



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.¹

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.² Not only

¹ 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>

² 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.³ 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

³ 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,



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Co-Chair
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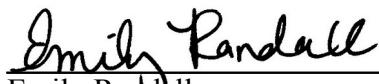
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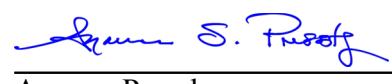
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