

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

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March 15, 2026

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

Dear Attorney General Bondi:

A federal judge and two different federal grand juries have each thrown out the baseless charges you have brought against New York State Attorney General Letitia James. Despite these stunning rebukes, you continue to abuse the Department of Justice's (DOJ) prosecutorial powers to seek retribution against her at the behest of the President. Pursuant to Congress's oversight responsibilities, and in light of the Administration's efforts to delete files related to past prosecutions,<sup>1</sup> we request you produce all records relating to the Department's prosecutions of Ms. James.

President Trump has long made it clear that he wants his enemies—including Ms. James—prosecuted by DOJ, promising “retribution” for his supporters<sup>2</sup> and to throw his enemies in jail.<sup>3</sup> Long before he took office, in November 2023, Mr. Trump posted on Truth Social characterizing Ms. James's lawsuit against him as a “ridiculous Political Witch Hunt” and stated that “She should be prosecuted!”<sup>4</sup> In a January 2024 campaign speech, he said that Ms. James should be “arrested and punished.”<sup>5</sup> On January 21, 2025, President Trump appointed Erik

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<sup>1</sup> Tom Dreisbach & Ayesha Rascoe, *NPR Investigation Shows How the Government Tried to Erase Information About January 6*, NPR (Jan. 4, 2026), <https://www.npr.org/2026/01/04/nx-s1-5649713/npr-investigation-shows-how-the-government-tried-to-erase-information-about-january-6>; *Deletion of Jan 6 Charges Database Appears to Violate the Law*, CREW (Jan. 30, 2025), <https://www.citizensforethics.org/legal-action/letters/deletion-of-jan-6-charges-database-appears-to-violate-the-law/>.

<sup>2</sup> Maggie Haberman & Shane Goldmacher, *Trump, Vowing 'Retribution,' Foretells a Second Term of Spite*, N.Y. TIMES (Mar. 7, 2023), <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/03/07/us/politics/trump-2024-president.html>.

<sup>3</sup> Al Jazeera Staff, *Donald Trump Threatens Opponents With Jail in Justice Department Speech*, AL JAZEERA (Mar. 14, 2025), <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/3/14/in-justice-department-speech-donald-trump-threatens-opponents-with-jail>.

<sup>4</sup> Anthony Coley, *Trump Promised Payback for Letitia James. He Seems to Have Kept His Word.*, MSNBC (Aug. 12, 2025), <https://www.ms.now/opinion/msnbc-opinion/donald-trump-letitia-james-subpoenas-rcna224310>.

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

Siebert as the interim U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia (EDVA).<sup>6</sup> Despite President Trump's demands, after months of investigating Ms. James's conduct for alleged mortgage fraud, Mr. Siebert determined that there was insufficient evidence to charge her and declined to bring charges.<sup>7</sup> Mere days after Mr. Siebert's decision became public, President Trump told reporters he wanted Mr. Siebert "out" as interim U.S. Attorney for EDVA.<sup>8</sup> Moments later, Mr. Siebert resigned.<sup>9</sup>

The following day, President Trump posted what appears to be a private message to you on Truth Social, expressing his rage that his enemies had not yet faced prosecution:

Pam: I have reviewed over 30 statements and posts saying that, essentially, "same old story as last time, all talk, no action. Nothing is being done. What about Comey, Adam "Shifty" Schiff, Leticia???" They're all guilty as hell, but nothing is going to be done." Then we almost put in a Democrat supported U.S. Attorney, in Virginia, with a really bad Republican past. A Woke RINO, who was never going to do his job. That's why two of the worst Dem Senators PUSHED him so hard. He even lied to the media and said he quit, and that we had no case. No, I fired him, and there is a GREAT CASE, and many lawyers, and legal pundits, say so. Lindsey Halligan is a really good lawyer, and likes you, a lot. We can't delay any longer, it's killing our reputation and credibility. They impeached me twice, and indicted me (5 times!), OVER NOTHING. JUSTICE MUST BE SERVED, NOW!!! President DJT<sup>10</sup>

Two days later, on September 22, you swore in Lindsey Halligan, a former member of President Trump's personal legal team with no prosecutorial experience, as interim U.S. Attorney for EDVA.<sup>11</sup> By October 9, Ms. Halligan had filed charges against Ms. James, and Ms. James was indicted.<sup>12</sup> On November 24, however, a federal judge found that Ms. Halligan had been unlawfully appointed.<sup>13</sup> The judge dismissed the indictment against Ms. James, concluding that "all actions flowing from Ms. Halligan's defective appointment, including securing and signing Ms. James's indictment, constitute unlawful exercises of executive power and must be set

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<sup>6</sup> Erik S. Siebert *Appointed Interim U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia*, U.S. DEP'T OF JUSTICE (Jan. 21, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/usao-edva/pr/erik-siebert-appointed-interim-us-attorney-eastern-district-virginia>.

<sup>7</sup> Salvador Rizzo, Perry Stein & Jeremy Roebuck, *Top Virginia Prosecutor Resigns Amid Criticism Over Letitia James Investigation*, WASH. POST (Sept. 19, 2025), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2025/09/19/trump-letitia-james-erik-siebert-virginia/>.

<sup>8</sup> *Id.*

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

<sup>10</sup> Post by Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump), TRUTH SOCIAL (Sept. 20, 2025), <https://truthsocial.com/@realDonaldTrump/posts/115239044548033727>.

<sup>11</sup> Steve Thompson, *Federal Judge Demands Halligan Explain Why She's Still Listed as U.S. Attorney*, WASH. POST (Jan. 8, 2026), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2026/01/08/lindsey-halligan-unconstitutional-appointment/>.

<sup>12</sup> *New York State Attorney General Indicted*, U.S. DEP'T OF JUSTICE (Oct. 9, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/usao-edva/pr/new-york-state-attorney-general-indicted>.

<sup>13</sup> See Opinion & Order Granting Motion to Dismiss Indictment, *United States v. James*, No. 2:25-cr-00122-JKW (E.D. Va. Nov. 24, 2025); *Court Says Interim U.S. Attorney Was Unlawfully Appointed*, CRS LEGAL SIDEBAR LSB11380 (Dec. 2, 2025), <https://www.everycrsreport.com/reports/LSB11380.html>.

aside.”<sup>14</sup> On January 6, 2026, Ms. Halligan was ordered by the court to explain why she continued to identify herself as the U.S. Attorney for EDVA, including signing an indictment identifying herself as such, even after the ruling that her appointment was unlawful.<sup>15</sup> Finally, on January 20, you announced Ms. Halligan would officially step down from her post in EDVA.<sup>16</sup>

Your Department was undeterred after the November 24 dismissal, however, and quickly attempted to re-file charges against Ms. James—and the grand jury declined to indict her on December 4.<sup>17</sup> Still persistent, the Department then tried to bring charges against her in a separate federal court in Alexandria, Virginia—and a *second* grand jury also rejected an indictment on December 11.<sup>18</sup> Twice within a week, your prosecutors failed to present evidence sufficient to secure an indictment<sup>19</sup>—an exceedingly rare occurrence. In 2016, for example, federal grand juries refused to bring indictments only six times out of 150,000 cases, or 0.004% of all cases presented by DOJ across the country.<sup>20</sup> As you know, the burden required for a grand jury to bring charges is only “probable cause” that the defendant committed a crime—far lower than the “beyond a reasonable doubt” standard required to convict. The fact that both indictments were rejected by grand juries is strong evidence that your prosecutors—perhaps pressured by you or the Administration—are attempting to move forward with shoddy or nonexistent evidence—actions that can constitute prosecutorial misconduct. ***Still, your Department is reportedly pursuing yet another investigation into Ms. James<sup>21</sup>—apparently hellbent on securing a prosecution, regardless of the evidence.***

Your Department’s mission is to uphold the rule of law, not wield the law against perceived enemies. The President’s interference in this prosecution, your illegal appointment of a loyalist with no prosecutorial experience as interim U.S. Attorney, your firing of career prosecutors loyal to the Constitution and not the President, and your Department’s failed indictments of Ms. James indicate brazen efforts to weaponize our nation’s justice system for partisan ends. Pursuant to Congress’s oversight responsibilities, we request you produce and take all necessary steps to preserve:

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<sup>14</sup> *Id.* at 18.

<sup>15</sup> Order, *United States v. Jefferson*, No. 3:25-cr-00160-DJN (E.D. Va. Jan. 6, 2026).

<sup>16</sup> Eric Tucker, *Trump-Appointed Prosecutor who Pursued Indictments Against the President’s Foes is Leaving Post*, ASSOC. PRESS (Jan. 20, 2026), <https://apnews.com/article/justice-department-halligan-bondi-blanche-comey-077e5d184351b021e8621d218a395719>.

<sup>17</sup> Katelyn Polantz, Kaitlan Collins & Holmes Lybrand, *Grand Jury Declines to Re-Indict Letitia James*, CNN (Dec. 4, 2025), <https://www.cnn.com/2025/12/04/politics/grand-jury-declines-to-indict-letitia-james-again>.

<sup>18</sup> Alanna Durkin Richer, Michael Kunzelman & Associated Press, *Justice Department Again Fails to Re-Indict New York Attorney General Letitia James, AP Source Says*, MISSISSIPPI FREE PRESS (Dec. 11, 2025), <https://www.mississippifreepress.org/justice-department-again-fails-to-re-indict-new-york-attorney-general-letitia-james-ap-source-says/>.

<sup>19</sup> Max Matza, *Grand Jury Declines to Indict Letitia James for Second Time in a Week*, BBC NEWS (Dec. 11, 2025), <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cjrj30vx8eo>.

<sup>20</sup> *Id.*

<sup>21</sup> Katie Rogers, *Justice Dept. Opens New Inquiry Into Justice Actions Against Letitia James*, N.Y. TIMES (Jan. 8, 2026), <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/01/08/us/politics/letitia-james-trump-justice-department.html>.

1. All communications your Department has had with President Trump and any White House staff regarding Ms. James, including any materials that relate to her prosecution.
2. All communications within DOJ relating to Ms. James, including any materials that relate to her prosecution.
3. All communications you have had with Ms. Halligan that include any mention of Ms. James, including any materials that relate to her prosecution.
4. All communications you have had with Mr. Siebert that include any mention of Ms. James, including any materials that relate to her prosecution.
5. All communications you have had with other prosecutors in the Eastern District of Virginia office that include any mention of Ms. James, including any materials that relate to her prosecution and the decision to re-file charges.
6. All communications you have had with any federal investigator or prosecutor related to Ms. James's hairdresser, including any materials that relate to financial transactions or other communications between Ms. James, Ms. James's former campaign, and her hairdresser.

We request confirmation by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 20, 2026, that the Department has taken all necessary steps to comply with this letter's preservation requests, and request that all such documents be produced to the Committee by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 3, 2026.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,



Jamie Raskin  
Ranking Member



Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jim Jordan, Chairman