

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 7, 2026

Ms. Adriana Isabel Camberos
c/o Mr. Adam Katz, Esq.
Goldberg Segalla
711 3rd Avenue
#1900
New York, NY 10017

Dear Ms. Camberos:

We write regarding President Trump’s decision to grant you a full presidential pardon, eliminating the \$48,824,415.45 in restitution you were ordered to pay your victims.¹ Congress has a compelling interest in ensuring that this constitutional power is exercised with fairness and transparency. Accordingly, the public reporting surrounding President Trump’s pardons and commutations raises significant concerns, particularly in light of his decision to eliminate hundreds of millions of dollars in restitution and fines — thereby depriving victims of compensation and justice.

Article II, Section 2, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution authorizes the President to “grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.”² Presidents have historically exercised this authority to extend mercy, forgiving past convictions or commuting sentences in appropriate cases. Although broad, this power is not without limit: it applies only to federal offenses, does not extend to state offenses or civil liability, and cannot erase the fact of conviction or disturb legal rights already vested in third parties.³ While the U.S. Supreme Court has characterized executive clemency as “an act of grace” exercised for the “public welfare,” President Trump’s use of this authority appears to depart from this traditional purpose.⁴

Public reporting has raised questions about certain pardons issued by President Donald Trump, including yours. These reports suggest that some individuals may have received favorable consideration from President Trump or his advisors through intermediaries, financial contributions, or other forms of influence. If true, these allegations raise legitimate concerns that improper considerations, including *quid pro quo* or “pay-to-play” dynamics, may have affected the clemency process. This concern is further heightened by reports that President Trump has seriously discussed issuing broad or preemptive pardons to members of his staff, raising additional

¹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Adriana Isabel Camberos & Andres Enrique Camberos* (Jan. 15, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1424186/dl?inline>; Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep’t of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>.

² U.S. CONST. ART. II, § 2, CL. 1.

³ Additionally, the Supreme Court has held that pardons must be affirmatively accepted and that acceptance implies an acknowledgement of guilt. *Burdick v. United States*, 236 U.S. 79 (1915).

⁴ *Ex parte Garland*, 71 U.S. 333 (1866); *Biddle v. Perovich*, 274 U.S. 480 (1927).

questions about whether his clemency decisions were grounded in case-specific factors.⁵ Accordingly, Congress has a duty to conduct oversight and investigate whether anyone violated the law or improperly influenced the issuance of a presidential pardon, commutation, or other form of clemency.

According to publicly available information, you were convicted of several fraud offenses, including conspiracy to commit wire and mail fraud, on October 25, 2024.⁶ Your conviction arose from allegations that you obtained goods from manufacturers under false pretenses and resold them for profit to U.S. companies rather than to Mexican companies or to rehabilitation facilities as represented.⁷ As a result, you were ordered to pay \$48,824,415.45 in restitution and forfeit several multimillion-dollar homes and luxury vehicles, and to serve a term of one year of imprisonment.⁸ On January 15, 2026, President Trump granted you a presidential pardon.⁹ Public reporting also indicates that President Trump has previously granted you clemency; in 2021, he commuted your conviction arising from a fraud scheme involving counterfeit 5-Hour Energy drinks.¹⁰ Just 42 days after receiving that clemency, you committed wire fraud in your latest scheme.¹¹ Reporting also shows that you were represented by former White House counsel Stefan C. Passantino and former Rudolph W. Giuliani attorney Adam Katz in both your initial bid for a commutation and your more recent effort to secure a pardon.¹² Given these circumstances, we are seeking additional information to better understand the process by which your pardon was pursued and received.

Please provide written responses to the following questions no later than **May 22, 2026**:

1) **Initial Clemency Efforts**

- When did you first begin pursuing a presidential pardon?

⁵ Andrew Stanton & Gabe Whisnant, *Donald Trump Discussing Mass Pardons: Report*, NEWSWEEK (Apr. 10, 2026), <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-discusses-mass-pardons-aides-wsj-report-11813455>.

⁶ Press Release, *Federal Jury Convicts Siblings of Fraud; Defendants Made Tens of Millions of Dollars from Lying to Manufacturers in Years-Long Scheme*, U.S. Att’y’s Off., S. Dist. Cal. (Nov. 13, 2024), <https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdca/pr/federal-jury-convicts-siblings-fraud-defendants-made-tens-millions-dollars-lying-0>.

⁷ Will Weissert, *Trump issues a flurry of pardons, including for a woman whose sentence he commuted in his first term*, AP NEWS (Jan. 16, 2026), <https://apnews.com/article/trump-pardons-donor-twice-convicted-fraud-99263a04b8a60ce8c081b9c5feaffd2e>.

⁸ Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep’t of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>; Alex Riggins, *Trump pardons South Bay businesswoman convicted of fraud after he granted her clemency once before*, THE SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE (Jan. 16, 2026), <https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/2026/01/16/trump-pardons-south-bay-businesswoman-convicted-of-fraud-after-he-granted-her-clemency-once-before/>.

⁹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Adriana Isabel Camberos & Andres Enrique Camberos* (Jan. 15, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1424186/dl?inline>.

¹⁰ Weissert, *supra* note 7.

¹¹ Alex Riggins, *Trump pardons South Bay businesswoman convicted of fraud after he granted her clemency once before*, THE SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE (Jan. 16, 2026), <https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/2026/01/16/trump-pardons-south-bay-businesswoman-convicted-of-fraud-after-he-granted-her-clemency-once-before/>.

¹² Kenneth P. Vogel & Susanne Craig, *Trump Sets Fraudster Free From Prison for a Second Time*, NY TIMES (Jan. 16, 2026), <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/01/16/us/politics/trump-fraudster-pardon.html>.

- Did you submit a formal petition to the Department of Justice's Office of the Pardon Attorney?
 - If so, when? If not, why not?
- 2) **Representation and Advocacy**
 - Did you retain or consult with any attorney, lobbyist, influencer, consultant, or intermediary in connection with your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify each individual or entity, describe the scope of their engagement, and provide a copy of any agreements or contracts related to such services.
- 3) **Contacts with Government Officials**
 - Did you, or anyone acting on your behalf, communicate with official or unofficial individuals associated with the Trump Administration regarding your request?
 - If so, please identify the individuals involved, the dates of such communications, and the general substance of those discussions.
- 4) **Financial Contributions or Payments**
 - Did you, or any person or entity acting on your behalf, make any political contributions, donations, or payments to:
 - Donald J. Trump or affiliated committees;
 - Organizations connected to or associated with President Trump's administration; or
 - Any intermediary involved in advocating for your pardon?
 - If so, please provide details including amounts, dates, recipients, and purpose.
- 5) **Third-Party Advocacy**
 - Were any third parties (including advocacy groups, public officials, or private individuals) involved in supporting your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify those parties and describe their role.
- 6) **Supporting Materials**
 - Please provide a copy of any documents, correspondence, invoices, or records related to your clemency application, advocacy efforts, or communications with government officials.

The information you provide will allow Congress to better evaluate whether legislative or Constitutional reforms are necessary to ensure that no President abuses their power to grant executive clemency.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on the
Constitution
U.S. Senate Committee on
the Judiciary



Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 7, 2026

Mr. David Gentile
c/o Ms. Adriana Riviere-Badell, Esq.
201 South Biscayne Boulevard
Suite 1900
Miami, Florida 33131

Dear Mr. Gentile:

We write regarding President Trump’s decision to grant you a commutation of your sentence, eliminating the \$15,500,000 in restitution you were ordered to pay your victims.¹ Congress has a compelling interest in ensuring that this constitutional power is exercised with fairness and transparency. Accordingly, the public reporting surrounding President Trump’s pardons and commutations raises significant concerns, particularly in light of his decision to eliminate hundreds of millions of dollars in restitution and fines — thereby depriving victims of compensation and justice.

Article II, Section 2, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution authorizes the President to “grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.”² Presidents have historically exercised this authority to extend mercy, forgiving past convictions or commuting sentences in appropriate cases. Although broad, this power is not without limit: it applies only to federal offenses, does not extend to state offenses or civil liability, and cannot erase the fact of conviction or disturb legal rights already vested in third parties.³ While the U.S. Supreme Court has characterized executive clemency as “an act of grace” exercised for the “public welfare,” President Trump’s use of this authority appears to depart from this traditional purpose.⁴

Public reporting has raised questions about certain pardons issued by President Donald Trump, including yours. These reports suggest that some individuals may have received favorable consideration from President Trump or his advisors through intermediaries, financial contributions, or other forms of influence. If true, these allegations raise legitimate concerns that improper considerations, including *quid pro quo* or “pay-to-play” dynamics, may have affected the clemency process. This concern is further heightened by reports that President Trump has

¹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to David Gentile* (Nov. 26, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1419651/dl?inline>; Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep’t of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>; Gregory Svirnovskiy, *David Gentile no longer required to pay \$15.5M in restitution after Trump’s commutation*, POLITICO (Dec. 3, 2025), <https://www.politico.com/news/2025/12/03/david-gentile-fraud-restitution-trump-00674963>.

² U.S. CONST. ART. II, § 2, CL. 1.

³ Additionally, the Supreme Court has held that pardons must be affirmatively accepted and that acceptance implies an acknowledgement of guilt. *Burdick v. United States*, 236 U.S. 79 (1915).

⁴ *Ex parte Garland*, 71 U.S. 333 (1866); *Biddle v. Perovich*, 274 U.S. 480 (1927).

seriously discussed issuing broad or preemptive pardons to members of his staff, raising additional questions about whether his clemency decisions were grounded in case-specific factors.⁵ Accordingly, Congress has a duty to conduct oversight and investigate whether anyone violated the law or improperly influenced the issuance of a presidential pardon, commutation, or other form of clemency.

According to publicly available information, you were convicted in August 2024 of securities fraud, wire fraud, and conspiracy to commit securities fraud and wire fraud.⁶ The conviction arose from allegations that you misrepresented the performance of three private equity funds managed by your former company, GBP Capital, to over 10,000 investors who had entrusted you and your co-conspirators with \$1.6 billion.⁷ As a result, you were ordered to pay roughly \$15,500,000 in restitution and to serve a term of seven years of imprisonment.⁸ On November 26, 2025, President Trump commuted your sentence, less than two weeks after you reported to prison.⁹ Given these circumstances, we are seeking additional information to better understand the process by which your commutation was pursued and received.

Please provide written responses to the following questions no later than **May 22, 2026**:

1) Initial Clemency Efforts

- When did you first begin pursuing a presidential commutation?
- Did you submit a formal petition to the Department of Justice's Office of the Pardon Attorney?
 - If so, when? If not, why not?

2) Representation and Advocacy

- Did you retain or consult with any attorney, lobbyist, influencer, consultant, or intermediary in connection with your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify each individual or entity, describe the scope of their engagement, and provide a copy of any agreements or contracts related to such services.

3) Contacts with Government Officials

⁵ Andrew Stanton & Gabe Whisnant, *Donald Trump Discussing Mass Pardons: Report*, NEWSWEEK (Apr. 10, 2026), <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-discusses-mass-pardons-aides-wsj-report-11813455>.

⁶ Press Release, *Former Private Equity Executives Sentenced to Prison*, U.S. Att'y's Off., E. Dist. NY. (May 9, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/usao-edny/pr/former-private-equity-executives-sentenced-prison>.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ Gregory Svirnovskiy, *David Gentile no longer required to pay \$15.5M in restitution after Trump's commutation*, POLITICO (Dec. 3, 2025), <https://www.politico.com/news/2025/12/03/david-gentile-fraud-restitution-trump-00674963>; Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep't of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>.

⁹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to David Gentile* (Nov. 26, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1419651/dl?inline>; Gregory Svirnovskiy, *David Gentile no longer required to pay \$15.5M in restitution after Trump's commutation*, POLITICO (Dec. 3, 2025), <https://www.politico.com/news/2025/12/03/david-gentile-fraud-restitution-trump-00674963>.

- Did you, or anyone acting on your behalf, communicate with official or unofficial individuals associated with the Trump Administration regarding your request?
 - If so, please identify the individuals involved, the dates of such communications, and the general substance of those discussions.

4) Financial Contributions or Payments

- Did you, or any person or entity acting on your behalf, make any political contributions, donations, or payments to:
 - Donald J. Trump or affiliated committees;
 - Organizations connected to or associated with President Trump's administration; or
 - Any intermediary involved in advocating for your commutation?
- If so, please provide details including amounts, dates, recipients, and purpose.

5) Third-Party Advocacy

- Were any third parties (including advocacy groups, public officials, or private individuals) involved in supporting your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify those parties and describe their role.

6) Supporting Materials

- Please provide a copy of any documents, correspondence, invoices, or records related to your clemency application, advocacy efforts, or communications with government officials.

The information you provide will allow Congress to better evaluate whether legislative or Constitutional reforms are necessary to ensure that no President abuses their power to grant executive clemency.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on the
Constitution
U.S. Senate Committee on
the Judiciary



Raul Ruiz, M.D.

Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 7, 2026

Ms. Michele Fiore
c/o Ms. Kristina Wildeveld, Esq.
Kristina Wildeveld & Associates
550 E. Charleston Blvd.
Suite A
Las Vegas, NV 89104

Dear Ms. Fiore:

We write regarding President Trump’s decision to grant you a full pardon.¹ Congress has a compelling interest in ensuring that this constitutional power is exercised with fairness and transparency. Accordingly, the public reporting surrounding President Trump’s pardons and commutations raises significant concerns, particularly in light of his decision to eliminate hundreds of millions of dollars in restitution and fines — thereby depriving victims of compensation and justice.

Article II, Section 2, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution authorizes the President to “grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.”² Presidents have historically exercised this authority to extend mercy, forgiving past convictions or commuting sentences in appropriate cases. Although broad, this power is not without limit: it applies only to federal offenses, does not extend to state offenses or civil liability, and cannot erase the fact of conviction or disturb legal rights already vested in third parties.³ While the U.S. Supreme Court has characterized executive clemency as “an act of grace” exercised for the “public welfare,” President Trump’s use of this authority appears to depart from this traditional purpose.⁴

Public reporting has raised questions about certain pardons issued by President Donald Trump, including yours. These reports suggest that some individuals may have received favorable consideration from President Trump or his advisors through intermediaries, financial contributions, or other forms of influence. If true, these allegations raise legitimate concerns that improper considerations, including *quid pro quo* or “pay-to-play” dynamics, may have affected the clemency process. This concern is further heightened by reports that President Trump has seriously discussed issuing broad or preemptive pardons to members of his staff, raising additional

¹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Michele Fiore* (Apr. 23, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1397926/dl?inline>; Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep’t of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>.

² U.S. CONST. ART. II, § 2, CL. 1.

³ Additionally, the Supreme Court has held that pardons must be affirmatively accepted and that acceptance implies an acknowledgement of guilt. *Burdick v. United States*, 236 U.S. 79 (1915).

⁴ *Ex parte Garland*, 71 U.S. 333 (1866); *Biddle v. Perovich*, 274 U.S. 480 (1927).

questions about whether his clemency decisions were grounded in case-specific factors.⁵ Accordingly, Congress has a duty to conduct oversight and investigate whether anyone violated the law or improperly influenced the issuance of a presidential pardon, commutation, or other form of clemency.

According to publicly available information, you were convicted on October 4, 2024, of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and wire fraud.⁶ Your conviction arose from allegations that you defrauded charitable donors by falsely claiming that you were raising money to memorialize two fallen Las Vegas police officers.⁷ However, rather than honor those fallen public servants, you used \$70,000 in solicited funds for personal expenses including rent, political fundraising bills, and cosmetic surgery.⁸ On April 23, 2025, President Trump granted you a presidential pardon following your failed bid for a new trial.⁹ The timing of this pardon, issued prior to your sentencing hearing, likely deprived the Court of the opportunity to order you to pay restitution or fines to your victims. Given these circumstances, we are seeking additional information to better understand the process by which your pardon was pursued and received.

Please provide written responses to the following questions no later than **May 22, 2026**:

1) Initial Clemency Efforts

- When did you first begin pursuing a presidential pardon?
- Did you submit a formal petition to the Department of Justice’s Office of the Pardon Attorney?
 - If so, when? If not, why not?

2) Representation and Advocacy

- Did you retain or consult with any attorney, lobbyist, influencer, consultant, or intermediary in connection with your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify each individual or entity, describe the scope of their engagement, and provide a copy of any agreements or contracts related to such services.

3) Contacts with Government Officials

- Did you, or anyone acting on your behalf, communicate with official or unofficial individuals associated with the Trump Administration regarding your request?

⁵ Andrew Stanton & Gabe Whisnant, *Donald Trump Discussing Mass Pardons: Report*, NEWSWEEK (Apr. 10, 2026), <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-discusses-mass-pardons-aides-wsj-report-11813455>.

⁶ Press Release, *Former Las Vegas City Councilwoman Convicted In Charity Fraud Scheme*, U.S. Att’y’s Off., Off. Of Pub. Affairs (Oct. 4, 2024), <https://www.justice.gov/archives/opa/pr/former-las-vegas-city-councilwoman-convicted-charity-fraud-scheme>.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ Gregory Svirnovskiy, *The president’s latest pardon: ‘Lady Trump’*, POLITICO (Apr. 24, 2025), <https://www.politico.com/news/2025/04/24/trump-pardon-michele-fiore-00308724>.

⁹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Michele Fiore* (Apr. 23, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1397926/dl?inline>; Rio Yamat, *Trump pardons Nevada politician who paid for cosmetic surgery with funds to honor a slain officer*, AP NEWS (Apr. 24, 2025), <https://apnews.com/article/trump-pardon-michele-fiore-nevada-fraud-cf56ef8b302b8111e47cf52d5a606d19>.

- If so, please identify the individuals involved, the dates of such communications, and the general substance of those discussions.

4) **Financial Contributions or Payments**

- Did you, or any person or entity acting on your behalf, make any political contributions, donations, or payments to:
 - Donald J. Trump or affiliated committees;
 - Organizations connected to or associated with President Trump's administration; or
 - Any intermediary involved in advocating for your pardon?
- If so, please provide details including amounts, dates, recipients, and purpose.

5) **Third-Party Advocacy**

- Were any third parties (including advocacy groups, public officials, or private individuals) involved in supporting your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify those parties and describe their role.

6) **Supporting Materials**

- Please provide a copy of any documents, correspondence, invoices, or records related to your clemency application, advocacy efforts, or communications with government officials.

The information you provide will allow Congress to better evaluate whether legislative or Constitutional reforms are necessary to ensure that no President abuses their power to grant executive clemency.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Dave Min
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Ranking Member,
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Raul Ruiz, M.D.

Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 7, 2026

Mr. Carlos R. Watson
c/o Arthur L. Aidala, Esq.
Aidala Bertuna & Kamins, PC
546 5th Avenue,
6th Floor
New York, NY 10036

Dear Mr. Watson:

We write regarding President Trump’s decision to grant you a commutation of your sentence, eliminating the \$36,769,153.97 in restitution you were ordered to pay your victims.¹ Congress has a compelling interest in ensuring that this constitutional power is exercised with fairness and transparency. Accordingly, the public reporting surrounding President Trump’s pardons and commutations raises significant concerns, particularly in light of his decision to eliminate hundreds of millions of dollars in restitution and fines — thereby depriving victims of compensation and justice.

Article II, Section 2, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution authorizes the President to “grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.”² Presidents have historically exercised this authority to extend mercy, forgiving past convictions or commuting sentences in appropriate cases. Although broad, this power is not without limit: it applies only to federal offenses, does not extend to state offenses or civil liability, and cannot erase the fact of conviction or disturb legal rights already vested in third parties.³ While the U.S. Supreme Court has characterized executive clemency as “an act of grace” exercised for the “public welfare,” President Trump’s use of this authority appears to depart from this traditional purpose.⁴

Public reporting has raised questions about certain pardons issued by President Donald Trump, including yours. These reports suggest that some individuals may have received favorable consideration from President Trump or his advisors through intermediaries, financial contributions, or other forms of influence. If true, these allegations raise legitimate concerns that improper considerations, including *quid pro quo* or “pay-to-play” dynamics, may have affected the clemency process. This concern is further heightened by reports that President Trump has

¹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Carlos Watson* (Mar. 28, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1395031/dl?inline>; Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep’t of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>.

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³ Additionally, the Supreme Court has held that pardons must be affirmatively accepted and that acceptance implies an acknowledgement of guilt. *Burdick v. United States*, 236 U.S. 79 (1915).

⁴ *Ex parte Garland*, 71 U.S. 333 (1866); *Biddle v. Perovich*, 274 U.S. 480 (1927).

seriously discussed issuing broad or preemptive pardons to members of his staff, raising additional questions about whether his clemency decisions were grounded in case-specific factors.⁵ Accordingly, Congress has a duty to conduct oversight and investigate whether anyone violated the law or improperly influenced the issuance of a presidential pardon, commutation, or other form of clemency.

According to publicly available information, you were convicted of conspiracy to commit securities fraud, wire fraud, and aggravated identity theft.⁶ The conviction arose from allegations that you misled investors about the company's financial condition and business relationships with individuals and entities like Google and Oprah Winfrey.⁷ As a result, you were ordered to pay \$36,769,153.97 in restitution and \$60,000,000 in forfeiture to the U.S. government, and to serve a term of nearly ten years of imprisonment.⁸ On March 28, 2026, President Trump commuted your sentence.⁹ Public reporting also indicates that you hired the New York law firm Aidala, Bertuna & Kamins to help you seek assistance from individuals in Donald Trump's orbit, including Steve Bannon.¹⁰ This reporting noted that your advocates recognized that their best chance of success required bypassing the Department of Justice's Office of the Pardon Attorney and appealing directly to the White House – a strategy that ultimately worked in your favor.¹¹ Given these circumstances, we are seeking additional information to better understand the process by which your commutation was pursued and received.

Please provide written responses to the following questions no later than **May 22, 2026**:

1) Initial Clemency Efforts

- When did you first begin pursuing a presidential commutation?
- Did you submit a formal petition to the Department of Justice's Office of the Pardon Attorney?
 - If so, when? If not, why not?

2) Representation and Advocacy

⁵ Andrew Stanton & Gabe Whisnant, *Donald Trump Discussing Mass Pardons: Report*, NEWSWEEK (Apr. 10, 2026), <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-discusses-mass-pardons-aides-wsj-report-11813455>.

⁶ Press Release, *Carlos Watson, Founder and Former CEO of Ozy Media Inc., Sentenced to 116 Months in Prison for Leading Multi-Million Dollar Fraud Scheme*, U.S. Att'y's Off., E. Dist. NY. (Dec. 16, 2024), <https://www.justice.gov/usao-edny/pr/carlos-watson-founder-and-former-ceo-ozy-media-inc-sentenced-116-months-prison-leading>.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep't of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>; Willem Marx, *Have Mercy: The Market for Pardons in Trump's Wild West Wing*, VANITY FAIR (Feb. 18, 2026), <https://www.vanityfair.com/news/story/presidential-pardons-trumps-america?srsId=AfmBOoqm7-HdQuk2LKAAtBQC4DSuyNtM6auIiV9m3GLSAfDuDD11HT3r4>.

⁹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Carlos Watson* (Mar. 28, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1395031/dl?inline>.

¹⁰ Willem Marx, *Have Mercy: The Market for Pardons in Trump's Wild West Wing*, VANITY FAIR (Feb. 18, 2026), <https://www.vanityfair.com/news/story/presidential-pardons-trumps-america?srsId=AfmBOoqm7-HdQuk2LKAAtBQC4DSuyNtM6auIiV9m3GLSAfDuDD11HT3r4>.

¹¹ *Ibid.*

- Did you retain or consult with any attorney, lobbyist, influencer, consultant, or intermediary in connection with your clemency request?
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Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 7, 2026

Mr. Devon Archer
c/o Mr. Matthew L. Schwartz, Esq.
Boies Schiller Flexner LLP
55 Hudson Yards
20th Floor
New York, NY 10001
Phone 212 303 3646

Dear Mr. Archer:

We write regarding President Trump’s decision to grant you a full pardon, eliminating the \$43,427,436 in restitution you were ordered to pay your victims.¹ Congress has a compelling interest in ensuring that this constitutional power is exercised with fairness and transparency. Accordingly, the public reporting surrounding President Trump’s pardons and commutations raises significant concerns, particularly in light of his decision to eliminate hundreds of millions of dollars in restitution and fines — thereby depriving victims of compensation and justice.

Article II, Section 2, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution authorizes the President to “grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.”² Presidents have historically exercised this authority to extend mercy, forgiving past convictions or commuting sentences in appropriate cases. Although broad, this power is not without limit: it applies only to federal offenses, does not extend to state offenses or civil liability, and cannot erase the fact of conviction or disturb legal rights already vested in third parties.³ While the U.S. Supreme Court has characterized executive clemency as “an act of grace” exercised for the “public welfare,” President Trump’s use of this authority appears to depart from this traditional purpose.⁴

Public reporting has raised questions about certain pardons issued by President Donald Trump, including yours. These reports suggest that some individuals may have received favorable consideration from President Trump or his advisors through intermediaries, financial contributions, or other forms of influence. If true, these allegations raise legitimate concerns that improper considerations, including *quid pro quo* or “pay-to-play” dynamics, may have affected the clemency process. This concern is further heightened by reports that President Trump has seriously discussed issuing broad or preemptive pardons to members of his staff, raising additional

¹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Devon Archer* (Mar. 25, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1394976/dl?inline>; Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep’t of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>.

² U.S. CONST. ART. II, § 2, CL. 1.

³ Additionally, the Supreme Court has held that pardons must be affirmatively accepted and that acceptance implies an acknowledgement of guilt. *Burdick v. United States*, 236 U.S. 79 (1915).

⁴ *Ex parte Garland*, 71 U.S. 333 (1866); *Biddle v. Perovich*, 274 U.S. 480 (1927).

questions about whether his clemency decisions were grounded in case-specific factors.⁵ Accordingly, Congress has a duty to conduct oversight and investigate whether anyone violated the law or improperly influenced the issuance of a presidential pardon, commutation, or other form of clemency.

According to publicly available information, you were convicted on June 28, 2018, for conspiracy to commit securities fraud and securities fraud.⁶ Your conviction arose from allegations that you sought to defraud a Native American tribal entity through \$60,000,000 in fraudulent bond issuances.⁷ As a result, you were ordered to pay \$43,427,436 in restitution and forfeit \$15,700,513, and serve a term of one year of imprisonment.⁸ On March 25, 2025, President Trump granted you a presidential pardon.⁹ Given these circumstances, we are seeking additional information to better understand the process by which your pardon was pursued and received.

Please provide written responses to the following questions no later than **May 22, 2026**:

1) Initial Clemency Efforts

- When did you first begin pursuing a presidential pardon?
- Did you submit a formal petition to the Department of Justice's Office of the Pardon Attorney?
 - If so, when? If not, why not?

2) Representation and Advocacy

- Did you retain or consult with any attorney, lobbyist, influencer, consultant, or intermediary in connection with your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify each individual or entity, describe the scope of their engagement, and provide a copy of any agreements or contracts related to such services.

3) Contacts with Government Officials

- Did you, or anyone acting on your behalf, communicate with official or unofficial individuals associated with the Trump Administration regarding your request?
 - If so, please identify the individuals involved, the dates of such communications, and the general substance of those discussions.

⁵ Andrew Stanton & Gabe Whisnant, *Donald Trump Discussing Mass Pardons: Report*, NEWSWEEK (Apr. 10, 2026), <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-discusses-mass-pardons-aides-wsj-report-11813455>.

⁶ Press Release, *Three Convicted In Manhattan Federal Court For The Fraudulent Issuance And Sale Of More Than \$60 Million Of Tribal Bonds*, U.S. Att'y's Off., S. Dist. NY. (Jun. 28, 2018), <https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdny/pr/three-convicted-manhattan-federal-court-fraudulent-issuance-and-sale-more-60-million>.

⁷ Press Release, *Devon Archer Sentenced To A Year And A Day In Prison For The Fraudulent Issuance And Sale Of More Than \$60 Million Of Tribal Bonds*, U.S. Att'y's Off., S. Dist. NY. (Feb. 28, 2022), <https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdny/pr/devon-archer-sentenced-year-and-day-prison-fraudulent-issuance-and-sale-more-60-million>.

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Devon Archer* (Mar. 25, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1394976/dl?inline>.

4) Financial Contributions or Payments

- Did you, or any person or entity acting on your behalf, make any political contributions, donations, or payments to:
 - Donald J. Trump or affiliated committees;
 - Organizations connected to or associated with President Trump's administration; or
 - Any intermediary involved in advocating for your pardon?
- If so, please provide details including amounts, dates, recipients, and purpose.

5) Third-Party Advocacy

- Were any third parties (including advocacy groups, public officials, or private individuals) involved in supporting your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify those parties and describe their role.

6) Supporting Materials

- Please provide a copy of any documents, correspondence, invoices, or records related to your clemency application, advocacy efforts, or communications with government officials.

The information you provide will allow Congress to better evaluate whether legislative or Constitutional reforms are necessary to ensure that no President abuses their power to grant executive clemency.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on the
Constitution
U.S. Senate Committee on
the Judiciary



Raul Ruiz, M.D.

Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 7, 2026

Mr. Jason Galanis
c/o Mr. David Touger, Esq.
Peluso & Touger LLP
70 Lafayette St.
New York, NY 10013

Dear Mr. Galanis:

We write regarding President Trump’s decision to grant you a commutation of your sentence, eliminating the \$84,817,513.43 in restitution you were ordered to pay your victims.¹ Congress has a compelling interest in ensuring that this constitutional power is exercised with fairness and transparency. Accordingly, the public reporting surrounding President Trump’s pardons and commutations raises significant concerns, particularly in light of his decision to eliminate hundreds of millions of dollars in restitution and fines — thereby depriving victims of compensation and justice.

Article II, Section 2, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution authorizes the President to “grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.”² Presidents have historically exercised this authority to extend mercy, forgiving past convictions or commuting sentences in appropriate cases. Although broad, this power is not without limit: it applies only to federal offenses, does not extend to state offenses or civil liability, and cannot erase the fact of conviction or disturb legal rights already vested in third parties.³ While the U.S. Supreme Court has characterized executive clemency as “an act of grace” exercised for the “public welfare,” President Trump’s use of this authority appears to depart from this traditional purpose.⁴

Public reporting has raised questions about certain pardons issued by President Donald Trump, including yours. These reports suggest that some individuals may have received favorable consideration from President Trump or his advisors through intermediaries, financial contributions, or other forms of influence. If true, these allegations raise legitimate concerns that improper considerations, including *quid pro quo* or “pay-to-play” dynamics, may have affected the clemency process. This concern is further heightened by reports that President Trump has seriously discussed issuing broad or preemptive pardons to members of his staff, raising additional

¹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Jason Galanis* (Mar. 28, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1395021/dl?inline>; Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep’t of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>.

² U.S. CONST. ART. II, § 2, CL. 1.

³ Additionally, the Supreme Court has held that pardons must be affirmatively accepted and that acceptance implies an acknowledgement of guilt. *Burdick v. United States*, 236 U.S. 79 (1915).

⁴ *Ex parte Garland*, 71 U.S. 333 (1866); *Biddle v. Perovich*, 274 U.S. 480 (1927).

questions about whether his clemency decisions were grounded in case-specific factors.⁵ Accordingly, Congress has a duty to conduct oversight and investigate whether anyone violated the law or improperly influenced the issuance of a presidential pardon, commutation, or other form of clemency.

According to publicly available information, you pleaded guilty on January 31, 2020, of multiple fraud schemes.⁶ Your conviction arose from allegations that you engaged in securities fraud, investment adviser fraud, and conspiracy, including a scheme to defraud a Native American tribal entity of millions of dollars through the issuance of bonds.⁷ Court documents indicate that you used at least \$8,500,000 of fraudulently obtained funds to purchase jewelry, travel, clothing, and entertainment.⁸ As a result, you were ordered to pay \$84,817,513.43 in restitution and forfeit \$80,869,117.10 to the U.S. government, and to serve a term of 189 months of imprisonment.⁹ On March 28, 2025, President Trump commuted your sentence.¹⁰ Following this commutation, you petitioned the Court to return the \$2,000,000 you had previously paid in restitution to your victims, but the Court denied your request.¹¹ Given these reported circumstances, we are seeking additional information to better understand the process by which your commutation was pursued and ultimately obtained.

Please provide written responses to the following questions no later than **May 22, 2026**:

1) Initial Clemency Efforts

- When did you first begin pursuing a presidential commutation?
- Did you submit a formal petition to the Department of Justice's Office of the Pardon Attorney?
 - If so, when? If not, why not?

2) Representation and Advocacy

- Did you retain or consult with any attorney, lobbyist, influencer, consultant, or intermediary in connection with your clemency request?

⁵ Andrew Stanton & Gabe Whisnant, *Donald Trump Discussing Mass Pardons: Report*, NEWSWEEK (Apr. 10, 2026), <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-discusses-mass-pardons-aides-wsj-report-11813455>.

⁶ Press Release, *Jason Galanis Pleads Guilty In Manhattan Federal Court To Multiple Fraudulent Schemes*, U.S. Att'y's Off., S. Dist. NY. (Jan. 31, 2020), <https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdny/pr/jason-galanis-pleads-guilty-manhattan-federal-court-multiple-fraudulent-schemes>.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ Tribal Business News Staff, *Trump commutes sentence of second man convicted in \$60M Oglala Sioux fraud case*, TRIBAL BUSINESS NEWS (Apr. 1, 2025), <https://tribalbusinessnews.com/sections/policy-and-law/15074-trump-commutes-sentence-of-second-man-convicted-in-60m-oglala-sioux-fraud-case>.

⁹ U.S. Att'y's Off., S. Dist. N.Y., *supra* note 6.

¹⁰ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Jason Galanis* (Mar. 28, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1395021/dl?inline>.

¹¹ Lucien Bruggeman, *Trump's pardons have shortchanged fraud victims of millions of dollars in restitution, lawyers say*, ABC NEWS (Jun. 12, 2025), <https://abcnews.com/US/trumps-pardons-shortchanged-fraud-victims-millions-dollars-restitution/story?id=122747969>.

- If so, please identify each individual or entity, describe the scope of their engagement, and provide a copy of any agreements or contracts related to such services.

3) Contacts with Government Officials

- Did you, or anyone acting on your behalf, communicate with official or unofficial individuals associated with the Trump Administration regarding your request?
 - If so, please identify the individuals involved, the dates of such communications, and the general substance of those discussions.

4) Financial Contributions or Payments

- Did you, or any person or entity acting on your behalf, make any political contributions, donations, or payments to:
 - Donald J. Trump or affiliated committees;
 - Organizations connected to or associated with President Trump's administration; or
 - Any intermediary involved in advocating for your commutation?
- If so, please provide details including amounts, dates, recipients, and purpose.

5) Third-Party Advocacy

- Were any third parties (including advocacy groups, public officials, or private individuals) involved in supporting your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify those parties and describe their role.

6) Supporting Materials

- Please provide a copy of any documents, correspondence, invoices, or records related to your clemency application, advocacy efforts, or communications with government officials.

The information you provide will allow Congress to better evaluate whether legislative or Constitutional reforms are necessary to ensure that no President abuses their power to grant executive clemency.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on the
Constitution
U.S. Senate Committee on
the Judiciary



Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 7, 2026

Dear Mr. Joseph Lewis:

We write President Trump’s decision to grant you a full pardon, eliminating the \$5,400,000 in fines and restitution that you were ordered to pay your victims.¹ Congress has a compelling interest in ensuring that this constitutional power is exercised with fairness and transparency. Accordingly, the public reporting surrounding President Trump’s pardons and commutations raises significant concerns, particularly in light of his decision to eliminate hundreds of millions of dollars in restitution and fines — thereby depriving victims of compensation and justice.

Article II, Section 2, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution authorizes the President to “grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.”² Presidents have historically exercised this authority to extend mercy, forgiving past convictions or commuting sentences in appropriate cases. Although broad, this power is not without limit: it applies only to federal offenses, does not extend to state offenses or civil liability, and cannot erase the fact of conviction or disturb legal rights already vested in third parties.³ While the U.S. Supreme Court has characterized executive clemency as “an act of grace” exercised for the “public welfare,” President Trump’s use of this authority appears to depart from this traditional purpose.⁴

Public reporting has raised questions about certain pardons issued by President Donald Trump, including yours. These reports suggest that some individuals may have received favorable consideration from President Trump or his advisors through intermediaries, financial contributions, or other forms of influence. If true, these allegations raise legitimate concerns that improper considerations, including *quid pro quo* or “pay-to-play” dynamics, may have affected the clemency process. This concern is further heightened by reports that President Trump has seriously discussed issuing broad or preemptive pardons to members of his staff, raising additional questions about whether his clemency decisions were grounded in case-specific factors.⁵ Accordingly, Congress has a duty to conduct oversight and investigate whether anyone violated the law or improperly influenced the issuance of a presidential pardon, commutation, or other form of clemency.

¹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Joseph Lewis* (Nov. 12, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1419376/dl?inline>; Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep’t of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>.

² U.S. CONST. ART. II, § 2, CL. 1.

³ Additionally, the Supreme Court has held that pardons must be affirmatively accepted and that acceptance implies an acknowledgement of guilt. *Burdick v. United States*, 236 U.S. 79 (1915).

⁴ *Ex parte Garland*, 71 U.S. 333 (1866); *Biddle v. Perovich*, 274 U.S. 480 (1927).

⁵ Andrew Stanton & Gabe Whisnant, *Donald Trump Discussing Mass Pardons: Report*, NEWSWEEK (Apr. 10, 2026), <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-discusses-mass-pardons-aides-wsj-report-11813455>.

According to publicly available information, you pleaded guilty on January 24, 2024, of securities fraud through insider trading and conspiracy offenses.⁶ Your charges arose from allegations that you received material, non-public information from employees serving as board members on companies you had invested in.⁷ As a result, you were ordered to repay a \$5,000,000 fine and \$400,000 in restitution, and to serve a term of three years' of probation.⁸ On November 12, 2025, President Trump granted you a presidential pardon.⁹ Given these circumstances, we are seeking additional information to better understand the process by which your pardon was pursued and received.

Please provide written responses to the following questions no later than **May 22, 2026**:

1) Initial Clemency Efforts

- When did you first begin pursuing a presidential pardon?
- Did you submit a formal petition to the Department of Justice's Office of the Pardon Attorney?
 - If so, when? If not, why not?

2) Representation and Advocacy

- Did you retain or consult with any attorney, lobbyist, influencer, consultant, or intermediary in connection with your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify each individual or entity, describe the scope of their engagement, and provide a copy of any agreements or contracts related to such services.

3) Contacts with Government Officials

- Did you, or anyone acting on your behalf, communicate with official or unofficial individuals associated with the Trump Administration regarding your request?
 - If so, please identify the individuals involved, the dates of such communications, and the general substance of those discussions.

4) Financial Contributions or Payments

- Did you, or any person or entity acting on your behalf, make any political contributions, donations, or payments to:
 - Donald J. Trump or affiliated committees;
 - Organizations connected to or associated with President Trump's administration; or
 - Any intermediary involved in advocating for your pardon?
- If so, please provide details including amounts, dates, recipients, and purpose.

⁶ Press Release, *British Investor And Billionaire Businessman Joseph Lewis Pleads Guilty To Insider Trading Scheme*, U.S. Att'y's Off., S. Dist. NY. (Jan. 24, 2024), <https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdny/pr/british-investor-and-billionaire-businessman-joseph-lewis-pleads-guilty-insider>.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep't of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>.

⁹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Joseph Lewis* (Nov. 12, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1419376/dl?inline>.

5) **Third-Party Advocacy**

- Were any third parties (including advocacy groups, public officials, or private individuals) involved in supporting your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify those parties and describe their role.

6) **Supporting Materials**

- Please provide a copy of any documents, correspondence, invoices, or records related to your clemency application, advocacy efforts, or communications with government officials.

The information you provide will allow Congress to better evaluate whether legislative or Constitutional reforms are necessary to ensure that no President abuses their power to grant executive clemency.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on the
Constitution
U.S. Senate Committee on
the Judiciary



Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 7, 2026

Mr. Joseph Schwartz
c/o Mr. Kevin H. Marino, Esq.
Marino, Tortorella & Boyle, P.C.
437 Southern Boulevard,
Chatham, New Jersey 07928

Dear Mr. Schwartz:

We write regarding President Trump’s decision to grant you a full pardon, eliminating the \$5,100,000 in restitution and fines you were ordered to pay your victims.¹ Congress has a compelling interest in ensuring that this constitutional power is exercised with fairness and transparency. Accordingly, the public reporting surrounding President Trump’s pardons and commutations raises significant concerns, particularly in light of his decision to eliminate hundreds of millions of dollars in restitution and fines — thereby depriving victims of compensation and justice.

Article II, Section 2, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution authorizes the President to “grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.”² Presidents have historically exercised this authority to extend mercy, forgiving past convictions or commuting sentences in appropriate cases. Although broad, this power is not without limit: it applies only to federal offenses, does not extend to state offenses or civil liability, and cannot erase the fact of conviction or disturb legal rights already vested in third parties.³ While the U.S. Supreme Court has characterized executive clemency as “an act of grace” exercised for the “public welfare,” President Trump’s use of this authority appears to depart from this traditional purpose.⁴

Public reporting has raised questions about certain pardons issued by President Donald Trump, including yours. These reports suggest that some individuals may have received favorable consideration from President Trump or his advisors through intermediaries, financial contributions, or other forms of influence. If true, these allegations raise legitimate concerns that improper considerations, including *quid pro quo* or “pay-to-play” dynamics, may have affected the clemency process. This concern is further heightened by reports that President Trump has seriously discussed issuing broad or preemptive pardons to members of his staff, raising additional

¹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Joseph Schwartz* (Nov. 14, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1418296/dl?inline>; Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep’t of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>.

² U.S. CONST. ART. II, § 2, CL. 1.

³ Additionally, the Supreme Court has held that pardons must be affirmatively accepted and that acceptance implies an acknowledgement of guilt. *Burdick v. United States*, 236 U.S. 79 (1915).

⁴ *Ex parte Garland*, 71 U.S. 333 (1866); *Biddle v. Perovich*, 274 U.S. 480 (1927).

questions about whether his clemency decisions were grounded in case-specific factors.⁵ Accordingly, Congress has a duty to conduct oversight and investigate whether anyone violated the law or improperly influenced the issuance of a presidential pardon, commutation, or other form of clemency.

According to publicly available information, you pleaded guilty on November 18, 2024, of two tax fraud-related offenses.⁶ Your charges arose from allegations that you willfully failed to pay over \$38,000,000 in employment taxes to the Internal Revenue Service and file an annual Form 5500 financial report with the Department of Labor.⁷ As a result, you were ordered to pay a \$5,000,000 in restitution and a \$100,000 fine, and to serve a term of 36 months of imprisonment.⁸ On November 14, 2025, President Trump granted you a presidential pardon, freeing you from prison after only serving three months of confinement.⁹ Public reporting also indicates that you first hired Jack Burkman and Jacob Wohl to lobby on your behalf for executive clemency, spending \$960,000.¹⁰ However, reportedly unhappy with Burkman and Wohl's efforts, you hired Joshua Nass, registered lobbyist from Merkava Strategies Corporation, to "[advocate for] executive clemency and post-conviction relief, including [a] federal presidential pardon".¹¹ After successfully lobbying for your pardon request, Nash was subsequently arrested on March 13, 2026, over extortion charges allegedly against you and your son to pay him \$500,000.¹² Given these circumstances, we are seeking additional information to better understand the process by which your pardon was pursued and received.

Please provide written responses to the following questions no later than **May 22, 2026**:

1) Initial Clemency Efforts

- When did you first begin pursuing a presidential pardon?

⁵ Andrew Stanton & Gabe Whisnant, *Donald Trump Discussing Mass Pardons: Report*, NEWSWEEK (Apr. 10, 2026), <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-discusses-mass-pardons-aides-wsj-report-11813455>.

⁶ Press Release, *Former Owner of Collapsed Nursing Home Empire Admits \$38 Million Tax Fraud Scheme*, U.S. Att'y's Off., S. Dist. NJ. (Nov. 18, 2024), <https://www.justice.gov/usao-nj/pr/former-owner-collapsed-nursing-home-empire-admits-38-million-tax-fraud-scheme>.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ Press Release, *Former Owner of Collapsed Nursing Home Empire Sentenced to 36 Months' Imprisonment For \$38 Million Tax Fraud Scheme*, U.S. Att'y's Off., S. Dist. NJ. (Apr. 17, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/usao-nj/pr/former-owner-collapsed-nursing-home-empire-sentenced-36-months-imprisonment-38-million>.

⁹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Joseph Schwartz* (Nov. 14, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1418296/dl?inline>.

¹⁰ Reporting also indicates that Laura Loomer, a conservative political activist and media personality, also advocated on behalf of your executive clemency bid. Kenneth P. Vogel, *Pardon Industry Offers Rich Offenders a Path to Trump*, N.Y. TIMES (Mar. 6, 2026), <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/03/06/us/politics/schwartz-trump-pardon-industry.html>.

¹¹ Lobbying Report (LD-2), *Merkava Strategies Corp. for Joseph Schwartz*, 2025 Q1 (filed Jan. 15, 2026), <https://lda.gov/filings/public/filing/406720b7-4ce6-4421-8c0c-c6f83d0b2fe0/print/>

¹² Luc Cohen and Marisa Taylor, *Lobbyist for man pardoned by Trump in plea talks on extortion charges*, REUTERS (Apr. 7, 2026), <https://www.reuters.com/legal/government/lobbyist-man-pardoned-by-trump-plea-talks-extortion-charges-2026-04-07/>.

- Did you submit a formal petition to the Department of Justice's Office of the Pardon Attorney?
 - If so, when? If not, why not?
- 2) **Representation and Advocacy**
 - Did you retain or consult with any attorney, lobbyist, influencer, consultant, or intermediary in connection with your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify each individual or entity, describe the scope of their engagement, and provide a copy of any agreements or contracts related to such services.
- 3) **Contacts with Government Officials**
 - Did you, or anyone acting on your behalf, communicate with official or unofficial individuals associated with the Trump Administration regarding your request?
 - If so, please identify the individuals involved, the dates of such communications, and the general substance of those discussions.
- 4) **Financial Contributions or Payments**
 - Did you, or any person or entity acting on your behalf, make any political contributions, donations, or payments to:
 - Donald J. Trump or affiliated committees;
 - Organizations connected to or associated with President Trump's administration; or
 - Any intermediary involved in advocating for your pardon?
 - If so, please provide details including amounts, dates, recipients, and purpose.
- 5) **Third-Party Advocacy**
 - Were any third parties (including advocacy groups, public officials, or private individuals) involved in supporting your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify those parties and describe their role.
- 6) **Supporting Materials**
 - Please provide a copy of any documents, correspondence, invoices, or records related to your clemency application, advocacy efforts, or communications with government officials.

The information you provide will allow Congress to better evaluate whether legislative or Constitutional reforms are necessary to ensure that no President abuses their power to grant executive clemency.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on the
Constitution
U.S. Senate Committee on
the Judiciary



Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 7, 2026

Mr. Changpeng Zhao
c/o Ms. Teresa Goody Guillén, Esq.
Bellementis PLLC
1725 I St. NW
3rd Floor
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Mr. Zhao:

We write regarding President Trump’s decision to grant you a full pardon.¹ Congress has a compelling interest in ensuring that this constitutional power is exercised with fairness and transparency. Accordingly, the public reporting surrounding President Trump’s pardons and commutations raises significant concerns, particularly in light of his decision to eliminate hundreds of millions of dollars in restitution and fines — thereby depriving victims of compensation and justice.

Article II, Section 2, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution authorizes the President to “grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.”² Presidents have historically exercised this authority to extend mercy, forgiving past convictions or commuting sentences in appropriate cases. Although broad, this power is not without limit: it applies only to federal offenses, does not extend to state offenses or civil liability, and cannot erase the fact of conviction or disturb legal rights already vested in third parties.³ While the U.S. Supreme Court has characterized executive clemency as “an act of grace” exercised for the “public welfare,” President Trump’s use of this authority appears to depart from this traditional purpose.⁴

Public reporting has raised questions about certain pardons issued by President Donald Trump, including yours. These reports suggest that some individuals may have received favorable consideration from President Trump or his advisors through intermediaries, financial contributions, or other forms of influence. If true, these allegations raise legitimate concerns that improper considerations, including *quid pro quo* or “pay-to-play” dynamics, may have affected the clemency process. This concern is further heightened by reports that President Trump has seriously discussed issuing broad or preemptive pardons to members of his staff, raising additional

¹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Changpeng Zhao* (Oct. 21, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1416576/dl?inline>; Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep’t of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>.

² U.S. CONST. ART. II, § 2, CL. 1.

³ Additionally, the Supreme Court has held that pardons must be affirmatively accepted and that acceptance implies an acknowledgement of guilt. *Burdick v. United States*, 236 U.S. 79 (1915).

⁴ *Ex parte Garland*, 71 U.S. 333 (1866); *Biddle v. Perovich*, 274 U.S. 480 (1927).

questions about whether his clemency decisions were grounded in case-specific factors.⁵ Accordingly, Congress has a duty to conduct oversight and investigate whether anyone violated the law or improperly influenced the issuance of a presidential pardon, commutation, or other form of clemency.

According to publicly available information, you pleaded guilty on November 21, 2023, of failing to maintain an effective anti-money laundering (AML) program.⁶ The charges arose from allegations that you, in your capacity as Binance's Chief Executive Officer, failed to maintain Binance's AML program, violating the Bank Secrecy Act.⁷ As a result, you were ordered to pay a \$50,000,000 fine to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and to serve a term of four months of imprisonment.⁸ On October 21, 2025, President Trump granted you a presidential pardon.⁹ Public reporting also indicates that you were also represented by Ches McDowell, a lobbyist with Checkmate Government Relations, who met with President Trump about your request for a pardon – a request the President allegedly agreed to grant later that afternoon, officially issuing the pardon the following week.¹⁰ When questioned about your pardon during an interview on CBS News' 60 Minutes, President Trump stated that he had “no idea who he is” in reference to you.¹¹ The implications of this pardon take on greater light when viewed alongside reporting that you and Binance played an important role in brokering a massive investment in the Trump family's crypto business, surging the Trump Stablecoin to a \$2.1 billion valuation.¹² Given these circumstances, we are seeking additional information to better understand the process by which your pardon was pursued and received.

Please provide written responses to the following questions no later than **May 22, 2026**:

1) Initial Clemency Efforts

- When did you first begin pursuing a presidential pardon?
- Did you submit a formal petition to the Department of Justice's Office of the Pardon Attorney?
 - If so, when? If not, why not?

⁵ Andrew Stanton & Gabe Whisnant, *Donald Trump Discussing Mass Pardons: Report*, NEWSWEEK (Apr. 10, 2026), <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-discusses-mass-pardons-aides-wsj-report-11813455>.

⁶ Press Release, *Binance and CEO Plead Guilty to Federal Charges in \$4B Resolution*, U.S. Att'y's Off., Off. of Public Affairs (Nov. 21, 2023), <https://www.justice.gov/archives/opa/pr/binance-and-ceo-plead-guilty-federal-charges-4b-resolution>.

⁷ *Plea Agreement, United States v. Zhao*, No. CR23-179RAJ (W.D. Wash. Nov. 21, 2023), <https://www.justice.gov/archives/opa/media/1326906/dl?inline>.

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Changpeng Zhao* (Oct. 21, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1416576/dl?inline>.

¹⁰ Rebecca Ballhaus, Josh Dawsey, & C. Ryan Barber, *Inside the new fast track to a presidential pardon*, MSN (Dec. 23, 2025), <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/politics/inside-the-new-fast-track-to-a-presidential-pardon/ar-AA1SVKcS?ocid=BingNewsBrowse>.

¹¹ Osmond Chia, *'No idea who he is,' says Trump after pardoning crypto tycoon*, BBC (Nov. 3, 2025), <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cn7ek63e5xyo>.

¹² Angus Berwick, Patricia Kowsmann, & Rebecca Ballhaus, *How a Billionaire Felon Boosted Trump's Crypto Company en Route to a Pardon*, WALL ST. J (Oct. 29, 2025), <https://www.wsj.com/finance/currencies/binance-trump-crypto-pardon-cz-changpeng-zhao-1007fde9>.

2) Representation and Advocacy

- Did you retain or consult with any attorney, lobbyist, influencer, consultant, or intermediary in connection with your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify each individual or entity, describe the scope of their engagement, and provide a copy of any agreements or contracts related to such services.

3) Contacts with Government Officials

- Did you, or anyone acting on your behalf, communicate with official or unofficial individuals associated with the Trump Administration regarding your request?
 - If so, please identify the individuals involved, the dates of such communications, and the general substance of those discussions.

4) Financial Contributions or Payments

- Did you, or any person or entity acting on your behalf, make any political contributions, donations, or payments to:
 - Donald J. Trump or affiliated committees;
 - Organizations connected to or associated with President Trump's administration; or
 - Any intermediary involved in advocating for your pardon?
- If so, please provide details including amounts, dates, recipients, and purpose.

5) Third-Party Advocacy

- Were any third parties (including advocacy groups, public officials, or private individuals) involved in supporting your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify those parties and describe their role.

6) Supporting Materials

- Please provide a copy of any documents, correspondence, invoices, or records related to your clemency application, advocacy efforts, or communications with government officials.

The information you provide will allow Congress to better evaluate whether legislative or Constitutional reforms are necessary to ensure that no President abuses their power to grant executive clemency.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on the
Constitution
U.S. Senate Committee on
the Judiciary



Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 7, 2026

Mr. Andres Enrique Camberos
c/o Mr. Daniel Z. Goldman, Esq.
Bienert Katzman Littrell Williams LLP
903 Calle Amanecer Ste 350
San Clemente, CA 92673

Dear Mr. Camberos:

We write regarding President Trump’s decision to grant you a full pardon, eliminating the \$48,824,415.45 in restitution you were ordered to pay your victims.¹ Congress has a compelling interest in ensuring that this constitutional power is exercised with fairness and transparency. Accordingly, the public reporting surrounding President Trump’s pardons and commutations raises significant concerns, particularly in light of his decision to eliminate hundreds of millions of dollars in restitution and fines — thereby depriving victims of compensation and justice.

Article II, Section 2, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution authorizes the President to “grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.”² Presidents have historically exercised this authority to extend mercy, forgiving past convictions or commuting sentences in appropriate cases. Although broad, this power is not without limit: it applies only to federal offenses, does not extend to state offenses or civil liability, and cannot erase the fact of conviction or disturb legal rights already vested in third parties.³ While the U.S. Supreme Court has characterized executive clemency as “an act of grace” exercised for the “public welfare,” President Trump’s use of this authority appears to depart from this traditional purpose.⁴

Public reporting has raised questions about certain pardons issued by President Donald Trump, including yours. These reports suggest that some individuals may have received favorable consideration from President Trump or his advisors through intermediaries, financial contributions, or other forms of influence. If true, these allegations raise legitimate concerns that improper considerations, including *quid pro quo* or “pay-to-play” dynamics, may have affected the clemency process. This concern is further heightened by reports that President Trump has seriously discussed issuing broad or preemptive pardons to members of his staff, raising additional

¹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Adriana Isabel Camberos & Andres Enrique Camberos* (Jan. 15, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1424186/dl?inline>; Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep’t of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>.

² U.S. CONST. ART. II, § 2, CL. 1.

³ Additionally, the Supreme Court has held that pardons must be affirmatively accepted and that acceptance implies an acknowledgement of guilt. *Burdick v. United States*, 236 U.S. 79 (1915).

⁴ *Ex parte Garland*, 71 U.S. 333 (1866); *Biddle v. Perovich*, 274 U.S. 480 (1927).

questions about whether his clemency decisions were grounded in case-specific factors.⁵ Accordingly, Congress has a duty to conduct oversight and investigate whether anyone violated the law or improperly influenced the issuance of a presidential pardon, commutation, or other form of clemency.

According to publicly available information, you were convicted of several fraud offenses, including conspiracy to commit wire and mail fraud, on October 25, 2024.⁶ Your conviction arose from allegations that you obtained goods from manufacturers under false pretenses and resold them for profit to U.S. companies rather than to Mexican companies or to rehabilitation facilities as represented.⁷ As a result, you were ordered to pay \$48,824,415.45 in restitution and serve a term of three years of probation.⁸ On January 15, 2026, President Trump granted you a presidential pardon.⁹ Public reporting also indicates that you were represented by former White House counsel Stefan C. Passantino and former Rudolph W. Giuliani attorney Adam Katz in your effort to secure a pardon.¹⁰ Given these circumstances, we are seeking additional information to better understand the process by which your pardon was pursued and received.

Please provide written responses to the following questions no later than **May 22, 2026**:

1) Initial Clemency Efforts

- When did you first begin pursuing a presidential pardon?
- Did you submit a formal petition to the Department of Justice's Office of the Pardon Attorney?
 - If so, when? If not, why not?

2) Representation and Advocacy

- Did you retain or consult with any attorney, lobbyist, influencer, consultant, or intermediary in connection with your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify each individual or entity, describe the scope of their engagement, and provide a copy of any agreements or contracts related to such services.

3) Contacts with Government Officials

⁵ Andrew Stanton & Gabe Whisnant, *Donald Trump Discussing Mass Pardons: Report*, NEWSWEEK (Apr. 10, 2026), <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-discusses-mass-pardons-aides-wsj-report-11813455>.

⁶ Press Release, *Federal Jury Convicts Siblings of Fraud; Defendants Made Tens of Millions of Dollars from Lying to Manufacturers in Years-Long Scheme*, U.S. Att'y's Off., S. Dist. Cal. (Nov. 13, 2024), <https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdca/pr/federal-jury-convicts-siblings-fraud-defendants-made-tens-millions-dollars-lying-0>.

⁷ Will Weissert, *Trump issues a flurry of pardons, including for a woman whose sentence he commuted in his first term*, AP NEWS (Jan. 16, 2026), <https://apnews.com/article/trump-pardons-donor-twice-convicted-fraud-99263a04b8a60ce8c081b9c5feaffd2e>.

⁸ Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep't of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>.

⁹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Adriana Isabel Camberos & Andres Enrique Camberos* (Jan. 15, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1424186/dl?inline>.

¹⁰ Kenneth P. Vogel & Susanne Craig, *Trump Sets Fraudster Free From Prison for a Second Time*, NY TIMES (Jan. 16, 2026), <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/01/16/us/politics/trump-fraudster-pardon.html>.

- Did you, or anyone acting on your behalf, communicate with official or unofficial individuals associated with the Trump Administration regarding your request?
 - If so, please identify the individuals involved, the dates of such communications, and the general substance of those discussions.

4) Financial Contributions or Payments

- Did you, or any person or entity acting on your behalf, make any political contributions, donations, or payments to:
 - Donald J. Trump or affiliated committees;
 - Organizations connected to or associated with President Trump's administration; or
 - Any intermediary involved in advocating for your pardon?
- If so, please provide details including amounts, dates, recipients, and purpose.

5) Third-Party Advocacy

- Were any third parties (including advocacy groups, public officials, or private individuals) involved in supporting your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify those parties and describe their role.

6) Supporting Materials

- Please provide a copy of any documents, correspondence, invoices, or records related to your clemency application, advocacy efforts, or communications with government officials.

The information you provide will allow Congress to better evaluate whether legislative or Constitutional reforms are necessary to ensure that no President abuses their power to grant executive clemency.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on the
Constitution
U.S. Senate Committee on
the Judiciary



Raul Ruiz, M.D.

Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 7, 2026

Mr. Imaad Shah Zuberi
c/o Mr. Robert Joseph Eatinger, Jr., Esq.
Robert J. Eatinger, Jr. PLLC
12190 Abington Hall Place
Ste Unit 208
Reston, VA 20190

Dear Mr. Zuberi:

We write regarding President Trump’s decision to grant you a commutation of your sentence, eliminating the \$15,705,080.11 in restitution were ordered to pay your victims.¹ Congress has a compelling interest in ensuring that this constitutional power is exercised with fairness and transparency. Accordingly, the public reporting surrounding President Trump’s pardons and commutations raises significant concerns, particularly in light of his decision to eliminate hundreds of millions of dollars in restitution and fines — thereby depriving victims of compensation and justice.

Article II, Section 2, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution authorizes the President to “grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.”² Presidents have historically exercised this authority to extend mercy, forgiving past convictions or commuting sentences in appropriate cases. Although broad, this power is not without limit: it applies only to federal offenses, does not extend to state offenses or civil liability, and cannot erase the fact of conviction or disturb legal rights already vested in third parties.³ While the U.S. Supreme Court has characterized executive clemency as “an act of grace” exercised for the “public welfare,” President Trump’s use of this authority appears to depart from this traditional purpose.⁴

Public reporting has raised questions about certain pardons issued by President Donald Trump, including yours. These reports suggest that some individuals may have received favorable consideration from President Trump or his advisors through intermediaries, financial contributions, or other forms of influence. If true, these allegations raise legitimate concerns that improper considerations, including *quid pro quo* or “pay-to-play” dynamics, may have affected the clemency process. This concern is further heightened by reports that President Trump has seriously discussed issuing broad or preemptive pardons to members of his staff, raising additional

¹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Imaad Zuberi* (May 28, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1402011/dl?inline>; Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep’t of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>.

² U.S. CONST. ART. II, § 2, CL. 1.

³ Additionally, the Supreme Court has held that pardons must be affirmatively accepted and that acceptance implies an acknowledgement of guilt. *Burdick v. United States*, 236 U.S. 79 (1915).

⁴ *Ex parte Garland*, 71 U.S. 333 (1866); *Biddle v. Perovich*, 274 U.S. 480 (1927).

questions about whether his clemency decisions were grounded in case-specific factors.⁵ Accordingly, Congress has a duty to conduct oversight and investigate whether anyone violated the law or improperly influenced the issuance of a presidential pardon, commutation, or other form of clemency.

According to publicly available information, you pleaded guilty in November 2019 of violating the Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA), tax evasion, and making illegal campaign contributions and in June 2020 for one count of obstruction of justice.⁶ Your charges arose from allegations that you flouted FARA, using your status as an unregistered foreign agent to fund illegal campaign contributions and then destroying evidence and obstructing justice after learning that you were under investigation.⁷ As a result, you were ordered to pay \$15,705,080 in restitution and a criminal fine of \$1,750,000, and to serve a term of 12 years of imprisonment.⁸ On May 28, 2025, President Trump commuted your sentence.⁹ Public reporting concerning your commutation further indicates that you were represented by attorney David Warrington, President Trump's White House Counsel.¹⁰ Given these circumstances, we are seeking additional information to better understand the process by which your commutation was pursued and received.

Please provide written responses to the following questions no later than **May 22, 2026**:

1) Initial Clemency Efforts

- When did you first begin pursuing a presidential commutation?
- Did you submit a formal petition to the Department of Justice's Office of the Pardon Attorney?
 - If so, when? If not, why not?

2) Representation and Advocacy

- Did you retain or consult with any attorney, lobbyist, influencer, consultant, or intermediary in connection with your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify each individual or entity, describe the scope of their engagement, and provide a copy of any agreements or contracts related to such services.

3) Contacts with Government Officials

⁵ Andrew Stanton & Gabe Whisnant, *Donald Trump Discussing Mass Pardons: Report*, NEWSWEEK (Apr. 10, 2026), <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-discusses-mass-pardons-aides-wsj-report-11813455>.

⁶ Press Release, *Political Donor Sentenced to 12 Years in Prison for Lobbying and Campaign Contribution Crimes, Tax Evasion, and Obstruction of Justice*, U.S. Att'y's Off., Off. of Pub. Affairs (Feb. 18, 2021), <https://www.justice.gov/archives/opa/pr/political-donor-sentenced-12-years-prison-lobbying-and-campaign-contribution-crimes-tax>.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ President Trump amended the initial May 28, 2025, commutation to also cover an Obstruction of Justice charge on October 1, 2025. Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Imaad Zuberi* (May 28, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1402011/dl?inline>; Executive Grant of Clemency (amended), *Donald J. Trump to Imaad Zuberi* (Oct. 1, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1415926/dl?inline>.

¹⁰ *Notice of Appearance of David A. Warrington, United States v. Zuberi*, No. 21-50048 (9th Cir. Mar. 29, 2021).

- Did you, or anyone acting on your behalf, communicate with official or unofficial individuals associated with the Trump Administration regarding your request?
 - If so, please identify the individuals involved, the dates of such communications, and the general substance of those discussions.

4) Financial Contributions or Payments

- Did you, or any person or entity acting on your behalf, make any political contributions, donations, or payments to:
 - Donald J. Trump or affiliated committees;
 - Organizations connected to or associated with President Trump's administration; or
 - Any intermediary involved in advocating for your commutation?
- If so, please provide details including amounts, dates, recipients, and purpose.

5) Third-Party Advocacy

- Were any third parties (including advocacy groups, public officials, or private individuals) involved in supporting your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify those parties and describe their role.

6) Supporting Materials

- Please provide a copy of any documents, correspondence, invoices, or records related to your clemency application, advocacy efforts, or communications with government officials.

The information you provide will allow Congress to better evaluate whether legislative or Constitutional reforms are necessary to ensure that no President abuses their power to grant executive clemency.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on the
Constitution
U.S. Senate Committee on
the Judiciary



Raul Ruiz, M.D.

Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 7, 2026

Mr. Timothy J. Leiweke
c/o Mr. David B. Gerger
Gerger Hennessy Martin & Peterson, LLP
700 Louisiana St.
Suite 2300
Houston, Texas 77002

Dear Mr. Leiweke:

We write regarding President Trump’s decision to grant you a full pardon.¹ Congress has a compelling interest in ensuring that this constitutional power is exercised with fairness and transparency. Accordingly, the public reporting surrounding President Trump’s pardons and commutations raises significant concerns, particularly in light of his decision to eliminate hundreds of millions of dollars in restitution and fines — thereby depriving victims of compensation and justice.

Article II, Section 2, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution authorizes the President to “grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.”² Presidents have historically exercised this authority to extend mercy, forgiving past convictions or commuting sentences in appropriate cases. Although broad, this power is not without limit: it applies only to federal offenses, does not extend to state offenses or civil liability, and cannot erase the fact of conviction or disturb legal rights already vested in third parties.³ While the U.S. Supreme Court has characterized executive clemency as “an act of grace” exercised for the “public welfare,” President Trump’s use of this authority appears to depart from this traditional purpose.⁴

Public reporting has raised questions about certain pardons issued by President Donald Trump, including yours. These reports suggest that some individuals may have received favorable consideration from President Trump or his advisors through intermediaries, financial contributions, or other forms of influence. If true, these allegations raise legitimate concerns that improper considerations, including *quid pro quo* or “pay-to-play” dynamics, may have affected the clemency process. This concern is further heightened by reports that President Trump has seriously discussed issuing broad or preemptive pardons to members of his staff, raising additional

¹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Timothy Joseph Leiweke* (Dec. 2, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1419981/dl?inline>; Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep’t of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>.

² U.S. CONST. ART. II, § 2, CL. 1.

³ Additionally, the Supreme Court has held that pardons must be affirmatively accepted and that acceptance implies an acknowledgement of guilt. *Burdick v. United States*, 236 U.S. 79 (1915).

⁴ *Ex parte Garland*, 71 U.S. 333 (1866); *Biddle v. Perovich*, 274 U.S. 480 (1927).

questions about whether his clemency decisions were grounded in case-specific factors.⁵ Accordingly, Congress has a duty to conduct oversight and investigate whether anyone violated the law or improperly influenced the issuance of a presidential pardon, commutation, or other form of clemency.

According to publicly available information, you were indicted by a federal grand jury on July 9, 2025, of conspiracy.⁶ Your indictment arose from allegations that you conspired to restrain trade by rigging the bidding process for an arena at a public university in Austin, Texas.⁷ This charge carried with it a potential maximum 10 years in prison and million dollar fine.⁸ On December 2, 2025, President Trump granted you a presidential pardon.⁹ Public reporting also indicates that you were represented by former U.S. Representative Trey Gowdy, who successfully lobbied on your behalf to President Trump for a pardon over a round of golf.¹⁰ Given these circumstances, we are seeking additional information to better understand the process by which your pardon was pursued and received.

Please provide written responses to the following questions no later than **May 22, 2026**:

1) Initial Clemency Efforts

- When did you first begin pursuing a presidential pardon?
- Did you submit a formal petition to the Department of Justice's Office of the Pardon Attorney?
 - If so, when? If not, why not?

2) Representation and Advocacy

- Did you retain or consult with any attorney, lobbyist, influencer, consultant, or intermediary in connection with your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify each individual or entity, describe the scope of their engagement, and provide a copy of any agreements or contracts related to such services.

3) Contacts with Government Officials

⁵ Andrew Stanton & Gabe Whisnant, *Donald Trump Discussing Mass Pardons: Report*, NEWSWEEK (Apr. 10, 2026), <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-discusses-mass-pardons-aides-wsj-report-11813455>.

⁶ Press Release, *Live Entertainment CEO Indicted for Orchestrating Conspiracy to Rig Bidding Process for Public University Arena*, U.S. Att'y's Off., Off. of Pub. Affairs (Jul. 9, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/live-entertainment-ceo-indicted-orchestrating-conspiracy-rig-bidding-process-public>.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ Samantha Waldenburg & Kaitlan Collins, *Trump pardons former top entertainment executive who was charged by his own Justice Department*, CNN POLITICS (Dec. 3, 2025), <https://www.cnn.com/2025/12/03/politics/tim-leiweke-pardon-trump>.

⁹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Timothy Joseph Leiweke* (Dec. 2, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1419981/dl?inline>.

¹⁰ Erin Keller, *Trump was persuaded into pardoning golf partner's client over 18 holes: Report*, INDEPENDENT (Dec. 6, 2025), <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/trump-timothy-leiweke-pardon-golf-b2879459.html>.

- Did you, or anyone acting on your behalf, communicate with official or unofficial individuals associated with the Trump Administration regarding your request?
 - If so, please identify the individuals involved, the dates of such communications, and the general substance of those discussions.

4) Financial Contributions or Payments

- Did you, or any person or entity acting on your behalf, make any political contributions, donations, or payments to:
 - Donald J. Trump or affiliated committees;
 - Organizations connected to or associated with President Trump's administration; or
 - Any intermediary involved in advocating for your pardon?
- If so, please provide details including amounts, dates, recipients, and purpose.

5) Third-Party Advocacy

- Were any third parties (including advocacy groups, public officials, or private individuals) involved in supporting your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify those parties and describe their role.

6) Supporting Materials

- Please provide a copy of any documents, correspondence, invoices, or records related to your clemency application, advocacy efforts, or communications with government officials.

The information you provide will allow Congress to better evaluate whether legislative or Constitutional reforms are necessary to ensure that no President abuses their power to grant executive clemency.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on the
Constitution
U.S. Senate Committee on
the Judiciary



Raul Ruiz, M.D.

Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 7, 2026

Mr. Todd Chrisley
c/o Mr. Jay Surgent, Esq.
Weiner Law Group, LLC
629 Parsippany Road
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Dear Mr. Chrisley:

We write regarding President Trump’s decision to grant you a full pardon, eliminating the \$17,270,741.57 in restitution you were ordered to pay your victims.¹ Congress has a compelling interest in ensuring that this constitutional power is exercised with fairness and transparency. Accordingly, the public reporting surrounding President Trump’s pardons and commutations raises significant concerns, particularly in light of his decision to eliminate hundreds of millions of dollars in restitution and fines — thereby depriving victims of compensation and justice.

Article II, Section 2, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution authorizes the President to “grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.”² Presidents have historically exercised this authority to extend mercy, forgiving past convictions or commuting sentences in appropriate cases. Although broad, this power is not without limit: it applies only to federal offenses, does not extend to state offenses or civil liability, and cannot erase the fact of conviction or disturb legal rights already vested in third parties.³ While the U.S. Supreme Court has characterized executive clemency as “an act of grace” exercised for the “public welfare,” President Trump’s use of this authority appears to depart from this traditional purpose.⁴

Public reporting has raised questions about certain pardons issued by President Donald Trump, including yours. These reports suggest that some individuals may have received favorable consideration from President Trump or his advisors through intermediaries, financial contributions, or other forms of influence. If true, these allegations raise legitimate concerns that improper considerations, including *quid pro quo* or “pay-to-play” dynamics, may have affected the clemency process. This concern is further heightened by reports that President Trump has seriously discussed issuing broad or preemptive pardons to members of his staff, raising additional questions about whether his clemency decisions were grounded in case-specific factors.⁵ Accordingly, Congress has a duty to conduct oversight and investigate whether anyone violated

¹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Todd Chrisley* (May 28, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1401921/dl?inline>; Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep’t of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>.

² U.S. CONST. ART. II, § 2, CL. 1.

³ Additionally, the Supreme Court has held that pardons must be affirmatively accepted and that acceptance implies an acknowledgement of guilt. *Burdick v. United States*, 236 U.S. 79 (1915).

⁴ *Ex parte Garland*, 71 U.S. 333 (1866); *Biddle v. Perovich*, 274 U.S. 480 (1927).

the law or improperly influenced the issuance of a presidential pardon, commutation, or other form of clemency.

According to publicly available information, you were convicted on June 7, 2022, of bank fraud and tax evasion.⁶ Your conviction arose from allegations that you and your wife, Julie Chrisley, engaged in a scheme to defraud community banks out of \$30,000,000 and evade federal taxes.⁷ As a result, you were ordered to pay \$17,270,741.57 in restitution and to serve a term of 144 months of imprisonment.⁸ On May 28, 2025, President Trump granted you a presidential pardon.⁹ Public reporting also indicates that Brett Tolman, a frequent “go-to” for pardon assistance, aided your bid for executive clemency.¹⁰ Your daughter, Savannah Chrisley, previously supported President Trump—delivering a speech at the 2024 Republican National Convention—which may have also helped your case.¹¹ During the call notifying your daughter of the clemency decision, President Trump reportedly upgraded what was initially a commutation to a full pardon.¹² One month later, Lara Trump aired an interview with your daughter following the grant of clemency.¹³ Given these circumstances, we are seeking additional information to better understand the process by which your pardon was pursued and received.

Please provide written responses to the following questions no later than **May 22, 2026**:

1) **Initial Clemency Efforts**

- When did you first begin pursuing a presidential pardon?
- Did you submit a formal petition to the Department of Justice’s Office of the Pardon Attorney?
 - If so, when? If not, why not?

⁵ Andrew Stanton & Gabe Whisnant, *Donald Trump Discussing Mass Pardons: Report*, NEWSWEEK (Apr. 10, 2026), <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-discusses-mass-pardons-aides-wsj-report-11813455>.

⁶ Press Release, *Reality TV stars convicted of fraud and tax evasion*, U.S. Att’y’s Off., N. Dist. GA. (Jun. 7, 2022), <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndga/pr/reality-tv-stars-convicted-fraud-and-tax-evasion>.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ Press Release, *Television personalities sentenced to years in federal prison for fraud and tax evasion*, U.S. Att’y’s Off., N. Dist. GA. (Nov. 13, 2024), <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndga/pr/television-personalities-sentenced-years-federal-prison-fraud-and-tax-evasion>; Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep’t of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>.

⁹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Todd Chrisley* (May 28, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1401921/dl?inline>

¹⁰ Matt Dixon, Ryan J. Reilly, Peter Nicholas, & Katherine Doyle, *Trump pardons drive a big, burgeoning business for lobbyists*, NBC NEWS (May 31, 2025), <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/donald-trump/trump-pardons-drive-big-burgeoning-business-lobbyists-rcna209801>.

¹¹ PBS NewsHour, *WATCH: Savannah Chrisley Speaks at 2024 Republican National Convention*, YOUTUBE (July 16, 2024), <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KdMxsXAFpeU>.

¹² Stephanie Wenger & Dory Jackson, *Savannah Chrisley Was 'Sobbing' When Trump Won 2024 Election Since Her Family 'Knew That Was Our Only Way' to Get Parents Released*, PEOPLE (Jun. 28, 2025), <https://people.com/savannah-chrisley-says-trump-winning-2024-election-was-parents-only-way-out-of-prison-11762343>.

¹³ *Ibid.*

2) Representation and Advocacy

- Did you retain or consult with any attorney, lobbyist, influencer, consultant, or intermediary in connection with your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify each individual or entity, describe the scope of their engagement, and provide a copy of any agreements or contracts related to such services.

3) Contacts with Government Officials

- Did you, or anyone acting on your behalf, communicate with official or unofficial individuals associated with the Trump Administration regarding your request?
 - If so, please identify the individuals involved, the dates of such communications, and the general substance of those discussions.

4) Financial Contributions or Payments

- Did you, or any person or entity acting on your behalf, make any political contributions, donations, or payments to:
 - Donald J. Trump or affiliated committees;
 - Organizations connected to or associated with President Trump's administration; or
 - Any intermediary involved in advocating for your pardon?
- If so, please provide details including amounts, dates, recipients, and purpose.

5) Third-Party Advocacy

- Were any third parties (including advocacy groups, public officials, or private individuals) involved in supporting your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify those parties and describe their role.

6) Supporting Materials

- Please provide a copy of any documents, correspondence, invoices, or records related to your clemency application, advocacy efforts, or communications with government officials.

The information you provide will allow Congress to better evaluate whether legislative or Constitutional reforms are necessary to ensure that no President abuses their power to grant executive clemency.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on the
Constitution
U.S. Senate Committee on
the Judiciary



Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 7, 2026

Dear Ms. Marian I. Morgan:

We write regarding President Trump’s decision to grant you a commutation of your sentence, eliminating the \$19,958,995 in restitution you were ordered to pay your victims.¹ Congress has a compelling interest in ensuring that this constitutional power is exercised with fairness and transparency. Accordingly, the public reporting surrounding President Trump’s pardons and commutations raises significant concerns, particularly in light of his decision to eliminate hundreds of millions of dollars in restitution and fines — thereby depriving victims of compensation and justice.

Article II, Section 2, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution authorizes the President to “grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.”² Presidents have historically exercised this authority to extend mercy, forgiving past convictions or commuting sentences in appropriate cases. Although broad, this power is not without limit: it applies only to federal offenses, does not extend to state offenses or civil liability, and cannot erase the fact of conviction or disturb legal rights already vested in third parties.³ While the U.S. Supreme Court has characterized executive clemency as “an act of grace” exercised for the “public welfare,” President Trump’s use of this authority appears to depart from this traditional purpose.⁴

Public reporting has raised questions about certain pardons issued by President Donald Trump, including yours. These reports suggest that some individuals may have received favorable consideration from President Trump or his advisors through intermediaries, financial contributions, or other forms of influence. If true, these allegations raise legitimate concerns that improper considerations, including *quid pro quo* or “pay-to-play” dynamics, may have affected the clemency process. This concern is further heightened by reports that President Trump has seriously discussed issuing broad or preemptive pardons to members of his staff, raising additional questions about whether his clemency decisions were grounded in case-specific factors.⁵ Accordingly, Congress has a duty to conduct oversight and investigate whether anyone violated the law or improperly influenced the issuance of a presidential pardon, commutation, or other form of clemency.

¹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Mariam Morgan* (May. 28, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1402051/dl?inline>; Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep’t of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>.

² U.S. CONST. ART. II, § 2, CL. 1.

³ Additionally, the Supreme Court has held that pardons must be affirmatively accepted and that acceptance implies an acknowledgement of guilt. *Burdick v. United States*, 236 U.S. 79 (1915).

⁴ *Ex parte Garland*, 71 U.S. 333 (1866); *Biddle v. Perovich*, 274 U.S. 480 (1927).

⁵ Andrew Stanton & Gabe Whisnant, *Donald Trump Discussing Mass Pardons: Report*, NEWSWEEK (Apr. 10, 2026), <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-discusses-mass-pardons-aides-wsj-report-11813455>.

According to publicly available information, you were convicted on September 29, 2011, of several offenses, including wire fraud, money laundering, and filing false tax returns.⁶ Your conviction arose from allegations that you and your husband, John Morgan, misappropriated over \$10,000,000 in investor funds in a Ponzi scheme through your company Morgan European Holdings.⁷ As a result, you were ordered to pay \$19,958,995.00 in restitution and to serve a term of 405 months of imprisonment.⁸ On May 28, 2025, President Trump commuted your sentence.⁹ Given these circumstances, we are seeking additional information to better understand the process by which your commutation was pursued and received.

Please provide written responses to the following questions no later than **May 22, 2026**:

1) Initial Clemency Efforts

- When did you first begin pursuing a presidential commutation?
- Did you submit a formal petition to the Department of Justice's Office of the Pardon Attorney?
 - If so, when? If not, why not?

2) Representation and Advocacy

- Did you retain or consult with any attorney, lobbyist, influencer, consultant, or intermediary in connection with your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify each individual or entity, describe the scope of their engagement, and provide a copy of any agreements or contracts related to such services.

3) Contacts with Government Officials

- Did you, or anyone acting on your behalf, communicate with official or unofficial individuals associated with the Trump Administration regarding your request?
 - If so, please identify the individuals involved, the dates of such communications, and the general substance of those discussions.

4) Financial Contributions or Payments

- Did you, or any person or entity acting on your behalf, make any political contributions, donations, or payments to:
 - Donald J. Trump or affiliated committees;
 - Organizations connected to or associated with President Trump's administration; or
 - Any intermediary involved in advocating for your commutation?
- If so, please provide details including amounts, dates, recipients, and purpose.

⁶ Press Release, *Orlando Woman Sentenced To 15 Months' imprisonment For Social Security Fraud*, U.S. Att'y's Off., M. Dist. FL. (Dec. 18, 2013), <https://www.justice.gov/usao-mdfl/pr/orlando-woman-sentenced-15-months-imprisonment-social-security-fraud>.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Mariam Morgan* (May. 28, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1402051/dl?inline>.

5) **Third-Party Advocacy**

- Were any third parties (including advocacy groups, public officials, or private individuals) involved in supporting your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify those parties and describe their role.

6) **Supporting Materials**

- Please provide a copy of any documents, correspondence, invoices, or records related to your clemency application, advocacy efforts, or communications with government officials.

The information you provide will allow Congress to better evaluate whether legislative or Constitutional reforms are necessary to ensure that no President abuses their power to grant executive clemency.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on the
Constitution
U.S. Senate Committee on
the Judiciary



Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 7, 2026

Mr. Lawrence S. Duran
c/o Mr. Richard C Klugh Jr., Esq.
Richard C. Klugh, P.A.
40 N.W. Third Street, PH1
Miami, FL 33128

Dear Mr. Duran:

We write regarding President Trump’s decision to grant you a commutation of your sentence, eliminating the \$87,533,863.46 in restitution you were ordered to pay your victims.¹ Congress has a compelling interest in ensuring that this constitutional power is exercised with fairness and transparency. Accordingly, the public reporting surrounding President Trump’s pardons and commutations raises significant concerns, particularly in light of his decision to eliminate hundreds of millions of dollars in restitution and fines — thereby depriving victims of compensation and justice.

Article II, Section 2, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution authorizes the President to “grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.”² Presidents have historically exercised this authority to extend mercy, forgiving past convictions or commuting sentences in appropriate cases. Although broad, this power is not without limit: it applies only to federal offenses, does not extend to state offenses or civil liability, and cannot erase the fact of conviction or disturb legal rights already vested in third parties.³ While the U.S. Supreme Court has characterized executive clemency as “an act of grace” exercised for the “public welfare,” President Trump’s use of this authority appears to depart from this traditional purpose.⁴

Public reporting has raised questions about certain pardons issued by President Donald Trump, including yours. These reports suggest that some individuals may have received favorable consideration from President Trump or his advisors through intermediaries, financial contributions, or other forms of influence. If true, these allegations raise legitimate concerns that improper considerations, including *quid pro quo* or “pay-to-play” dynamics, may have affected the clemency process. This concern is further heightened by reports that President Trump has seriously discussed issuing broad or preemptive pardons to members of his staff, raising additional

¹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Lawrence Duran* (May. 28, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1402041/dl?inline>; Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep’t of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>.

² U.S. CONST. ART. II, § 2, CL. 1.

³ Additionally, the Supreme Court has held that pardons must be affirmatively accepted and that acceptance implies an acknowledgement of guilt. *Burdick v. United States*, 236 U.S. 79 (1915).

⁴ *Ex parte Garland*, 71 U.S. 333 (1866); *Biddle v. Perovich*, 274 U.S. 480 (1927).

questions about whether his clemency decisions were grounded in case-specific factors.⁵ Accordingly, Congress has a duty to conduct oversight and investigate whether anyone violated the law or improperly influenced the issuance of a presidential pardon, commutation, or other form of clemency.

According to publicly available information, you pleaded guilty in April 2011 of orchestrating a \$205,000,000 Medicare fraud scheme.⁶ Your charges arose from allegations that you and Marianella Valera, the former co-owners of American Therapeutic Corporation, conspired to commit a massive Medicare fraud scheme, receive illegal healthcare kickbacks, and engage in money laundering to wash the fraudulently obtained funds.⁷ As a result, you were ordered to pay \$87,533,863.46 in restitution and to serve a term of 50 years of imprisonment.⁸ On May 28, 2025, President Trump commuted your sentence.⁹ Given these circumstances, we are seeking additional information to better understand the process by which your commutation was pursued and received.

Please provide written responses to the following questions no later than **May 22, 2026**:

1) Initial Clemency Efforts

- When did you first begin pursuing a presidential commutation?
- Did you submit a formal petition to the Department of Justice's Office of the Pardon Attorney?
 - If so, when? If not, why not?

2) Representation and Advocacy

- Did you retain or consult with any attorney, lobbyist, influencer, consultant, or intermediary in connection with your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify each individual or entity, describe the scope of their engagement, and provide a copy of any agreements or contracts related to such services.

3) Contacts with Government Officials

- Did you, or anyone acting on your behalf, communicate with official or unofficial individuals associated with the Trump Administration regarding your request?
 - If so, please identify the individuals involved, the dates of such communications, and the general substance of those discussions.

⁵ Andrew Stanton & Gabe Whisnant, *Donald Trump Discussing Mass Pardons: Report*, NEWSWEEK (Apr. 10, 2026), <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-discusses-mass-pardons-aides-wsj-report-11813455>.

⁶ Press Release, *Owner of Miami-Area Mental Health Company Sentenced to 50 Years in Prison for Orchestrating \$205 Million Medicare Fraud Scheme*, U.S. Att'y's Off., Off. Of Pub. Affairs. (Sept. 16, 2011), <https://www.justice.gov/archives/opa/pr/owner-miami-area-mental-health-company-sentenced-50-years-prison-orchestrating-205-million>.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Lawrence Duran* (May. 28, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1402041/dl?inline>

4) **Financial Contributions or Payments**

- Did you, or any person or entity acting on your behalf, make any political contributions, donations, or payments to:
 - Donald J. Trump or affiliated committees;
 - Organizations connected to or associated with President Trump's administration; or
 - Any intermediary involved in advocating for your commutation?
- If so, please provide details including amounts, dates, recipients, and purpose.

5) **Third-Party Advocacy**

- Were any third parties (including advocacy groups, public officials, or private individuals) involved in supporting your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify those parties and describe their role.

6) **Supporting Materials**

- Please provide a copy of any documents, correspondence, invoices, or records related to your clemency application, advocacy efforts, or communications with government officials.

The information you provide will allow Congress to better evaluate whether legislative or Constitutional reforms are necessary to ensure that no President abuses their power to grant executive clemency.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on the
Constitution
U.S. Senate Committee on
the Judiciary



Raul Ruiz, M.D.

Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 7, 2026

Mr. Paul Walczak
c/o Mr. Nicholas G. Kaizer, Esq.
Levitt & Kaizer, Attorneys at Law
40 Fulton St.
17th Floor
New York, NY 10038

Dear Mr. Walczak:

We write regarding President Trump’s decision to grant you a full pardon, eliminating the \$4,381,265.76 in restitution you were ordered to pay your victims.¹ Congress has a compelling interest in ensuring that this constitutional power is exercised with fairness and transparency. Accordingly, the public reporting surrounding President Trump’s pardons and commutations raises significant concerns, particularly in light of his decision to eliminate hundreds of millions of dollars in restitution and fines — thereby depriving victims of compensation and justice.

Article II, Section 2, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution authorizes the President to “grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.”² Presidents have historically exercised this authority to extend mercy, forgiving past convictions or commuting sentences in appropriate cases. Although broad, this power is not without limit: it applies only to federal offenses, does not extend to state offenses or civil liability, and cannot erase the fact of conviction or disturb legal rights already vested in third parties.³ While the U.S. Supreme Court has characterized executive clemency as “an act of grace” exercised for the “public welfare,” President Trump’s use of this authority appears to depart from this traditional purpose.⁴

Public reporting has raised questions about certain pardons issued by President Donald Trump, including yours. These reports suggest that some individuals may have received favorable consideration from President Trump or his advisors through intermediaries, financial contributions, or other forms of influence. If true, these allegations raise legitimate concerns that improper considerations, including *quid pro quo* or “pay-to-play” dynamics, may have affected the clemency process. This concern is further heightened by reports that President Trump has seriously discussed issuing broad or preemptive pardons to members of his staff, raising additional

¹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Paul Walczak* (Apr. 23, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1397931/dl?inline>; Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep’t of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>.

² U.S. CONST. ART. II, § 2, CL. 1.

³ Additionally, the Supreme Court has held that pardons must be affirmatively accepted and that acceptance implies an acknowledgement of guilt. *Burdick v. United States*, 236 U.S. 79 (1915).

⁴ *Ex parte Garland*, 71 U.S. 333 (1866); *Biddle v. Perovich*, 274 U.S. 480 (1927).

questions about whether his clemency decisions were grounded in case-specific factors.⁵ Accordingly, Congress has a duty to conduct oversight and investigate whether anyone violated the law or improperly influenced the issuance of a presidential pardon, commutation, or other form of clemency.

According to publicly available information, you pleaded guilty on November 15, 2024, of several tax-related crimes.⁶ Your charges arose from allegations that you withheld over \$7,500,000 in employee payroll taxes and failed to remit \$3,480,111 in employer Social Security and Medicare taxes.⁷ You then used these funds for personal expenses, including the purchase of \$2,000,000 yacht.⁸ As a result, you were ordered to pay \$4,381,265.76 in restitution and to serve a term of 18 months of imprisonment.⁹ On April 23, 2025 President Trump granted you a presidential pardon.¹⁰ Public reporting also indicates that your mother, Elizabeth Fago, donated one million dollars through an exclusive fundraiser at Mar-a-Lago, several weeks prior to President Trump granting your pardon.¹¹ This donation had been preceded by your mother hosting at least three fundraisers for President Trump's campaign.¹² Given these circumstances, we are seeking additional information to better understand the process by which your pardon was pursued and received..

Please provide written responses to the following questions no later than **May 22, 2026**:

1) **Initial Clemency Efforts**

- When did you first begin pursuing a presidential pardon?
- Did you submit a formal petition to the Department of Justice's Office of the Pardon Attorney?
 - If so, when? If not, why not?

2) **Representation and Advocacy**

- Did you retain or consult with any attorney, lobbyist, influencer, consultant, or intermediary in connection with your clemency request?

⁵ Andrew Stanton & Gabe Whisnant, *Donald Trump Discussing Mass Pardons: Report*, NEWSWEEK (Apr. 10, 2026), <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-discusses-mass-pardons-aides-wsj-report-11813455>.

⁶ Press Release, *Owner of Florida Healthcare Companies Pleads Guilty to Tax Crimes*, U.S. Att'y's Off., Off. of Pub. Affairs (Nov. 15, 2024), <https://www.justice.gov/archives/opa/pr/owner-florida-healthcare-companies-pleads-guilty-tax-crimes>.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ Kenneth P. Vogel, *Trump Pardoned Tax Cheat After Mother Attended \$1 Million Dinner*, N.Y. TIMES (May 27, 2025), <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/05/27/us/politics/trump-pardon-paul-walczak-tax-crimes.html>.

⁹ Press Release, *Owner Of Florida Health Care Companies Sentenced for Employment Tax Crimes*, U.S. Att'y's Off., Off. of Pub. Affairs (Apr. 11, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/owner-florida-health-care-companies-sentenced-employment-tax-crimes>.

¹⁰ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Paul Walczak* (Apr. 23, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1397931/dl?inline>

¹¹ Julia Mueller, *Trump pardoned man 1 month after mother attended \$1M per person fundraiser: Report*, THE HILL (May 27, 2025), <https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/5319932-trump-pardon-paul-walczak/>.

¹² Vogel, *supra* note 8.

- If so, please identify each individual or entity, describe the scope of their engagement, and provide a copy of any agreements or contracts related to such services.

3) Contacts with Government Officials

- Did you, or anyone acting on your behalf, communicate with official or unofficial individuals associated with the Trump Administration regarding your request?
 - If so, please identify the individuals involved, the dates of such communications, and the general substance of those discussions.

4) Financial Contributions or Payments

- Did you, or any person or entity acting on your behalf, make any political contributions, donations, or payments to:
 - Donald J. Trump or affiliated committees;
 - Organizations connected to or associated with President Trump's administration; or
 - Any intermediary involved in advocating for your pardon?
- If so, please provide details including amounts, dates, recipients, and purpose.

5) Third-Party Advocacy

- Were any third parties (including advocacy groups, public officials, or private individuals) involved in supporting your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify those parties and describe their role.

6) Supporting Materials

- Please provide a copy of any documents, correspondence, invoices, or records related to your clemency application, advocacy efforts, or communications with government officials.

The information you provide will allow Congress to better evaluate whether legislative or Constitutional reforms are necessary to ensure that no President abuses their power to grant executive clemency.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on the
Constitution
U.S. Senate Committee on
the Judiciary



Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 7, 2026

Mr. Trevor Milton
c/o Ms. Alexandra A.E. Shapiro, Esq.
Shapiro Arato Bach LLP
1140 Avenue of the Americas
17th Floor
New York, NY 10036

Dear Mr. Milton:

We write regarding President Trump’s decision to grant you a full pardon, eliminating the possibility of you paying \$661,000,000 in restitution to your victims.¹ Congress has a compelling interest in ensuring that this constitutional power is exercised with fairness and transparency. Accordingly, the public reporting surrounding President Trump’s pardons and commutations raises significant concerns, particularly in light of his decision to eliminate hundreds of millions of dollars in restitution and fines — thereby depriving victims of compensation and justice.

Article II, Section 2, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution authorizes the President to “grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.”² Presidents have historically exercised this authority to extend mercy, forgiving past convictions or commuting sentences in appropriate cases. Although broad, this power is not without limit: it applies only to federal offenses, does not extend to state offenses or civil liability, and cannot erase the fact of conviction or disturb legal rights already vested in third parties.³ While the U.S. Supreme Court has characterized executive clemency as “an act of grace” exercised for the “public welfare,” President Trump’s use of this authority appears to depart from this traditional purpose.⁴

Public reporting has raised questions about certain pardons issued by President Donald Trump, including yours. These reports suggest that some individuals may have received favorable consideration from President Trump or his advisors through intermediaries, financial contributions, or other forms of influence. If true, these allegations raise legitimate concerns that improper considerations, including *quid pro quo* or “pay-to-play” dynamics, may have affected the clemency process. This concern is further heightened by reports that President Trump has seriously discussed issuing broad or preemptive pardons to members of his staff, raising additional

¹ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Trevor Milton* (Mar. 27, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1395001/dl?inline>; Office of the Pardon Attorney, *Clemency Grants by President Donald J. Trump (2025-Present)*, U.S. Dep’t of Just. (last visited Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/clemency-grants-president-donald-j-trump-2025-present>.

² U.S. CONST. ART. II, § 2, CL. 1.

³ Additionally, the Supreme Court has held that pardons must be affirmatively accepted and that acceptance implies an acknowledgement of guilt. *Burdick v. United States*, 236 U.S. 79 (1915).

⁴ *Ex parte Garland*, 71 U.S. 333 (1866); *Biddle v. Perovich*, 274 U.S. 480 (1927).

questions about whether his clemency decisions were grounded in case-specific factors.⁵ Accordingly, Congress has a duty to conduct oversight and investigate whether anyone violated the law or improperly influenced the issuance of a presidential pardon, commutation, or other form of clemency.

According to publicly available information, you were convicted on December 18, 2023, of securities fraud and wire fraud offenses.⁶ Your conviction arose from allegations that you engaged in a scheme to defraud and mislead investors regarding technology and products that your company, Nikola Corporation, produced.⁷ As a result, you were ordered to pay a \$1,000,000 fine, forfeit property in Utah, and to serve a term of 48 months of imprisonment.⁸ U.S. District Court Judge Edgardo Ramos ordered restitution but deferred setting the amount pending additional information from the parties; federal prosecutors subsequently sought \$661,000,000 for your victims.⁹ On March 27, 2025, President Trump granted you a presidential pardon, eliminating any obligation to pay court-ordered restitution to your victims.¹⁰ Public reporting also indicates that you and your wife donated roughly \$1,800,000 to President Trump's 2024 reelection campaign a month before the election, which may have helped your bid for executive clemency.¹¹ Given these circumstances, we are seeking additional information to better understand the process by which your pardon was pursued and received.

Please provide written responses to the following questions no later than **May 22, 2026**:

1) Initial Clemency Efforts

- When did you first begin pursuing a presidential pardon?
- Did you submit a formal petition to the Department of Justice's Office of the Pardon Attorney?
 - If so, when? If not, why not?

2) Representation and Advocacy

- Did you retain or consult with any attorney, lobbyist, influencer, consultant, or intermediary in connection with your clemency request?

⁵ Andrew Stanton & Gabe Whisnant, *Donald Trump Discussing Mass Pardons: Report*, NEWSWEEK (Apr. 10, 2026), <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-discusses-mass-pardons-aides-wsj-report-11813455>.

⁶ Press Release, *Trevor Milton Sentenced To Four Years In Prison For Securities Fraud Scheme*, U.S. Att'y's Off., S. Dist. NY. (Dec. 18, 2023), <https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdny/pr/trevor-milton-sentenced-four-years-prison-securities-fraud-scheme>.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ Steve Goldstein & Lukas I. Alpert, *Nikola founder Trevor Milton may have cost investors more than half a billion dollars. Trump just pardoned him.*, MARKETWATCH, (Mar. 28, 2025), <https://www.marketwatch.com/story/heres-how-much-retail-investors-allegedly-lost-from-trevor-milton-who-says-he-was-pardoned-50b57ff2>; Matt Novak, *Trump Pardoned Him. Now He Won't Have to Pay Back \$660 Million*, GIZMODO (Sept. 19, 2025), <https://gizmodo.com/trump-pardoned-him-now-he-wont-have-to-pay-back-660-million-2000661542>.

¹⁰ Executive Grant of Clemency, *Donald J. Trump to Trevor Milton* (Mar. 27, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1395001/dl?inline>.

¹¹ Matt Ott, *Convicted of bilking investors, Nikola founder and Trump donor gets a presidential pardon*, AP NEWS (Mar. 28, 2025), <https://apnews.com/article/nikola-trevor-milton-fraud-trump-pardon-3fceb0a3820cecb205656f2dc3f6764>.

- If so, please identify each individual or entity, describe the scope of their engagement, and provide a copy of any agreements or contracts related to such services.

3) Contacts with Government Officials

- Did you, or anyone acting on your behalf, communicate with official or unofficial individuals associated with the Trump Administration regarding your request?
 - If so, please identify the individuals involved, the dates of such communications, and the general substance of those discussions.

4) Financial Contributions or Payments

- Did you, or any person or entity acting on your behalf, make any political contributions, donations, or payments to:
 - Donald J. Trump or affiliated committees;
 - Organizations connected to or associated with President Trump's administration; or
 - Any intermediary involved in advocating for your pardon?
- If so, please provide details including amounts, dates, recipients, and purpose.

5) Third-Party Advocacy

- Were any third parties (including advocacy groups, public officials, or private individuals) involved in supporting your clemency request?
 - If so, please identify those parties and describe their role.

6) Supporting Materials

- Please provide a copy of any documents, correspondence, invoices, or records related to your clemency application, advocacy efforts, or communications with government officials.

The information you provide will allow Congress to better evaluate whether legislative or Constitutional reforms are necessary to ensure that no President abuses their power to grant executive clemency.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on the
Constitution
U.S. Senate Committee on
the Judiciary



Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress