

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

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July 12, 2023

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

The Honorable Christopher Wray
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Director Wray:

The Committee on Oversight and Accountability is investigating President Biden’s involvement in his family’s business practices to inform potential legislative solutions related to financial disclosures and national security issues. The Committee is considering legislation aimed at deficiencies in the current legal framework regarding disclosure of financial interests related to Vice Presidents and Presidents (and the family members thereof). Recently, Gal Luft, who alleges to have worked with certain Biden family associates, has publicized an account that raises significant concerns. Last year, the Department of Justice (DOJ) charged Luft with various federal crimes. To be clear, the Committee takes no position regarding the federal charges against Luft. Instead, the Committee requests narrowly tailored information he allegedly provided the DOJ and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in March 2019 regarding his interactions with the Chinese company, CEFC.

It is alarming and dishonest that Committee Democrats¹ and certain media outlets² have willfully ignored that the federal charges against Luft are directly related to CEFC. Indeed, neither Democrats nor the *New York Times* include any reference to CEFC in their recent criticisms of the Committee’s interest in speaking with Luft. In fact, the *New York Times* references “Chinese companies”—omitting CEFC’s role in the scheme—and acknowledges that

¹ Letter from Hon. Jamie Raskin, Ranking Member, H. Comm. on Oversight & Accountability to Hon. James Comer, Chairman, H. Comm. on Oversight & Accountability (July 11, 2023).

² Glenn Thrush, *The G.O.P. Backed Him on Hunter Biden Claims. Now He Has Been Indicted.*, N.Y. Times (July 11, 2023) (The *Times* is well aware of CEFC, and has reported on it extensively; see, e.g., Alexandra Stevenson et. al, *A Chinese Tycoon Sought Power and Influence. Washington Responded*, N.Y. Times (Dec. 12, 2018); see also Alexandra Stevenson, *Hard-Charging Chinese Energy Tycoon Falls From Xi Government’s Graces*, N.Y. Times (March 14, 2018); see also Adam Entous et. al, *Hunter Biden’s Tangled Tale Comes Front and Center*, N.Y. Times (Jan. 11, 2023).).

Luft was charged with “acting as an unregistered agent for China.”³ **This is the same Chinese company that paid the Biden family and their business associates significant amounts of money, as disclosed in detail in bank records memoranda released by the Committee.**⁴

Additionally, the Bidens formed a partnership with CEFC, and an email indicates Joe Biden and Hunter Biden intended to share office space with CEFC in the United States. Any criticism of Luft reflects the type of people who partnered with CEFC and accepted money from the corrupt Chinese company—this includes the Biden family. It would be negligent for the Committee not to attempt to speak with a cooperator directly involved with CEFC.

On July 5, 2023, the *New York Post* released a 14-minute recording featuring Luft, who claims to have direct knowledge of the Biden family’s international business practices, including with certain Chinese nationals with connections to the Chinese Communist Party.⁵ In the recording, Luft alluded to having details regarding Biden family associates’ ties to the Chinese company, CEFC.⁶ The founder and chairman of CEFC, Ye Jianming, used the company to bribe and corruptly influence foreign officials.⁷

After issuing his public statement, DOJ unsealed its indictment of Luft (the Luft Indictment).⁸ The Luft Indictment revolves around payments made by CEFC to Luft. Indeed, the DOJ referenced CEFC repeatedly in the Luft Indictment and alleged significant payments from CEFC to a think tank associated with Luft.⁹ The Luft Indictment also references the “Chairman of CEFC China,” which is Ye Jianming and appears to reference Patrick Ho as CC-1.¹⁰ The Committee agrees with DOJ that CEFC, Chairman Ye, Patrick Ho, and others illegally paid for political access and influence—this included payments to the Biden family.

The Committee is investigating President Biden’s involvement and knowledge of his family’s foreign business practices. The Committee has released memoranda to the public outlining millions of dollars from foreign companies—including CEFC—and that much of the income came in while Joe Biden was Vice President.¹¹ Additionally, whistleblowers have come forward alleging that FBI and DOJ have taken actions to slow the investigation of Hunter Biden, potentially because of improper political considerations.¹² Luft’s allegations are troublingly

³ *Id.*

⁴ *See, e.g.*, Memorandum from Committee on Oversight and Accountability Majority Staff to Committee on Oversight and Accountability Majority Members, “Second Bank Records Memorandum from the Oversight Committee’s Investigation into the Biden Family’s Influence Peddling and Business Schemes” (May 10, 2023).

⁵ Miranda Devine, ‘Missing’ Biden corruption case witness Dr. Gal Luft details allegations against president’s family in extraordinary video, *NEW YORK POST* (July 5, 2023).

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ *Supra*, fn. 4.

⁸ *United States v. Gal Luft*, 22-cr-597 (SDNY 2022).

⁹ *Id.* at 4.

¹⁰ *Id.* at 10-11.

¹¹ *Supra*, fn. 4.

¹² *See* Transcribed Interview of Gary Shapley, Internal Revenue Service (May 26, 2023) at 10 (“I am blowing the whistle because the Delaware U.S. Attorney’s Office, Department of Justice Tax, and Department of Justice

consistent with this separate evidence. The Committee further notes that Luft approached the FBI with his allegations in 2019—well before Hunter Biden’s abandoned laptop detailing his family’s business practices became public.

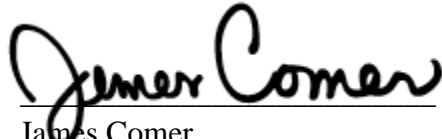
The allegations raised by Luft are directly relevant to the Committee’s investigation of Biden family influence peddling. As previously mentioned, the Committee is seeking to craft legislative solutions that will address identified deficiencies in federal ethics laws and financial disclosure requirements for family members of senior government officials.

In order to assist the Committee with its investigation, please provide to the Committee an unredacted copy of the FBI report (FD-302 form) that was created following the March 2019 meeting in Brussels among Gal Luft and DOJ and FBI officials. Please produce this single document by July 19, 2023.

The Committee on Oversight and Accountability is the principal oversight committee of the U.S. House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate “any matter” at “any time” under House Rule X.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this important investigation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Comer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. Below the signature is a horizontal line.

James Comer
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Accountability

cc: The Honorable Jamie B. Raskin, Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Accountability