

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5074  
MINORITY (202) 225-5051  
<https://oversight.house.gov>

June 4, 2025

### **Transmitted Electronically**

Mr. Michael Donilon  
Former Senior Advisor to the President

Dear Mr. Donilon:

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is investigating the role of former senior White House officials in possibly usurping authority from former President Joe Biden and the ramifications of a White House staff intent on hiding his rapidly worsening mental and physical faculties. The Committee has been investigating this issue for nearly a year.<sup>1</sup> The Committee seeks to understand who made key decisions and exercised the powers of the executive branch during the previous administration, possibly without former President Biden's consent. The Committee requests your testimony to evaluate your eye-witness account of former President Biden's decline.

As Senior Advisor to former President Biden and described as "one of Biden's core inner circle advisers," the Committee is interested in obtaining your account of his mental decline.<sup>2</sup> You were reportedly responsible for erecting a wall between the former president and senators "to shield Biden from bad information."<sup>3</sup> Recently, during an event at Harvard University, you displayed your willingness to speak about the former president's cognition but you reportedly "denounced claims that the president's acuity and judgment declined."<sup>4</sup> The scope of your responsibilities—both official and otherwise—and personal interactions within the Oval Office cannot go without investigation. If White House staff carried out a strategy lasting months or even years to hide the chief executive's condition—or to perform his duties—Congress may need to consider a legislative response.

The Committee believes you have information critical to this investigation and requests your appearance for a transcribed interview on July 16, 2025. By June 11, 2025, confirm you will attend the transcribed interview scheduled on July 16, 2025, voluntarily, 2) provide an

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from James Comer, Chairman, H. Comm. on Oversight and Accountability, to Edward Siskel, Assistant to the President and White House Counsel, The White House (July 10, 2024).

<sup>2</sup> Annie Linskey et al., *How the White House Functioned With a Diminished Biden in Charge*, WALL ST. J. (Dec. 19, 2024).

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

<sup>4</sup> Elise A. Spenner, *Mike Donilon Says Democratic Party 'Melted Down' After Biden's June Debate at IOP*, THE HARV. CRIMSON (Feb. 14, 2025).

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alternative date for the interview to occur within one week of July 16, 2025, or 3) notify the Committee that you will require a subpoena to compel your attendance for a deposition on July 16, 2025. June 11, 2025, is not a deadline to inform the Committee you require additional time to weigh your response. To ask any related follow-up questions, please contact the Committee Majority staff at (202) 225-5074.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee of the U.S. House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate “any matter” at “any time” under House Rule X. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Comer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

James Comer

Chairman

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

cc: The Honorable Stephen F. Lynch  
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform