Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 27, 2026

Mrs. Alina Mildon
Senior Adviser to the Attorney General
950 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mrs. Mildon,

We write regarding your reported role in President Trump's decision to grant Julio Herrera Velutini a full presidential pardon.[1]

In August 2022, Mr. Herrera Velutini was criminally charged with providing $300,000 to a super political action committee (PAC) in violation of campaign finance law barring contributions or donations by foreign nationals to U.S. federal, state, or local elections.[2] Mr. Herrera Velutini supported the reelection campaign of Puerto Rico's governor in exchange for her pledge to remove a top banking regulator who had scrutinized one of Mr. Herrera Velutini's banks.[3] Mr. Herrera Velutini received a pardon by President Trump on January 15, 2026, two weeks before his scheduled sentencing date.[4]

According to public reporting, you entered into an employment agreement with Mr. Herrera Velutini's family in late 2025, while you were serving as an adviser at the Justice Department.[5] You also previously served as President Trump's personal lawyer.[6] In the hiring contract, Mr. Herrera Velutini's family agreed to pay you $50 million over four years to be general counsel at Concord Partners, a company set up by Mr. Herrera Velutini's daughter in October 2025.[7] You finalized the deal with Concord Partners while you were still serving as U.S. Attorney in New Jersey.[8]

You began working for Concord Partners on January 1, 2026, while concurrently serving as a senior adviser to then-Attorney General Pam Bondi, advising on U.S. attorneys.[9] Mr. Herrera Velutini was pardoned two weeks later, on January 15, 2026.[10]

Article II, Section 2, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution authorizes the President to "grant

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[1] *See Executive Grant of Clemency to Julio M. Herrera Velutini*, President Donald Trump, Jan. 15, 2026, https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1424211/dl?inline; Tyler Pager, *A Billionaire Wanted a Trump Pardon. His Family Gave Alina Habba a $50 Million Deal*, NY TIMES (Oct. 20, 2026), https://www.nytimes.com/2026/10/20/us/politics/julio-herrera-pardon-alina-habba.html.

[2] *See* Indictment, *United States v. Vázquez-Garced et al*., No. 3:22-cr-00342 (D.P.R. Aug. 3, 2022), ECF No. 3; Saurav Ghosh, *Seeking Pardon, Foreign Billionaire Allegedly Funneled Million to Trump Super PAC*, CAMPAIGN LEGAL CENTER (Feb. 17, 2026), https://campaignlegal.org/update/seeking-pardon-foreign-billionaire-allegedly-funneled-millions-trump-super-pac.

[3] *See* Ghosh, *supra* note 2; Plea Agreement, *United States v. Herrera-Velutini*, No. 3:25-cr-00297 (D.P.R. Aug. 27, 2025), ECF No. 10.

[4] *See United States v. Herrera-Velutini*, 3:25-cr-00297, (D.P.R. Jan 15, 2026), ECF No. 35.

[5] *See* Pager, *supra* note 1.

[6] *See* Jake Offenhartz and Alanna Durkin Richer, *Trump's Former Lawyer Alina Habba Resigns as Top Federal Prosecutor in New Jersey*, PBS (Dec. 8, 2025), https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/trumps-former-lawyer-alina-habba-resigns-as-top-federal-prosecutor-in-new-jersey.

[7] *See* Pager, *supra* note 1.

[8] *See id*.

[9] *See id*.

Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment."[11] The U.S. Supreme Court has characterized executive clemency as "an act of grace" exercised for the "public welfare."[12] President Trump's use of this authority appears to deviate from this traditional purpose.

Congress has a compelling interest in ensuring that the constitutional pardon power is exercised with fairness and transparency. Given these circumstances, we are seeking additional information to better understand the extent to which influence and access may have overridden the standard pardon review process.

Please provide written responses to the following questions no later than November 13, 2026.

1. Did you, directly or through others, ask President Trump, directly or through others, to grant a pardon to Mr. Herrera Velutini?
    a. If so, please identify any individuals or entities who were involved in this advocacy.
2. Did Mr. Herrera Velutini, or anyone else, request that you appeal to the President or the Trump Administration on his behalf to secure a pardon?
3. Have you spoken with any lobbyists regarding a pardon for Mr. Herrera Velutini or any other person?
4. Did you have conversations regarding Mr. Herrera Velutini with President Trump or any White House staff?
5. Have you advocated for or been involved in any other clemency decisions during the current administration? If yes, please describe the nature of your involvement, including the individual or company you advocated for and any financial or political connections you may have to this individual or company.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Peter Welch
United States Senator

Dave Min
Member of Congress

[10] *See Executive Grant of Clemency to Julio M. Herrera Velutini*, President Donald Trump, Jan. 15, 2026, https://www.justice.gov/pardon/media/1424211/dl?inline

[11] U.S. CONST. ART. II, § 2, CL. 1.

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