the former vice president fell far short of his responsibility to uphold his constitutional oath and betrayed the sacred trust of the American people," the lawmakers wrote.

"We request that the Department of Justice immediately appoint an independent, unbiased **special counsel** to investigate the issues that we have raised - as well as any corresponding legal or ethical issues that might be uncovered from the former vice president's 47 years in public office," the lawmakers wrote.

The letter, obtained by The Washington Times, is signed by 11 Republicans, including Reps. Andy Biggs of Arizona, Paul Gosar of Arizona, Ted Yoho of Florida, Jody Hice of Georgia and Debbie Lesko of Arizona.

The letter comes after the New York Post last week published emails alleging **Hunter Biden** introduced his father to a top executive at Ukrainian natural gas firm Burisma Holdings in 2015, roughly a year before the former vice president allegedly pressured the country's government to fire a prosecutor investigating the company.

The Biden campaign has insisted the elder Biden never met with the executive and has slammed the Post story as "not legitimate."

An email dated May 13, 2017, published by the Post includes a discussion of "remuneration packages" for six people involved in a business deal with a Chinese energy firm. The email identifies Hunter Biden as "Chair/Vice Chair" of the now-bankrupt company.

The email also includes a proposed equity split that references "10 held by H for the big guy." No other details were provided.

Both the Post and Fox News have reported "the big guy" is a reference to the former vice president.

Mr. Biden has not publicly commented on the email.

---- **Index References** ----

Company: GRAHAM HOLDINGS CO

News Subject: (Government (1GO80); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Legislation (1LE97); Regulatory Affairs (1RE51); U.S. Legislation (1US12))

Region: (Americas (1AM92); Arizona (1AR13); CIS Countries (1CI64); Eastern Europe (1EA48); Europe (1EU83); North America (1NO39); U.S. Southwest Region (1SO89); USA (1US73); Ukraine (1UK09))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Burisma Holdings) (Hunter Biden; Joseph R. Biden; Andy Biggs; Obama; Debbie Lesko; William P. Barr; Paul Gosar; Joe Biden; Jody Hice; Ted Yoho)

Word Count: 382

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

4/27/22 N.Y. Post 7
2022 WLNR 13278316

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

April 27, 2022

Section: News

Sen. presses AG on prez in son probe

Steven Nelson

Sen. Bill Hagerty on Tuesday pressed Attorney General Merrick Garland about the appearance that President Biden "was involved with" his son **Hunter Biden's** overseas business dealings.

"Do you have any reason to dispute the evidence that indicates that President Biden was involved with and using money from **Hunter Biden's** business deals?" Hagerty (R-Tenn.) asked Garland (left) at a Senate subcommittee hearing.

Hagerty cited The Post's recent reporting about **Hunter Biden** business partner Eric Schwerin visiting the White House and vice president's residence at least 19 times while Joe Biden was vice president and prior reports on the first son's financial role in the family.

Garland was gave no details but separately insisted to both Hagerty and Sen. Mike Braun (R-Ind.) that a **special counsel** wasn't needed because an investigation of the first son by the US Attorney's Office in Delaware would continue without political interference.

The US attorney in Delaware, David Weiss, is a Trump administration holdover who was allowed to retain his position to continue the probe of **Hunter Biden**

---- Index References ----

Company: U.S. Virgin Islands Office of Attorney General; CROWN EQUITY HOLDINGS INC.

News Subject: (Executive Bodies (1EX50); Government (1GO80); Government Institutions (1GO90); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); U.S. President (1US75))

Region: (Americas (1AM92); Delaware (1DE13); North America (1NO39); U.S. Mid-Atlantic Region (1MI18); USA (1US73))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Senate; The Post; White House; US Attorney's Office; Trump) (Bill Hagerty; Merrick Garland; Hunter Biden; Eric Schwerin; Joe Biden; Mike Braun; David Weiss)

Edition: Sports+Late City Final

Word Count: 173

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

12/10/20 N.Y. Post 6
2020 WLNR 35279690

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

December 10, 2020

Section: News

CHINA SCANDALS Family put nat'l security at risk

MIRANDA DEVINE

It's more than strange that **Hunter Biden** released a statement yesterday in the form of an official press release from his father's "Biden-Harris transition" operation, for the purpose of confirming he is under federal investigation for tax fraud.

"I learned yesterday for the first time that the U.S. Attorney's Office in Delaware advised my legal counsel, also yesterday, that they are investigating my tax affairs," read his statement.

The statement had an addendum from his father: "President-elect Biden is deeply proud of his son, who has fought through difficult challenges, including the vicious personal attacks of recent months, only to emerge stronger."

Sorry, that doesn't wash.

For too long, Joe has gotten away with cynically using sympathy for his druggie son to shield himself from scrutiny into his family's shady moneymaking schemes.

But no longer is he a mere candidate.

Barring a miracle, Biden will be sworn in as president next month and all the skeletons jumping around in his closet have grave implications for America's national security.

When it comes to the Biden family's business associations with Communist Party entities in China, it doesn't get any more serious.

Damning evidence about the Bidens' lucrative influence-peddling schemes overseas is on the laptop Hunter fecklessly abandoned at a Delaware Mac repair shop, which was handed to the FBI last December.

Further damning evidence emerged during the election campaign from Hunter's former business partner Tony Bobulinski, who was interviewed by the FBI on Oct. 23.

At the time, Bobulinski said "Joe Biden and the Biden family is compromised" by the Chinese Communist Party. He revealed that the "Big Guy" referred to in an e-mail on Hunter's laptop as the recipient of 10 percent of a lucrative Chinese deal was none other than Joe Biden.

Bobulinski's revelations and The Post's stories about Hunter's laptop were successfully suppressed during the election campaign by Big Tech and ignored by Biden's media allies.

Just four days before the election, the Department of Justice confirmed that the FBI had been conducting a money-laundering investigation into Hunter since 2019, but the story barely caused a ripple.

So it is hard to believe that Hunter learned he was under federal investigation only "yesterday for the first time."

Maybe the point of his statement was to head off an avalanche of damaging information emerging about the Biden family business and to frame the investigation merely as a tax probe.

But a money-laundering probe takes us to a sinister place in which payments from China were purchasing something of value from Hunter, and it wasn't his expertise with a crack pipe.

Three reports this week point to serious concerns about China's influence over the upcoming Biden administration and certain Democratic politicians.

n The final report of the Republican-led Senate Finance and Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs committees, released Tuesday, details disturbing Biden family financial ties to China as well as Ukraine

n A yearlong investigation by digital news outlet Axios reveals a political-intelligence operation run by China's spy agency between 2011 and 2015, in which a spy developed "extensive ties with local and national politicians," including Rep. Eric Swalwell, a member of the House Intelligence Committee.

n A video played by Fox News' Tucker Carlson in which a Chinese economics professor declared that China's influence over American affairs via its friends on Wall Street had waned under Trump but would be better than ever with Biden back in power.

You can go online to read the entire 87-page report by the Senate committees, titled "**Hunter Biden**, Burisma, and Corruption: The Impact on U.S. Government Policy and Related Concerns."

It concludes: "**Hunter Biden's** and his family's financial transactions with Ukrainian, Russian, Kazakh and Chinese nationals raise criminal concerns and extortion threats."

There is much disturbing material about Hunter's lucrative gig on the board of Burisma, the corrupt Ukrainian energy company.

But on China, our primary security threat, the report is more frightening.

"The records acquired by the Committees show consistent, significant and extensive financial connections among and between **Hunter Biden**, James Biden [Joe's brother], Sara Biden [Joe's sister-in law], Devon Archer [Hunter's business partner], and Chinese nationals connected to the Communist regime . . .

"These connections and the vast amount of money transferred among and between them don't just raise conflicts-of-interest concerns, they raise criminal financial, counterintelligence and extortion concerns."

The report also notes Joe's denial that he ever spoke to Hunter about his business dealings.

Yeah, sure.

Then there is the Axios investigation that claims a Chinese spy named Christine Fang ingratiated herself with Democratic politicians in California, including Swalwell.

Fang helped Swalwell get elected in 2012, raised funds for him and "placed at least one intern in his office," reports Axios. The relationship ended in 2015, when the FBI alerted Swalwell to Fang's activities, after which she fled the country.

Swalwell, who has run Beijing's lines on everything from North Korea to the coronavirus, yesterday laughably complained he was the victim of "law-enforcement information weaponized" against him.

This is the same Swalwell who lied for years that Trump was a "Russian agent."

Swalwell is a clear and present danger to American national security, with his access to classified information in his role on the Intelligence Committee. Are we supposed to take his word, or that of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who placed him in that role, that nothing untoward has occurred?

The other alarming report this week came when Fox News host Carlson aired part of a speech given in Shanghai two weeks ago by a prominent Chinese professor, Di Dongsheng, of the Renmin University's School of International Relations.

With remarkable candor, Di mapped out the way China has exploited its relationships with Wall Street and America's "core inner circle of power and influence" to manipulate US domestic and foreign policy.

Trump's election had temporarily disrupted China's influence, Di said: "Wall Street couldn't fix Trump."

But a Biden administration would mean China could go back to business as usual, said Di, specifically pointing to Hunter's business deals as the conduit serving China's political interests.

"Trump has been saying that Biden's son has some sort of global foundation . . . Who helped [Hunter] build the foundations? Got it? There are a lot of deals inside all this."

If all of this isn't grounds to appoint a **special counsel** to investigate the Biden family's business dealings in China, nothing is.

After all, as Pelosi and Swalwell like to say: "No one is above the law."

---- **Index References** ----

News Subject: (Crime (1CR87); Criminal Law (1CR79); Emerging Market Countries (1EM65); Financial Fraud (1FI18); Fraud (1FR30); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Social Issues (1SO05))

Industry: (Security (1SE29); Security Agencies (1SE35))

Region: (Americas (1AM92); Asia (1AS61); CIS Countries (1CI64); China (1CH15); Delaware (1DE13); Eastern Asia (1EA61); Eastern Europe (1EA48); Europe (1EU83); Far East (1FA27); North America (1NO39); U.S. Mid-Atlantic Region (1MI18); USA (1US73); Ukraine (1UK09))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Eric Swalwell; James Biden; Devon Archer Hunter; James Biden Joe; Tony Bobulinski; Trump; Harris; Hunter Biden; Bobulinski; Di Dongsheng; Sara Biden Joe; Christine Fang; Nancy Pelosi; Joe Biden; Tucker Carlson)

Edition: Sports+Late City Final

Word Count: 1080

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

11/22/22 N.Y. Post 28
2022 WLNR 37595940

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

November 22, 2022

Section: OpEd

letters@nypost.com Another Trump Probe: Garland's **Special Counsel**

A **special counsel** appointed to investigate former President Donald Trump's handling of documents.

The appointment of Jack Smith as **special counsel** to investigate former President Donald Trump is just another try by the radical Democrats and the "weaponized" Justice Department to stop him from running for president in 2024 ("AG sics B'klyn dog on Don," Nov. 19).

Smith is just another Justice Department hack and will assuredly drag this investigation out to the date of the election, while leaking all kinds of falsehoods about Trump.

President Biden, Hillary Clinton, Reps. Nancy Pelosi, Adam Schiff, the Justice Department and the FBI as well as all the Democrats have spent years either trying to get Trump out of office or behind bars and have not succeeded.

Richard Ketay, Newark, NJ

I am seething. The Trump haters have spent years and millions of dollars trying to destroy this man, who has done more good for the United States than most presidents, and they will not stop.

However, not a peep about the obviously corrupt Biden family. Every day we are learning a bit more of their shenanigans. Hopefully, if there is justice, it will all come out now.

Bunny Abraham, Manhattan

Remember when Republicans, the self-proclaimed party of family values and guardians of veterans' rights, demonized **Special Counsel** Robert Mueller?

Despite an unblemished resume, Mueller was depicted as biased and corrupt, and part of a deep state witch hunt out to undermine Trump's presidency, none of which was true.

Now that Attorney General Merrick Garland has appointed a **special counsel**, Jack Smith, a distinguished Justice Department prosecutor, to oversee the criminal investigation of the former president, Republicans are not wasting any time with a newly minted propaganda offensive.

Although masterful at deflection and deceit, Trump's influence may be waning, because if the 2022 midterms taught us anything, it's that Americans value democracy, and no one, no matter how cunning, is going to change that.

Jim Paladino, Tampa, Fla.

Days after Trump declares he is a candidate for president, AG Garland appoints a special prosecutor to investigate Trump. But take note, Garland has not appointed a special prosecutor to investigate the alleged crimes of Hunter Biden.

Sadly, the Democrats are turning America into a Third World banana republic.

It is quite evident that the Biden administration is using the justice system as a tool to persecute its political enemies. What is next?

Trump certainly has his faults, but he restored America to economic prosperity as well as security. He strengthened our borders and made our connection to our allies abroad stronger once again.

Patrick Abbruzzi, Staten Island

Now there is a special counsel to look into Trump. Soon, there could be an investigation to look into Biden's son — both of which will cost a lot of time, energy and money — for what?

It's like both parties are a bunch of spoiled brats. These politicians need to get their act together and start working for the people of America. Look into the economy, crime, homeless problems and the border crisis.

You were put in office by the people. Now start to work for the people and their needs. Cut out all of this "king of the hill" BS.

If you can't do that, then get yourself another job — or those of us who put you in office will put you out of office and a job.

Jimmy Durda, The Bronx

The legal gymnastics Garland offered up to justify his appointment of a **special counsel** to take over the DOJ's well-underway Jan. 6 and presidential-documents cases against Trump are laughable on their face.

Additionally, given the massive conflict of interest involved in this AG's shielding of **Hunter Biden's** overseas business shenanigans from any **special-counsel** probe, it's obvious that he abides by banana-republic rules and not by the rule of the equal application of justice.

James Hyland, Beechhurst

---- **Index References** ----

Company: Federal Bureau of Investigation

News Subject: (Campaigns & Elections (1CA25); Corruption, Bribery & Embezzlement (1EM51); Crime (1CR87); Criminal Law (1CR79); Fraud (1FR30); Global Politics (1GL73); Government (1GO80); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Public Affairs (1PU31); Social Issues (1SO05); World Elections (1WO93))

Region: (Americas (1AM92); New York (1NE72); North America (1NO39); U.S. Mid-Atlantic Region (1MI18); USA (1US73))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (FBI) (President Donald Trump)

Edition: All Editions

Word Count: 645

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

12/11/20 N.Y. Post 4
2020 WLNR 35395090

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

December 11, 2020

Section: News

THE BIDEN FILES Growing GOP cries for **special counsel**

Brude Golding

Calls for a **special counsel** to investigate President-elect Joe Biden's son gained steam Thursday as a leading Republican senator said suspected tax fraud was likely the "least damaging" allegation against **Hunter Biden**.

Sen. Tom Cotton (R-Ark.) said the probe that Hunter disclosed Wednesday "appears to be pretty far-reaching" and said the Justice Department should appoint a **special counsel** before his dad is sworn into office on Jan. 20.

"The Biden campaign released details of a tax-fraud investigation in Wilmington. I think that was just to show maybe the least damaging part of the investigation," Cotton told Fox News.

He added: "If Joe Biden becomes president, then all those prosecutors are in line to be fired next month. If there were ever circumstances that create a conflict of interest and call for a **special counsel**, that's here."

Cotton's remarks followed a letter sent Monday by Rep. Ken Buck (R-Colo.), who asked US Attorney General William Barr to appoint a **special counsel** to investigate Hunter.

"This investigation is critical to defending the integrity of our republic and ensuring a potential Biden Administration will not be the subject of undue foreign interference," Buck wrote in the letter obtained by Fox News.

Rep. Devin Nunes (R-Calif.), ranking member of the House Intelligence Committee, also said Wednesday that he thought a **special counsel** might be needed.

--- Index References ---

News Subject: (Crime (ICR87); Criminal Law (ICR79); Financial Fraud (1FI18); Fraud (1FR30); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Social Issues (1SO05))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Devin Nunes; Hunter Biden; Joe Biden; Ken Buck; Tom Cotton; William Barr)

Edition: All Editions

Word Count: 228

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

12/22/20 N.Y. Post 8
2020 WLNR 36561984

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

December 22, 2020

Section: News

No **special counsel** for Hunter: Barr Says current probe is enough

Steven Nelson

The Justice Department has no reason to appoint a **special counsel** to investigate President-elect Joe **Biden's** son, **Hunter**, Attorney General William Barr said Monday.

"I think to the extent that there's an investigation, I think that it's being handled responsibly and professionally currently within the department, and to this point, I have not seen a reason to appoint a special counsel and I have no plan to do so before I leave," Barr said at a press conference,

Asked if he was concerned that the Biden administration would end the Hunter Biden probe, Barr said, "I'm hoping that the next administration handles that matter responsibly."

Barr's last day on the job is Wednesday. Deputy Attorney General Jeffery Rosen will become the acting attorney general.

Hunter Biden, 50, whose lucrative overseas business relationships drew scrutiny during the presidential campaign, confirmed this month that he's under federal investigation for possible tax fraud.

The probe "involves multiple US attorney offices and FBI field offices," sources told The Associated Press last week.

The attorney general has the power to appoint **special counsels**, who, as a means of insulating the office from political pressure, cannot be fired without a finding of misconduct.

President Trump's allies want a **special counsel** to begin reviewing the **Hunter Biden** case while Trump is still in office so that a Joe Biden-nominated attorney general and Biden-nominated US attorneys can't quash the investigation.

Documents from a **Hunter Biden** hard drive that were published in October by The Post appear to link the president-elect to his son's business relationships in China and Ukraine.

Rosen said last week he would continue "to do things on the merits and to do things on the basis of the law and the facts. That's how I thought about it from the beginning, and that's how I'll think about it through the end."

Many details about Hunter Biden's overseas work remain murky. For example, a September report from Senate Republicans said he received \$3.5 million from Elena Baturina, the widow of former Moscow Mayor Yury Luzhkov. Senators said they did not know the purpose of the payment.

In the first presidential debate, Joe Biden said it was "not true" that Hunter received that money.

Barr in October secretly made Connecticut US Attorney John Durham a **special counsel** so that he can complete his review of alleged FBI misconduct preceding **special counsel** Robert Mueller's Russia investigation, which found no evidence that Trump conspired with Russia in 2016, as claimed by Democrats.

---- **Index References** ----

News Subject: (Crime (1CR87); Criminal Law (1CR79); Emerging Market Countries (1EM65); Financial Fraud (1FI18); Fraud (1FR30); Government (1GO80); Government Litigation (1GO18); Judicial Cases & Rulings (1JU36); Legal (1LE33); Public Affairs (1PU31); Social Issues (1SO05))

Region: (Asia (1AS61); CIS Countries (1CI64); Eastern Europe (1EA48); Europe (1EU83); Russia (1RU33))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Elena Baturina; Trump; Hunter Biden; Robert Mueller; Jeffery Rosen; John Durham; Yury Luzhkov; Joe Biden; William Barr)

Edition: All Editions

Word Count: 416

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

12/13/20 N.Y. Post 11
2020 WLNR 35585921

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

December 13, 2020

Section: News

Time to call in a **special counsel**

MICHAEL GOODWIN

Now that the election is over and it is safe for the media to cover the **Hunter Biden** scandal they ignored when The Post broke the story in October, things in Washington are getting back to normal. FBI and Justice Department officials are once again leaking like sieves to their favorite reporters.

The New York Times knew before the election that Joe Biden was the "big guy" in line for a secret 10 percent stake in a deal with a Chinese energy conglomerate, but the paper withheld the information from readers. Yet now that **Hunter Biden** admits he's under a criminal tax probe, the Gray Lady begins to stir.

In a Friday piece about the perils of the probe for Hunter's father, the Times writes that "the inquiry originally focused on possible money laundering but did not gather enough evidence for a prosecution, according to people close to the case."

Yada yada yada, the real question is, what else did the Times know and when did it know it? And why did it keep silent before Election Day?

Try to imagine Donald Trump and his family getting the same deference.

"People familiar with the matter" are also telling The Wall Street Journal that Attorney General Bill Barr kept two separate probes into Hunter Biden quiet during the final weeks of the campaign.

Perhaps it wasn't Barr — perhaps it was the leakers who stayed silent to protect Biden. Or maybe the leakers leaked but the media didn't want to hurt their candidate, so they waited until after the election.

In any event, the Journal story says that, in addition to the Delaware tax case, federal prosecutors in New York had been examining Hunter for a year as part of an "international financial investigation." That would have been worth knowing earlier.

Sources always have an agenda, but when they are permitted to hide behind a cloak of anonymity, readers cannot judge their credibility and motive. Worse, readers increasingly don't believe reporters even try to tell the truth.

Trust in the media was at a historic low before so many outlets betrayed their public duty during the campaign, complete with suppression polls. The supposed cream of the Washington press corps not only showed zero curiosity about the Biden family's lucrative business schemes, they actively tried to debunk The Post's stories as "Russian disinformation" or a smear.

A Fox News poll finds that 36 percent of all voters believe the election was stolen from Trump, with nearly seven out of 10 Republicans sharing that view. But if the election was stolen, who stole it?

For my money, the best analogy is Agatha Christie's "Murder on the Orient Express." Everybody had a motive, and everybody plunged the knife.

Democrats clearly wanted to erase the states' guardrails on ballot integrity, and they did, sometimes with GOP assistance or indifference.

Then there's Big Tech, whose censors always lean in one direction. Their political donations and news blackouts are two sides of the same agenda.

The Deep State was a zealous backstabber. More than 50 former intelligence officials, many of whom probably wanted jobs in a Biden administration, signed a letter suggesting the Post reports on Hunter Biden smacked of Russian disinformation. The signers included former CIA chiefs John Brennan, Gen. Michael Hayden, Leon Panetta and Michael Morell, all of whom turned out to be wrong. Some spooks they are.

An honest media would have blown the whistle on all these dirty tricks. But we don't have an honest media. The one we have either looked the other way or played cheerleader.

Someone wrote that, by standing alone against the mob, The Post proved itself the nation's indispensable newspaper. That high praise is borne out by the fact that the October reports were on the money — and there were no anonymous sources. The paper identified Rudy Giuliani as the source of the contents of the laptop Hunter left at a Delaware repair shop and failed to retrieve, and the repair-shop owner confirmed it.

To this day, neither **Hunter** nor Joe **Biden** has disputed any of the e-mails, messages and lurid pictures found on the device.

Consider this, too: The Post's reports, including interviews with Tony Bobulinski, a former partner to **Hunter** and Jim **Biden**, presented more solid evidence about dirty dealings by the Biden family than anyone found on Trump and his family. This is true despite **special counsel** Robert Mueller's two-year probe into Russia, Russia, Russia and the nonstop House impeachment investigations.

The confederacy against Trump gives rise to another reality: The only way to protect the probe into the Biden family money-grubbing is through the appointment of a special counsel. The need for protection was the logic behind the Mueller appointment, and it applies now in spades.

Not only must the probe be protected from Joe Biden's White House but also from FBI Director Christopher Wray. Biden indicated he wants Wray to stay on, so the lackluster chief starts with an enormous conflict of interest, as will the eventual attorney general.

In fact, the special counsel provision is to be used when there are conflicts of interest among investigators and prosecutors. This case fits the definition in every possible way.

Most worrisome is that the foreign governments that tried to buy influence with Joe Biden by paying millions to his brother and drug-addled son know if they got anything in return, and whether Biden has compromised himself. Hunter's biggest deals took

place when his father was vice president and in countries where Joe was the frontman for the Obama-Biden administration, including Ukraine, Russia and China.

In China, our No. 1 global adversary, Hunter made millions upon millions of dollars in deals with firms tied to the ruling Communist Party. And recall that Joe and his brother Jim were also involved in the 2017 planned deal with the energy conglomerate, according to Bobulinski, who provided his information to the public and the FBI.

The potential implications for America's national security are enormous. The Trump administration has forcefully confronted China on numerous fronts, including trade deals, repression in Hong Kong and among the Uighurs and its military expansion in the South China Sea. As a result, Joe Biden will be under pressure from President Xi Jinping to take a softer approach.

If he does, will that show he is bought and paid for? And what else does China know about the Bidens that Americans don't?

The decision is up to Barr. When he announced he had elevated John Durham, the prosecutor probing the FBI's spying on the Trump 2016 campaign, to the position of special counsel, Barr said he wanted to provide Durham and his team "with the assurance that they could complete their work, without regard to the outcome of the election."

The Biden probe is potentially far more consequential, and it deserves at least those same protections.

---- **Index References** ----

News Subject: (Campaigns & Elections (1CA25); Emerging Market Countries (1EM65); Global Politics (1GL73); Government (1GO80); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Political Parties (1PO73); Public Affairs (1PU31); World Elections (1WO93))

Region: (Americas (1AM92); Asia (1AS61); CIS Countries (1CI64); China (1CH15); Delaware (1DE13); Eastern Asia (1EA61); Eastern Europe (1EA48); Europe (1EU83); Far East (1FA27); North America (1NO39); Russia (1RU33); U.S. Mid-Atlantic Region (1MI18); USA (1US73))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (The New York Times; Wall Street Journal) (Donald Trump; Donald John Trump; Robert Mueller; John Durham; Leon Panetta; John Brennan; Rudy Giuliani; Xi Jinping; Michael Hayden; Tony Bobulinski; Hunter Biden; Michael Morell; n't Barr; Jim Biden; Christopher Wray; Joe Biden; Bill Barr; John William Barr)

Edition: Sports+Late City Final

Word Count: 1143

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

12/25/20 N.Y. Post 7
2020 WLNR 36861863

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

December 25, 2020

Section: News

Hunter still has a \$lice (slice) 10% in China Communist invest firm

Steven Nelson

President-elect Joe **Biden's** son, **Hunter**, still owns a 10 percent stake in an investment firm he formed with institutions owned by the Chinese Communist Party.

The continued ownership, first reported by The Wall Street Journal, comes despite the president-elect saying this month that Hunter won't "be involved in any business, any enterprise that is in conflict with or appears to be in conflict with where there's appropriate distance from the presidency."

Hunter Biden formed the investment business, called BHR Partners, 12 days after he joined his father aboard Air Force Two for a December 2013 trip to Beijing.

The Journal reports that the firm is "controlled and funded primarily by large Chinese government-owned shareholders," including the Bank of China.

Although it had initial goals of raising \$1.5 billion in investment capital, it reportedly fell far short.

The Journal reports that a **Hunter Biden**-owned Delaware company, Skaneateles LLC, still owns 10 percent of BHR, according to business records.

A source close to **Hunter Biden** told Fox News he's in the process of offloading the ownership. But that too could invite scrutiny because his stake at one point was worth an estimated \$420,000, in part based on capital invested by Chinese partners.

Spokespeople for Joe Biden's transition office did not immediately respond to a request for comment. An attorney for **Hunter Biden** also did not immediately respond.

Hunter Biden confirmed this month that he's under federal investigation for possible tax fraud.

President Trump's allies want there to be a **special counsel** reviewing **Hunter Biden's** overseas business relationships so the investigation will be insulated from political pressure after Joe Biden takes office on Jan. 20.

In October, The Post reported that documents from **Hunter Biden's** laptop appeared to implicate Joe Biden in his son's business relationships in China and Ukraine.

A 2017 e-mail chain involving **Hunter Biden** and associates brokering a proposed business deal with a Chinese energy company described a 10 percent set-aside for the "big guy," whom former **Hunter Biden** business partner Tony Bobulinski publicly identified as Joe Biden. That China deal reportedly did not come to fruition.

Trump claimed repeatedly during the presidential campaign that China would "own" the US if Biden won, in part because of **Hunter Biden's** business dealings in China.

House Democrats impeached Trump last year for inquiring with Ukraine about investigating **Hunter Biden's** reported \$50,000-per-month job on the board of Ukrainian energy firm Burisma, while his dad led the Obama administration's Ukraine policy.

Senate Republicans acquitted Trump after Trump defense lawyer Pam Bondi argued that White House visitor logs appeared to link Biden to his son's employment.

"Here's how **Hunter Biden** came to join Burisma's board in April 2014: he was brought on the board by Devon Archer, his business partner," Bondi said.

"Public records show that April 16, 2014, Devon Archer meets with Vice President Biden at the White House. Just two days later on April 18, 2014, is when Hunter Biden quietly joins Burisma."

snelson@nypost.com

---- **Index References** ----

Company: BANK OF CHINA LTD; SKANEATELES CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ONONDAGA COUNTY NEW YORK

News Subject: (Business Management (1BU42); Corporate Events (1CR05); Corporate Funding (1XO17); Corporate Groups & Ownership (1XO09); Emerging Market Countries (1EM65); Funding Instruments (1FU41); Government (1GO80); Legislation (1LE97); Mergers & Acquisitions (1ME39); Regulatory Affairs (1RE51); U.S. Legislation (1US12); Venture Capital (1VE73))

Industry: (Financial Services (1FI37); Financial Services Regulatory (1FI03))

Region: (Asia (1AS61); CIS Countries (1CI64); China (1CH15); Eastern Asia (1EA61); Eastern Europe (1EA48); Europe (1EU83); Far East (1FA27); USA (1US73); Ukraine (1UK09))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (BHR Partners; Burisma; Chinese partners) (Trump; Hunter Biden; Devon Archer; Joe Biden; Pam Bondi; Tony Bobulinski)

Edition: All Editions

Word Count: 490

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

11/18/20 N.Y. Post 13
2020 WLNR 32905502

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

November 18, 2020

Section: News

Shady Joe biz probe overdue

Michael Goodwin

Tuesday's hearing starring the Masters of the Universe offered another reminder that Big Tech meddled in the election by blocking The Post's reporting on **Hunter Biden's** business schemes. As Sen. Lindsey Graham put it to Twitter's Jack Dorsey and Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg, "What I want to try to find out is . . . why do you have editorial control over the New York Post?"

Their yada yada yada answers don't change the fact that Dorsey and Zuckerberg abused their enormous power to fit their partisan bias. Protecting Joe Biden was their goal, and their actions, combined with left-wing media outlets' decision to ignore the revelations, prevented most Americans from learning about the scandal for two weeks in late October, when millions of people were voting.

Yet something worse than a news blackout looms if Joe Biden becomes president. The complete truth about his family's lucrative and suspect connections with foreign powers would never see the light of day because a Biden Department of Justice would almost certainly deep-six evidence of wrongdoing.

That evidence includes the messages, documents and e-mails presented by whistleblower Tony Bobulinski, a former partner of **Hunter** and **Jim Biden**. Bobulinski says Joe Biden was slated to get a 10 percent cut of a big deal with a Chinese conglomerate whose owners were close to the Communist government and military.

There is no absolute way to prevent the FBI from burying the case. But there is one way to make that step more difficult to take and impossible to conceal.

While he still has the job, Attorney General Bill Barr should name a special counsel to take over the Biden probe. The move would guarantee that any decision to squash the investigation or fire the investigators after the change of administrations would instantly become known, and could be contested by Congress and the public.

Barr's authority is the same one the Justice Department used to appoint Robert Mueller as **special counsel** to investigate President Trump and allegations his team colluded with Russia during the 2016 campaign. Although Trump could have fired Mueller, a bipartisan firestorm of condemnation would have resulted. Moreover, making him **special counsel** shielded the probe from the ordinary chain of command in the Justice Department and FBI.

That same dynamic exists with the Bidens now. As it stands, the Chinese government knows more about payments to the Biden family than the American public does, which would make a President Biden a potential target for blackmail.

Similarly, forcing the FBI to go public with its probe would prevent it from secretly holding information against Biden. Recall that J. Edgar Hoover was fond of collecting dirt on politicians to keep them under his thumb. There is no reason on Earth to recreate that sinister dynamic.

In fact, a **special counsel** is even more appropriate now because the FBI has had a money-laundering probe of **Hunter Biden** dating to 2019. The existing probe could be expanded to include the information uncovered by The Post and Bobulinski.

Agents already have a copy of the hard drive of the **Hunter Biden** laptop that contained the e-mails showing Joe Biden's involvement. One e-mail was a thank-you note to Hunter from an adviser to Ukrainian energy company Burisma for setting up a meeting with his father, who was then vice president. The corrupt company was paying Hunter up to \$83,000 a month to be a director despite his having no experience in Ukraine or the energy field.

Among other things, the e-mail about the meeting puts the lie to Joe Biden's claim that he never discussed with Hunter his son's business dealings. The claim was never credible given that Hunter flew to China on Air Force Two with his father in 2013 and landed a commitment of \$1.5 billion as an investment from a Chinese bank.

According to records obtained by Judicial Watch, **Hunter Biden** flew to 29 different countries, including five trips to China, with Secret Service protection during the first five-and-one-half years of the Obama- **Biden** administration. **Hunter**, who has admitted to drug problems, had business deals in many of those countries, and acknowledged that his last name was a reason why he was hired.

Actually, his name was the only reason he was hired, which means he was getting rich off his father's official power. Joe Biden has some explaining to do, and it is disgraceful that the left-wing media never demanded answers during the campaign.

Another e-mail on the laptop outlined payments and equity stakes in a joint venture with the Chinese energy conglomerate. It said Hunter was holding a 10 percent stake for the "big guy," whom Bobulinski identified as Joe Biden.

Bobulinski, a former wrestler at Penn State, also told the FBI he met twice with Joe Biden to discuss the family's businesses because he was to be the CEO in the joint venture. Bobulinski told me that at the second meeting, the former vice president asked him to "Keep an eye on my son and brother and look out for my family."

Evidence of potential wrongdoing also emerged in a Senate investigation led by Republicans Ron Johnson of Wisconsin and Chuck Grassley of Iowa. Their September report showed Hunter Biden getting \$3.5 million from the Russian ex-wife of a Moscow mayor and millions more from Chinese officials. Hunter wired a total of \$1.4 million to Jim Biden from the same account, the report says.

Grassley, in a letter to Barr last week, suggested Hunter and Jim Biden were acting as agents for China despite not being registered under the Foreign Agents Registration Act. He also demanded to know whether the FBI was investigating them for that or other criminal matters.

Absent court reversals of election results, time is running out and Barr must move soon. If Democrats protest, he can remind them of their determination to probe Trump about Russia.

Turnabout is not just fair play. A special counsel could provide the sunlight needed to reveal the truth about the Biden family business.

--- Index References ---

Company: FACEBOOK INC; TWITTER INC

News Subject: (Corruption, Bribery & Embezzlement (1EM51); Crime (1CR87); Criminal Law (1CR79); Emerging Market Countries (1EM65); Fraud (1FR30); Government (1GO80); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Legislation (1LE97); Social Issues (1SO05); U.S. Legislation (1US12))

Industry: (Security (1SE29); Security Agencies (1SE35))

Region: (Asia (1AS61); CIS Countries (1CI64); China (1CH15); Eastern Asia (1EA61); Eastern Europe (1EA48); Europe (1EU83); Far East (1FA27); Russia (1RU33); USA (1US73))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Bobulinski; Burisma) (Robert Mueller; Chuck Grassley; Mark Zuckerberg; Mark Zuckerberg; Jack Dorsey; Jack Dorsey; Lindsey Graham; Tony Bobulinski; Trump; Hunter Biden; J. Edgar Hoover; Jim Biden; Ron Johnson; Donald G. Johnson; Joe Biden; Bill Barr)

Edition: Sports+Late City Final

Word Count: 1006

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

12/26/20 N.Y. Post 20
2020 WLNR 36919189

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

December 26, 2020

Section: OpEd

letters@nypost.com Giving Hunter a Free Pass: Barr's **Special-Counsel** Flub

Ex-Attorney General Barr's decision not to appoint a **special counsel** to investigate **Hunter Biden**.

I disagree with exiting Attorney General Bill Barr ("No **special counsel** for Hunter: Barr," Dec. 22).

Although I believe he has been a tremendous force and has handled most of the issues that have come before him in a professional manner, I must disagree with Barr's decision to not assign a special counsel to investigate Hunter Biden.

He is assuming that it will be handled in a professional manner. I cannot disagree more, given the fact that President-elect Joe Biden has lied to us twice: once when he said he would not lie to the American people and again when he said he had no knowledge of his son's activities.

I cannot trust that he will see this through on his own. The mere fact that the incoming president's son is under investigation, and that President Biden can quench the investigation, is reason enough to appoint a special counsel.

How can we not ask that this be handled without interruption to a final conclusion, given the stakes and who is involved?

Joe Marco, Hatboro, Pa.

Really? Barr has no reason to appoint a special council to investigate Joe Biden's son Hunter?

Barr said: "I think to the extent that there's an investigation, I think that it's being handled responsibly and professionally currently, within the department."

On Jan. 20, when the Biden regime takes over, all bets are off. Biden is a consummate liar, having proven that time and time again. Expect this behavior to continue, while he squashes any attempt to prosecute his son.

Barr lowered the bar once again, to make this investigation another embarrassing, complete joke, after spouting all of his useless innuendos.

Mike Pedano, South Farmingdale

In refusing to appoint a special counsel to investigate Hunter Biden's potentially nefarious dealings with the Communist Chinese, Barr has essentially exonerated him from prosecution.

Only a fool, or a Washington bureaucrat, could believe that Biden would continue an investigation of his son, which could result in both criminal charges against Hunter and very possibly Biden's own impeachment.

Jake Kaufman, Naples, Fla.

Barr assures us that the Hunter Biden tax-fraud probe is in good Department of Justice hands, but shouldn't he have understood that a Biden presidency will be dangerously compromised because of that unseemly business connection?

Whereas the Supreme Court seems to have sacrificed originalism out of fear of violent, left-wing mob reprisals, with its rejection of Texas' equal-protection lawsuit vis-a-vis massive election fraud, Barr's refusal to appoint a special counsel to probe Biden, Inc. seems to be caused by his fear of being historically tarred as Trump's toady. I guess he's he comfortable being branded a sunshine patriot instead.

James Hyland, Beechhurst

Outgoing AG Barr will not appoint a special counsel to investigate Hunter Biden. And you thought former Attorney General Jeff Sessions was useless.

Walter Goldeski, East Brunswick, NJ

It is unlikely that Biden will appoint a new attorney general who will be impartial.

Every professional politician in Washington is aware that the fix is in, and that the **Hunter Biden** investigation will take many years to complete — if ever.

By the time Biden leaves office, it is unlikely anyone in Washington will care about the potentially illegal acts that **Hunter** and Joe **Biden** may have committed in 2014.

This year when American voters toast-in the New Year, they will also toast-out democracy as we know it.

Daniel Robinowitz, Dallas, Texas

---- **Index References** ----

Company: AG BARR PLC

News Subject: (Campaigns & Elections (1CA25); Crime (1CR87); Criminal Law (1CR79); Fraud (1FR30); Global Politics (1GL73); Government Litigation (1GO18); Judicial Cases & Rulings (1JU36); Legal (1LE33); Social Issues (1SO05); World Elections (1WO93))

Region: (Americas (1AM92); North America (1NO39); Texas (1TE14); U.S. Southwest Region (1SO89); USA (1US73))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Biden Inc.) (Jeff Sessions; James Hyland; James Hyland; Jake Kaufman; Mike Pedano; Joe Marco; Walter Goldeski; Trump; Hunter Biden; Daniel Robinowitz; Joe Biden; Bill Barr; John William Barr)

Edition: All Editions

Word Count: 584

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

12/18/20 N.Y. Post 9
2020 WLNR 36166097

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

December 18, 2020

Section: News

Trump: Not me Denies Hunter probe role

Steven Nelson

President Trump on Thursday tweeted that he's not involved in the federal investigation of **Hunter Biden**, as he responded to reports that he's pushing for the appointment of a **special counsel** to take over the probe.

"I have NOTHING to do with the potential prosecution of **Hunter Biden**, or the Biden family. It is just more Fake News. Actually, I find it very sad to watch!" Trump tweeted.

The son of President-elect Joe Biden confirmed this month that he's under federal investigation for possible tax fraud.

The Associated Press reported Wednesday that the probe "involves multiple US attorney offices and FBI field offices."

The attorney general has the power to appoint a **special counsel**, who cannot be fired without a finding of misconduct, insulating the office from political pressure.

Trump allies want a **special counsel** reviewing **Hunter Biden's** overseas business dealings so that a Joe Biden-nominated attorney general and Biden-nominated US attorneys won't quash the investigation.

Attorney General William Barr on Monday submitted his resignation, effective Dec. 23, meaning any successor is likely to decide whether to name a **special counsel**.

Barr in October secretly made US Attorney John Durham of Connecticut a **special counsel** so that he could complete his review of FBI misconduct preceding **special counsel** Robert Mueller's Russia investigation, which found no evidence Trump conspired with Russia in 2016, as alleged by Democrats.

Documents from a **Hunter Biden** hard drive that were published in October by The Post appear to link the president-elect to his son's business relationships in China and Ukraine.

Trump was impeached last year for pressuring Ukraine to investigate **Hunter Biden's** reported \$50,000-a-month job on the board of energy company Burisma while his father, as vice president, led the Obama administration's Ukraine policy.

But the Senate acquitted Trump in February of charges he abused his power and obstructed Congress.

--- Index References ---

News Subject: (Corruption, Bribery & Embezzlement (1EM51); Crime (1CR87); Criminal Law (1CR79); Financial Fraud (1FI18); Fraud (1FR30); Government Litigation (1GO18); Legal (1LE33); Social Issues (1SO05))

Industry: (Security (1SE29); Security Agencies (1SE35))

Region: (CIS Countries (1CI64); Eastern Europe (1EA48); Europe (1EU83); Ukraine (1UK09))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Trump; Hunter Biden; Robert Mueller; John Durham; Joe Biden; William Barr)

Edition: All Editions

Word Count: 310

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom

NewsRoom

11/25/20 N.Y. Post 11
2020 WLNR 33654883

New York Post
Copyright 2009, The New York Post. All Rights Reserved

November 25, 2020

Section: News

Biden beats a dead donkey

Michael Goodwin

Psst, an occasionally reliable source tells me Joe Biden has settled on a motto for his administration. It's going to be "The Way We Were."

Just before he announced the first members of his team, the next president was heard singing in his Delaware basement,

"Memories light the corners of my mind,

"Misty water-colored memories of the way we were."

My source claims Biden wanted Perry Como to sing the song at the inauguration. Informed that Como died nearly 20 years ago, Biden agreed to let a fresh face, Barbra Streisand, give it a try.

The next president turned 78 last Friday and his first selections reveal he's got a bad case of nostalgia. Less kindly, he's stuck in the past.

Is Biden assembling an administration or a wax museum? John Kerry (right) and Janet Yellen, you're melting! And it has nothing to do with climate change.

The problem is not just that Biden's selections show a fondness for old shoes. It's the policies, stupid.

Robert Gates, who ran the CIA and was later Secretary of Defense during much of the Obama-Biden administration, famously said of the former vice president, "I think he's been wrong on nearly every major foreign-policy and national security issue over the past four decades."

In Washington terms, that gives Biden a perfect record, and because nothing succeeds like failure, it's not surprising he would tap others involved in many of the same policy disasters.

As Sen. Marco Rubio described it, Biden has gathered "polite and orderly caretakers of American decline."

America First is dead, America Last is back. Is there a good idea in the house?

Kerry, as secretary of state, was the architect of the Iran deal and the Paris climate accord, both of which President Trump rightly jettisoned. Now Kerry's back as climate czar, and eager to throw another wet blanket over the economy. Biden foolishly also put him on the National Security Council, guaranteeing monologues and endless turf battles.

The Iran pact coddled and financed the murderous mullahs and their terror brigades while paving the way for them to get nukes. Biden, perhaps unaware of the earth-shattering Mideast changes during the last four years, has talked of wanting to return to it.

Somebody might want to get his attention by singing that "time has rewritten every line." Under the Abraham Accords forged by Trump, three Muslim countries — the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Sudan — recognized Israel and are establishing trade and tourist relations with the Jewish state. Just last weekend, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia met in a historic first, suggesting the Saudis might join the growing club.

The triumph of peace over hatred reflects that the four Muslim countries fear Iran and regard Israel as an ally. Kerry said such deals were not possible without Palestinian approval. He was clearly wrong, so why would Biden jeopardize progress by again embracing Iran and its malignant regime?

Here's another sure sign of how bad Biden's picks are: China is delighted. The Global Times, a Communist Party mouthpiece pretending to be a newspaper, saw the choices, especially that of Tony Blinken as Secretary of State and Jake Sullivan as national security adviser, as evidence Biden "would bring back a rational approach to relations with China."

Rational to China means they win, we lose. That was the imbalance Trump inherited, and he made great progress in changing, or didn't Biden notice that either?

Even most Democrats realize that China was ripping off our technology and stealing jobs for the last 30 years, and that Trump's trade deals, and the use of tariffs, were big steps in fixing the one-sided relationship.

The Global Times also quoted a Chinese professor as saying Blinken's history shows "his stance is softer than that of the current administration." Another professor said that "Compared to Trump's barbaric style of dealing with China, Biden will take a much more civilized manner with a much more clever approach."

Amidst all this flattery, it's worth remembering that China, with its vast spying network and cyber snooping, knows what **Hunter Biden** was up to with his schemes, and also what Joe Biden knew about his son's lucrative deal with Chinese officials, struck while Joe was veep. And Blinken reportedly met twice with **Hunter Biden** in 2015 in the State Department.

That kind of thing is why Attorney General Bill Barr must take the existing FBI probe of possible money laundering by **Hunter** and **Jim Biden**, Joe's brother, and fold it into an expanded probe headed by a **special counsel**. The aim would be to protect the investigation from a Biden White House so it could learn whether crimes were committed and whether Joe Biden is compromised by his family's dealings with leaders of the Communist Party.

Tony Bobulinski, a former partner of Hunter and Jim's, told the FBI that Joe Biden was slated to get a secret 10 percent cut in one arrangement. It's worth noting, too, that no Biden has claimed the bombshell e-mails The Post published or anything Bobulinski said is false.

Sullivan, the new national security adviser, also has some explaining to do. He worked for Biden in the White House, so presumably knows all about the family's China connections. He also helped push the Steele dossier, which was used by the FBI to spy on Trump's 2016 campaign and ultimately led to the Robert Mueller investigation.

As Fox News reported, Sullivan secretly admitted to Congress he met with Washington media outlets before the 2016 election and "walked through what we understood to be the case" of Russia collusion with the Trump campaign. Chalk that up as another example of weaponizing government power for partisan purposes, though not a single Democrat, including Biden, ever apologized for putting the nation through three years of hell based on phony accusations of collusion.

It's bad enough most of those people escaped accountability. Worse, some now get an encore. Backward, march!

---- **Index References** ----

News Subject: (Emerging Market Countries (1EM65); Government (1GO80); Legislation (1LE97); U.S. Legislation (1US12))

Industry: (Security (1SE29); Security Agencies (1SE35))

Region: (Arab States (1AR46); Asia (1AS61); China (1CH15); Eastern Asia (1EA61); Far East (1FA27); Gulf States (1GU47); Iran (1IR40); Middle East (1MI23); Saudi Arabia (1SA38); USA (1US73); Western Asia (1WE54))

Language: EN

Other Indexing: (Robert Gates; E Robert Gates; Tony Blinken; Robert Mueller; John Kerry; Jake Sullivan; Perry Como; Tony Bobulinski; Trump; Hunter Biden; Marco Rubio; Jim Biden; Joe Biden; Benjamin Netanyahu; Janet Yellen; Bill Barr; William J. Barr; Barbra Streisand)

Edition: Sports+Late City Final

Word Count: 994

End of Document

© 2023 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

NewsRoom



Garland slammed for acting as 'surrogate' for Biden as Hunter probe drags on: 'Weakest AG in 40 years'

By Bailee Hill

Published March 02, 2023

Fox News

Attorney General Merrick Garland faced an intense grilling on Capitol Hill over a variety of topics on Wednesday, one of them being the viability of the Hunter Biden investigation.

Critics have long alleged the Department of Justice has politicized the FBI, compromising its impartiality, and have worried the trend will impact the probe into Hunter's foreign business transactions.

Despite the concerns, Garland insisted during his testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee that the investigation will remain untouched from political influence.

HUNTER BIDEN, AN OBAMA AMBASSADOR AND CHINESE BUSINESSMAN: A 'VERY GOOD RELATIONSHIP'

But former Assistant FBI Director Chris Swecker was not convinced.

He accused Garland of being a "surrogate" for the Biden White House during "Fox & Friends First" on Thursday, dismissing the attorney general's pledge.

"Merrick Garland knows what he's supposed to do. He's the surrogate for the administration... he's proven that," Swecker told Ashley Strohmier and Todd Piro.

"So it's just a wink and a nod... He can pledge that he won't interfere all he wants, but there is no reason why the U.S. attorney in Delaware should be sitting on this case for well over a year."

"It's very clear to me, as someone who ran the criminal division of the FBI and was a former prosecutor before I went in the FBI, that they have the evidence," he continued. "Whatever evidence they have, they're just sitting on it, and they're delaying the decision."

Garland's critics have been quick to note that he has not yet appointed a special counsel on the Hunter Biden probe, as the case remains in the hands of Delaware U.S. Attorney David C. Weiss.

HUNTER BIDEN'S EX-WIFE SAYS BUSINESS PARTNER SCHWERIN 'MANAGED ALMOST EVERY ASPECT' OF THEIR FINANCES: MEMOIR

Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, pressed him on what would happen if Weiss needed to pursue the case against Biden outside his Delaware jurisdiction.

The attorney general assured the senator that Weiss would have "full authority" to make an outside referral.

However, Grassley said if that is the case, the probe may not be insulated from partisan influence after all if a judge, appointed by

the president, is responsible for approving potential charges.



President Joe Biden and his son, Hunter Biden, step off Air Force One, Saturday, Feb. 4, 2023, at Hancock Field Air National Guard Base in Syracuse, N.Y. The Bidens are in Syracuse to visit with family members following the passing of Michael Hunter, the brother of the president's first wife, Neilia Hunter Biden. (AP Photo/Patrick Semansky)

"If Weiss, the U.S. attorney there in Delaware, must seek permission from a Biden-appointed U.S. attorney to bring charges, then the Hunter Biden criminal investigation isn't insulated from political interference as you have publicly proclaimed," Grassley said during the hearing.

COMER TARGETS FORMER SERBIAN POLITICIAN'S LINK TO CCP, HUNTER BIDEN AS PROBE INTO BIDEN FAM BUSINESS CONTINUES

Despite Garland vowing to allow an independent Hunter Biden investigation, Swecker sounded the alarm the Justice Department's broader trend of what he called "political" targeting.

"He could not explain why the might and power of the Justice Department under his supervision only seems to fall on people who are on the right wing of the political spectrum who have conservative ideology," Swecker said. "I was looking for answers to those questions, and what I saw were dodges and passing the buck over to the agents that did it, it wasn't me."

"I think he's probably the poorest leader, the weakest attorney general I have seen in my 40 years in this business," he continued.

Hunter Biden has been under investigation since 2018 for potential tax and foreign lobbying violations related to his overseas business ventures.

CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP

He is facing both federal and congressional investigations after suspicious activity reports (SARs) were flagged, allegedly related to money funneled from China and other countries.

Separately, the president is also facing a special counsel over his alleged mishandling of classified material. They are the first

president-son duo to be under separate investigations at the same time.

Fox News' Elizabeth Elkind contributed to this report.

Bailee Hill is an associate editor with Fox News Digital. Story ideas can be sent to bailee.hill@fox.com

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/garland-slammed-acting-surrogate-biden-hunter-probe-drags-weakest-ag-40-years>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ

[JIM JORDAN](#)

Jim Jordan rails against special counsel double standard in Hunter Biden investigation

by [Rachel Schilke, Breaking News Reporter](#) | 

March 05, 2023 04:39 PM

Rep. [Jim Jordan](#) (R-OH) asked the [Justice Department](#) why a [special counsel](#) has not been appointed in its investigation of [Hunter Biden](#), emphasizing a monthslong argument from Republicans over a double standard within the department.

"All we've said is, why isn't there a special counsel for the Hunter Biden issue? A number of us had inquired because, you know, these are — the special counsels for when there's a conflict," Jordan said in a Sunday interview with Fox News' Maria Bartiromo.

[JIM JORDAN DEMANDS ANSWERS FROM GARLAND ABOUT HUNTER BIDEN INVESTIGATION](#)

"And there certainly seems to be a conflict when you've got a U.S. attorney investigating the son of the former candidate for president, current president of the United States. Why isn't there a special counsel?" Jordan continued.

Jordan [wrote a letter](#) last week to Attorney General Merrick Garland demanding documents and answers regarding the Justice Department's investigation of the younger Biden, who is under severe scrutiny for his business dealings potentially interfering in U.S. foreign affairs.

"To date, you have declined to appoint a special counsel in this matter, despite appointing special counsels in other investigations. Your refusal to appoint a special counsel here is conspicuous in this context," Jordan said in the letter.

Rep. Jim Jordan, R-Ohio, a member of the House Judiciary Committee, center, criticizes Democrats for launching a formal impeachment inquiry against President Donald Trump, at the Capitol in Washington, Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2019. (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

Jordan, who chairs the House Judiciary Committee, said on Sunday that the committee wants to know how that decision was made to forgo a special counsel, despite the appointment in several other cases.

Jack Smith was appointed special counsel over two of the DOJ's investigations into former President [Donald Trump](#), one over [classified documents discovered](#) at his home in Mar-a-Lago and another into criminal referrals from the House Select Committee on Jan. 6, 2021.

Robert Hur was appointed special counsel in the department's investigation into classified documents found at President Joe Biden's home and personal office. However, a special counsel was never named in the DOJ's inquiries into the younger Biden's infamous laptop or foreign business dealings.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE FROM THE WASHINGTON EXAMINER](#)

"It seems like there probably should be," Jordan said.

The president's son has not been charged by the DOJ, but [reports in January](#) indicated the junior Biden could be charged with illegal tax deductions.

Opinion

[Shakedown: Democrats hassle Southwest Airlines, Southwest hires Democrat lobbyist](#)

By: [Timothy P. Carney](#)

[Crystal ball says Marianne Williamson is the wrong challenger for Biden](#)

By: [Quin Hillyer](#)

[America can cut emissions and boost energy production](#)

By: [Danielle Butcher Franz](#)

Search the web [Microphone icon]
Home | News | Personalize

The Stock Dork + Follow View Profile

Refusal to Appoint a Special Counsel in Hunter Biden Case Is 'Conspicuous'

Story by Byron Dovey • Friday 2k 254 205

House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jim Jordan has heavily criticized Attorney General Merrick Garland for not appointing a special counsel in the ongoing criminal investigation of Hunter Biden.

Related: This Biden "Woke" Investing Rule May Affect Your Retirement Plan - Here's What the GOP Has to Say

Jim Jordan claims 'Conflict of interest'

Jordan wrote a letter to Garland stating that the DOJ's investigation has the "appearance of a conflict of interest" and that the matter meets the criteria for a special counsel to be appointed.

"To date, you have declined to appoint a special counsel in this matter, despite appointing special counsels in other investigations. Your refusal to appoint a special counsel here is conspicuous in this context," Jorden wrote.

Furthermore, Jordan requested that Garland provide documents from the US Attorney's Office for the District of Delaware relating to the status of a special counsel for the investigation and communications between employees of US attorney's offices who could bring charges against Hunter Biden.

205



House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jim Jordan has heavily criticized Attorney General Merrick Garland for not appointing a special counsel in the ongoing criminal investigation of Hunter Biden. © DepositPhotos

Related: [Hunter Biden's Associate Comes Forward with Evidence of President Biden's Ties to Chinese Energy Company](#)

Related video: [AG Garland says every prisoner 'deserves dignity and respect' \(Daily Mail\)](#)

Is the DOJ not cooperating?

Garland has yet to respond to Jordan's request, with Jordan claiming the DOJ is "scared to cooperate" with the GOP-led committee.



Jordan's calls for a special counsel in the Hunter Biden case come as the House Oversight Committee conducts its own expansive probe into the business dealings of the Biden family, including the president's son.

Last week, House Oversight Committee Chairman James Comer accused the Biden Treasury Department of "operating in bad faith" by blocking his committee from access to more than 150 bank reports of transactions linked to Hunter Biden.

"The American people deserve transparency. Treasury's failure to produce requested information related to the Biden family's influence-peddling schemes is unacceptable," Comer tweeted on Monday.

Federal agents investigating Hunter Biden believe they have sufficient evidence to charge him with tax crimes and for lying about his drug problems on paperwork to 'purchase a firearm.

Don't Borrow From The Bank If You Own A Home, Do This Instead (It's Smart)

Ad Lendgo



More from The Stock Dork: [These 4 High-Growth Stocks Are Perfect For The Biden Bear Market](#)

SPONSORED CONTENT



After Testing Dozens of Bed Sheets, These Are #1

Ad Miracle Sheets



Tuskegee Airmen At A Briefing At Ramitelli Airfield, Italy, 1945 | Large Fine Art...

Ad Great Big Canvas



More for You



The Best Men's Shoes For Walking And Standing All Day

Ad Martine



Why Their Marriage Has Lasted Centuries

Ad Definition.org



Chilling Nature Photos Taken Seconds Before Tr
Struck

Ad TheFinancialSavvy



NEWS

90

33 senators call for Hunter Biden special counsel, cite DOJ ‘politicization’

By [Steven Nelson](#)

September 19, 2022 5:45pm Updated

00:19 / 00:46

MORE ON:

HUNTER BIDEN

Government misinfo has sparked a steep decline in the public’s trust

Four Hunter Biden associates helping House GOP probe, Comer says

Hunter Biden advised Joe's office on answering Burisma queries: emails

Russian billionaires who shopped for US property with Hunter Biden and dined with Joe dodge sanctions

One third of the US Senate has signed a letter asking Attorney General Merrick Garland to give US Attorney David Weiss the powers of a special counsel to investigate first son Hunter Biden's foreign business dealings.

In the Monday letter, the 33 Republicans cited the "politicization" of the Justice Department, a **lack of public trust** in the authorities, and recent whistleblower allegations of a coverup within the FBI of evidence and testimony damaging to the first son.

"Given the politicization of the DOJ under your watch and the importance of avoiding any appearance of impropriety, the undersigned request that you provide U.S. Attorney Weiss the full protections and authorities of a special counsel," **the letter says**.

"This is one important action that you can take that will go a long way in restoring faith in our governmental institutions."

Weiss, the US attorney for Delaware and a Trump administration holdover, has been leading the investigation of Hunter Biden, who recently **paid the IRS about \$2 million** in back taxes — using either a loan or gift from Hollywood attorney Kevin Morris — in an attempt to avoid prosecution.

Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas) organized the letter, which was signed by Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) and a diverse group of others.



One third of the US Senate signed a letter calling for Attorney General Merrick Garland to appoint a special counsel to investigate Hunter Biden's foreign business dealings.

“There is no way of knowing the entire scope of the investigation, but evidence seems to be mounting that Hunter Biden committed numerous federal crimes, including, but not limited to, tax fraud, money laundering, and foreign-lobbying violations,” the letter says.

“Indeed, Senators [Chuck] Grassley and [Ron] Johnson have conducted an investigation for several years that has resulted in the public discourse of facts that support those criminal concerns, including the disclosure of financial records showing the Biden family's close financial connections to the communist Chinese government and questionable foreign nationals,” the letter continues.

“It is clear that Hunter Biden thrived off a ‘pay to play’ culture of access to his father, then Vice President Joe Biden in exchange for financial compensation.”



The letter cited the “politicization of the DOJ” under Garland as a reason to appoint an independent special counsel.
AP Photo/Susan Walsh

The letter was sent just one day after the broadcast by CBS of an interview with President Biden in which he claimed that his son’s foreign dealings — including in China, Russia and Ukraine — **didn’t cause conflicts of interest** for him.

“There’s not a single thing that I’ve observed at all that would affect me or the United States relative to my son Hunter,” the president said, despite the fact that he’s met with many of his son’s business associates.

Biden hasn’t sanctioned a Russian billionaire with whom his son reportedly did business, despite sanctioning much of Russia’s elite this year over the Feb. 24 invasion of Ukraine. And Hunter Biden still co-owns investment firm BHR Partners with Chinese government entities, according to online records.

The Post reported this month that disgraced **former FBI agent Timothy Thibault was the “point man”** for former Hunter Biden business partner Tony Bobulinski and never followed up with him about his bombshell claims that Joe Biden was involved with a business deal with Chinese energy company CEFC.



The letter from the 33 GOP senators requested that US Attorney David Weiss be appointed to investigate Hunter Biden.

The United States Attorney's Office

posts and whistleblower allegations that he buried Hunter Biden material.

Bobulinski alleged one month before the 2020 election that Joe Biden was involved with his son Hunter and brother Jim's dealings with CEFC, which reportedly paid the Bidens \$4.8 million in 2017 and 2018. But Bobulinski heard nothing from Thibault after alleging that he spoke with Joe Biden about the deal.

Bobulinski says Joe Biden was known among Hunter Biden's business partners as the "**big guy**" — who a document from Hunter Biden's laptop said was 'due a 10% cut in a new corporate entity with CEFC. Another Hunter Biden business associate, **James Gilliar**, also identified Joe Biden as the "big guy."

The FBI also allegedly **warned agents off investigating the contents** of the laptop, which were made public by The Post in October 2020.

In a **July letter outlining whistleblower complaints**, Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) wrote that Thibault and another FBI employee, supervisory intelligence analyst Brian Auten, allegedly were involved in "a scheme" to "undermine derogatory information connected to Hunter Biden by falsely suggesting it was disinformation."

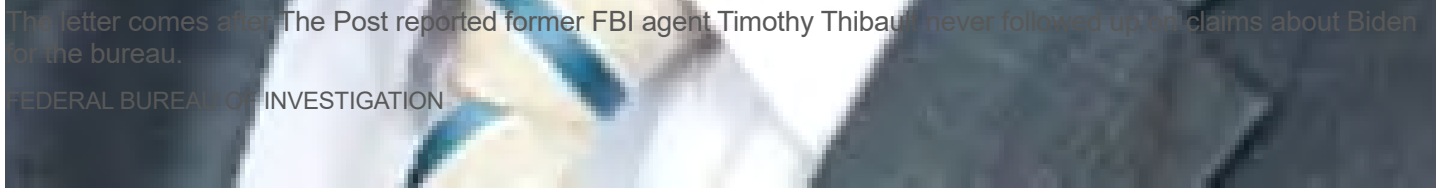
Auten "opened an assessment which was used by a FBI Headquarters ('FBI HQ') team to improperly discredit negative Hunter Biden information as disinformation and caused investigative activity to cease," Grassley wrote.

"[V]erified and verifiable derogatory information on Hunter Biden was falsely labeled as disinformation," Grassley wrote.

Thibault, meanwhile, allegedly tried to kill off a valid avenue of investigation of possible Hunter Biden criminality.

"In October 2020, an avenue of additional derogatory Hunter Biden reporting was ordered closed at the direction of ASAC Thibault... [when] all of the reporting was either verified or verifiable via criminal search warrants," Grassley wrote.





FBI guidelines.... [and] subsequently attempted to improperly mark the matter in FBI systems so that it could not be opened in the future.”

Under questioning from Sen. John Kennedy (R-La.) last month, FBI Director Chris Wray said alleged bias in the Hunter Biden case was “**deeply troubling.**” But Wray cut short questions, saying he had to catch a flight. It was later alleged that he skipped out on the oversight hearing **for a personal vacation.**



Thibault was the “point man” for former Hunter Biden business partner Tony Bobulinski at the FBI.

Fox News

The FBI’s Baltimore field office is leading the Hunter Biden case, under the supervision of the US attorney’s office in Delaware.

Bobulinski has not been called before a grand jury investigating Hunter Biden for potential financial crimes, including tax fraud, money laundering and unregistered foreign lobbying.

Special counsels are bad news for presidents because they have wide-ranging investigative powers and their pursuit of potential crimes can drag on for years.

Special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation of possible collusion between President Donald Trump and Russia in the 2020 election ended more than halfway through Trump's term and produced a steady stream of damaging leaks, but ultimately failed to find evidence of conspiracy.

In the 1990s, independent counsel Ken Starr started off probing President Bill Clinton's real estate dealings, but ended up looking into the coverup of Clinton's affair with White House intern Monica Lewinsky, resulting in Clinton's impeachment.

FILED UNDER CHRISTOPHER WRAY, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, FBI, HUNTER BIDEN, JOE BIDEN, MERRICK GARLAND, SENATE, 9/19/22

READ NEXT **Trial to start for sailor accused of igniting Navy warship...**

Conversation 90 Comments

Share your stance. Please adhere to our [guidelines](#).

Join the conversation



Sort by **Best** ▾

Ted Editedit ...

19 September, 2022

The FBI desperately needs to improve their image and reputation. They need to make progress on investigations. If other parts of government are holding them up or suppressing their findings, then Christopher Wray better speak up!

APP. A 292



MIRANDA DEVINE

OPINION

751

Fears of only a weak wrist slap for scandal-scarred first son Hunter Biden

By [Miranda Devine](#)

October 6, 2022 10:33pm Updated



A reported Department of Justice leak indicates charges against Hunter Biden may be imminent.

CQ-Roll Call, Inc via Getty Images

MORE FROM:

MIRANDA DEVINE

Why Democrats are dreading a full Jan. 6 reveal

New emails show Dr. Anthony Fauci commissioned scientific paper in Feb. 2020 to disprove Wuhan lab leak theory

GOPers stand up for life and against AG Merrick Garland

Thank God for the whistleblowers exposing the FBI's blatant political bias

Conservative judges punished for 'bias' while liberal jurists skate

Leaks from the Department of Justice that charges are imminent against Hunter Biden over tax and gun offenses suggest he is getting a sweet deal after a four-year investigation by Delaware US Attorney David Weiss.

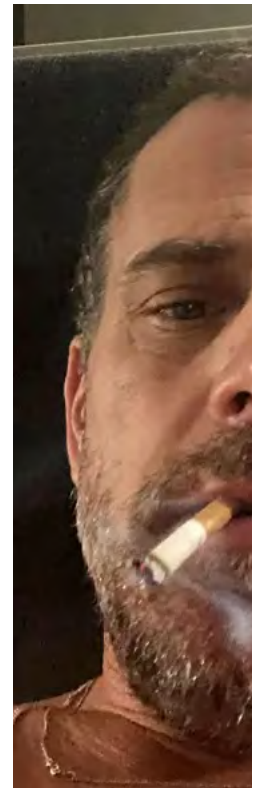
Missing from the Washington Post account of the DOJ case against the president's son is any mention of previously **mooted charges over money laundering** and violations of the Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA), both of which could lead prosecutors to inspect the president's involvement in an **influence-peddling scheme** run by his son and brother Jim Biden during Joe's time as vice president.

But a source close to the president's son alleges the leaks have come from "rogue investigators" in the DOJ who are **concerned that Weiss is not going to indict Hunter**.

"They want the scalp [and] they're putting Weiss in a box. He's in a horrible, horrible spot. The case has been going for four years and nothing has happened with it ... They've investigated [Hunter] thoroughly ... These people have tried to find everything. These are Trump prosecutors.

"If it was going well, they would have indicted Hunter. You can indict a ham sandwich ... They are trying to back Weiss into a corner by leaking [to] set the table for if [Hunter] does get exonerated — they get this s—t out there. So when Weiss looks at the decision and decides not to prosecute, they've gotten out in front of it with all this smoke."





An image from Hunter Biden'

A source close to Hunter Biden alleges the leaks come from "rogue investigators" in the DOJ who are concerned Weiss is not going to indict him.



Hunter Biden is potentially facing charges on tax and gun offenses.

AFP via Getty Images

Hunter would say that, wouldn't he? He still believes he has done nothing wrong, despite **overwhelming evidence** on his abandoned laptop and from former business partner Tony Bobulinski that he was involved in a Biden family scheme to **sell his father's influence** for millions of dollars to America's adversaries, including in China and Russia.

The source said President Biden and Attorney General Merrick Garland have kept out of legal decisions regarding Hunter.

SEE ALSO



EDITORIAL

Stop perverting justice and charge Hunter Biden already

"I know his father doesn't get involved at all," the source said. "Neither does Garland. It's all done from Baltimore and Delaware and is a co-thing between the IRS and the US Attorney's Office.

"We heard they went nuts [several months ago] the day the tax payment came in because it f--ked their case up."

Hunter is believed to have paid the IRS \$2.8 million in overdue taxes.

The gun charge relates to whether Hunter lied on a mandatory background check form when he bought a gun in Delaware in October 2018, which subsequently his widowed sister-in-law threw into a trash can at a time when their romantic entanglement had turned sour.



"I know his father doesn't get involved at all," the source said.

Hans Pennink



A source says Attorney General Merrick Garland has kept out of legal decisions regarding Hunter.

Getty Images

Gun-form lie a felony

The form, obtained by Politico, showed that Hunter allegedly answered “No” to a question asking if he was “an unlawful user of or addicted to” illegal drugs. At the time, according to material on his abandoned laptop and his own memoir, Hunter was addicted to crack cocaine.

The DOJ previously has jailed people for lying on the form, which is a felony.

A Hunter friend says the gun charge came “out of the blue” earlier this year.

“The claim is he didn’t admit he was an alcoholic and had a drug problem in his application. It’s hardly the first time that’s ever happened.”

Another source, a former associate who still keeps in touch with Hunter, says the first son’s team regards the leaks “as a desperation move because the DOJ case is falling apart.”



Hunter Biden arranged meetings between his father and business partners.

REUTERS

Chris Clark, Hunter's lawyer, responded to calls, emails and text messages yesterday with a one-word response, "Ignoring," but later pointed to a previous statement lambasting the leakers and saying: "We believe the prosecutors in this case are diligently and thoroughly weighing not just evidence provided by agents, but also all the other witnesses in this case, including witnesses for the defense ... They should not be pressured, rushed or criticized for doing their job."

Sources familiar with the case say prosecutors wanted Hunter to agree to a plea deal but he refused to plead guilty to a felony.

If he refuses a plea deal, the US attorney could indict him and include extra charges, including for FARA and money laundering, with the potential for a trial in Delaware that could involve witnesses such as his **former lover, sister-in-law Hallie Biden**, and uncle Jim Biden, who also is under federal investigation on separate matters.

751 **What do you think? [Post a comment.](#)**

Such a trial would be a grave political risk for the president, so it is difficult to see Hunter holding out for long against the sweet deal.

But then again, as a former prosecutor puts it: "Hunter suffers from hubris, fatal arrogance. He has always received what he demands."

FILED UNDER [HUNTER BIDEN](#), [INVESTIGATIONS](#), [JOE BIDEN](#), [JUSTICE DEPARTMENT](#), [MERRICK GARLAND](#), [10/6/22](#)

READ NEXT [Hunter Biden's end game: It's about far more than him](#)

OPINION > WHITE HOUSE

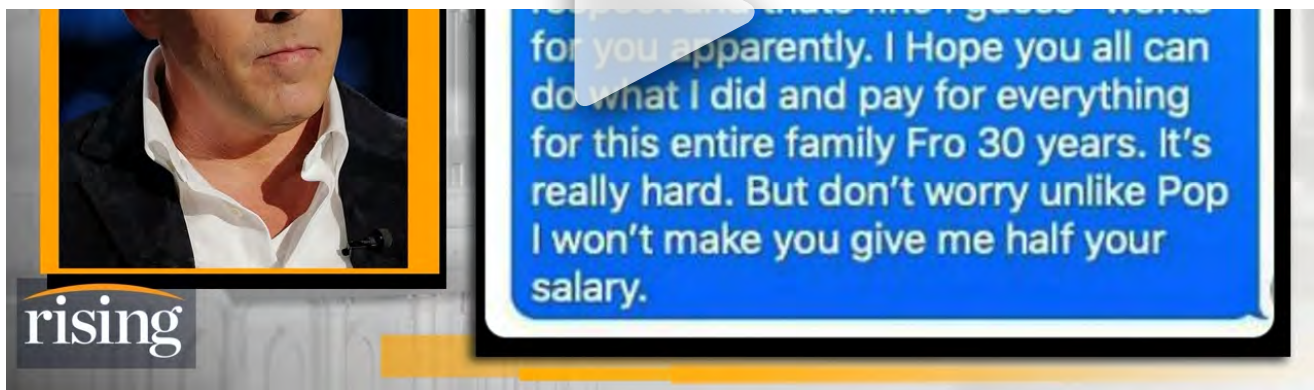
THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY CONTRIBUTORS ARE THEIR OWN AND NOT THE VIEW OF THE HILL

Hunter Biden controversy explained

BY KIMBERLY WEHLE, OPINION CONTRIBUTOR - 04/11/22 12:30 PM ET

NEW: Hunter Biden texts reveal MORE financial links to Joe Biden

8 minutes left



Tweet

...

More

In gentler times, the story around the president's son Hunter Biden, his laptop, related whiffs of nepotism and possible corruption would be dominating the news cycle. Not only is he Joe Biden's son, but the [Department of Justice \(DOJ\)](#) and [FBI](#) have reportedly been [actively investigating him for potential tax crimes and other matters since 2018.](#)

In the wake of former President [Donald Trump's](#) demolition of the rule of law, which produced multiple civil and criminal investigations but no meaningful accountability (with rare exceptions, [such as former national security adviser Michael Flynn and former](#)

we are pretty naive to this stuff.

Nonetheless, Hunter Biden remains a serious political — if not criminal — problem for the first family.

Keep in mind that there is a huge difference between a perceived or actual conflict of interest, on one hand, and a crime on the other. At this point, Hunter Biden's myriad messes fall into the former category, not unlike many characters in American politics.

Here are a few basics regarding Hunter Biden's potential criminal liability at this juncture:

1. Hunter Biden's role at Burisma

He served on the board of the Ukrainian Energy firm Burisma from 2014 to 2019, to the tune of \$50,000 per month.

As two Republican-led Senate committees already concluded, this work mostly posed a possible conflict of interest, if anything. Most critically, the committees made no finding that then-candidate Joe Biden did anything wrong when it came to pressuring Ukraine to fire its top prosecutor, Viktor Shokin, while he was vice president.

The right-wing suggestion that the move was to protect his son, rather than to legitimately push back on corruption in the Ukrainian government, has been proven untrue. If there were criminal activity in play, the machinery behind the Big Lie would have made it known by now — including Trump's former personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani, who was dispatched to Europe to pressure Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky to announce an investigation into Hunter Biden, prompting Trump's first impeachment. Thus, the Burisma connection probably won't produce criminal charges against Hunter Biden going forward.

2. Hunter Biden's deals with a Chinese energy company

It smells bad. In 2017, Hunter Biden entered into an agreement with a Chinese company with reported ties to the Chinese government, CEFC China Energy, for consulting work. Ultimately, CEFC paid \$4.8 million to entities controlled by Hunter Biden and his uncle James Biden (Joe Biden's younger brother).

There's no known evidence that Joe Biden knew or personally benefited from the engagement, but it's also not publicly known what actual work Hunter Biden did in exchange for these sums, or where the money is now.

diamond, which Biden says he gave away. And although Hunter Biden is a lawyer whom CEFC technically engaged as counsel, when a CEFC official was later arrested, the company enlisted someone else to represent him.

There's also stuff on Hunter Biden's infamous laptop, although most of its data is reportedly corrupted and cannot be authenticated. It makes sense that DOJ would be tracking down these and other factual oddities to ascertain whether they amount to anything under the criminal laws.

3. Willful intent is not easy to prove

To make any criminal liability stick, prosecutors would have to show that Hunter Biden had criminal knowledge or intent, which is hard to prove — especially given Biden's history of drugs and other personal problems.

A violation of the Foreign Agents Registration Act must be “willful” — not out of clumsiness or a mistake. Likewise, for his actions to rise to the level of federal tax crimes, the government must prove willful evasion of tax payments. According to the IRS, “a mere act of willful omission” is not enough, and Hunter Biden paid back a lot of his tax liability already.

Per DOJ's website, money laundering is only triggered if someone conducted a financial transaction “knowing that the property involved in the transaction represents the proceeds of some unlawful activity,” and with an intent to engage in the unlawful activity or to commit tax fraud, among other factors. Bribery requires the involvement of a person with fiduciary duties, such as a public official — Hunter Biden's receipt of a diamond, without more, says little.

The public record to date doesn't reveal evidence sufficient to prove any crime beyond a reasonable doubt (although grand juries operate in secret so it's impossible to know). In any event, Hunter Biden's history of drug addiction, the untimely death of his brother Beau Biden in 2015, as well as his high-conflict divorce and debt problems around the time of the CEFC engagements could undermine the government's case regarding requisite criminal intent.

4. The justice system is working

The fact that DOJ pursued this case under two presidential administrations and two competing political parties shows that the system can work — which is excellent news for
APP. A 302

Trump's attorney general Bill Barr, who broke from Trump in refusing to name a special prosecutor or otherwise politicize the probe during the 2020 presidential election.

It's equally remarkable that Joe Biden didn't handpick an attorney general whom he knew would kill the criminal investigation into his son, either — and that he has taken no apparent steps to afford Hunter Biden special, kid-glove treatment since becoming president.

Given the hateful nature of national politics and the glut of misinformation these days, the fact that the Hunter Biden inquiry is — in Barr's words—being "handled responsibly" to this day is an amazingly positive nod to a functioning rule of law in the United States.

5. Looming midterm elections will elevate the story

The Hunter Biden story is sufficiently murky that, if the radical right wing of the Republican Party takes control of the House of Representatives in November, it will no doubt turn this into a 24/7 political blood bath for Democrats.

Although there's no clear public evidence of a crime so far — and Republican gaslighting around non-stop corruption during the Trump years reeks of hypocrisy — the Hunter Biden narrative contains many damaging details that make Hillary Clinton's emails look quaint.

Already, Rep. James Comer (R-Ky.), who is on track to chair the House Oversight Committee if Republicans gain control of the chamber, said it "is going to be all over Hunter Biden," calling him "a national security threat." It's hard to imagine how Democrats will survive the onslaught politically, regardless of the ultimate truth — and Republican operatives undoubtedly know it.

Are Democrats behind the pro-Trump bot explosion?

The 'Havana Syndrome' mystery and its impact aren't over

One thing is for sure: American voters ostensibly despise corruption in politics, although those on each side of the aisle are more willing to tolerate it from folks in their respective political party.

What the Hunter Biden story — like the Trump scandals — should therefore signal to voters is that it's time to elect people with integrity who also maintain an appearance of integrity.

START THE DAY HERE

California braces for floods. White House backs bill that could ban TikTok. Oklahoma votes against legalizing marijuana.

Federal prosecutors weighing charges on two fronts in Hunter Biden investigation

By [Evan Perez](#), [Kara Scannell](#) and [Paul LeBlanc](#), CNN

Updated 8:34 AM EDT, Fri October 7, 2022



Manuel Balce Ceneta/AP

(CNN) — Federal prosecutors believe they could charge [Hunter Biden](#) with tax crimes and a false statement but a final decision still has not yet been made by the US attorney in Delaware, according to sources familiar with the matter.

The case against Biden narrowed earlier this year, and was a matter of discussion in early

summer between FBI and IRS investigators, prosecutors in Delaware and the Justice Department, CNN previously reported. The discussions included assessing the strength of the case and questioning whether more work was needed before deciding on charges, according to sources who spoke to CNN in July.

Prosecutors have not yet made any charging decisions on the case and have not met since early summer to discuss the federal investigation, according to two sources familiar with the matter. A decision is not expected before the midterm election.

A source familiar with the matter told CNN that talks between Biden's team and the Justice Department have been ongoing for several months but nothing has changed in a couple of months on that front.

The Wall Street Journal reported that Biden's legal team met in "recent weeks" with Justice Department prosecutors to argue against a potential case.

"As is proper and legally required, we believe the prosecutors in this case are diligently and thoroughly weighing not just evidence provided by agents, but also all the other witnesses in this case, including witnesses for the defense," Biden's attorney Chris Clark said in a written statement to the Journal.

The Washington Post reported on Thursday that prosecutors believe they have "sufficient evidence" to charge Biden, son of President Joe Biden, in two areas – tax crimes and a false statement regarding a gun purchase, the same crimes CNN reported in July were the focus of investigators' discussions with the Justice Department.

Investigators have at various times inquired about multiple facets of Hunter Biden's life – initially focusing on tax issues and money transfers related to business activities in China, multiple people familiar with the probe previously told CNN.

But prosecutors have also examined a 2018 incident in which a firearm owned by Biden ended up tossed by his then-girlfriend into a dumpster in Wilmington, a person briefed on the matter said. Biden described in media interviews last year that he was addicted to drugs, which raised the possibility he broke federal law when he bought the firearm.

Federal law prohibits firearms purchases by anyone who uses or is addicted to illegal drugs.

Still, Biden has publicly discussed his own substance abuse struggles, and some Justice officials have debated whether his open discussions of his past drug use could potentially weaken their case should they bring one.

Biden has also denied wrongdoing in his business activities.

In late 2020 after being notified by the Delaware US attorney about the investigation, he said in a statement issued by his father's presidential transition office: "I take this matter very seriously but I am confident that a professional and objective review of these matters will demonstrate that I handled my affairs legally and appropriately, including with the benefit of professional tax advisors."

The President, meanwhile, has repeatedly said he won't interfere in the independence of the Justice Department. Early on in his presidency, Biden decided to keep US Attorney David Weiss, an appointee of former President Donald Trump, in office to continue to oversee the investigation in Delaware.

CNN's Evan Perez and Kara Scannell have contributed to this report.

Search CNN...



Log In

Live TV

Audio

US

World

Politics



Hunter Biden

🕒 This article is more than **4 months old**

Hunter Biden: reports say FBI has enough evidence for prosecution

Lawyer accuses federal agents of pressuring prosecutors with illegal leak about investigation of president's son for alleged tax and gun purchase offences

Lois Beckett

🐦 @loisbeckett

Thu 6 Oct 2022 23.46 EDT

Federal agents believe there is enough evidence to criminally charge Hunter Biden with tax crimes and with lying about his drug use when he bought a handgun in 2018, the [Washington Post](#) and [CBS News](#) have reported.

But the US attorney in Delaware, who is overseeing the investigation of the president's son, has not yet decided whether to file criminal charges in the case, the Post reported.

That federal prosecutor, David C Weiss, was originally nominated and served in Donald Trump's administration, and has continued serving in Biden's administration in part

because of the political backlash his removal would likely have caused, given his oversight of the Biden investigation, the Post reported.

A spokesperson for Weiss's office did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

In September, more than 30 Senate Republicans asked Biden's attorney general, Merrick Garland, to give Weiss "special counsel protections and authorities" to safeguard the independence of his investigation.

CBS News reported that Biden's team believes the sources who spoke to the Washington Post were motivated by "frustration inside the FBI over the time it is taking prosecutors to deliberate over this case" and that the FBI "is trying to pressure prosecutors to act".

Hunter Biden's lawyer, Chris Clark, accused federal agents of illegally leaking information, and asked the Justice Department to investigate and prosecute the leak.

"It is a federal felony for a federal agent to leak information about a grand jury investigation such as this one," Clark wrote to the Washington Post. "Any agent you cite as a source in your article apparently has committed such a felony."

Hunter Biden confirmed he was under investigation for tax-related issues in 2020 shortly after his father won the presidency. Hunter Biden's business dealings and consultancies in Ukraine and China, including being paid \$50,000 a month by Ukrainian firm Burisma, have long attracted political scrutiny and questions about the ethics of his connections to foreign businesses given his father's political influence.

Donald Trump's attempt to uncover malfeasance by Hunter Biden and his father in Ukraine - which including pressuring Ukraine's president to investigate his political rival - led to the Republican president's first impeachment by Congress.

The current investigation of Hunter Biden's tax dealings has scrutinized whether he failed to declare income related to different business dealings, including overseas, the Washington Post reported.

Another alleged crime federal agents identified was Biden's claim, on a federal form he filled out in 2018 to buy a handgun, that he was not addicted to or unlawfully using drugs, though he wrote in a memoir that he was using drugs often that year, the Post reported.

“We believe the prosecutors in this case are diligently and thoroughly weighing not just evidence provided by agents, but also all the other witnesses in this case, including witnesses for the defense,” Clark, Biden’s lawyer, told the Post. “They should not be pressured, rushed, or criticized for doing their job.”

Clark did not immediately respond to a request for comment from the Guardian. A Justice Department spokesperson declined to comment. The FBI also did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

I hope you appreciated this article. Before you move on, I was hoping you would consider taking the step of supporting the Guardian’s journalism.

From Elon Musk to Rupert Murdoch, a small number of billionaire owners have a powerful hold on so much of the information that reaches the public about what’s happening in the world. The Guardian is different. We have no billionaire owner or shareholders to consider. Our journalism is produced to serve the public interest - not profit motives.

And we avoid the trap that befalls much US media - the tendency, born of a desire to please all sides, to engage in false equivalence in the name of neutrality. While fairness guides everything we do, we know there is a right and a wrong position in the fight against racism and for reproductive justice. When we report on issues like the climate crisis, we’re not afraid to name who is responsible. And as a global news organization, we’re able to provide a fresh, outsider perspective on US politics - one so often missing from the insular American media bubble.

Around the world, readers can access the Guardian’s paywall-free journalism because of our unique reader-supported model. That’s because of people like you. Our readers keep us independent, beholden to no outside influence and accessible to everyone - whether they can afford to pay for news, or not.

If you can, please consider supporting the Guardian today. Thank you.

Betsy Reed

Editor, Guardian US



Single

Monthly

Annual



AD

LEGAL

Hunter Biden's prosecutor rejected moves that would have revealed probe earlier

Veteran U.S. attorney David Weiss, known for his willingness to take on powerful Delaware figures, kept his investigation into Biden's son out of the 2020 campaign.



The Hunter Biden probe, which is focused on possible tax law violations, has also examined the president's son's business dealings with foreign interests — a topic that has animated Biden detractors. | (Pablo Martinez Monsivais, File/AP Photo)

By **BEN SCHRECKINGER**

07/16/2021 04:30 AM EDT



Last summer, federal officials in Delaware investigating Hunter Biden faced a dilemma. The probe had reached a point where prosecutors could have sought search warrants and issued a flurry of grand jury subpoenas. Some officials involved in the case wanted to do just that. Others urged caution. They advised Delaware’s U.S. Attorney, David Weiss, to avoid taking any actions that could alert the public to the existence of the case in the middle of a presidential election.

“To his credit, he listened,” said a person involved in the discussions, reported here for the first time. Weiss decided to wait, averting the possibility that the investigation would become a months-long campaign issue.

AD

Since taking office, President Joe Biden has left Weiss — a Republican appointed by Donald Trump on the recommendation of Delaware’s two Democratic senators — in place. That puts him in one of the most sensitive positions in the Justice Department, deciding how to proceed with an investigation of the president’s son that has proven politically fraught on several fronts.

The probe, which is focused on possible tax law violations, has also [examined](#) Hunter Biden’s business dealings with foreign interests — a topic that has animated Biden detractors — and its existence first came to light amid a controversy about the leak of Hunter Biden’s laptop files. Since then, the case has become a political football: Some critics have suggested that the Trump

administration's political agenda influenced a [parallel federal probe](#) that scrutinized Hunter Biden in Pittsburgh, while some Republicans have [called for](#) the appointment of a special prosecutor to shield Weiss's investigation from the influence of the Biden administration.

Weiss declined to comment. But as the 65-year-old U.S. attorney navigates this hazardous terrain, interviews with members of Delaware's small legal community and an examination of his career reveal two salient qualities.



WHITE HOUSE

'Where's Hunter?' Writing a tell-all

BY NATASHA KORECKI AND THEODORIC MEYER

One is a bipartisan reputation for professionalism. One longtime pillar of the Delaware defense bar, Dan Lyons, recounted his sense of relief upon hearing that Weiss was in charge of the Hunter Biden probe. "I remember thinking he's a straight shooter, and he's the perfect one to have it," said Lyons, whose history with the U.S. attorney dates back to the 1980s, when he defended one of the first cases Weiss ever prosecuted. "He would just go where the evidence led him."

AD

The other is a long track record of taking on the Delaware establishment. While Biden has held up "the Delaware Way," the nickname for the state's cozy

political culture, as a positive model for bipartisan cooperation, Weiss has spent three decades confronting its excesses.

Early in his career, Weiss served as a special prosecutor during a federal crackdown on bribery and extortion among Delaware politicians of both parties. Later, he helped nab a former Delaware deputy attorney general who murdered his girlfriend. A decade ago, Weiss even investigated Biden's presidential campaign fundraising, enlisting a beer distributor to wear a wire for the FBI and record conversations with Biden's associates.

Now, that record may hold clues to Weiss's approach as he weighs whether to seek charges against a president's son who has intermingled his business dealings with the Biden family's political connections. Weiss's decision to avoid revealing the investigation in a highly charged political atmosphere — a move that might have boosted Donald Trump's campaign, even at the cost of politicizing the probe — was consistent with his sober-minded approach to his job, said people familiar with Weiss's career. But so too, they said, is the fact that the probe continues, with most expecting that Weiss will not drop the case until making a full assessment of Hunter Biden's culpability.

"He's got an appreciation," said a former prosecutor who has worked closely with Weiss, "that there are times when the Delaware Way can turn into something more nefarious."

Something rotten in Delaware

Weiss grew up in a middle-class home in northeast Philadelphia in the 1960s and went on to attend Washington University in St. Louis. He returned to the Philadelphia area to attend Widener University School of Law, where, in his final year, he met with a round of rejections after applying for jobs at several

Instead, he got a gig clerking for the Delaware Supreme Court in 1984, then went on to take a job with the U.S. Attorney's office in Wilmington, Del. One former colleague recalled a joke around the office that Weiss — who played third base for Wash U.'s baseball team — was hired to improve the office softball team. While there, he got his first up-close look at the underbelly of the Delaware Way.

Weiss's big break came when Louis Capano Jr., a member of a family of prominent Delaware developers, brought a complaint to the state's then-attorney general, Charles Oberly, as the two watched a Little League game. Capano was being forced to pay protection money to a member of the New Castle County Council, the body that oversees the Wilmington area and on which Biden had begun his political career.

Oberly referred Capano to the U.S. Attorney's Office. With Weiss's participation the Justice Department set up a sting targeting the councilman, Democrat Ronald Aiello.

In June of 1989, Weiss resigned his post as an assistant U.S. Attorney and was appointed special prosecutor to oversee Aiello's case. Aiello went on to plead guilty to extortion.

Weiss entered private practice at the firm Duane Morris, one of the places he had applied to out of law school, where he worked primarily on commercial litigation. In his office there, he displayed the years-old letter rejecting him from the firm, framed alongside the announcement of his elevation to partner.

The Aiello case, meanwhile, spurred the FBI to pursue an expansive probe of political corruption in Delaware, Operation New Clean. It relied on an undercover FBI agent and the cooperation of Louis Capano's cousin, Mario Capano, according to the Delaware New Journal.

AD

The investigation ensnared the state transportation secretary, Republican Kermit Justice, in another sting, in which he sought to solicit bribes from the undercover FBI agent.

In 1992, Justice, whose family has long been close with the Bidens, hired Weiss as his defense attorney. But Weiss was disqualified from the case on account of his previous government work on the corruption probe, and Justice was convicted of extortion.

A sensational murder

Weiss was drawn back into the world of Delaware's leading families in 1996, when Anne Marie Fahey, a young secretary in the office of Delaware's then-governor, Tom Carper, went missing.

Fahey's brother, Robert Fahey, hired Weiss to help her family get to the bottom of her fate. Weiss convinced his former colleagues at the U.S. Attorney's office to investigate the disappearance aggressively.

The trail soon led to Thomas Capano, the state's former deputy attorney general and the brother of Louis Capano. Though married, he had been dating Fahey, and he was enraged when he discovered she had found a younger boyfriend.

But investigators were unable to find a body, and the investigation dragged on for months without a conclusion. Eventually, the feds leaned on a third Capano brother, Gerry Capano, who had helped dispose of Fahey's body. He turned state's evidence, and Thomas Capano was convicted of murder. It was the most sensational trial in the state in living memory, spawning several books and a made-for-television movie.



Photo courtesy of U.S. Attorney's Office

Tom Ostrander, the Duane Morris partner who hired Weiss and introduced him to Fahey's family, credits Weiss with the success of the prosecution.

Ostrander argued that if it were not for Weiss's intervention, the investigation of Fahey's disappearance would have fallen to Delaware authorities, who, he said, did not have the same capabilities as federal investigators to pursue

“I don’t think the state had the resources to do the investigation of a very powerful family,” Ostrander said. “If David Weiss had not pressed the U.S. Attorney’s office to investigate, Thomas Capano would have literally gotten away with murder.”

Speaking 25 years to the day after he first contacted Weiss about his sister’s disappearance, Robert Fahey said that the Capano case demonstrated the prosecutor’s willingness to stand up to the handful of closely intertwined families that dominate the small state’s affairs. “I don’t think he would buy into the notion that these dozen families can get away with anything,” Robert Fahey said.

A Biden bundler

In 2007, Weiss left private practice to work under George W. Bush’s U.S. attorney Colm Connolly.

In contrast to Weiss, Connolly had earned a reputation for having a conservative agenda in addition to being an aggressive prosecutor. “Colm was a little more outspoken about things,” said Oberly, the former Delaware attorney general, who was later appointed by Barack Obama to succeed Connolly as U.S. attorney.

Connolly also clashed with Biden, who as a senator effectively blocked the prosecutor from a federal judgeship when Bush nominated him in 2008. Instead, in 2009, Connolly entered private practice, and Weiss stepped in as acting U.S. attorney. Connolly, who is now a federal judge for the District of Delaware after being renominated by Trump, did not respond to a request for comment left with his chambers.

Weiss and Connolly remain close. One Wilmington lawyer spotted them having drinks together at Tonic, a restaurant in downtown Wilmington, earlier this

AD

While acting as the interim head of the Justice Department's Delaware office, Weiss oversaw the prosecution of Christopher Tigani.

Tigani, whose family owns a valuable beer distributorship in the state and maintained longstanding ties to the Bidens, served as a bundler for Biden's presidential primary campaign in 2007, soliciting contributions from his employees and their partners and delivering the checks in bulk to campaign staff. In the course of his bundling, he engaged in a "straw donor" scheme, reimbursing employees for their contributions as a way of evading the cap on how much he could personally give.

After the FBI confronted Tigani with evidence of his illegal contributions in 2010, Weiss recruited the beer distributor to cooperate in a wide-ranging probe of Delaware's politics.

As POLITICO [first reported](#) last summer, Tigani, under Weiss's supervision, wore a wire and recorded conversations with Biden's former finance chief as well as a former Biden Senate staffer and a Delaware businessman close to Biden.

Tigani said that at the beginning of his attempted cooperation, he met with Weiss and several other officials. He said that Weiss laid out the government's

theory that politicians in Delaware were complicit in straw donor schemes.

The investigation found no evidence of wrongdoing by the Bidens, and, in the end, only Tigani was indicted on federal charges, to which he pleaded guilty. Tigani also later pleaded guilty to state charges of making straw-donor contributions to the campaigns of several Delaware politicians, including Beau Biden.

Looking back on his downfall, Tigani holds grudges against just about everybody involved, from the Bidens, to the News Journal, which first brought attention to his political influence, to the federal judge who oversaw his case, to his own father, with whom he remains embroiled in long-running litigation related to the family business. The rare exception is Weiss. “He was a straight shooter,” Tigani said of the man who sent him to prison.

AD

When Tigani’s case became public a decade ago, it set off a wave of hand-wringing about the state’s political culture. Biden has nonetheless continued to tout the Delaware Way as an approach worth emulating. “We need a little more of the Delaware way,” he said just before launching his 2020 campaign. “We got to make it more the American way and it’s lost. Our politics has become so mean, so petty, so vicious that we can’t govern ourselves, in many cases, even talk to one another.”

In a filing in Tigani’s case, Weiss and a deputy, Robert “Rocky” Kravetz, took a darker view of the Delaware Way. They defined it as “a form of soft corruption,

intersecting business and political interests, which has existed in this state for years.”

The president's son

For his part, Weiss delights in following the machinations of the state's power players, according to longtime friend William Manning, a partner at the Wilmington office at the law firm of Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr. “He loves knowing everything,” and “who's doing what to whom,” Manning said.

But Weiss has mostly stayed clear of participating in the Delaware scene himself. For much of the time that he has worked as a federal prosecutor in Delaware, he actually lived in nearby Pennsylvania, only moving into the tiny state in 2016.

“It's very difficult to be a high-quality prosecutor and at the same time have clubby relationships with virtually everybody in town,” Manning said. “There's a detachment to the job that suits David just fine.”

“He's a very private person,” Oberly said. Friends and colleagues describe him as devoted to his wife, Deborah, also an attorney, and two adult daughters. He is also a devoted fan of the Grateful Dead and plays golf on occasion (“admittedly poorly,” conceded Kim Reeves, spokeswoman for his office, who declined to make Weiss available for an interview, but agreed to confirm biographical facts about him)

AD

After the Tigani case, Oberly, a political ally of the Bidens, succeeded Weiss as Delaware's U.S. attorney. But Oberly, who lacked experience trying federal cases, kept Weiss on as his assistant, and praised Weiss's work in an interview. "He was loyal," Oberly said. "He did a nice job for me."

In 2017, Trump nominated Weiss to serve as U.S. attorney on a permanent basis on the recommendation of Delaware's two Democratic senators, who both [praised](#) the choice.

By late 2018, Weiss's office was investigating Hunter Biden's activities in response to a number of leads, including some related to his dealings with Chinese business associates.

While investigators pursued suspicions of possible money laundering and violations of the Foreign Agents Registration Act, the criminal investigation eventually came to focus on whether he had paid taxes on all of his income, according to a person familiar with it. Hunter Biden has maintained that he acted appropriately.

By last summer, the probe had reached a point at which investigators could have issued grand jury subpoenas and sought search warrants that might have revealed its existence at a time when many of then-President Donald Trump's supporters were seeking to draw attention to Hunter Biden's actions.

Weiss, however, decided to delay taking any actions that were likely to make the existence of the Hunter Biden probe public. Concerns about affecting the presidential election loomed large when Weiss entertained arguments about advancing the probe, according to the person involved in the discussions. No matter what he did, the decision was sure to come under scrutiny for signs of politicization.

"It was a close call," said the person, who believes Weiss was right to hold off. "That case has way more credibility now," the person said.

Following the facts

Even as Weiss took the more cautious route, his office still had to contend with complications posed by parallel investigative efforts being conducted by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Pennsylvania in Pittsburgh.

Trump's attorney general, William Barr, had tasked the U.S. attorney there, Scott Brady, with vetting information from Trump's personal lawyer, Rudy Giuliani. Giuliani claimed to have information implicating the Bidens in corruption, but his relationship with Trump and reports that he had met with a Russian agent as he sought dirt on the Bidens, cast doubts on his claims.

AD

Investigators in Delaware worried that the Giuliani material in Pittsburgh could taint their own investigation. It did not help, one person familiar with the investigation said, that Brady's office seemed intent on taking aggressive steps in pursuit of its inquiry.

"Pittsburgh was out of control," said the person, who worried that the Western Pennsylvania probe would be seen as politically motivated and would undermine the preexisting Hunter Biden investigation.

A former official involved with the investigative efforts out of Pittsburgh contested that characterization, saying the officials involved acted "scrupulously and with high ethical standards."

Relatively few details of the Hunter Biden probe leaked ahead of the election, in part because the Delaware U.S. attorney's office is small, and information is

tightly guarded. In the weeks leading up to Election Day, Barr also took steps to prevent its public disclosure, [according](#) to the Wall Street Journal.

The probe did not gain widespread attention outside of the conservative media sphere until several weeks after the presidential election, when Hunter Biden released a statement saying Weiss's office had notified him of it.

Some Republicans called for the appointment of a special prosecutor, but Barr called that step unnecessary.

In December, Hunter Biden hired Chris Clark, a partner at the national firm of Latham & Watkins, as his defense attorney.

In January, upon taking office, Biden appointed Nicholas McQuaid to be the interim head of the Criminal Division of the Justice Department. Until his appointment, McQuaid had also been a partner at Latham, where he had worked on some [cases](#) with Clark. Justice Department conflict of interest [rules](#) would require McQuaid to receive a waiver to participate in oversight of the Hunter Biden probe. A DOJ spokesman, Joshua Stueve, declined to say whether McQuaid had received a waiver or recused himself from the case. Clark did not respond to a request for comment

AD

Last month, POLITICO [reported](#) that Weiss's office is also involved in an investigation of Blue Star Strategies, a Democratic lobbying firm, that includes a focus on potential FARA violations. The investigation relates to work Blue Star performed on behalf of the same Ukrainian energy firm, Burisma, that

hired Hunter Biden to its board as its founder faced allegations of corruption. Blue Star’s CEO, Karen Tramontano, did not respond to a request for comment.

As the probes continue, Weiss’s handling of them will be closely watched by partisans on both sides. Those who know him argue that his work will stand up to the scrutiny.

“David is the type of lawyer who follows the facts and whatever the facts may lead to,” Ostrander said. “It doesn’t matter who the person is he’s looking into.”

FILED UNDER: JOE BIDEN, JOE BIDEN 2020, DELAWARE, HUNTER BIDEN

Huddle

A play-by-play preview of the day’s congressional news



EMAIL

Your Email

INDUSTRY

Select Industry

SIGN UP

By signing up you agree to allow POLITICO to collect your user information and use it to better recommend content to you, send you email newsletters or updates from POLITICO, and share insights based on aggregated user information. You further agree to our privacy policy and terms of service. You can unsubscribe at any time and can contact us here. This site is protected by reCAPTCHA and the Google Privacy Policy and Terms of Service apply.

[About Us](#)

[Advertising](#)

[Breaking News Alerts](#)

[Careers](#)

[Credit Card Payments](#)

[Digital Edition](#)

OPINION EDITORIAL

Need for a special counsel in Hunter Biden's case has grown urgent

By Post Editorial Board

April 5, 2022 3:37pm Updated



US Attorney David Weiss has evidence to suggest that President Biden was involved in his son Hunter's foreign business deals.

EPA/ANDY WONG/POOL

MORE ON:

HUNTER BIDEN

WH won't say why Hunter Biden-tied Russian oligarchs avoided sanctions

Government misinfo has sparked a steep decline in the public's trust

Four Hunter Biden associates helping House GOP probe, Comer says

Hunter Biden advised Joe's office on answering Burisma queries: emails

David Weiss, the US attorney for Delaware, seems to be leading a genuine investigation of Hunter Biden: Prosecutors taking the case to a grand jury the other day **even asked a witness** about “the big guy,” for whom Hunter and his partners had reserved a 10% cut of one potential (and lucrative) deal.

No one familiar with the case has suggested who the “big guy” might be if **not now-President Joe Biden**, and at least one of the partners has confirmed it was Joe.

Then, too, Weiss is a veteran of the Delaware office, appointed US attorney in early 2018 by President Donald Trump — not a political hack. The only thing at all questionable about his Hunter investigation is why it has taken so long, when the probe actually began long before the last election. Hunter's bank records on his dealings with the Bank of China, for example, **got subpoenaed back in May 2019**.

For the long wait, you have to assume the blame rests with his superiors in Washington. It would've been standard procedure to hold off making headlines in the runup to the 2020 vote, but delays since then likely came at the order of central Justice, namely Attorney **General Merrick Garland** and his top aides.

And that's where we really start to worry about a finger on the scales of Justice. What if Weiss is ordered to, say, accept a plea bargain that seals all the evidence he's gathered, no matter where it points?



Attorney General Merrick Garland has done the White House's will before.

EPA/JIM LO SCALZO

The pro-Biden press will rush to justify such a move, arguing, *Hey, Hunter's already paid the IRS what he owes, so the case would be hard to win anyway.* Swept under the rug would be any other crimes, such as lobbying for foreign interests without registering as such — not to mention all the “big guy” questions.

Garland himself is usually deemed beyond reproach, but the nation already has clear proof that White House hacks influence his office, and even him.

We're talking primarily of Garland's outrageous press conference last October **siccing the FBI and all US attorneys** on parents who dare to cross the establishment at local school board meetings. It eventually came out that the whole thing was **ginned up** by a cabal of White House and Department of Education staffers, who got outside activists to write and demand such action, with the staff then getting Garland's staff to bring him on board.



White House chief of staff Ron Klain clearly knows about Hunter Biden's lucrative schemes.

AI Drago/UPI

Even then, the AG **proceeded to dissemble**, telling Congress that Justice had never actually used counterterrorism tools to target parents, when in fact the FBI had asked agents to “apply” a “threat tag” and “track” threats against school officials.

It's easy to imagine White House demands for Garland to leash and muzzle Weiss: Chief of staff Ron Klain, for example, last weekend **told the nation**, “The president's confident that his son didn't break the law,” when it turns out that **Klain himself asked Hunter** for donations to help out the then-veep back in 2012, which suggests he knows full well that Joe has long relied on Hunter's dubiously gotten gains.

We've **said before** that Garland and his entire office should be cut out of the case, with a special counsel named to oversee it. Now that the investigation is clearly closing in on actual indictments, that need has grown urgent.

FILED UNDER CORRUPTION, EDITORIAL, HUNTER BIDEN, JOE BIDEN, MERRICK GARLAND, RON KLAIN, SPECIAL COUNSEL, 4/5/22



Grassley presses DOJ, FBI for transparency on 'partisan' politicization of agencies, Hunter Biden probe

By Kelly Laco

Published July 25, 2022

Fox News

The top Republican on the Senate Judiciary Committee, Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, is pressing the Department of Justice and the FBI for an explanation about why they pursued "politically charged investigations" related to the Trump campaign while suppressing key details related to the Hunter Biden probe as "disinformation," in light of new whistleblower information.

In a letter to Attorney General Merrick Garland and FBI Director Chris Wray sent on July 18 and first reviewed by Fox News Digital, Grassley raises concerns about a "pattern of active public partisanship" by employee Assistant Special Agent in Charge Timothy Thibault, and others.

In an additional letter to Garland and Wray sent Monday, Grassley narrows in on specific allegations about Thibault which he says could have improperly influenced the criminal investigation into President Biden's son, Hunter.

Grassley's new round of letters follow a May 31 request for an Inspector General investigation into Thibault due to his alleged partisan content on social media, including re-posting tweets by the anti-Trump group the Lincoln Project and other accounts attacking Republicans. The senator writes this week that Thibault has since hidden his social media posts from public view.

HUNTER BIDEN MAKES RARE PUBLIC OUTING AMID INVESTIGATION



Grassley sent two new letters to the FBI and DOJ regarding the issues of partisan politics at play in the government's conduct of the Hunter Biden investigation. (Fox News)

In addition to Grassley's outreach in May to the agencies, his office says it has been contacted by current and former "highly credible whistleblowers" who have provided information that he says "confirms" his concerns about Thibault's pattern of partisanship.

"In fact, the information I have received reveals that Thibault's political partisanship went much deeper than the inappropriate social media posts. Instead, it impacted his official decision-making on sensitive public corruption investigations," writes Grassley. "Equally concerning is that, based on Justice Department and FBI policies, Thibault's partisanship likely affected investigations briefed to, and approved by, senior Justice Department and FBI officials."

According to Grassley, the whistleblowers say that DOJ and FBI employees must follow strict substantial factual predication in order

to open an investigation, and that Thibault did not follow these policies.

HUNTER BIDEN REQUESTED KEYS FOR NEW 'OFFICE MATES' JOE BIDEN, CHINESE 'EMISSARY' TO CEFC CHAIRMAN, EMAILS SHOW

"The double standard in the application of Justice Department and FBI policies has resulted in investigations opened in a manner appearing to benefit the political aims and objectives of a select few Justice Department and FBI officials. Further, it is my understanding from whistleblowers that when FBI agents sought a uniform and consistent application of these standards, their concerns were marginalized or otherwise not acted upon," Grassley wrote.



Biden administration officials and those in the president's camp have long cast materials that came from the laptop purportedly belonging to Hunter Biden as disinformation, but intelligence community officials have said, as far back as October 2020, that neither the laptop nor materials on it are part of any sort of disinformation campaign. (RMBI / BACKGRID)

In addition, Grassley says the whistleblowers indicated that Thibault and Richard Pilger, who serves in the election crimes branch of DOJ's Public Integrity Section, were at the center of the ongoing investigation into former President Trump's campaign regarding 2020 electors.

The senator from Iowa states that the investigation predication that was presented to the attorney general and FBI director for final sign-off for full investigation was based on news articles based on information collected from American Oversight, a "liberal" government watchdog.

"In light of these allegations, I remain very concerned that political bias by a select group of Justice department and FBI officials has infected the Justice Department and FBI's usual process and procedure to open and pursue high-profile and politically charged investigations," Grassley writes, demanding further explanation from the agencies.

On Hunter Biden, Grassley writes that the new whistleblower information provided to his office "involves concerns about the FBI's receipt and use of derogatory information related to Hunter Biden, and the FBI's false portrayal of acquired evidence as disinformation."

Grassley says the whistleblower allegations indicate there was a "scheme" in place among some FBI officials to "undermine derogatory information connected to Hunter" by falsely flagging it as disinformation.

He then continues on to outline a series of events between July and October 2020, during which the FBI, including Thibault and FBI Supervisory Intelligence Analyst Brian Auten, and Democratic senators gave Republicans investigating the Hunter allegations the

runaround on information, falsely alleging that the GOP was advancing "foreign disinformation" regarding the now-president's son.



Hunter Biden's ex-wife detailed how she heard about the affair between Biden and his brother's widow Hallie in her new memoir. (REUTERS/Joshua Roberts)

Intelligence community officials have said, as far back as October 2020, that neither the Hunter Biden laptop nor materials on it are part of any sort of disinformation campaign.

[CLICK TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP](#)

The federal investigation into the first son's tax affairs has reached a "critical stage," a source told Fox News last week. Officials are looking into whether to charge President Biden's son with various tax violations, possible foreign lobbying violations and more.

A separate source told Fox News that the federal grand jury looking into Hunter Biden's business dealings wrapped up its latest term late last month but said no charges have been filed.

DOJ declined to comment on Grassley's letters. The FBI confirmed receipt of the letters but declined to comment further.

Fox News's Brooke Singman, David Spunt and Bill Mears contributed to this article.

Kelly Laco is a politics editor for Fox News Digital.

 Print  Close

URL

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/grassley-presses-doj-fbi-transparency-partisan-politicization-agencies-hunter-biden-probe>

[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

[Privacy](#) | [Terms](#)

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. © FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. Quotes displayed in real-time or delayed by at least 15 minutes. Market data provided by Factset. Powered and implemented by FactSet Digital Solutions. Legal Statement. Mutual Fund and ETF data provided by Refinitiv Lipper. Do Not Sell my Personal Information - New Terms of Use - FAQ

Appendix B

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216
(202) 225-6906
judiciary.house.gov

February 28, 2023

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Garland:

The Committee on the Judiciary is conducting oversight over the operations and activities of the Department of Justice. The Department's investigation of Hunter Biden, son of President Biden, raises the appearance of a conflict of interest that would necessitate special counsel protections and authorities.¹ However, to date, you have declined to appoint a special counsel in this matter, despite appointing special counsels in other investigations.² Your refusal to appoint a special counsel here is conspicuous in this context.³ Accordingly, to further our oversight, we ask that you please provide the following documents:

1. All documents and communications sent or received by David Weiss or any employee of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Delaware referring or relating to special counsel status for the investigation concerning Hunter Biden; and
2. All documents and communications between or among employees of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Delaware and employees of any other U.S. Attorney's Office with venue to bring charges against Hunter Biden or his associates in that jurisdiction.

¹ See generally Letter from 33 U.S. Senators, to Hon. Merrick B. Garland, Att'y Gen., Dep't of Justice (Sept. 16, 2022); General Powers of Special Counsel, 28 C.F.R. § 600.1 (2010).

² Carrie Johnson, *A special counsel will probe government documents at Biden's home and private office*, NPR (Jan. 12, 2023).

³ See Letter from Sens. Charles E. Grassley & Ron Johnson, U.S. Senate, to Hon. David Weiss, U.S. Att'y, Dist. Del. (May 9, 2022).

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland

February 28, 2023

Page 2

Please provide this information as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 14, 2023. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Jordan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jim Jordan
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler, Ranking Member

Appendix C

KEN BUCK
4TH DISTRICT OF COLORADO

2455 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4676
FAX: (202) 225-5870

DISTRICT OFFICE:
900 CASTLETON RD. SUITE 112
CASTLE ROCK, CO 80109
PHONE: (720) 639-9165
FAX: (720) 639-9134

1023 39TH AVE.
GREELEY, CO 80634
PHONE: (970) 702-2136
FAX: (970) 702-2951



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0605

HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION
AND CITIZENSHIP
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ANTITRUST, COMMERCIAL
AND ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND INVESTIGATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WESTERN HEMISPHERE,
CIVILIAN SECURITY AND TRADE

December 7, 2020

The Honorable William P. Barr
Attorney General
United States Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Barr,

I write to request that the Department of Justice (DOJ) appoint a Special Counsel to investigate Mr. Hunter Biden's conduct and the contents of his laptop that is currently in the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) possession. This investigation is critical to defending the integrity of our republic and ensuring a potential Biden Administration will not be the subject of undue foreign interference. Americans have the right to know whether Mr. Biden's reported ties to foreign governments will make him the subject of blackmail attempts or other nefarious efforts to undermine U.S. national security or otherwise improperly influence American foreign policy.

As you know, the Attorney General is granted the statutory authority to appoint a Special Counsel under 28 U.S.C. § 515 and 28 CFR § 600 to investigate and prosecute any matter that would present a conflict of interest for the Department or other extraordinary circumstances. Similar to when the DOJ appointed Special Counsel Robert S. Mueller III, it is critical that this investigation continue free from political interference, no matter who is in the White House. We must guarantee the integrity of our government and the security of our republic.

As such, I urge the DOJ to appoint a Special Counsel to investigate Hunter Biden's actions and the potentially incriminating contents of his laptop to ensure this important investigation will be completed. Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ken Buck".

Ken Buck
Member of Congress

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 16, 2022

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Garland:

We the undersigned write to request that United States Attorney David C. Weiss be extended special counsel protections and authorities to conduct the Hunter Biden investigation.

During your confirmation hearing, you promised to keep politics out of the Department of Justice (“DOJ”).¹ This promise has not been kept. On October 4, 2021, you unleashed DOJ’s National Security Division and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”), among other criminal components, on millions of concerned parents across the country, who were exercising their First Amendment rights to be involved in decisions about their children’s education, including mask mandates, school closures, and the inclusion of critical race theory in school curricula.² We have received hundreds of pieces of correspondence detailing how your memorandum chilled constitutionally protected speech. To date, you have failed to rescind this memorandum despite the fact that it was primarily based on a false predicate: the now disavowed National School Board Association Letter.³

You have also taken numerous other steps that have shown the unfortunate politicization of the DOJ under your charge, including targeting conservative states and legislatures for common-sense ballot integrity measures,⁴ championing radical

¹ Merrick Garland, Sworn testimony before the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, The Nomination of the Honorable Merrick Brian Garland to be Attorney General of the United States (Feb. 22, 2021), available at <https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/SJC%20Testimony.final1.pdf>

² Memorandum from Attorney Gen. Merrick Garland, Partnership Among Federal, State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Law Enforcement to Address Threats Against School Administrators, Board Members, Teachers, and Staff (Oct. 4, 2021), at <https://www.justice.gov/ag/page/file/1438986/download>.

³ Letter from NSBA Board of Directors to NSBA Members apologizing for Sept. 29, 2021 letter to President Biden concerning threats and act of violence against school board members (Oct. 22, 2021), at <https://www.nsba.org/-/media/letter-to-nsba-membership-oct-22-2021.pdf?la=en&hash=F1B1348E2B4071132A992687120409BF0D72C3C7>

⁴ Press Release, Dep’t. of Justice Off. of Public Affairs, *Justice Department Files Lawsuit Against the State of Georgia to Stop Racially Discriminatory Provisions of New Voting Law* (Jun. 25, 2021), <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-files-lawsuit-against-state-georgia-stop-racially-discriminatory>

pieces of legislation that would federalize elections,⁵ and authorizing an unprecedented search warrant on a former President's home and current political rival shortly before a critical election without providing sufficient transparency to better understand the justification.

Inexplicably, DOJ has neglected to take measureable efforts to protect Supreme Court Justices, pro-life advocates, and pregnancy resource centers, particularly in the wake of the leak of the draft opinion in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. For months, radical abortion groups coordinated outside the homes of Supreme Court Justices to intimidate and influence the Justices in the discharge of their duties, a clear violation of federal law.⁶ Violent extremist groups like Jane's Revenge and Ruth Sent Us have incited violence in our communities, including taking credit for bombings of pregnancy resource centers in Wisconsin, New York, and Oregon.⁷ And, on June 8, 2022, an armed man, influenced by the leak of the Dobbs' draft opinion, attempted to murder Justice Kavanaugh outside of his home.⁸ Instead of taking measurable efforts to prevent and deter violence against Supreme Court Justices, pro-life advocates, and pregnancy resource centers, you opted to fan the flames of liberal outrage. Following the release of *Dobbs*, you claimed that the Supreme Court had ignored the Constitution and acted discriminately.⁹ Certainly, unhinged comments like this from our nation's top law enforcement official contribute to political division in our country.

As you know, the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Delaware—led by U.S. Attorney Weiss—has been investigating Hunter Biden.¹⁰ There is no way of knowing the entire scope of the investigation, but evidence seems to be mounting that Hunter Biden committed numerous federal crimes, including, but not limited

⁵ Press Release, Dep't. of Justice Off. of Public Affairs, *Attorney General Merrick B. Garland Delivered a Policy Address Regarding Voting Rights* (Jun. 11, 2021), <https://www.justice.gov/opa/speech/attorney-general-merrick-b-garland-delivered-policy-address-regarding-voting-rights>; see also <https://nypost.com/2021/11/05/doj-sues-texas-over-election-law-that-enabled-democrats-to-flee-austin/>

⁶ Letter from Senate Minority Leader McConnell and other Senators to Attorney General Garland, Department of Justice (Jun. 15, 2022), available at https://www.grassley.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/mcconnell_grassley_etaltodojefortstoinfluencethecourts.pdf; see also 18 USC 1507.

⁷ Judith Levine, *Beyond Revenge, What Does Jane's Revenge Want?*, *The Intercept* (Jun. 16, 2022), <https://theintercept.com/2022/06/16/janes-revenge-abortion-rights/>.

⁸ Ellie Silverman, Dan Morse, Katie Mettler, and Devlin Barrett, *Man with gun is arrested near Brett Kavanaugh's home, officials say*, *Washington Post*, June 8, 2022, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/dc-md-va/2022/06/08/kavanaugh-threat-arrest-justice/>.

⁹ Press Release, Dep't. of Justice Off. of Public Affairs, *Attorney General Merrick B. Garland on Supreme Court Ruling in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* (Jun. 24, 2022), <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/attorney-general-merrick-b-garland-statement-supreme-court-ruling-dobbs-v-jackson-women-s>

¹⁰ Evan Perez & Kara Scannell, *Federal investigation of Hunter Biden reaches critical juncture, sources say*, *CNN* (Jul. 20, 2022), <https://www.cnn.com/2022/07/20/politics/hunter-biden-investigation-critical-juncture/index.html>

to, tax fraud, money laundering, and foreign-lobbying violations. Indeed, Senators Grassley and Johnson have conducted an investigation for several years that has resulted in the public disclosure of facts that support those criminal concerns, including the disclosure of financial records showing the Biden family's close financial connections to the communist Chinese government and questionable foreign nationals. It is clear that Hunter Biden thrived off of a "pay to play" culture of access to his father, then Vice President Joe Biden in exchange for financial compensation.

Under Department of Justice regulations and federal law, you have the power to provide special counsel authorities and protections to U.S. Attorney Weiss.¹¹ Given that the investigation involves the President's son, we believe it is important to provide U.S. Attorney Weiss with special counsel authorities and protections to allow him to investigate an appropriate scope of potentially criminal conduct, avoid the appearance of impropriety, and provide additional assurances to the American people that the Hunter Biden investigation is free from political influence.

Recent news reports paint a concerning picture of the handling of the Hunter Biden investigation. As detailed by Senator Grassley, "highly credible" whistleblowers have come forward to detail a "widespread effort within the FBI to downplay or discredit negative information about" Hunter Biden.¹² Senator Grassley has also detailed allegations that the FBI shut down investigative activity and avenues of information relating to potentially criminal information on Hunter Biden before the 2020 presidential election. Instead of encouraging FBI and DOJ whistleblowers to report crimes and promote government transparency, you took the inexplicable step of chilling lawful whistleblower activity. Indeed, on August 30, 2022, on the heels of whistleblowers approaching Members of Congress, you issued a memorandum prohibiting DOJ and FBI employees from communicating with "Senators, Representatives, congressional committees, or congressional staff without advance coordination, consultation, and approval by OLA."¹³ Such a restriction is contrary to law and undermines the constitutional responsibility of Members of Congress to provide congressional oversight of the Executive Branch. Clearly, this memorandum will discourage and deter whistleblowers from sharing information to report potentially criminal activity and fraud, waste, and abuse by the government.

¹¹ 28 CFR §§ 600.1; 600.4-600.10;

¹² Letter from Ranking Member Grassley, Senate Committee on the Judiciary, to Merrick Garland, Attorney General, Department of Justice, and Christopher Wray, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigations (Jul. 25, 2022), https://www.grassley.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/grassley_to_justice_dept_fbi_-_political_bias.pdf

¹³ Bradford Betz, AG Garland issues memo on DOJ communications with Congress after retirements, whistleblower reports, Fox News (Aug. 30, 2022), <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/ag-garland-issues-memo-doj-communications-congress-retirements-whistleblower-reports>

Given the politicization of the DOJ under your watch and the importance of avoiding any appearance of impropriety, the undersigned request that you provide U.S. Attorney Weiss the full protections and authorities of a special counsel. This is one important action that you can take that will go a long way in restoring faith in our governmental institutions.



John Cornyn
U.S. Senator



Charles E. Grassley
U.S. Senator



Mitch McConnell
U.S. Senator



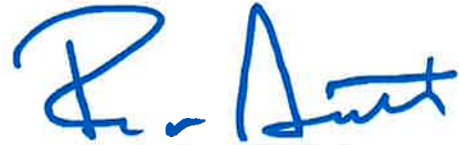
Ron Johnson
U.S. Senator



Lindsey O. Graham
U.S. Senator



Joni K. Ernst
U.S. Senator



Rick Scott
U.S. Senator



James Lankford
U.S. Senator



Tom Cotton
U.S. Senator



Marco Rubio
U.S. Senator



Josh Hawley
U.S. Senator



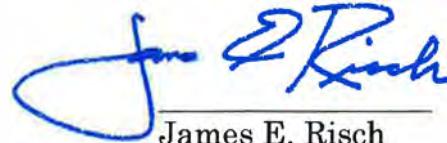
Mike Lee
U.S. Senator



Steve Daines
U.S. Senator



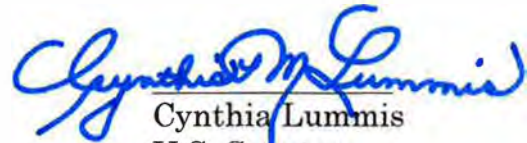
Ted Cruz
U.S. Senator



James E. Risch
U.S. Senator



Mike Crapo
U.S. Senator



Cynthia Lummis
U.S. Senator



Thom Tillis
U.S. Senator



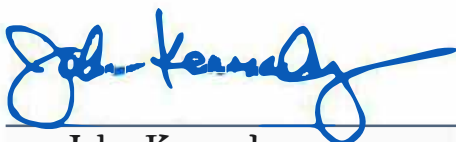
Cindy Hyde-Smith
U.S. Senator



James Inhofe
U.S. Senator



Kevin Cramer
U.S. Senator



John Kennedy
U.S. Senator




Roger Marshall, M.D.
U.S. Senator



Dan Sullivan
U.S. Senator



Shelley Moore Capito
U.S. Senator



Tim Scott
U.S. Senator



Bill Cassidy, M.D.
U.S. Senator



John Thune
U.S. Senator



Bill Hagerty
U.S. Senator



John Hoeven
U.S. Senator



Marsha Blackburn
U.S. Senator



John Barrasso
U.S. Senator



Ben Sasse
U.S. Senator