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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6200

GREGG RICHARD, STAFF DIRECTOR
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June 16, 2025

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

The Honorable Scott Bessent
Secretary
U.S. Department of Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20220

The Honorable Kashyap Patel
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Attorney General Bondi, Secretary Bessent and Director Patel:

I write to follow up regarding your failure to cooperate with my existing investigation related to the financing of Jeffrey Epstein's sex trafficking network. As you are aware, on March 11, 2025 I sent a request to the agencies you lead for a host of documents in your possession that would shed light on hundreds of millions of dollars in payments to Epstein by several ultra-wealthy individuals, including billionaire financier Leon Black.¹ In light of recent developments, I am deeply concerned that the Trump Administration may be withholding these documents to prevent exposure of President Trump's own ties to Jeffrey Epstein.

As you are aware, my original request on March 11th included new information from my investigation highlighting how \$170 million in payments from Black and his associates to Epstein were used to finance Epstein's trafficking activities. For example, I provided you with a copy of a settlement agreement Black signed with the U.S. Virgin Islands Attorney General

¹ *Wyden Releases New Information on Financing of Jeffrey Epstein's operations by Billionaire Leon Black, Seeks Documents from Trump Administration*, U.S. Senate Committee on Finance, Mar. 11, 2025, online at <https://www.finance.senate.gov/ranking-members-news/wyden-releases-new-information-on-financing-of-jeffrey-epsteins-operations-by-billionaire-leon-black-seeks-documents-from-trump-administration>

acknowledging that “Jeffrey Epstein used the money Black paid him to partially fund his operations in the Virgin Islands.”² The request also detailed how the Treasury Department’s Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) has already compiled this information, a portion of which has been reviewed in camera by my investigative staff at the Senate Finance Committee and that of Committee Chairman Senator Mike Crapo. During the first Trump Administration, as with Administrations before that, Treasury regularly produced these sorts of documents to Congress. However, although the Treasury Department recently acknowledged it possesses the records I requested in an April 30th letter, it refused to provide copies of the documents to my office for further analysis.³

These documents contain extensive information on the extent to which high-profile individuals paid Epstein staggering sums of money, which was then used to move women around the world or engage in dubious transactions indicative of money laundering. These documents also shed light on how major U.S. financial institutions turned a blind eye to the financing of Epstein’s criminal network, simply waiving the payments through without properly reporting them to U.S. authorities in a timely fashion, as required by law. All of the individuals, financial institutions, attorneys and agents who participated in financing Epstein’s illegal activities must be held accountable.

This Administration began with reassuring promises that the Epstein case would receive the attention and diligence it deserves. For example, Deputy Director Bongino said on his podcast in 2023, “Listen—that Jeffrey Epstein story is a big deal. Please do not let that story go. Keep your eye on this.”⁴ Director Patel wrote on X in February that the FBI under his leadership would have “no cover-ups, no missing documents and no stone left unturned” in response to growing pressure to release the Epstein files to the public and Attorney General Bondi’s mandate to release the files to her office.⁵ Fast forward to the present, where the released section of the Epstein files contains little relevant or groundbreaking information, with some pages entirely redacted. The big reveal that was promised instead consisted of Deputy Director Bongino saying “I’ve seen the whole file. He killed himself.” on Fox News last month, with no additional follow-up on the promise of transparency.⁶

² Settlement Agreement and Release entered into between the Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands and Leon Black on January 20, 2023 (At pg. 1: ““WHEREAS, Jeffrey Epstein used the money Black paid him to partially fund his operations in the Virgin Islands”.)

³ Letter from Jonathan Blum, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of Treasury to Senator Ron Wyden, Ranking Member, U.S. Senate Committee on Finance, Apr. 30, 2025 “Thank you for your March 11, 2025 letter regarding your investigation into Mr. Jeffrey Epstein’s sex trafficking network. As you are aware, the Department of the Treasury has previously made documents available relating to this matter in response to your inquiries. Accordingly, we understand that you have the information you seek from the Treasury related to this request. We thank you for your attention to this important issue.”

⁴ *Trump Officials’ Pivots on Jeffrey Epstein*, National Public Radio, Jun. 4, 2025 online at <https://www.npr.org/transcripts/nx-s1-5407856>

⁵ *What to know about the Epstein files release, from redactions to 'Rickrolling'*, National Public Radio, Feb. 28, 2025, online at <https://www.npr.org/2025/02/28/nx-s1-5312936/epstein-files-release-rickroll-backlash>

⁶ *Once Champions of Fringe Causes, Now in a 'Trap of Their Own Making'*, The New York Times, Jun. 8, 2025, online at <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/06/08/us/politics/justice-department-fbi-trump-conspiracy-theories.html>

This reversal of commitments to investigate those who facilitated Epstein's criminal activities comes as President Trump and his advisors own ties to Epstein are being exposed. For example, Elon Musk, a former close advisor to President Trump, recently posted the following social media platform X:

Time to drop the really big bomb:

@realDonaldTrump is in the Epstein files. That is the real reason they have not been made public.

Have a nice day, DJT!



Elon Musk (@elonmusk)

x.com

Musk has since deleted this post, likely as a result of threats from President Trump to cancel billions in federal contracts for Tesla, SpaceX and other Musk companies. Additionally, we learned last week that Palantir Technologies founder and Silicon Valley billionaire Peter Thiel received a \$40 million investment from Jeffrey Epstein.⁷ As you are surely aware, Thiel is exceptionally close with Vice President JD Vance. Thiel hired Vance to work for him and contributed over \$15 million to Vance's Senate campaign.⁸ President Trump also appointed Leon Black's son to lead the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation, despite the fact that Black paid Epstein \$170 million for purported "tax advice."⁹

Based on my investigation to date in the Epstein matter, there appear to be numerous additional people who need to be held accountable for the crimes they helped facilitate. Unfortunately, your silence on this matter suggests that you have no desire to follow through on promises you made regarding transparency around Epstein's sex trafficking network.

Attorney General Bondi made loud proclamation's regarding President Trump's "commitment to transparency and lifting the veil on the disgusting actions of Jeffrey Epstein and his co-conspirators."¹⁰ Not only has that not been true, but now some have concluded the

⁷ *Jeffrey Epstein Invested with Peter Thiel, and His Estate is Reaping Millions*, The New York Times, Jun. 4, 2025 online at <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/06/04/business/jeffrey-epstein-peter-thiel-estate.html>

⁸ *The billionaire who fueled JD Vance's Rise to the VP spot – analysis*, CBS News, Jul. 16, 2024 online at <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/jd-vance-trump-vp-peter-thiel-billionaire/>

⁹ *Leon Black's Son Brings Wall Street Vibe to U.S. Foreign Investment Agency*, Bloomberg, May 22, 2025, online at <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2025-05-22/leon-black-s-son-looks-to-prove-himself-in-washington?embedded-checkout=true>

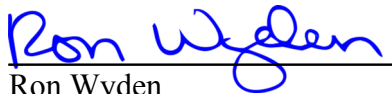
¹⁰ *Attorney General Pamela Bondi Releases First Phase of Declassified Epstein Files*, The Department of Justice, Feb. 27, 2025, online at <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/attorney-general-pamela-bondi-releases-first-phase-declassified-epstein-files>

Administration is covering up these documents to prevent President Trump's own ties to Jeffrey Epstein from being exposed. If President Trump himself was implicated in Epstein's network, he must also be held accountable.

Accordingly, I am resubmitting my original March 11th request for documents, a copy of which you can find attached, and request that you provide this information no later than June 23, 2025. Should you need assistance in locating this information, my investigators stand ready to help you locate these documents.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Ron Wyden
United States Senator
Ranking Member, Committee
on Finance