

# CONGRESSIONAL INTEGRITY PROJECT

**To:** Interested Parties  
**From:** Kyle Herrig, Executive Director, Congressional Integrity Project  
**Re:** The question to ask each Republican member of Congress in the halls this week  
**Date:** March 4, 2024

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*MAGA House Republicans have been investigating President Biden for over 14 months, and have not found a single shred of evidence of wrongdoing by the President nor have they called a single witness who can back up their claims. Their investigation was spurred by criminal lies from a witness fed by Russian intelligence. **As Congress returns to the Capitol and you see each Republican member of Congress in the halls this week, ask them this burning question:***

**After over 14 months, and over 20 interviews - including with members of the President's family, and the star witness arrested for criminal lies fed by Russian intelligence, do you agree with Fox News commentators that it is time to move on from impeachment and focus on Americans' priorities?**

- [Tomi Lahren on Fox News](#): “This has failed optically for Republicans...This impeachment inquiry unfortunately is falling flat.” [Fox News, 3/3/24, [VIDEO](#)]
- [Fox & Friends Co-Host Steve Doocy](#): “A lot of Republican lawmakers say they have seen zero evidence of high crimes and misdemeanors...After dozens of interviews and over 100,000 documents released to the Committees, the Republicans have yet to produce any direct evidence of misconduct by Joe Biden.” [Fox News, 2/28/24, [VIDEO](#)]
- [Fox News host John Roberts](#): “There’s nothing to connect all of that to the president in any kind of way that looks like it's illegal or even potentially unethical. How much longer can this probe go on before the Republicans have to either put up or move on?” [Fox News, 2/22/24, [VIDEO](#)]
- [Fox Business host Stuart Varney](#): “Do you think maybe the American public is getting tired this...you haven’t proved the basic point...you might not have the votes to go through with impeachment.” [Fox News, 2/29/24, [VIDEO](#)]

- [Fox Business host Larry Kudlow](#): “Is this whole impeachment inquiry, is it coming to a dead end? I’m asking this honestly.” [Fox News, 3/1/24, [VIDEO](#)]
- [Newsmax host Rob Finnerty](#): “I just don’t know how much longer this investigation can go on.”[Newsmax, 2/29/24, [VIDEO](#)]
- [Erick Erickson](#): “Are Republicans wasting their time on Hunter Biden?...The only people paying attention to this are the die-hard partisans...nobody else has paid attention to it.” [3/1/24, [VIDEO](#)]

**MAGA House Republicans Centered Their Impeachment Inquiry Against President Biden On Criminal Lies Fed By Russian Intelligence.** Last month, a federal court [unsealed](#) a two-count indictment against the star witness in House Republicans’ baseless impeachment inquiry, Alexander Smirnov, charging him with making false statements accusing President Biden and his son Hunter of corruption and bribery and exposing the debunked, criminal lie at the center of Comer’s baseless impeachment inquiry. Just days later, Smirnov was also [exposed](#) for meeting with and being fed information by Russian intelligence officials. Smirnov was the key informant behind an FBI Form FD-1023 dating back to 2020 that documented his secondhand account of a conversation between officials at Ukrainian energy company Burisma that Republicans have nearly a year promoting as their key source of evidence supposedly implicating President Biden in a so-called bribery scheme.

- **House Republicans Blatantly Ignored Evidence That Their Allegations Were Not Credible.** Oversight Chair Comer blatantly ignored evidence that Smirnov’s allegations were not credible from the very start. The allegations were reviewed and debunked by a [Trump-era investigation](#), [Burisma’s former CEO](#), and [independent fact-checkers](#). Witness testimony revealed that the Trump-era FBI spent eight months exhaustively assessing the allegations detailed in the Form FD-1023, only to close the case after gathering information from [forty confidential sources](#) and finding [insufficient evidence](#) to warrant escalating the allegations to a preliminary or full investigation. Yet Comer made Smirnov’s criminal lies the basis of his probe, hyping the allegations as early as Spring 2023. Comer spent nearly a year praising Smirnov as one of the FBI’s “[most respected](#),” “[most effective](#),” “[most credible](#),” “[most trusted, highest paid](#),” informants. Even though he swore up and down that Smirnov was credible, Comer started scrambling to sweep it all under the rug as soon as Smirnov’s indictment went public and his Russian ties were exposed, telling reporters, “[he wasn't an important part of this investigation because I didn't even know who he was](#).”

**After Over A Year Investigating, Comer And His MAGA Allies Have Found No Evidence Of Wrongdoing By President Biden.** Despite interviewing over a dozen high-profile witnesses as part of the probe, Republicans haven’t unearthed a shred of evidence to support their baseless impeachment inquiry. Oversight Chair Comer has repeatedly made countless [lofty claims](#) that witness depositions would turn up evidence of wrongdoing, but instead each and every one exposed Comer’s penchant for spreading lies and misinformation in order to further the MAGA agenda instead of pursuing the truth.

- February 2024: House Republicans interviewed six witnesses, including President Biden's son [Hunter](#), his brother [James Biden](#), [convicted felon](#) Jason Galanis, [foreign businessman](#) Karen Tramontano, Hunter's ex-associate with [close ties to Trump](#) Tony Bobulinski, and James' former [business associate](#) Joseph "Joey" Langston – none of whom provided evidence of wrongdoing by President Biden.
- January 2024: House Republicans interviewed five friends and business associates connected to the Biden family, including longtime Biden family [bookkeeper](#) Eric Schwerin, Hunter Biden's longtime [business associates](#) Rob Walker and Mervyn Yan, Hunter's [close friend](#) Kevin Morris, and [art dealer](#) George Berges. All five testified that President Biden was not involved in his family's business affairs.
- December 2023: House Republicans interviewed a business contact of James Biden, Carol Fox, who testified that she [possessed no knowledge](#) that President Biden was directly involved in any business dealings involving his brother.
- October 2023: House Republicans interviewed two U.S. attorneys, Scott Brady and Martin Estrada, who [debunked](#) Republicans' bogus bribery allegations and testified that the DOJ was [fairly and honestly](#) prosecuting Hunter Biden.
- September 2023: During House Republicans' first and only impeachment hearing, two of their three so-called fact witnesses (conservative legal scholar Jonathan Turley and forensic accountant Bruce Dubinsky) testified that there is [no evidence](#) to support impeachment. Prior to the hearing, [three FBI investigators and two IRS criminal investigators](#) debunked Republicans' false claims about the DOJ's Hunter Biden investigation.
- July 2023: House Republicans interviewed so-called star witness Devon Archer, a former business associate of Hunter Biden who testified that President Biden had [no involvement in Hunter's business interests](#) and never discussed any business with his associates. That same month, House Republicans' two key whistleblowers, former IRS agents Gary Shapley and Joseph Ziegler, also [testified under oath](#) that neither President Biden nor his Attorney General interfered in DOJ investigations into Hunter Biden – as did an [unidentified FBI agent](#).