



Mr. Don R. Berthiaume  
Acting Inspector General  
Office of the Inspector General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20530

January 29, 2026

Dear Mr. Berthiaume:

We write with extreme alarm regarding the Department of Justice (DOJ)'s failure to comply with the *Epstein Files Transparency Act*. We are gravely concerned about DOJ's failure to release even a fraction of the Epstein files more than one month after the deadline as required by law, the inconsistent and unexplained redactions in the few files that DOJ has released, and DOJ's refusal to produce a statutorily-required report on political leaders referenced in these documents.

As Members of the Democratic Women's Caucus, women's safety and justice for survivors is our top priority. For years, we have worked alongside survivors to elevate their voices, push for accountability, and advance survivor-centered oversight and reforms. We have met with survivors of Epstein and his associates multiple times and heard their harrowing testimonies firsthand; the continued lack of care and respect shown to them in this process is baffling, disappointing, and deeply immoral. We echo the survivors' requests and demand a thorough investigation into the release of the Epstein files in accordance with the *Epstein Files Transparency Act*. We also demand that the Office of the Inspector General intervene using all available authorities to ensure the files are released in full compliance with the law and in a survivor-centered manner.<sup>1</sup>

Under the *Epstein Files Transparency Act*, the Department of Justice was required to release all Epstein documents with redactions to protect survivors by December 19, 2025. Yet more than a month later, less than one percent of the files have been released with no explanation.<sup>2</sup> Not only

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<sup>1</sup> Iyer, K., & Tapper, J. (2026, January 14). *Several survivors of Jeffrey Epstein ask Justice Department inspector general to review document redactions and oversight*. CNN. <https://www.cnn.com/2026/01/14/politics/jeffrey-epstein-survivors-doj-inspector-general>

<sup>2</sup> Gregorian, D. (2026, January 19). *One month after the Epstein files deadline, only a fraction of the DOJ's records have been released*. NBC News. <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/justice-department/one-month-epstein-files-deadline-rcna254416>

has DOJ ignored its statutorily-required deadline, but the redactions in the files that have been released are inconsistent and seem to be potentially shielding abusers while exposing survivors. Some of the released files also contain faulty redactions that were easily manipulated to reveal redacted material.<sup>3</sup> This is an unacceptable failure that endangers survivors and reflects profound negligence at DOJ.

The legislation also required DOJ to identify any elected officials associated with the investigation and to explain any redactions in the files to Congress. These requirements have been ignored. As the release of these documents is critical to delivering justice for survivors, we demand that your office conduct a thorough investigation and answer the following questions within 30 days of receipt:

1. What determinations has the Office of the Inspector General made regarding the Department of Justice's compliance with the *Epstein Files Transparency Act*, including the statutory deadline and redaction requirements?
2. How has the Office of the Inspector General evaluated DOJ's failure to provide Congress with the required identification of elected officials referenced in the documents and an explanation of redactions, as mandated by the *Epstein Files Transparency Act*?
3. How has the Office of the Inspector General assessed whether DOJ's redaction practices consistently protected survivors and avoided exposing them to further harm?
4. How has your office engaged with survivors or survivor-justice advocates to evaluate whether the release process was survivor-centered and trauma-informed?
5. What is the current status of the Office of the Inspector General's review of DOJ's failure to meet the statutory deadline, and what corrective actions, if any, has your office identified or recommended?
6. What steps is the Office of the Inspector General taking to address or remedy DOJ's ongoing noncompliance with the *Epstein Files Transparency Act*?
7. What actions has your office taken to verify that no Epstein-related records have been destroyed, improperly withheld, or excluded from required releases?
8. How has the Office of the Inspector General reviewed communications between DOJ and the White House regarding the Epstein files to assess whether any improper influence affected redaction or release decisions?
9. How has the Office of the Inspector General evaluated DOJ's failure to provide Congress with the required identification of elected officials referenced in the documents and an explanation of redactions, as mandated by the *Epstein Files Transparency Act*?

The survivors of Epstein and his associates have been repeatedly traumatized by this process. First, by the horrific abuse they endured, and again by a government response that has treated their safety, dignity, and right to justice as secondary considerations. DOJ's failures have

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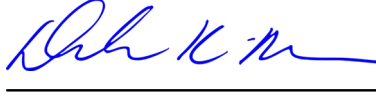
<sup>3</sup> Nerkar, S. (2025, December 23). *Redacted material in some Epstein files is easily recovered*. *The New York Times*. <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/12/23/us/politics/epstein-files-redactions-doj.html>

compounded this harm. As Acting Inspector General, it is your duty to investigate and bring to light misconduct, negligence, and failures of compliance within DOJ, and to ensure meaningful corrective action where warranted. Survivors deserve a process that is lawful, survivor-centered, and grounded in accountability. We expect you to fulfill that duty.

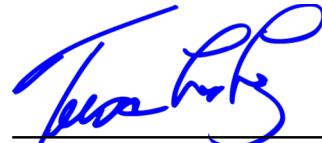
Sincerely,



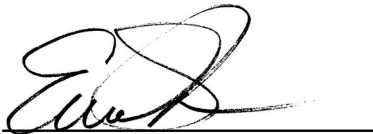
Sydney Kamlager Dove  
Co-Chair  
Policy Task Force  
Democratic Women's Caucus



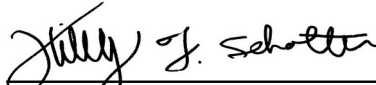
Deborah K. Ross  
Co-Chair  
Policy Task Force  
Democratic Women's Caucus



Teresa Leger Fernández  
Chair  
Democratic Women's Caucus



Emilia Strong Sykes  
Vice Chair  
Democratic Women's Caucus



Hillary J. Scholten  
Vice Chair  
Democratic Women's Caucus



Joyce Beatty  
National Leaders & Advocacy  
Organizations Liaison  
Democratic Women's Caucus



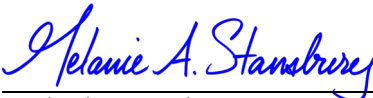
Jasmine Crockett  
Co-Chair  
Communications Task Force  
Democratic Women's Caucus



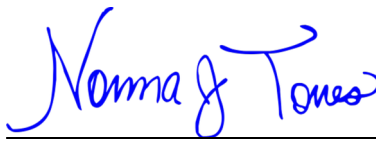
Emily Randall  
Whip  
Democratic Women's Caucus



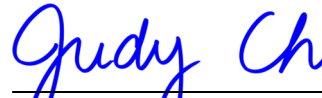
Ayanna Pressley  
Co-Chair  
Reproductive Health Care  
Task Force  
Democratic Women's Caucus



Melanie Stansbury  
Co-Chair  
Member Services Task Force  
Democratic Women's Caucus



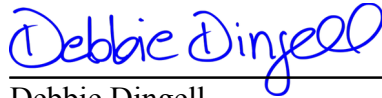
Norma J. Torres  
New Democrat Coalition  
Liaison  
Democratic Women's Caucus



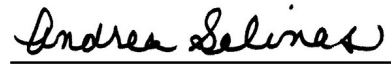
Judy Chu  
Co-Chair  
Reproductive Health Care  
Task Force  
Democratic Women's Caucus



Lateefah Simon  
Co-Chair  
Caregiving Task Force  
Democratic Women's Caucus



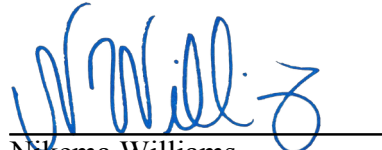
Debbie Dingell  
Senate Liaison  
Democratic Women's Caucus



Andrea Salinas  
Congressional Hispanic  
Caucus Liaison  
Democratic Women's Caucus



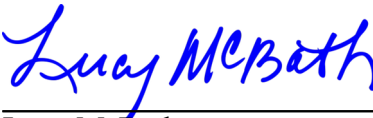
Sarah McBride  
Whip  
Democratic Women's Caucus



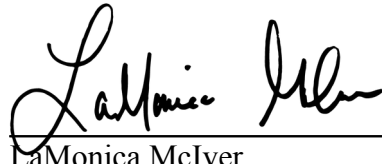
Nikema Williams  
Chief Whip  
Democratic Women's Caucus




JM Tokuda  
Progressive Caucus Liaison  
Democratic Women's Caucus



Lucy McBath  
Congressional Black Caucus  
Liaison  
Democratic Women's Caucus



LaMonica McIver  
New Member Liaison  
Democratic Women's Caucus



Brittany Petterson  
Co-Chair  
Caregiving Task Force  
Democratic Women's Caucus



Shontel M. Brown  
Co-Chair  
Communications Task Force  
Democratic Women's Caucus



Chrissy Houlahan  
Chair  
Servicewomen, Women  
Veterans, & Military Families  
Task Force  
Democratic Women's Caucus



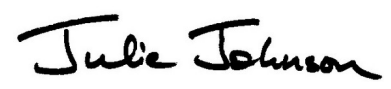
Kelly Morrison  
Co-Chair  
Reproductive Health Care Task  
Force  
Democratic Women's Caucus



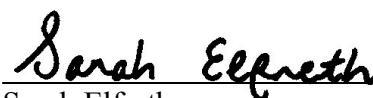
Lois Frankel  
Chair Emerita  
Democratic Women's Caucus



Sara Jacobs  
Co-Chair  
Member Services Task Force  
Democratic Women's Caucus



Julie Johnson  
Equality Caucus Liaison  
Democratic Women's Caucus



Sarah Elfreth  
Member of Congress



Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress



Nellie Pou  
Member of Congress



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Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress



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Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress



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Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



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Gwen S. Moore  
Member of Congress



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Grace Meng  
Member of Congress



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Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress



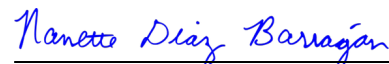
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Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress



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Susie Lee  
Member of Congress



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Nanette Diaz Barragan  
Member of Congress



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Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress



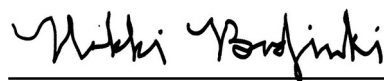
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Laura Friedman  
Member of Congress



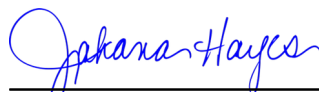
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Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



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Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress



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Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress



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Val Hoyle  
Member of Congress



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Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
Member of Congress



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Valerie P. Foushee  
Member of Congress



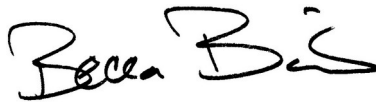
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Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress



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Lizzie Fletcher  
Member of Congress



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Becca Balint  
Member of Congress



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Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress



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Mary Gay Scanlon  
Member of Congress



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Marcy Kaptur  
Member of Congress



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Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress



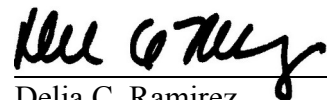
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Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress



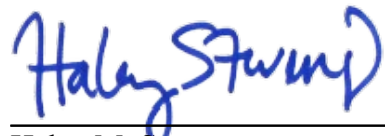
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Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



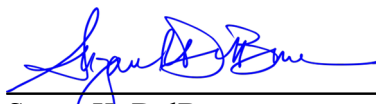
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Delia C. Ramirez  
Member of Congress



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Haley M. Stevens  
Member of Congress



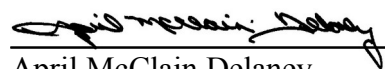
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Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress



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Kathy Castor  
Member of Congress



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April McClain Delaney  
Member of Congress



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Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



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Summer L. Lee  
Member of Congress



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Angie Craig  
Member of Congress



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Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress



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Laura A. Gillen  
Member of Congress

*Maggie Goodlander*

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Maggie Goodlander

Member of Congress