

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

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March 18, 2025

The Honorable Pamela J. Bondi
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Bondi:

The Committee on the Judiciary is conducting oversight of the programs and operations of the Department of Justice. As part of our constitutional oversight responsibilities, we request testimony from seven individuals about the Department's misconduct during the Biden-Harris Administration. These individuals include former employees J.P. Cooney and Mack Jenkins, as well as current employees Thomas P. Windom, Tina Ansari, Negar Tekeei, Sanjay Patel, and Anita Eve. Their testimony is vital to our investigation into how the Biden-Harris Administration weaponized the Justice Department for political purposes and misused federal law-enforcement resources. We share your commitment to restoring accountability and transparency to the Department and we respectfully request the Department's cooperation with this matter.

Under the Biden-Harris Administration, the Justice Department repeatedly demonstrated an alarming disregard for its constitutional responsibilities, instead allowing itself to be used as a political tool to target perceived political adversaries. Specifically, former Special Counsel Jack Smith and his team, including Cooney and Windom, orchestrated a partisan and politically motivated prosecution of President Donald J. Trump and his co-defendants.¹ Among the disturbing tactics employed in the prosecution, Department attorneys sought to silence President Trump by restricting his public statements about the case,² conducted an unnecessary and controversial raid of his home,³ attempted to improperly pressure defense counsel with the

¹ Mr. Cooney held the title of "deputy special counsel" on Smith's team that pursued indictments against President Trump. Perry Stein, *A look at the team Jack Smith built to try to convict Donald Trump*, WASH. POST (Sept. 10, 2023) ("J.P. Cooney [serves as a] member of the special counsel's 2020 election team"); see Hunter Walker, et al., *Jack Smith's Deputy in Jan. 6 Case Is A 'Lawman Type' Who's Taken On Trumpworld Before*, TALKING POINTS MEMO (Sept. 13, 2023).

² Ryan J. Reilly and Daniel Barnes, *Special counsel asks for 'narrow' gag order for Trump in election interference case*, NBC NEWS (Sept. 15, 2023).

³ Kaitlan Collins, *FBI executes search warrant at Trump's Mar-a-Lago in document investigation*, CNN (Aug. 9, 2022).

promise of political patronage,⁴ and manipulated key evidence in the investigation.⁵ These actions undermined the integrity of the Justice Department and violated the core responsibility of prosecutors to do justice.

Beyond this, other components of the Biden-Harris Justice Department engaged in misconduct and partisan retaliation. One such case involved Mack Jenkins, who formerly served as the Chief of the Criminal Division of the United States District Attorney's Office for the Central District of California and led the now-overturned prosecution of former Representative Jeff Fortenberry (R-NE).⁶ During the prosecution in California, Representative Fortenberry's former attorney accused Jenkins of "misleading him about Representative Fortenberry's status as a witness, subject, or target of the investigation and about the nature of the Department's investigation."⁷ Further, despite the Ninth Circuit reversing the conviction, on May 8, 2024, the Justice Department "indicted [Representative] Fortenberry again for much of the same alleged conduct" in Washington, D.C., apparently seeking to target Representative Fortenberry for his political party affiliation.⁸ Notably, however, the Justice Department moved to dismiss the case in January 2025.⁹

Another such case involves Assistant U.S. Attorney Negar Tekeei, who, along with other Southern District of New York (SDNY) prosecutors, appears to have retaliated against a federal inmate and witness who testified during the impeachment inquiry into former President Joe Biden.¹⁰ This witness, who provided critical testimony about the Biden family's corruption, was subjected to retaliation by Justice Department components.¹¹ The Bureau of Prisons, under

⁴ See Letter from Jim Jordan, Chairman, H. Comm. on the Judiciary to Jack Smith, Special Counsel, U.S. Dep't of Justice (Sep. 7, 2023) (citing Ken Dilanian, *Lawyer for witness in Trump docs probe alleged prosecutorial misconduct*, NBC NEWS (Jun. 8, 2023)).

⁵ Government's Response to Defendant Waltine Nauta's Motion to Extend Time, *U.S. v. Trump, et al.*, No. 23-80101-CR-CANNON(s) (S.D. Fla. May 3, 2024) (hereinafter "Government's Response"); see John Solomon, *Trump Whodunnit: Prosecutors admit key evidence in document case has been tampered with*, JUST THE NEWS (May 3, 2024).

⁶ *Mack E. Jenkins*, AM. COLLEGE OF TRIAL LAWYERS, <https://www.actl.com/find-a-fellow/mack-e-jenkins/> (last accessed Mar. 3, 2025).

⁷ Letter from Rep. Jim Jordan, Chairman, H. Comm. on the Judiciary, to Hon. E. Martin Estrada, U.S. Attorney, U.S. Att'y's Office for the Central Dist. of California (Dec. 5, 2024). "On October 19, 2021, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Central District of California indicted then-United States Representative Jeff Fortenberry for allegedly making materially false statements to federal agents. A California federal jury found Representative Fortenberry guilty on these charges, and the court sentenced him to two years of probation. On December 26, 2023, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit reversed the conviction, holding that Representative Fortenberry's trial took place in a state where no charged crime was committed" *Id.* (quoting *United States v. Fortenberry*, 89 F.4th 702, 713 (9th Cir. 2023)).

⁸ See Meghann Cuniff, *9th Circuit reverses criminal convictions for Nebraska congressman who was tried in LA*, LEGAL AFFAIRS & TRIALS WITH MEGHANN CUNIFF, (last accessed Mar. 3, 2025).

⁹ Steve Benen, *Trump backs yet another former GOP lawmaker accused of corruption*, NBC NEWS (Jan. 30, 2025).

¹⁰ See Letter from Rep. Jim Jordan, Chairman, H. Comm. on the Judiciary, to Ms. Collette S. Peters, Dir., Fed. Bureau of Prisons (Mar. 5, 2024); see Josh Christenson, *House GOP probes alleged DOJ retaliation against impeachment witness serving 14-year sentence who revealed then-VP Joe's Moscow call*, N.Y. POST (Mar. 5, 2024). In particular, the witness testified that in 2014, then-Vice President Biden, Hunter, and Hunter's business associate, Devon Archer, had a phone call with Russian oligarch Yelena Baturina and her husband, the ex-mayor of Moscow Yuri Luzhkov, after Baturina transferred \$3.5 million to a firm controlled by Hunter and Archer months earlier. *Id.*

¹¹ *Id.*

pressure from SDNY prosecutors, denied the witness's release into home confinement, and then provided shifting explanations for doing so.¹²

Additionally, there are concerns about the actions of Houston Assistant U.S. Attorney Tina Ansari, who was involved in the prosecution of a courageous whistleblower who exposed illegal activity at a Texas children's hospital.¹³ This hospital publicly stated it would stop performing certain gender transition procedures on minors.¹⁴ Yet, it continued to do so in direct violation of Texas law.¹⁵ When a physician at the hospital, bravely came forward to expose this unlawful behavior, Assistant U.S. Attorney Ansari chose to pursue charges against the whistleblower.¹⁶ This decision to prosecute the whistleblower raises concerns, not only because it involved the suppression of a lawful attempt to expose illegal activity but also because of Ansari's apparent conflict of interest—her close family members had substantial financial and political ties to the hospital in question.¹⁷ Although the Biden-Harris Justice Department ultimately withdrew her from the case,¹⁸ the handling of this politicized prosecution demands scrutiny.

Further, the Committee also requires the testimony of Assistant U.S. Attorneys Sanjay Patel and Anita Eve, who prosecuted Mark Houck, a pro-life advocate and father of seven, arrested in a dramatic FBI raid at his Pennsylvania home in September 2022.¹⁹ Mr. Patel and Ms. Eve charged Houck under the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances (FACE) Act for allegedly pushing an abortion clinic escort in 2021, an incident local authorities declined to pursue and which Houck's legal team argues was a justified defense of his son from harassment.²⁰ Despite his acquittal by a jury in January 2023, the aggressive tactics—including an early-morning raid of at his home by armed agents—suggest a disproportionate and politically motivated use of federal resources, as alleged in lawsuits filed by Houck and his wife against the FBI and DOJ for malicious prosecution.²¹ Mr. Patel's and Ms. Eve's roles in this case are critical to understanding whether the Justice Department targeted Houck for his pro-life activism, reflecting a broader pattern of selective enforcement under the Biden-Harris Administration that demands legislative scrutiny.

¹² *Id.*

¹³ Ed Whelan, *DOJ's Outrageous Political Prosecution of Whistleblower Dr. Eithan Haim*, NAT'L REV. (June 19, 2024).

¹⁴ *Id.*

¹⁵ *Id.*

¹⁶ *Id.*

¹⁷ Ed Whelan, *'TERMINATED': DOJ Attorney Prosecuting Whistleblower Dr. Eithan Haim Has Been Removed From Case Over Conflicts of Interest*, NAT'L REV. (Nov. 22, 2024).

¹⁸ *Id.*

¹⁹ See George Stockburger, *Pennsylvania man charged with assaulting elderly Planned Parenthood volunteer*, ABC27 NEWS (Sept. 23, 2022), <https://www.abc27.com/pennsylvania/pennsylvania-man-charged-with-assaulting-elderly-planned-parenthood-volunteer/>.

²⁰ See *Pro-Life Family Man Arrested in Raid by Armed FBI Seeks Dismissal of Federal Charges*, THOMAS MORE SOCIETY (Dec. 8, 2022), <https://www.thomasmoresociety.org/news/pro-life-family-man-arrested-in-raid-by-armed-fbi-seeks-dismissal-of-federal-charges>.

²¹ Peter Pinedo, *Mark Houck and Wife Sue FBI and DOJ for Malicious Prosecution: Era of Targeting Pro-Lifers 'Is Over'*, NAT'L CATHOLIC REG. (Nov. 8, 2023), <https://www.ncregister.com/cna/mark-houck-and-wife-sue-fbi-and-doj-for-malicious-prosecution-era-of-targeting-pro-lifers-is-over>.

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The Committee has a constitutional obligation to conduct oversight of the Department of Justice. The testimony of Mr. Cooney, Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Windom, Ms. Tekeei, Ms. Ansari, Mr. Patel, and Ms. Eve is crucial to understanding how these abuses of power occurred during the Biden-Harris Administration and to assist the Committee in developing appropriate legislative reforms. To avoid any unnecessary delay, we ask that you please direct your staff to work with the Committee to begin scheduling these transcribed interviews as soon as possible, but no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 1, 2025.

Pursuant to the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee is authorized to conduct oversight of the Justice Department to inform potential legislative reforms.²²

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Jamie Raskin, Ranking Member

²² Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, R. X (2025).