



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, DC 20530

The Honorable Jim Jordan
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Jordan:

This is an initial response to your letter dated July 31, 2023, to the Department of Justice (Department) requesting a range of information about plea and pretrial diversion agreements between the Department and criminal defendants over a ten-year period. Your letter seeks a response by today. We are writing to share that the Department is actively working to identify and evaluate what information may exist and be available. We commit to supplementing this response.

Your letter also seeks information about an ongoing investigation and prosecution, including ongoing negotiations with defense counsel, previously led by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Delaware and now assigned to the Office of Special Counsel. As the Department noted in its July responses to your earlier inquiries about this matter, it is longstanding Department policy to protect the confidentiality of nonpublic information about our law enforcement work.¹ The Department's mission to independently and impartially uphold the rule of law requires us to maintain the integrity of our investigations and prosecutions and to avoid even a perception that our efforts are influenced by anything other than the law and the facts. These and related concerns are heightened when a matter is ongoing, and our duty to ensure the integrity of an investigation applies regardless of whether it is led by a United States Attorney or Special Counsel.

On August 11, 2023, the Attorney General appointed David Weiss as Special Counsel with jurisdiction over this investigation. The scope of that investigation is outlined in Attorney General Order No. 5730-2023, which the Department transmitted to you on August 11, 2023.

¹ See, e.g., Letter from Assistant Attorney General Carlos F. Uriarte to The Honorable Jim Jordan (July 24, 2023); Letter from Assistant Attorney General Carlos F. Uriarte to The Honorable Jim Jordan (July 13, 2023). See generally Letter from Assistant Attorney General Robert Raben to the Honorable John Linder (Jan. 27, 2000); Letter from Assistant Attorney General Carlos F. Uriarte to The Honorable Jim Jordan (Jan. 20, 2023).

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The Department has discussed some information relating to the negotiations between the United States and defense counsel in public transcripts and filings.²

We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact this office if we may provide additional assistance regarding this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

Carlos Felipe Uriarte
Assistant Attorney General

cc:

The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable James Comer
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Accountability
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jamie Raskin
Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Accountability
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jason Smith
Chairman
House Committee on Ways and Means
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard Neal
Ranking Member
House Committee on Ways and Means
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

² See Transcript of Initial Appearance, *United States v. Robert Hunter Biden*, No. 23-mj-274 (MN), No. 23-cr-61 (MN) (D. Del. July 26, 2023); Mot. to Vacate, *United States v. Robert Hunter Biden*, No. 23-cr-61 (D. Del. Aug. 11, 2023).