

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

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February 21, 2023

Mr. Vuk Jeremic
Transmitted Electronically

Dear Mr. Jeremic:

The Committee on Oversight and Accountability is investigating President Biden's connections to certain international and domestic business transactions and practices, including his family and associates who peddled influence to generate millions of dollars for the Biden family. The Committee's review of testimony in a federal criminal prosecution—*United States v. Patrick Ho*—and other documents show that you have records and information related to the Biden family's foreign business dealings.¹ The defendant in that prosecution, Patrick Ho, was convicted of international bribery and money laundering in 2018 and was the former head of CEFC China Energy's (CEFC) U.S.-based operation. CEFC—now state-owned by the Chinese Communist Party—approached the Biden family to expand its energy portfolio in the United States. The Committee requests you schedule a transcribed interview with Committee staff and produce certain documents related to CEFC, Robert Hunter Biden, James Biden, and their business associates.

In 2018, the Department of Justice (DOJ) convicted Patrick Ho for Foreign Corrupt Practices Act violations, money laundering, and conspiracy offenses.² A district court sentenced Mr. Ho to three years in prison for his role in the international bribery scheme.³ During the trial, you testified regarding your business relationships with certain CEFC officials, including Chairman Ye Jianming (Chairman Ye) and Patrick Ho, both of whom had connections to the

¹ See *United States v. Chi Ping Patrick Ho, a/k/a "Patrick C.P. Ho,"* case no. 1:17-cr-00779-LAP; DOJ Criminal Complaint, *United States v. Chi Ping Patrick Ho, a/k/a "Patrick C.P. Ho,"* 17-MAG-8611.

² See DOJ Press Release at <https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdny/pr/patrick-ho-former-head-organization-backed-chinese-energy-conglomerate-sentenced-3> (Mar. 25, 2019). Reports indicate that Patrick Ho retained Hunter Biden to represent him. See Matt Viser, Tom Hamburger, & Craig Timberg, *Inside Hunter Biden's multimillion-dollar deals with a Chinese energy company*, WASH. POST (Mar. 30, 2022).

³ *Id.*

Chinese Communist Party.⁴ After Patrick Ho was arrested, reports indicate that the Chinese government also detained Chairman Ye for violating Chinese bribery laws.⁵

The Committee is investigating whether President Biden knew of or was involved in certain foreign business ventures that included the same CEFC officials who participated in the schemes described in *United States v. Patrick Ho*.⁶ Evidence shows that you developed a business relationship with Hunter Biden and his associates and communicated with them about Chairman Ye and CEFC.⁷

During the Patrick Ho trial, you testified that CEFC paid you hundreds of thousands of dollars annually to act as “consultant,” and in turn, you would “open doors” by introducing CEFC employees to business and political leaders in various countries.⁸ Indeed, in December 2015, you attempted to introduce Chairman Ye and CEFC to Hunter Biden and his associates.⁹ Although it does not appear the meeting took place on that date, Hunter Biden would later develop a lucrative business relationship with Chairman Ye and CEFC.¹⁰ By 2017, Hunter Biden forged a partnership with Chairman Ye and planned to share office space with him and then former-Vice President Biden at the House of Sweden in Washington, D.C.¹¹

Based upon your trial testimony, the Committee believes that you possess communications with CEFC employees regarding Hunter Biden. For instance, you testified about an email—between you and Patrick Ho—where you were organizing a dinner between Chairman Ye and another person in Washington, D.C. on December 6, 2016. Outside the presence of the jury, the DOJ prosecutor requested the court redact the name of the individual who you were “willing to bring to a dinner with the [C]hairman Mr. Ye” because it “could introduce a political dimension to this case that we [DOJ] don’t think is worth dealing with.”¹²

The court granted DOJ’s request to redact the person’s name from Exhibit 2739R, and your direct examination regarding an email with Patrick Ho continued before the jury, in part:

DOJ: Blow up the e-mail that’s November 30, 2015 at 10:43 p.m., the bottom of the page ending 1525.

⁴ Chuck Ross, *Feds Obtained FISA Warrant Against Hunter Biden’s Chinese Business Associate, Documents Show*, DAILY CALLER (Oct. 27, 2020).

⁵ Shu Zhang, Chen Aizhu, *China’s CEFC found Ye named in corruption case – state media*, REUTERS (Oct. 12, 2018).

⁶ *Supra* fn. 2 (“HO also advised his boss, Ye Jianming, the then-chairman of CEFC China, to provide \$500,000 in cash to Museveni, ostensibly a campaign donation, even though Museveni had already been reelected.”).

⁷ Email from Vuk Jeremic to Eric Schwerin with the subject “Dinner in DC” dated December 1, 2015.

⁸ *United States v. Patrick Ho*, case no. 1:17-cr-007779-LAP, Doc. 204, at 89-90; 1-11.

⁹ *See supra* fn. 7.

¹⁰ *See Hunter Biden, Burisma, and Corruption: The Impact on U.S. Government Policy and Related Concerns*, U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; U.S. Senate Committee on Finance, at 77-79.

¹¹ Email from Hunter Biden to House of Sweden representative with the subject line “507” dated September 21, 2017.

¹² *United States v. Patrick Ho*, case no. 1:17-cr-007779-LAP, Doc. 204, at 96:17-22.

What is the defendant [Patrick Ho] proposing here, Mr. Jeremic?

Jeremic: A dinner it looks like. By reading this e-mail, I suppose it's a dinner.

DOJ: On a specific date?

Jeremic: **It seems like the date in question is December 6.**

DOJ: Did he ask you a question?

Jeremic: Yeah, he did.

DOJ: What did he ask you?

Jeremic: "How many in your party?"

DOJ: And how did you respond? It should be the bottom e-mail on your screen?

Jeremic: I said it's short notice for high-level people, because you are talking November 30 – **this exchange happened on November 30, and we were talking about December 6**, so we're talking only a week, and my suggestion here was that it's kind of hard to get people to change their schedules on such a short notice.

DOJ: And did you ask the defendant anything?

Jeremic: I asked the defendant who did he have on his side?

DOJ: What were you asking?

Jeremic: Like who will be joining him for that particular dinner.

DOJ: And how did he respond?

Jeremic: Could you –

DOJ: Look at the next e-mail.

Jeremic: Oh, yeah, he responded by saying that he was considering on their side – that's he [sic] my reading of it – Ye – that is chairman of the energy company – himself, and then mentioning two people Zang and Liu. I can't really say who they were.

DOJ: How did he describe that group of people?

Jeremic: He described the group of people by the BJ oil team. BJ referring to Beijing, referring to Beijing.¹³

The Committee requests this email from you and whether the person's name DOJ redacted from Exhibit 2739R was Hunter Biden. The Committee has obtained evidence corroborating your testimony that on December 1, 2015—one day after your email above with Patrick Ho—you emailed Eric Schwerin requesting Hunter Biden attend a dinner in Washington, D.C. on December 6, 2015, with Chairman Ye.¹⁴ The email stated, in part, the following:

On Sunday, **December 6th**, I will have a private dinner in DC with an old friend from China – Ye Jiemaing [sp.] – one of the 10 wealthiest Chinese businessmen.

He is the Chairman and majority owner of CEFC China Energy, a second-largest privately owned company on Shanghai stock exchange.

He's very young and dynamic (39), with the top-level connection in his country. They have recently started making big investments abroad (billions of dollars), and plan on doing much more.

I would like to invite Hunter to join me at this private dinner (small dinner – this is not an event of any kind). I am confident that many interesting projects may come out of that in the future.¹⁵

Based upon the trial transcripts and the Committee's evidence, it appears that: (1) you possess communications with CEFC officials, including Patrick Ho and Chairman Ye, discussing the Biden family; (2) you possess communications with Hunter Biden, James Biden, and Eric Schwerin discussing CEFC; (3) DOJ may have redacted Hunter Biden's name from the Patrick Ho trial in Exhibit 2739R; and (4) DOJ likely possess additional evidence related to CEFC and Hunter Biden given the seizure of Patrick Ho's iPad and email account(s) in November 2017.¹⁶

To assist the Committee in conducting this investigation, please provide the following documents and information no later than March 7, 2023:

1. All documents and communications, between 2014 to the present, with Robert Hunter Biden, James Biden, Eric Schwerin, Devon Archer, and James Gilliar;
2. All documents and communications, between 2014 to the present, with any associate of CEFC, including Chairman Ye Jianming and Patrick Ho; and

¹³ *United States v. Patrick Ho*, Trial Transcript, Case No. 1:17-cr-00779-LAP, Doc. 204, 135:3-136: 10 (emphasis added).

¹⁴ *See supra* fn. 7.

¹⁵ *Id.* (emphasis added),

¹⁶ *See United States v. Patrick Ho*, Trial Transcript, Case No. 1:17-cr-00779-LAP, Doc. 210, 10: 17-23 (describing that Patrick Ho's iPad was seized on November 18, 2017 and FBI extracted its data onto a report).

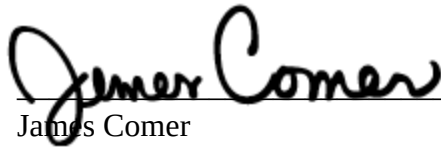
3. Please answer the following question. To your knowledge, did DOJ redact Hunter Biden's name from Exhibit 2739R in *United States v. Patrick Ho*?

The Committee has provided instructions regarding how these materials should be produced and defined certain terms in the accompanying attachment.¹⁷ Additionally, we request you make yourself available for a transcribed interview with Committee staff. Please coordinate with Committee staff at (202) 225-5074 to schedule this interview no later than March 14, 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 style with a large, stylized "J" and "C".

James Comer
Chairman
Committee on Oversight & Accountability

cc: The Honorable Jamie Raskin, Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight & Accountability

¹⁷ See Attachment A.