

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

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November 17, 2025

Mr. Edward P. Martin, Jr.
Pardon Attorney and Director, Weaponization Working Group
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Martin:

My staff have received credible allegations that you are violating federal law by concealing and destroying your communications in order to hide the activities of the Department of Justice's (DOJ) Weaponization Working Group.

The Weaponization Working Group you lead operates without any transparency or accountability. We do not know how many personnel are assigned to the Weaponization Working Group, what investigations it is conducting, or anything about its budget. That dark wall of secrecy is profoundly troubling given that the Weaponization Working Group is apparently being used to pursue politically motivated investigations of President Trump's perceived enemies. Along with William Pulte, the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA), you were central in the Administration's effort to bring baseless charges against New York Attorney General Letitia James against and over the judgment of career prosecutors.¹ You have also played a central role in the sham prosecution of James Comey and criminal investigations into prominent Democrats.² Your prior role in DOJ does not inspire confidence in your ability to serve as a nonpartisan law enforcement officer: you evidently communicated with January 6th defendants while serving as Acting U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia, the office formerly responsible for bringing rioters to justice, and even hired one of the January 6th criminal convicts to join the federal payroll and come advise you at DOJ.³ The American people have a right to know how their Justice Department is being used and misused.

¹ Peter Charalambous, Katherine Faulders & Alexander Mallin, *Trump Officials Pressuring Federal Prosecutors to Bring Criminal Charges Against NY AG Letitia James: Sources*, ABC NEWS (Sept. 17, 2025), <https://abcnews.go.com/US/trump-officials-pressuring-federal-prosecutors-bring-criminal-charges/story?id=125636577>.

² Katelyn Polantz et al., *The Weapon of Justice: Ed Martin's Influence at DOJ*, CNN (Oct. 30, 2025), <https://www.cnn.com/2025/10/30/politics/ed-martin-doj-trump-political-prosecutions>.

³ Rachel Leingang, *Former January 6 Defendant Now Advising Justice Department's 'Weaponization Working Group'*, THE GUARDIAN (July 2, 2025), <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2025/jul/02/january-6-rioter-justice-department-jared-l-wise>.

Now, you are apparently compounding this already unacceptable weaponization and lack of transparency by seeing to it that even the most basic records of your activities will never see the light of day. My staff have received credible allegations that you have been using personal devices, platforms, and applications that do not adhere to federal laws and DOJ policies regarding records retention to conduct official DOJ business. This deliberate evasion of relevant rules of record retention appears to be part of an effort to conceal the Weaponization Working Group's activities and your own conduct.

Such conduct violates not only the Federal Records Act (FRA) and DOJ policy but also potentially relevant criminal statutes.⁴ The FRA requires all federal agencies and their employees to "make and preserve records containing adequate and proper documentation of the organization, functions, policies, decisions, procedures, and essential transactions of the agency."⁵ This obligation applies to all recorded information, "regardless of form or characteristics."⁶ DOJ policies reinforce these statutory requirements. DOJ Policy Statement 0801.04, for instance, states that personal email and other electronic accounts should not be used for DOJ business except under "exigent circumstances," and when used, employees must comply with FRA requirements by forwarding communications to official accounts.⁷

Instead of preserving those records, however, you are reportedly concealing and potentially destroying them. As you are well aware, as one of America's top-ranking federal lawyers charged with supervising enforcement of these laws, you are obligated to follow the law yourself and preserve messages related to your DOJ work in the official DOJ systems. Your purported failure to do so is not only illegal but it also suggests that you are knowingly covering up incriminating conversations that you need to keep off the books.

Accordingly, and pursuant to the Committee's ongoing oversight of DOJ, I demand that you produce the following documents and information to the Committee no later than 5:00 p.m., on November 24, 2025. Unless otherwise noted, the requests cover the time period from January 20, 2025, to the present.

1. All communications between you and President Trump regarding DOJ investigations, prosecutions, or pardons, from all devices and accounts, official and personal;
2. All communications between you and White House officials regarding DOJ matters, from all devices and accounts;

⁴ See Ryan Goodman, *Signal Gate: The Criminal Law Precedents That Are Most Relevant*, JUST SECURITY (Mar. 25, 2025), <https://www.justsecurity.org/109540/signalgate-relevant-criminal-law-cases/> (discussing criminal statutes related to destruction of government records).

⁵ 44 U.S.C. § 3101.

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ U.S. Dep't of Justice, Policy Statement 0801.04 (Personal Email Policy); see, e.g., U.S. Dep't of Justice, *Challenges of Email as a Record*, available at https://www.loc.gov/preservation/digital/meetings/aes15/9_Plante_2015-06-02%20Library%20of%20congress%20email%20management.pdf.

3. All communications with William Pulte or his staff regarding criminal referrals, investigations, or other FHFA matters, from all devices and accounts;
4. All communications with January 6th defendants or their representatives, from all devices and accounts;
5. A complete inventory of all personal devices, email accounts, messaging applications, and social media accounts you have used for any official DOJ business;
6. A certification that you have preserved all records on personal devices and accounts and have forwarded copies to official DOJ systems; and
7. All policies, procedures, and guidance provided to you regarding records preservation, use of personal devices, and DOJ-White House communications.

You are also hereby directed to preserve all records, documents, and materials that relate to the Weaponization Working Group, your other official DOJ duties, and communications regarding DOJ investigations or policy. That includes all communications on those topics sent via personal email, mobile devices, encrypted and disappearing messaging applications, social media, calendar entries, meeting notes, voicemail and text messages—including those set to automatically delete—and all records regarding or involving communications with President Trump, White House officials, William Pulte, Members of Congress, January 6th defendants, or others regarding DOJ matters. You must immediately suspend any auto-delete functions, retain custody of all personal devices used for official business, and notify all persons with custody of potentially relevant records of this preservation obligation. Failure to comply may result in civil and criminal penalties, including charges for obstruction of justice and destruction of evidence.

I look forward to your prompt response.

Very truly yours,


Jamie Raskin
Ranking Member

cc: The Honorable Jim Jordan, Chairman