

# HOUSE REPUBLICANS ARE BASING THEIR BIDEN IMPEACHMENT STUNT ON FALSE CLAIMS THAT HAVE BEEN REPEATEDLY DEBUNKED

**James Comer:** *“Was Joe Biden directly involved with Hunter Biden’s business deals and is he compromised? That’s our investigation.”*

**James Comer:** *“We’ve got a president that’s compromised. We’ve got a president who has violated laws, who should be treated as a criminal.”*

**James Comer:** *“What we’re determining in the House Oversight Committee, the Republicans, is did this compromise President Joe Biden? Did this compromise him in his decision-making process?”*

**James Comer:** *“Our investigation is of Joe Biden. It always has been.”*

**James Comer:** *“Joe Biden was involved, all roads lead to Joe Biden.”*

**Elise Stefanik:** *“Joe Biden Has, I Believe, Committed Multiple Criminal Acts”*

House Republicans have consistently maintained that their investigation of the Bidens is focused on unearthing President Biden’s involvement in his son’s business dealings – and revealing policy and governing decisions he made that were “compromised” because of it. House Republicans have bragged about how they have [“obtained thousands of pages of financial records”](#) and claimed they show that [“there’s hard evidence that Joe Biden was front and center in this.”](#) Yet at every turn, their allegations about wrongdoing by Joe Biden have been debunked and refuted by their own witnesses’ testimony, the financial records they have obtained, independent public reporting, and more.

It’s clear that this “investigation” is all politics and no evidence. Chairman Comer has already conceded that his investigation is not about pursuing the truth but about [damaging the President’s poll numbers](#), and every day it becomes more clear that Comer and his fellow extreme MAGA Republicans in Congress have decided that peddling conspiracy theories is more important than working with President Biden and Democrats on the real issues that American families care about like lowering costs, creating jobs, and continuing to grow our economy.

Virtually every single allegation that House Republicans have suggested would be the basis for pursuing impeachment has been refuted.

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**REPUBLICAN CLAIM #1: Joe Biden “[engaged in a bribery scheme with a foreign national.](#)”**

- This claim is based on what Republicans say is an FBI FD-1023 form, revealing a source telling the FBI about an allegation of bribery from the founder of Burisma, a Ukrainian energy company. Years ago, Hunter Biden served on the board of this company, and former President Donald Trump’s first impeachment centered on his threat to withhold U.S. aid unless the Ukrainian government opened an investigation into the Bidens. Both the form itself and the facts surrounding this episode refute the GOP's claims with fact-checkers saying that “[the allegation that the Biden family was given a bribe is totally unproven.](#)”

**THE FACTS SHOW:**

**FBI FD-1023 forms are simply the memorialization of tips to the FBI. They are not documented proof and allegations do not need to be corroborated to be included on the form. They are simply unverified claims.**

- The [FBI has stated](#) that these forms “do not reflect the conclusions of investigators based on a fuller context or understanding. Recording this information does not validate it, establish its credibility, or weigh it against other information known or developed by the FBI in our investigations.”
  - In fact, [the FBI has said](#) that “the mere existence of such a document would establish little beyond the fact that a confidential human source provided information and the FBI recorded it.”
- [Associated Press](#): “These reports are routine, contain uncorroborated and unvetted information and do not on their own establish any wrongdoing.”
- [Axios](#): The form “simply documents an interview with a source, and does not in itself indicate any suspicions of wrongdoing”

**The allegation in the FD-1023 form was investigated by Donald Trump’s Justice Department under Bill Barr and found to “not be supported by facts.”**

- [Washington Post](#): “The allegation contained in the document was reviewed by the FBI at the time and was found to not be supported by facts, and the investigation was subsequently dropped with the Trump Justice Department’s sign-off.”

- [NYT](#): “The Trump Justice Department investigated the allegation, which involved his son Hunter Biden’s dealings in Ukraine, in 2020, but prosecutors could not substantiate the claims.”
- [NBC](#): “The FBI and Scott Brady, then the U.S. attorney for Western Pennsylvania, reviewed the allegation when it was made in 2020, as well as other information about Hunter Biden’s dealings in Ukraine, a senior law enforcement official said last week. The bribery allegation, however, wasn’t substantiated, the official said.”
- [CNN](#): “The FBI and prosecutors who previously reviewed the information couldn’t corroborate the claims.”

**Multiple individuals have testified that this allegation is not true – including Republicans’ own witnesses and the source of the alleged bribe himself.**

- Devon Archer, Hunter Biden’s former business partner who House Republicans lauded as a “hero” who was [“coming forward to directly tie the President to a bribery scheme,”](#) testified that he disagrees with the FBI form’s allegation that President Biden had been bribed by Burisma’s owner, Mykola Zlochevsky ([p.112](#)):

13            Q    If someone were to conclude from this that this is evidence, this Form 1023  
14            is evidence that Joe Biden was bribed by Mykola Zlochevsky, would you disagree with  
15            that conclusion?  
16            A    Yeah, I would.

- In fact, Archer even testified that then Vice President Biden had no involvement with Burisma whatsoever ([p.104](#)):

18            Q    So based on everything you saw, heard, and observed, did you have any  
19            knowledge of Joe Biden having any involvement with Burisma?  
20            A    No -- not direct, no.  
21            Q    No involvement of Joe --  
22            A    No.

- Mykola Zlochevsky, the owner of Burisma who [House Republicans themselves have identified](#) as the source of the alleged bribe in the form, [told investigators](#): “No one from Burisma ever had any contacts with VP Biden or people working for him during Hunter Biden’s engagement.” Zlochevsky also confirmed that neither Vice President Biden nor his staff assisted Zlochevsky or Burisma “in any way with business deals or meetings with world leaders or any other assistance.”
  - These statements were produced to the House Committees overseeing President Trump’s first impeachment years ago in 2019.
- Lev Parnas, Giuliani’s former investigator who House Republicans have refused to interview, [said](#) that although he was tasked to help “dig up dirt on the Bidens...there was no evidence of bribery or extortion that anyone could find.”

**In fact, congressional Republicans themselves have questioned the veracity of allegations in the FD-1023 form:**

- [Associated Press](#): “Called an FD-1023 form, it involves claims a confidential informant made in 2020 about Hunter Biden’s alleged business dealings when he served on the board of Ukrainian energy company Burisma. Top Republicans have acknowledged they cannot confirm whether the information is true.”
- Senator Grassley has even said “[we are not interested in whether the allegations against Vice President Biden are accurate or not.](#)”
- And congressional Republicans have questioned the allegations:
  - [Senator Ron Johnson](#): “Take that with a grain of salt, this could be coming from a very corrupt oligarch who could be making this stuff up.”
  - [Rep. Comer](#): “We don’t know if they’re legit or not.”
  - [Newsweek](#): “GOP’s Chuck Grassley Admits Biden Bribery Allegation May Be ‘Untrue’”

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## **REPUBLICAN CLAIM #2: Joe Biden as VP got the Ukrainian prosecutor general fired in order to help the company where his son served on the board.**

- Republicans claim that Joe Biden leveraged foreign aid to oust the Ukrainian prosecutor general Viktor Shokin in order to protect Burisma, where Hunter Biden served on the board. For example, Chairman Comer has [claimed](#) that the “real quid pro quo wasn’t Donald Trump, it was Joe Biden when he tried to hold up foreign aid when he was vice president in exchange for firing the federal prosecutor in Ukraine that was investigating the corruption from his son.”

## **THE FACTS SHOW:**

- [Years of independent reporting](#), including during Trump’s impeachment, has found that Shokin in fact “[was not investigating Burisma or Hunter Biden](#)” and that “[the international community and anti-corruption advocates in Ukraine were also calling for Shokin to be removed from office for his failure to aggressively prosecute corruption.](#)”
- Then-Vice President Biden was “[carrying out a policy developed at the State Department and coordinated with the European Union and the International Monetary Fund](#)” – a policy that [Republicans also supported](#).
- Independent reporting has called this claim “[widely discredited](#),” “[false](#),” and “[debunked](#),” and Republicans’ own witnesses during the first Trump impeachment called these claims “[non-credible](#).”
- The [House Foreign Affairs Committee](#) reviewed more than 16,000 pages of documents produced by Trump’s State Department in their investigation of this claim and found that “American officials, all the way up to Vice President Biden” “pursued a strong policy of encouraging Ukraine to reform and tackle corruption, including by prosecuting corrupt oligarchs such as Burisma’s Mykola Zlochevsky.”

### **Shokin was ousted because he was not prosecuting corruption:**

- [CNN](#): “The Obama administration, American allies, the International Monetary Fund and Ukrainian anti-corruption activists, among others, had all made clear that they were displeased with the performance of Viktor Shokin, who became prosecutor general in 2015. Shokin was widely faulted for declining to bring prosecutions of elites’ corruption, and he was even accused of hindering corruption investigations.”
- [PolitiFact](#): “Western leaders and institutions were largely united in seeking Shokin’s removal, arguing that he was not pursuing corruption cases aggressively.”
- [FactCheck.org](#): “At the time, the international community and anti-corruption advocates in Ukraine were also calling for Shokin to be removed from office for his failure to aggressively prosecute corruption.”

### **Shokin’s ousting was supported by Republicans in Congress and by international partners such as the IMF and the EU.**

- [CNN](#): “Republican senators echoed Biden in urging Ukrainian president to reform prosecutor general’s office”
- [The Hill](#): Senator Ron Johnson said in 2019 ““The whole world, by the way, including the Ukrainian caucus, which I signed the letter, the whole world felt that this that Shokin wasn’t doing a [good] enough job. So we were saying hey you’ve ... got to rid yourself of corruption.””
- [Washington Post](#): “Biden was carrying out a policy developed at the State Department and coordinated with the European Union and the International Monetary Fund.”
- [Kyiv Post](#): “Transparency International says Shokin to blame for failed anti-corruption efforts” – ““Transparency International Ukraine believes that Prosecutor General Shokin is personally responsible for the failure of the fight against high-ranking officials’ corruption,’ Transparency International said.”

### **House Freedom Caucus Member Ken Buck slammed this conspiracy as an “imagined history” that rests on a “fictitious” “gotcha” narrative – even after receiving a “[special briefing](#)” from GOP investigators:**

- [Ken Buck](#): “The truth...runs counter to the GOP’s ‘gotcha’ narrative. In reality, Shokin was deeply enmeshed in Ukraine’s culture of corruption and, far from being a beacon of transparency, was viewed by many in the West — including some conservative Republican senators — as an obstacle to anti-corruption reforms.”
- [Ken Buck](#): “There is, in fact, no evidence that Shokin was engaged in an investigation of Burisma, or that Joe Biden’s role in his firing was in any way connected to Burisma.”

### **Multiple individuals, including former Trump Administration officials testifying under oath during former President Trump’s impeachment trial, as well as witnesses requested by Republicans, have testified that this allegation is not true.**

- [Trump’s U.S. special envoy to Ukraine Kurt Volker](#), a Republican-called witness during Trump’s first impeachment testified under oath that “the allegations against Vice President Biden are self-serving and non-credible.”

- [Former Deputy Assistant Secretary of State George Kent](#), who served during the Trump Administration, testified during Trump’s first impeachment that “the U.S. the IMF, the European Union countries, we had come to the conclusion in the wake of the diamond prosecutors affair that there was going to be no progress for reform on the prosecutor general under Shokin” and that the idea to leverage aid to push for Shokin’s ousting came not from Hunter Biden, but “from Ambassador Pyatt in discussion with Assistant Secretary Nuland and then was pitched to the Office of the Vice President.”
  - Kent later also [testified](#) in a Republican-led Senate investigation that Hunter Biden and his associates had no role in the formulation of U.S. policy and that the policies then-VP Biden pursued in Ukraine were “intended to advance the interests of the United States of America.”
- Devon Archer, the House Republicans’ own much-hyped witness this year, testified that he had been informed at the time that Shokin’s firing “was not good, because he was like under control as relates to Mykola [Zlochevsky, Burisma’s owner].”
  - [When asked](#), “Did you have any knowledge of Joe Biden having any involvement with Burisma?” Archer answered flatly: “No.”
  - [When asked](#), “Do you have any basis to disagree with the conclusion that “Hunter Biden's presence on the board of the Ukrainian gas company Burisma had no effect on U.S. foreign policy?” Archer also answered “No.”
- David Wade, the Chief of Staff at the State Department, which developed the policy to remove Shokin, [testified](#) to the Senate that he “never heard the words ‘Hunter Biden’ in any discussion about Ukraine” and that the State Department’s policies towards Ukraine were not altered “not even a little bit” to assist Hunter Biden.”
- Former Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs Victoria Nuland [testified to Senate investigators](#): “I was proud to work with Vice President Biden on Ukraine policy and especially on trying to help the Ukrainian people root out corruption in their country. He was a warrior on these subjects, and I never saw any influence on policy as a result of Hunter Biden’s board seat.”
- Former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Geoffrey Pyatt [also testified to the Senate](#) that they believed “systemic corruption” was “not going to be broken under the approach that Prosecutor General Shokin was pursuing” and when asked if the policy advocating for the dismissal of Shokin was “formulated by Vice President Biden in an effort to assist his son,” Pyatt responded: “No. As I said, it was formulated by the interagency process.”

**Key Ukrainians including the former President of Ukraine as well as Shokin’s own deputy, Vitaly Kasko, have said this allegation is not true:**

- [Vitaly Kasko, Shokin’s deputy, said that Shokin was not investigating Burisma](#): “Shokin took no action to pursue cases against Zlochevsky throughout 2015, said Kasko, who was Shokin’s deputy overseeing international cooperation and helping in asset-recovery investigations. Kasko said he had urged Shokin to pursue the investigations.”
- [Former President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko](#) – who Republicans claim VP Biden pressured to fire Shokin – told Fox that this allegation did not have “[a single word of truth](#)” and instead called Shokin a “[completely crazy person](#)” who “[played \[a\] very dirty game.](#)”

### **REPUBLICAN CLAIM #3: “[Joe Biden has participated in his family’s global business ventures with America’s adversaries.](#)”**

- Republicans in Congress say that Joe Biden was directly involved in foreign business dealings with his family. Comer has said that they “[already have evidence that would point that Joe Biden was involved with Hunter Biden on this](#)” and that “[America is gonna get to see firsthand just how involved Joe Biden was in his family’s shenanigans.](#)” McCarthy has claimed “[the Bidens took over \\$20 million](#)” from foreign countries, and Comer has also alleged the “[Biden family received over \\$20 million from our enemies](#)” through “[20-plus shell companies](#)” that are “[fake.](#)”

### **THE FACTS SHOW:**

**Hunter Biden’s business associates – the House Republicans’ own hand-picked witnesses – have testified to Congress that Joe Biden was not involved in Hunter Biden’s business dealings:**

- Comer claimed that Devon Archer was “[going to be able to come under oath and tell us exactly what role Joe Biden played.](#)” but Archer testified that President Biden wasn’t involved, never discussed business dealings, and did nothing wrong.
  - Archer testified that President Biden had no involvement with Burisma ([p.104](#)):

18            Q    So based on everything you saw, heard, and observed, did you have any  
19            knowledge of Joe Biden having any involvement with Burisma?

20            A    No -- not direct, no.

21            Q    No involvement of Joe --

22            A    No.

- Archer testified that he wasn’t aware of any wrongdoing by President Biden ([p.104](#)):

8            Mr. Schwartz.    Are you aware of any wrongdoing by Vice President Biden?

9            Mr. Archer.    No, I'm not aware of any.

- Archer testified that President Biden never discussed business with Hunter Biden or his associates ([p.131](#)):

1            Mr. Schwartz.    It is still true that you are not aware that Hunter Biden ever  
2            discussed policy with his father, discussed business with his father, influenced American  
3            policy for purposes of his business or otherwise caused the Vice President or asked the  
4            Vice President to do anything improper, right?

5            Mr. Archer.    That's my understanding.

- Eric Schwerin, another business partner of Hunter Biden who Comer boasted was “[going to be a very valuable witness for us](#),” instead told the Oversight Committee that “[he was not aware of any involvement by President Biden in the financial conduct of his relatives’ businesses](#).”

**For years, independent reporting has found that Joe Biden was not involved in these business dealings.**

- [Wall Street Journal](#): “Corporate records reviewed by The Wall Street Journal show no role for Joe Biden.” (October 2020)
- [Washington Post](#): “The Post did not find evidence that Joe Biden personally benefited from or knew details about the transactions.” (March 2022)
- [Former Hunter Biden business associate](#): “I am unaware of any involvement at anytime of the former Vice President.” (October 2020)
- [NYT](#): “Republicans have provided no evidence that the elder Mr. Biden was involved in landing that business [for his son] or participated in it in any way.” (September 2023)

**Comer says he has obtained thousands of pages of financial records, including via subpoena, yet none of these records have shown any link to Joe Biden. Perhaps that’s why Republicans are now arguing they don’t need to “[show payments directly to the President to show corruption](#).”**

- [Washington Post](#): “Despite reviewing thousands of bank records, they haven’t shown a link between Biden and his family’s business deals. And there is no evidence he personally benefited financially...So far, Republicans have failed to connect Hunter Biden’s business deals to his father’s work while vice president.”
- [CNN](#): “The latest report does not show any payments made directly to Joe Biden, either as vice president or after leaving office.”
- [NBC](#): “As part of the investigation, Republican lawmakers, however, have repeatedly released financial documents that failed to prove any of the accusations.”
- [Politico](#): “Republicans have not yet found a smoking gun linking the president to his son’s business arrangements or that Joe Biden accepted a bribe, while both Attorney General Merrick Garland and U.S. Attorney David Weiss have denied the whistleblower allegations.”
- [Former spokesman for Republican Speakers Boehner and Ryan](#): “These committees are starting with conclusions and then trying – and mostly failing – to find facts to support them.”
- [Former investigations director for Republican Sen. Grassley for two decades](#): House Republicans “are content with weaponizing mere allegations, which suggests they are focused on political rabble-rousing instead of finding and demonstrating the truth.”
- [Fox News anchor Steve Doocy](#): “You don’t actually have any facts to that point. You’ve got some circumstantial evidence. And the other thing is, of all those names, the one person who didn’t profit – there’s no evidence that Joe Biden did anything illegally.”

**Comer, McCarthy, and other House Republicans falsely claim to have identified \$20 million in payments to the “Biden family” through fake shell companies – even though these companies were legitimate entities, the majority of the money was paid to non-Bidens, and none of the money flowed to Joe Biden.**



- [Washington Post](#): “Comer often suggests that the Biden family used these so-called shell companies to launder money; in his telling, such companies served no legitimate function. But that claim is undercut by the list of 21 companies that appear in the second staff memo... Virtually all of the companies (many of which now are defunct) had legitimate business interests.”
- [Washington Post](#): “[Comer] claims the Bidens received more than \$20 million from foreign sources, leaving off the caveat in the staff reports that two-thirds of the payments went to Hunter Biden’s business partners.”
- [Washington Post](#): “No evidence has emerged that any of these funds can be traced to Joe Biden himself.”
- [FactCheck.org](#): “Several Republican lawmakers, including McCarthy, incorrectly claimed that all of the money had been paid to ‘the Bidens’ or ‘the Biden family.’”

### **REPUBLICAN CLAIM #4: “[President Biden is compromised by deals with foreign adversaries](#)” and it is “[impacting his decision making.](#)”**

- Chair Comer has [said](#) “it’s hard for me to believe” that Hunter Biden would have received money from foreign companies “if they weren’t getting a return on their investment, and the only way they could get a return on their investment is through a Vice President Joe Biden or a President Joe Biden.” At one point, Comer [proclaimed](#) that “there are six specific decisions that Joe Biden made either as vice president or president that are very concerning to us, that we believe could potentially lead back to payments that were made,” but he has never outlined what those are.

### **THE FACTS SHOW:**

**Independent reporting has found that, despite all their investigating, House Republicans have identified no evidence of wrongdoing by Joe Biden, no connection between Joe Biden and Hunter Biden’s business dealings, and no impact on policymaking.**

- [CNN](#): “Republicans still have yet to tie such allegations directly to the president’s actions.”
- [New York Times](#): “The Republicans conceded that they had yet to find evidence of a specific corrupt action Mr. Biden took in office in connection with any of the business deals his son entered into.”
- [Axios](#): “By Republicans’ own admission, the investigation into alleged Biden family corruption has yet to uncover specific evidence of wrongdoing by the president himself.”
- [Time](#): “They provided no evidence of President Biden’s knowledge of the transactions and made no attempt to link the payments to any of his official or unofficial acts as a public servant.”
- Comer on Fox News [could not explain](#) the policy decisions he believes are implicated.
  - Steve Doocy to Comer: “Make it easy for us: what was the crime?” Comer: “The crime is that you are trading policy for money.” Doocy: “Which policy?” Comer: “We’re going to get into that.”
- Consistent with this reporting, Republican’s own witness, Devon Archer, confirmed that he was aware of no wrongdoing by President Biden and that Hunter Biden’s business interests never influenced U.S. policy ([p.131](#)):

Q Do you have any basis to disagree with the conclusion that "Hunter Biden's role did not influence U.S. foreign policy decisions"?

A I have -- yeah, I have no basis.

Q Do you have any basis to disagree with the conclusion that "Vice President Biden carried out U.S. foreign policy in the interest of the United States"?

A I have no basis to judge.

Q Or to disagree with that.

A Or disagree.

Q You have no knowledge -- nothing based on your knowledge or experience contradicts this conclusion.

A No.

Mr. Schwartz. Are you aware of any wrongdoing by Vice President Biden?

Mr. Archer. No, I'm not aware of any.

#### **Even House Republicans have conceded they do not have evidence tying Joe Biden to wrongdoing:**

- [A GOP lawmaker told CNN](#): "There's no evidence that Joe Biden got money, or that Joe Biden, you know, agreed to do something so that Hunter could get money. There's just no evidence of that. And **they can't impeach without that evidence**. And I don't I don't think the evidence exists."
- [Rep. Ken Buck said](#): The evidence for impeachment "**doesn't exist** right now." He has also [said](#) "I haven't seen evidence linking Hunter Biden's activities to Joe Biden" and [that](#) "**I'm not convinced that that evidence exists.**"
- [Rep. Mike McCaul admitted](#): "**We don't have the evidence.**"
- [Rep. Chuck Edwards said](#): "I've heard over and over that President Biden has not been implicated or proven for any wrongdoing here, and **I acknowledge that.**"
- [Republican Rep. Dusty Johnson said](#): "There is a constitutional and legal test that you have to meet with evidence" when it comes to impeachment but that he has "not seen that evidence."
- [Rep. Dave Joyce said](#): "You hear a lot of rumor and innuendo ... **but that's not fact to me**. As a former prosecutor, I think there has to be facts, and I think there has to be due process that we follow, and I've not seen any of that."
- [Rep. Don Bacon said](#): "I think before we move on to [an] impeachment inquiry, we should ... there should be a direct link to the president in some evidence."
- [Rep. Darrell Issa, former House Oversight Chair said](#): "The actual participation by the vice president and now president – that still has to be discovered and or nailed down."
- [CNN](#): "One moderate GOP lawmaker said they believe **there are as many as 30 Republicans who don't believe there's enough evidence yet for impeachment.**"

**REPUBLICAN CLAIM #5: There was “[political interference from the Biden administration](#)” in Trump-appointed prosecutor David Weiss’ investigation of Hunter Biden.**

**THE FACTS SHOW:**

President Biden has had no involvement in this case, and chose to keep the Trump-appointed prosecutor in place during his Administration to ensure the independence of the case. The Justice Department and Weiss himself have stressed that he had full authority in the investigation, and even House Republicans’ own witnesses have testified that neither Joe Biden nor his Administration interfered in this case. Weiss now has been given full special counsel authority.

- Weiss himself definitively stated he had “[ultimate authority](#)” in the matter, “[including responsibility for deciding where, when, and whether to file charges.](#)”
- Attorney General Merrick Garland testified in front of Congress that Weiss has had “[full authority](#)” to carry out his investigation.
- Multiple witnesses called by Republicans debunked Republican claims of political interference:
  - IRS agents Gary Shapley and Joseph Ziegler [confirmed](#) at a House Oversight hearing that neither Attorney General Garland nor President Biden interfered in the probe of Hunter Biden.
  - An FBI Supervisory Special Agent [testified](#) to the Oversight Committee that he had never known Weiss or the career prosecutors in his office to make decisions based on political influence:

Q Have you ever known U.S. Attorney Weiss to make prosecutorial decisions

based upon political influence?

A No.

Q Have you ever known any of the AUSAs in the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the

Office of Delaware to let their prosecutorial decisions be guided by political interference?

A No.

- [President Biden has stressed](#): “I made a commitment that I would not in any way interfere with the Justice Department, who they prosecuted, if they prosecuted, how they proceeded. I’ve not spoken once — not one single time — with the attorney general on any specific case. Not once.”

**Republicans have pointed to complaints about decisions that were made *during the Trump Administration*, under Bill Barr’s Department of Justice, to support baseless claims of political meddling by President Biden and the White House:**

- McCarthy has argued that the failure to approve a search warrant of President Biden’s Delaware home “[because of ‘optics’](#)” is proof of interference. But according to IRS agent Gary Shapley, this

decision was made two months before the 2020 presidential election, [during the Trump Administration](#).

- In fact, it's long been public that Attorney General Bill Barr understood the sensitivities of Weiss' investigation:
  - [WSJ](#): "Barr Worked to Keep Hunter Biden Probes From Public View During Election"
- And Barr himself had issued "[new rules for politically sensitive investigations](#)" and how they were handled at the Department of Justice.

**Independent reporting has recognized that there is no evidence President Biden ever tried to interfere in the probe:**

- [CNN](#): "There is no public indication that Joe Biden or the White House ever tried to intervene in the probe."
- [NYT](#): "There is no evidence that Mr. Biden ordered that his son get special treatment in any investigation...[IRS investigators] made no allegation that President Biden had tried to impede the inquiry."
- [FactCheck.org](#): "There is no evidence that the president was involved in any decisions made by the IRS and DOJ involving his son."

**Experts, independent reporting, and witnesses note that disagreements between prosecutors and investigators are routine and are not proof of political interference, as Republicans have alleged. In fact, reporting has noted that the five-year investigation has been "[thorough](#)" involving a wide team of investigators and prosecutors:**

- [PolitiFact](#): "Legal experts cautioned against assuming the whistleblowers are fully correct...it's not uncommon in major prosecutions to have different players wanting to pursue different approaches."
- [CNN](#): "It isn't uncommon for there to be internal disagreements among investigators over which charges to file against the target of an investigation, much like the disagreements that the IRS whistleblowers described."
- [Vox](#): "Most of their complaints are just about believing DOJ prosecutors were too cautious and risk-averse in this case. Yet it is simply a reality that, in a high-profile case with the potential for major media attention and scandal that could ruin careers, many officials involved will want to be cautious."
- [NBC](#): "Law enforcement officials familiar with the matter described it as a thorough investigation involving criminal investigators, FBI agents and counterintelligence agents in Baltimore and Wilmington, Delaware, white-collar crime and financial analysts from FBI headquarters in Washington and multiple prosecutors in the U.S. attorney's office in Delaware."

**Five of the House Republicans' own witnesses have testified disputing this claim:**

- [NBC on Thomas Sobocinski's testimony](#): "The FBI agent who oversaw the agency's investigation into Hunter Biden disputed a claim...that the Justice Department gave preferential treatment to President Joe Biden's son."
  - When asked "Do you have any reason to believe President Biden interfered in this investigation in any way?" [Sobocinski testified "No."](#)

- [CNN on Michael Batdorf's testimony](#): "A high-ranking Internal Revenue Service official has disputed...allegations about political interference into the Hunter Biden tax investigation are central to House Republican impeachment inquiries against President Joe Biden."
- Ryeshia Holley, the assistant special agent in charge with the FBI testified: "[I did not think anyone involved in the ongoing matter was politicizing it.](#)"
- Darrell Waldon, the special agent in charge of the IRS' criminal investigative division was also asked if the case had been politicized, and also answered "[No.](#)"
- An FBI Supervisory Special Agent involved in the matter testified that "it's a common circumstance for FBI agents to have disagreements with prosecutors about investigative steps." ([p.50](#))

Q So it's a common circumstance for FBI agents to have disagreements with prosecutors about investigative steps. Is that fair?

A Yes.

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## REPUBLICAN CLAIM #6: The Biden Administration is "stonewalling" congressional investigations.

- Chair Comer has claimed that "[we all know the Biden administration is stonewalling](#)" congressional investigations, and Republicans have argued that this alleged obstruction necessitates a full impeachment inquiry, claiming the Biden Administration is "[denying us to get the information that we need](#)" and an impeachment inquiry will give them fuller powers to obtain information.

## THE FACTS SHOW:

**Republicans in Congress have undercut their own claims of obstruction by bragging about the volume of materials they have gained access to in their investigations.**

- House Republicans themselves have boasted about their successful efforts to get access to information from the Administration, crowing that they have "[obtained thousands of pages of financial records related to the Biden family and their associates' transactions](#)" from the Treasury Department and other sources.
- House Oversight Committee Chairman Comer [said on Fox](#) that "every subpoena I've signed as chairman of the House Oversight Committee over the last five months, we've gotten 100 percent of what we've requested."

**The Biden Administration has made extraordinary efforts to provide information in response to House Republicans' requests and has not "[obstructed](#)" even their most absurd investigations.**

- The Biden Administration has consistently given House Republicans access to information, including material that is highly protected and rarely provided to Congress:

- The Biden Administration Treasury Department [provided the House Oversight Committee access to financial records](#) totaling [more than 2,000 pages](#).
  - Oversight Committee Chairman Comer [boasted](#) about getting this access – and even stood outside of the Treasury Department to [record a Twitter video](#) talking about how he and other members had just reviewed the materials.
- The FBI under the Biden Administration [provided](#) the full House Oversight Committee the FBI FD-1023 form, as well as multiple briefings to discuss it – even [stressing](#) that “this is an extraordinary accommodation given the sensitivities surrounding FBI FD-1023s, which contain raw, unverified reporting from confidential human sources” and “protecting this type of information from wider disclosure is imperative to the FBI’s ability to recruit sources and ensure the safety of the source or others mentioned in the reporting.”
- House Republicans have had access to dozens of hours of witness interviews and testimony, including non-partisan law enforcement professionals involved in an ongoing investigation who would otherwise rarely appear before Congress:
  - The Justice Department under the Biden Administration has [offered multiple officials](#) to come in and testify on these issues, [including five hours of public testimony from AG Garland](#) and nearly [six hours of testimony from FBI Director Wray](#).
  - Both the FBI and IRS have [made multiple witnesses available for dozens of hours of testimony](#) before House Oversight, House Judiciary, and House Ways and Means.
- Meanwhile, McCarthy has accused the Biden administration of obstructing documents that were [“never requested by the GOP.”](#)
  - [The Hill](#): “McCarthy at one point added they were seeking bank statements and credit card statements...An aide for the House Oversight Committee, which has led the investigation into the matter, confirmed the panel has not requested such documents from the White House.”

## **REPUBLICAN CLAIM #7: Joe Biden and the White House have changed their story on the President’s alleged involvement.**

- Republicans have also resorted to making bogus arguments that the President [“lied to the American people”](#) and that the White House has [“attempt\[ed\] to move the goalposts”](#) in its messaging.

### **THE FACTS SHOW:**

**Statements by President Biden, the White House, and even the Biden campaign in 2020 have been consistent – and in fact, they have been backed up by the testimony of House Republicans’ own witnesses.**

**The White House’s statement that “the President was not in business with his son” is entirely consistent with past statements.**

- In 2020, the Biden campaign [told The New York Times](#): “Joe Biden has never even considered being involved in business with his family, nor in any overseas business whatsoever.”

- Republicans’ own witnesses such as Eric Schwerin, a former business associate of Hunter Biden, [said President Biden was not involved in their business dealings](#): “In a March 2023 interview with Republican and Democratic Committee staff, Mr. Schwerin told Committee staff he was not aware of any involvement by President Biden in the financial conduct of the President’s relatives’ businesses, much less any transactions into or out of the then-Vice President’s bank account related to business conducted by any Biden family member.”
- [FactCheck.org](#): “It also has not been proven that he lied about having ‘never discussed’ business with son, as Joe Biden has said.”

**The President’s statements that he has “[never spoken to my son about his overseas business dealings](#)” and “[never talked business](#)” is also supported by the testimony of House Republicans’ own witnesses:**

- Devon Archer repeatedly testified that Joe Biden never discussed business with his son.
  - Archer testified that President Biden never discussed business with Hunter Biden or his associates ([p.131](#)):

1           Mr. [Schwartz](#). It is still true that you are not aware that Hunter Biden ever  
 2           discussed policy with his father, discussed business with his father, influenced American  
 3           policy for purposes of his business or otherwise caused the Vice President or asked the  
 4           Vice President to do anything improper, right?

5           Mr. [Archer](#). That’s my understanding.

- Archer testified that any conversations he witnessed with President Biden were not related to Hunter Biden’s business dealings ([p.120](#)):

17           Mr. [Goldman](#). And you -- to your knowledge, you know, none of the times that  
 18           you would ever overhear Vice President Biden calling Hunter was to -- was with the  
 19           purpose of discussing business with him.

20           Mr. [Archer](#). It was, yeah, not related to commercial business, politics, that kind  
 21           of stuff.

**Again and again, Speaker McCarthy, Marjorie Taylor Greene, James Comer, and other House Republicans have shown that they are pursuing a baseless impeachment stunt – despite revealing no evidence of wrongdoing by Joe Biden – in a relentless effort to smear the President.**

**The relentless pursuit of this extreme, far-right political agenda comes at the expense of what the American people have sent their leaders to Washington to do – move past the constant political warfare and focus on working together to improve the lives of American families.**