

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 22, 2026

The Honorable Pamela J. Bondi
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Bondi:

While your Department of Justice (DOJ) coddles Ghislaine Maxwell, a convicted child sex trafficker and Jeffrey Epstein's co-conspirator, to support your cover-up by President Trump, we are receiving troubling reports that the same federal law enforcement officials who showered Ms. Maxwell with preferential treatment and perks may also be covering up serious sexual abuse in that same facility, in plain violation of the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) and federal criminal law.

At the end of October, the House Committee on the Judiciary and the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform wrote to Warden Tanisha Hall of Federal Prison Camp (FPC) Bryan, detailing credible allegations of retaliatory measures being taken against inmates who had reported the selective five-star treatment accorded to Ms. Maxwell by Warden Hall and the general culture of corruption, lawlessness, and retribution saturating the camp.¹ The House Judiciary Committee further requested that its staff be provided access to the camp to investigate these troubling reports first hand.² DOJ and the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) have refused even to substantively respond to those requests—or any of the five letters we have collectively written on this issue since Ms. Maxwell's extremely mysterious transfer. However, notably, they have not denied the accuracy of even a single one of these allegations.³

¹ See Letter from Jamie Raskin, Ranking Member, H. Comm. on the Judiciary, to Dr. Tanisha Hall, Warden, Federal Bureau of Prisons (Oct. 30, 2025), <https://democrats-judiciary.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/democrats-judiciary.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/2025-10-30-raskin-to-hall-fpcbryan-re-maxwell-1.pdf>; Letter from Robert Garcia, Ranking Member, H. Comm. on Oversight and Government Reform, to Dr. Tanisha Hall, Warden, Federal Bureau of Prisons (Oct. 30, 2025), <https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/imo/media/doc/2025-10-30.garcia-to-fpc-bryan-warden-re-maxwell.pdf>.

² *Id.*

³ DOJ recently sent a letter to both Committees which it alleged was a response to multiple oversight letters. This response did not address a single request or question posed to the Administration in the five letters sent by our Committees relating to Ms. Maxwell's transfer to FPC Bryan, only noting that President Trump had signed into law the Epstein Transparency Act—a statute which the Trump Administration is now in serious violation of.

Whistleblower Retaliation

Since these letters, over a dozen whistleblowers have come forward to share specific details about their experience at FPC Bryan. From these disclosures, we have learned disturbing allegations about several reported episodes in which Warden Hall and other members of the senior staff at FPC Bryan may have engaged in unlawful retaliation against whistleblower disclosures protected under federal law.

- On Friday, November 7, 2025, the Warden reportedly placed on administrative leave without justification a whistleblower who provided documents to the Judiciary Committee exposing Ms. Maxwell's illegal preferential treatment and informed her that her termination decision would be rendered the following Monday, November 10. Although the whistleblower's termination documents state that she was fired for an unrelated reason, these documents and their stated justification appear to be plainly pretextual. The whistleblower was reportedly placed on leave after providing information to Congress, and Ms. Maxwell's lawyer publicly admitted the whistleblower was indeed fired for providing emails revealing waste, fraud, and abuse to Congress.⁴ BOP's actions in firing a whistleblower, apparently for making a protected disclosure to Congress, would blatantly violate the anti-retaliation provisions of the Whistleblower Protection Act, 5 U.S.C. § 2302(8)(c), a very serious offense.⁵
- BOP investigative staff have reportedly attempted to intimidate uninvolved staff and force them into revealing their awareness of protected disclosures to Congress, and interrogated staff on why they did not report these wholly protected disclosures.
- Ms. Maxwell's attorney also spoke of multiple "employees" who were fired for allegedly making a protected disclosure to Congress even though the second individual fired by Warden Hall has not contacted either of our Committees.⁶ The allegation further raises the possibility that Warden Hall is either engaging in an unlawful purge of an actual or potential whistleblower or using recent events to justify unsupported firings.⁷

⁴ Press Release, *Statement by Leah Saffinan, Counsel to Ghislaine Maxwell*, (Nov. 14, 2025), <https://s3.documentcloud.org/documents/26278869/statement-from-maxwells-lawyer.pdf>.

⁵ The WPA, and 5 U.S.C. § 2302(8)(c) specifically, prohibits the Executive Branch firing, demoting, or otherwise harassing employees who report waste, fraud, abuse, or violations of law.

⁶ Press Release, *Statement by Leah Saffinan, Counsel to Ghislaine Maxwell*, (Nov. 14, 2025), <https://s3.documentcloud.org/documents/26278869/statement-from-maxwells-lawyer.pdf>.

⁷ Whistleblower Information Provided to House Committee on the Judiciary, Minority.

Preferential Treatment Given to Ms. Maxwell

The committees have also continued to receive damning information about preferential treatment for Ms. Maxwell.⁸ Ms. Maxwell has been permitted to use a laptop, unsupervised, while at Bryan—a remarkable security risk under the facility’s own rules and procedures. It has been reported that Ms. Maxwell has been allowed to keep significantly more personal and legal possessions than other inmates and that guards have personally secured and transported these possessions for her. Further, while other inmates watch TV communally and drink tap water, Ms. Maxwell has been granted access to staff-only areas to watch CNN by herself, and she has been provided with bottled water with her meals. When Ms. Maxwell wanted to use a machine at the gym that had been broken for months during one of her private exercise sessions, a panic-stricken staff member roused an inmate to fix it for Ms. Maxwell. The Warden sends out Ms. Maxwell’s mail under the Warden’s own name, presumably so it will not be searched as with other inmates.⁹

While Ms. Maxwell’s special treatment is both astonishing and unprecedented, it clearly stems from the very top. While White House Chief of Staff Susan Wiles has implausibly claimed President Trump was “ticked” about her transfer and did not know “why they moved [Ms. Maxwell]” to FPC Bryan, Ms. Wiles clearly did not look far for answers: she was unable or unwilling to explain which senior Trump Administration official ordered the transfer and the subsequent preferential treatment, or why President Trump has not simply transferred Ms. Maxwell back to a different facility, thereby ending this seemingly ceaseless stream of perks.¹⁰

Staff and Law Enforcement Misconduct at FPC Bryan

In addition to whistleblower retaliation related to Ms. Maxwell’s preferential treatment, our investigators have also received significant information that Warden Hall and senior staff at the prison camp may have tolerated, encouraged, and even engaged in widespread sexual abuse and misconduct, in violation of the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) and federal criminal law. PREA is designed to ensure that federal inmates are safe from sexual assault, mandates “zero tolerance” toward all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment in correctional facilities, and sets mandatory standards for the detection, prevention, and punishment of sexual abuse in prisons.¹¹ Under federal law, all sexual relations between staff and inmates constitute abuse and may constitute a serious felony punishable up to 15 years in prison.¹²

⁸ See Letter from Jamie Raskin, Ranking Member, H. Comm. on the Judiciary, to The Honorable Donald Trump, President of the United States (Nov. 9, 2025), <https://democrats-judiciary.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/democrats-judiciary.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/2025-11-09-raskin-to-trump-wh-re-maxwell.pdf>.

⁹ Whistleblower Information Provided to House Committee on the Judiciary, Minority.

¹⁰ Chris Wipple, *Susie Wiles Talks Epstein Files, Pete Hegseth’s War Tactics, Retribution, and More* (Part 2 of 2), Vanity Fair (Dec. 16, 2025), www.vanityfair.com/news/story/trump-susie-wiles-interview-exclusive-part-2

¹¹ Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA), Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice (last accessed Jan. 7, 2026), <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/prea/overview>.

¹² U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Inspector General, *Deterring Staff Sexual Abuse of Federal Inmates* (Apr. 2005), <https://oig.justice.gov/sites/default/files/archive/special/0504/index.htm>. See also, e.g., *United States v. Martinez*, 388 F. Supp. 3d 225, 236 (E.D.N.Y. 2019) (“consent is not relevant” for “sexual abuse of a ward” violations under 18 U.S.C. § 2243(b)); 18 U.S.C. § 2243(b).

The alleged instances of sexual abuse at FPC Bryan are numerous, detailed, and substantiated by well over a dozen whistleblowers and significant documentary evidence. Documents provided to our Committees show that several of these complaints have been raised through formal channels, but, according to whistleblowers, senior officials at FPC Bryan and within BOP have failed to adequately investigate complaints. The reported sexual abuse includes the following selected incidents, all of which merit further rapid investigation by DOJ, BOP, and Congress:

- Multiple whistleblowers reported that a female inmate reported what she thought was an unnecessary pelvic medical examination with a supervising medical professional and said that she left that examination crying and suffering extreme bleeding from her vaginal area. Several other individuals also reported that this medical professional conducted painful pelvic or anal examinations, with several of these examinations resulting in severe bleeding. Both inmate and staff allegedly reported the incident and attempted to file a PREA complaint, but it is unclear what investigatory steps, if any, have been conducted. According to allegations, Warden Hall did not take follow-up action, and senior staff at the institution reportedly informed the victim that the medical professional's actions were "at most staff misconduct." As of October 2025, the medical professional is still conducting examinations of patients at FPC Bryan.
- Multiple whistleblowers reported that a senior law enforcement officer at the camp repeatedly sexually abused multiple female inmates over the course of several years. While several FPC Bryan employees allegedly filed complaints regarding the conduct, including to BOP Internal Affairs, they were either fired or retaliated against to the point where one officer felt they had no choice but to leave. At least one of the inmates abused by this law enforcement officer was transferred or "shipped" to a higher security prison once the abuse was revealed. The officer in question, while placed on reduced duties, has reportedly not been fired and has recently been allowed to retire.
- Multiple whistleblowers reported that a guard ordered several female inmates to strip their clothing off so that they were completely naked for a search—even though another officer had performed a thorough search mere seconds earlier and informed the second guard of that fact. Inmates are almost never required to fully remove their clothing and if they do, are instructed to take items off one at a time. One of the two inmates was then ordered to bend over and touch her ankles, in order to, in the guard's words: "put her in her place." After multiple PREA complaints were filed against the offending guard, the guard harassed and retaliated against the inmate she had previously unnecessarily searched, telling her "if you think you're going to get me you're not." Another inmate reported that "at least seven others [inmates] have filed PREA against this officer."
- Multiple whistleblowers reported that a female inmate was repeatedly sexually abused by the prison chaplain, including in the prison chapel itself. When she reported to prison officials that she felt unsafe in the prison due to the sexual

assault, she was allegedly transferred or “shipped” to multiple higher security institutions where she was unable to see her infant child for months at a time. The chaplain, who had also allegedly sexually abused several other inmates, was reportedly allowed to retire and now works with children in the Bryan area.

- Multiple whistleblowers stated that when an inmate filed a PREA complaint on behalf of the above inmate, senior prison officials reportedly attempted to bully her into rescinding the PREA complaint, leading multiple correctional officers to leave the room due to their discomfort with the situation. When this inmate apparently refused to rescind her complaint, she was reportedly transferred to a higher security facility.
- Multiple whistleblowers reported that one of the most senior law enforcement officers at FPC Bryan, the second in command, sexually abused an inmate. The whistleblowers also reported that when the relationship was discovered, the senior official was not punished, but the inmate was shipped to a significantly worse facility.
- Multiple whistleblowers reported that a facilities staff member sexually abused a female inmate and repeatedly arranged for the female inmate to work on the facilities crew at the same time as him, so that she would have to constantly be in close proximity to her abuser.¹³

While Warden Hall has not been present at the facility for all of the above incidents, it appears that she and many of her senior staff are complicit in this culture of silence and fear.

- One inmate recently alleged that she had filed a PREA complaint against another inmate for rape, thereby seeking some relief from the harassment she experienced, but Warden Hall told her to stop talking about the rape and “**deal with it.**”
- Another inmate reported “sexual abuse through the DOJ email system” but was allegedly told by Warden Hall that if “she did not sign a document dropping the PREA violation, she would be transferred to FMC Carswell,” several hours further away from the inmate’s children. The inmate, under coercion, dropped the complaint.
- Other whistleblowers report that senior officials at the prison camp, after a series of sexual abuse complaints were filed, berated women in one unit and demanded they “**stop putting things in writing.**”
- When inmates transferred from Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) Dublin to FPC Bryan began to share stories about the widespread sexual assault they suffered at Dublin, a staff member, who is also a medical professional, warned an inmate, who had previously filed a PREA complaint, that “**the Warden has**

¹³ Whistleblower Information Provided to House Committee on the Judiciary, Minority.

gotten wind of potential sexual harassment” and that “**if you are going to say anything about this, the Warden will ship you out. I know you don’t want to be further away from your family.**” That same staff member instructed another inmate to not file a PREA complaint through the proper channels, telling her “over and over not to put any details in an email.”

- When an inmate followed up on the status of her PREA complaint, a staff member glibly informed her, “**I think it got put in the shred pile**” and told her that she could file another PREA complaint if she wanted to.¹⁴

Indeed, FPC Bryan whistleblowers report a regime of silence, fear, intimidation, and retaliation at the institution that permeates daily life at the camp and prevents individuals from coming forward with misconduct. In virtually every case reported to Committee staff, both inmates and staff reported that subsequent retaliatory measures were taken against the reporting party. In one case, whistleblowers reported that the Warden and FPC Bryan staff specifically targeted an outspoken inmate who had been transferred from FCI Dublin, using excessive force on the inmate, unnecessarily restraining her for a cruel and unusual amount of time, and then transferring her to a higher security facility.¹⁵

Recently, this culture of retaliation has targeted those who dare speak a contrary word about Ms. Maxwell. After her transfer there, several inmates were reportedly overheard at dinner discussing the fact that they did not want Ms. Maxwell at the prison camp because she was a pedophile. They were immediately referred to prison leadership, who warned them that if they said anything about Ms. Maxwell again, the Special Investigative Supervisor at FPC Bryan would initiate an investigation into them and “ship” them to a notorious solitary confinement area nicknamed “the Shoe” at Federal Detention Center Houston. This appears to be a common tactic to stifle dissent: documents and information received by the Committees indicate that the Warden threatened inmates that if they so much as looked at the press, they would be transferred to mixed-sex prisons more than 1,000 miles away in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut—at least one of which is a high security prison unsuited for the inmates at FPC Bryan. Whistleblowers have also reported that DOJ and BOP, rather than investigating these significant allegations of misconduct, sexual abuse, and preferential treatment, have instead begun transferring or “retiring” law enforcement officers and staff who witnessed either Ms. Maxwell’s treatment or these acts of sexual abuse in an apparent attempt to evade rigorous oversight of the prison camp.¹⁶

The allegations regarding FPC Bryan fit within a pattern of corruption and favoritism reaching the highest levels of this Administration. Neither you, President Trump, nor any of your subordinates at the BOP has given a single coherent reason for why Ghislaine Maxwell, a convicted child sex trafficker, was transferred to FPC Bryan in violation of BOP policies in the first place. Not one Administration official has even attempted to explain why Ms. Maxwell has been given preferential treatment in this prison camp, including why she has been provided with

¹⁴ Whistleblower Information Provided to House Committee on the Judiciary, Minority.

¹⁵ *Id.*

¹⁶ *Id.*

room service, private exercise time, concierge document service, or a puppy to play with.¹⁷ Instead, DOJ and BOP officials, now facing public scrutiny for their actions, have apparently attempted to prevent the truth from seeing the light of day by retaliating against inmates and staff at FPC Bryan.

In light of your continued obstruction and these disturbing new allegations, a congressional oversight visit to FPC Bryan has become urgently necessary. A delegation of congressional Members and staff will be visiting FPC Bryan next month in order to investigate the serious issues reported regarding preferential treatment, retaliation, and widespread sexual assault. Please direct DOJ and BOP personnel to coordinate this visit within two weeks of the date of this letter. We are also requesting, under separate cover, that the DOJ Inspector General's Office join this visit and provide the delegation with a briefing and all documents related to their previous visits to or investigations of FPC Bryan pursuant to their inspection authority under the *Federal Prisons Oversight Act*.

Finally, we request that you immediately make Warden Tanisha Hall available for a transcribed interview with our Committees to answer for the waste, fraud, and serious sexual abuse she has overseen in her position. Warden Hall should reach out to the Committees no later than January 29, 2026, to schedule this interview.

We look forward to your prompt compliance with these critical oversight requests.

Very truly yours,


Jamie Raskin
Ranking Member
House Committee on the Judiciary


Robert Garcia
Ranking Member
House Committee on Oversight
and Government Reform

cc: The Honorable Jim Jordan, Chairman
House Committee on the Judiciary

The Honorable James Comer, Chairman
House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

¹⁷ See Letter from Jamie Raskin, Ranking Member, H. Comm. on the Judiciary, to The Honorable Donald Trump, President of the United States (Nov. 9, 2025), <https://democrats-judiciary.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/democrats-judiciary.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/2025-11-09-raskin-to-trump-wh-re-maxwell.pdf>.