

To: Interested Parties
From: Kyle Herrig, Congressional Integrity Project Executive Director
Date: September 27, 2023
Re: Comer's Terrible September

Ahead of tomorrow's first impeachment hearing, it's important to remember that not only is James Comer a total hypocrite when it come to influence peddling, he has also overpromised and underdelivered time and time again.

After investigating President Biden for nearly a year now, after countless political stunts, dozens of hearings, transcribed interviews, and memos, and despite hours on Fox peddling conspiracy theories, Comer and his MAGA crew have **failed to find a single shred of evidence** linking President Biden to any of their lurid accusations. In fact, Republicans have been forced to walk back claim after claim.

Here are the worst of the worst failures from Comer's September:

## **1.** Comer's Conspiracy Theories Were Refuted by the Former President of Ukraine Himself.

In July, Comer <u>spread a conspiracy theory</u> on Newsmax about ongoing U.S. support for Ukraine throughout the Russian invasion, claiming that the Biden administration's support represents a so-called conflict of interest supposedly stemming from then-Vice President Biden's efforts to fire a corrupt Ukrainian prosecutor back in 2015.

In September, former Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko himself <u>refuted</u> Comer's allegations during a Fox News interview, and condemned the conspiracy theory as false, calling the corrupt prosecutor a "completely crazy person," and said, "there's something wrong with him."

## 2. Comer's Claims That The Office of the Vice President Colluded With Hunter Biden Backfired When The Actual "Evidence" Was Revealed.

In September, Republicans on the Oversight Committee claimed that the Office of the Vice President colluded with Hunter Biden's business partner on media responses, and Comer <u>sent a</u> <u>letter</u> to the National Archives demanding documents related to media outrage. Contrary to Comer's claims that Hunter Biden's business partners wanted to be seen as having the support of the White House, however, the key email in question included a statement <u>explicitly stating</u> that the Vice President "does not endorse any particular company and has no involvement with this company."

## 3. Comer Failed To Produce Evidence Of \$10 Million So-Called Bribe Supposedly Laundered Through Shell Companies While Joe Biden Was Not In Office.

Comer has suggested that the Biden family used 21 so-called shell companies to launder money, claiming that they served no legitimate business function. But, as Washington Post fact-checkers reported, "that claim is undercut by the list of 21 companies that appear in the second staff memo. **Virtually all of the companies (many of which now are defunct) had legitimate business interests.** Others had clearly identified business investments."

<u>Comer himself admitted during an interview, "we've pretty much gotten just about</u> <u>all the bank records from the shell companies,"</u> and he has failed to produce any direct evidence linking the supposed bribery money to the former Vice President's LLC.

## 4. Comer Has Found Absolutely Nothing In Emails Dating From Joe Biden's Vice Presidency.

Comer has made emails from Joe Biden's vice presidency a <u>key target</u> of his investigation, speculating that they contain "<u>pretty damning evidence</u>." As Politico <u>noted</u>, "Yet the emails are **another example of the House GOP failing to turn up evidence they've assured the public exists and that will implicate Biden** in some form of corruption that rises to an impeachable offense." The Washington Post similarly <u>reported</u>, "...Thursday's episode provided the latest example of documents and testimony that House Republicans chased down only to discover they did not substantiate allegations that Biden benefited from Hunter's business dealings or used his office to assist them."