

**CONGRESSIONAL
INTEGRITY** 
PROJECT

To: Interested Parties
From: Kyle Herrig, Congressional Integrity Project Executive Director
Date: November 27, 2023
Re: Three Questions to Ask James Comer This Week

This week, as members return to Washington after recess, the House GOP's top priority will once again be bogus investigations of President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas – not addressing the important issues facing hard-working Americans across the country. Oversight Chairman James Comer has spent the past year investigating the President and his family, yet has not turned up a single shred of evidence of wrongdoing by President Biden whatsoever. MAGA House Republicans are clearly [following Donald Trump's direction](#) with these bogus inquiries, all to help him return to the White House in 2024, distract from his 91 criminal indictments, and deflect from their year of failures.

When you see James Comer in the halls this week, ask him these questions:

- 1) 375 days into your “impeachment investigation” you still have not turned up a single shred of evidence of wrongdoing by the President – when will you give up this wild goose chase?**

Over a year ago, James Comer stood before the press and [begged](#) reporters to focus on Hunter Biden and his investigation into the President. Yet, 375 days later, Comer has not produced a single shred of evidence implicating President Biden in any wrongdoing whatsoever. After a [disastrous](#) first impeachment hearing back in September, where their own [star witnesses](#) confirmed there was no evidence of wrongdoing by President Biden, Comer [decided](#) to move the investigation behind closed doors where he could cherry-pick evidence and suppress the truth. It's time for Comer to give up this wild goose chase and focus on the issues affecting American families, like inflation and the costs at the pump, especially with the holidays approaching.

- 2) When will you release more of your tax returns so the American people can learn about your own shady business deals and family influence peddling?**

One thing we've learned this year is that James Comer has a checkered past he needs to come clean about.

Bombshell [reporting](#) earlier this month from the Daily Beast detailed Comer's shady business deals with his brother, including land swaps and a payment of \$200,000. The Comer family's

influence peddling on farmland and agribusiness took place at the same time James Comer held powerful positions with oversight for farm issues in the state legislature, as well as Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner, and as a member of the House Agriculture Committee in Congress. That's not all – James Comer has continuously used his positions of power to benefit himself and his family. He [co-sponsored](#) a bill to forgive COVID-19 PPP loans that benefited his brother, [weaponized](#) the government to leak a journalist's private email, orchestrated a grand jury investigation of his political opponent, and [flip-flopped](#) his position on gambling after the CEO of Churchill Downs donated to his campaigns. If Comer actually cared about accountability, he should start by looking in the mirror. His family influence peddling presents real ethical and conflict of interest issues that [demand](#) explanation and accountability.

3) When will you investigate the Trump family's corruption and influence peddling from their time in the White House?

At a press conference earlier this year, Comer promised to investigate the Trump family's influence peddling with respect to its business dealing with China while Trump was president. When asked, Comer [said](#), "We're going to look at everything when we get ready to introduce the legislation to ban influence peddling." Yet, Republicans have not sent any letters, requested any information, or announced any hearings on potential investigations on this.

Donald Trump and his family have extensive ties to the Chinese Community Party. Trump collected [millions of dollars](#) from government-owned entities in China and his properties leased by the Industrial Bank of China contributed to at least [\\$5.4 million](#) in business inflows during the Trump presidency. He spent a decade unsuccessfully [pursuing projects](#) in China, operating an office there during his first run for president and forging a partnership with a major government-controlled company. While her father was President, Ivanka Trump was approved for [16 trademarks](#) applied for two years prior, [seven new trademarks](#) across multiple businesses that she applied for after President Trump took office, and the Chinese government also [approved two "Trump" trademarks](#) registered at Trump Tower in Manhattan. Finally, during his presidency, the [Trump family](#) operated a [web of over 500 LLCs](#), which were not subject to external audits or rigorous disclosure requirements. For decades, Donald Trump operated a web of shadowy LLCs used to evade taxes and [conceal](#) loans and business interests, possibly including with China. Even during his presidency, the Trump family's LLCs allowed them to keep much of Trump's financial portfolio outside the public eye. The American people deserve all the facts. This can [only be done by](#) using the powers vested in Congress to conduct oversight and investigations.