



NEW REPORT

**Democracy At Stake:
The Same MAGA Republicans Behind
January 6th Are Leading The Bogus
Impeachment Effort Against
President Biden**

January 2024

**CONGRESSIONAL
INTEGRITY** 
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**The Same MAGA Republicans Behind January 6th
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James McGovern: "They still want to overturn the election. What they couldn't do on January 6th they're trying to do with this process."

Three years ago, MAGA extremists ransacked the U.S. Capitol complex on January 6, 2021, in a violent and insurrectionist attempt to aid Donald Trump's efforts to overturn the 2020 election. Ever since, Trump and his MAGA Republican allies have refused to take responsibility for the roles they played in the deadly insurrection and pushing the Big Lie. Even after the bipartisan January 6th Select Committee laid out the truth that Trump engaged in a criminal conspiracy to overturn an election he knew he lost, Republicans never stopped working to overturn the 2020 election.

Trump didn't act alone – scores of his allies in Congress continue to push his lies to this day in a shameful attempt to restore the disgraced, twice impeached and four-time indicted president to power. In fact, the key players involved in Trump's scheme to overturn the election in 2020 are the very same Republicans leading the bogus impeachment effort against President Biden. MAGA Speaker Mike Johnson and Judiciary Chair Jim Jordan led the bogus legal effort to overturn the 2020 election and encouraged Trump supporters to "fight" on the morning of January 6th. Oversight Chair James Comer perpetuated Trump's conspiracy theories about the election and blocked investigations into the violence at the Capitol that day. Top committee members like Marjorie Taylor Greene, who was a key figure working in Congress to overturn the results in Trump's favor, are election deniers and insurrection apologists, and the entire House GOP leadership has now [fully endorsed](#) Trump's re-election bid.

Each of these individuals continues to push Trump's debunked conspiracy theories and they are leading the crusade to impeach President Biden without a shred of evidence of wrongdoing. And once again it's being done at the behest of one man: Donald Trump. Make no mistake: an impeachment of President Biden is nothing more than a partisan political stunt designed to hurt the President and help Donald Trump return to the White House in 2024 and it's an extension of, not separate from, the events of January 6, 2021.

Donald Trump's Key Players Involved In January 6th Are Leading Efforts To Impeach President Biden

MAGA Speaker Mike Johnson Is An Architect Of Election Denial Who Led The Legal Effort In The House To Overturn the 2020 Election and Urged Trump Supporters To “Fight!” On The Morning Of January 6, 2021. House Speaker Mike Johnson – who has [supported](#) an impeachment inquiry into President Biden for months – is an election denier who played a key role in efforts to undermine and overturn the 2020 election results. After the election, Johnson said the election was “[rigged](#),” and he [amplified](#) Trump’s conspiracy theories about [Dominion](#) voting machines. Being a [trusted member of Trump’s inner circle](#), Johnson stayed in close contact with the former president and publicly encouraged him to “stay strong and keep fighting.” Johnson was even [considered](#) “the most important architect of the Electoral College objections” in the House. He [pressured](#) his colleagues to support the Texas lawsuit that sought to overturn the election on the [unconstitutional premise](#) that the expansion of vote by mail during the pandemic was illegal, and he managed to collect signatures from [more than 60 percent](#) of House Republicans. On the morning of January 6, 2021, Johnson [tweeted](#) “We MUST fight for election integrity, the Constitution, and the preservation of our republic!” Later that day, Johnson [voted](#) to overturn the 2020 election, refusing to certify the results in Arizona and Pennsylvania.

- **Johnson Rejected Accountability For The Violence On January 6th, Calling Investigative Efforts A “Third Impeachment.”** Johnson [voted against](#) bipartisan legislation that would create a 9/11-style commission to investigate the attack on the U.S. Capitol complex on January 6, 2021. He also refused to hold key figures accountable for the violence that day, [voting against](#) holding Steve Bannon in contempt of Congress for refusing to comply with a subpoena from the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol. Johnson even [attacked](#) investigations into January 6th, referring to them as a “third impeachment,” and “[pure political theater](#).”
- **Johnson Has Spread Conspiracy Theories About The FBI’s Role In January 6th.** Just months ago, Johnson [alleged](#) that Trump-appointed FBI Director Chris Wray was “hiding something” about the FBI’s presence in the Capitol on January 6th, [echoing a conspiracy theory](#) spread by right-wing extremists implying that federal agents had a role in orchestrating the insurrection: “...I think you could tell by the way he answered that question. And certainly by his body language, he's hiding something. [...] he could just concede the truth of it, but he's unwilling to do it. And what that does, of course, is it draws more suspicion, it just plays right into this narrative that has developed because of the evidence that the FBI is in on it, you know, it makes him look corrupt.”

- **Years Later, Johnson Has Continued To Claim That Election Interference Took Place In 2020 and Refused To Comment On If He Still Believes The 2020 Election Was Stolen.** When asked in October whether he believed the 2020 election was stolen, Johnson [refused to comment](#): “We’re not talking about any issues today...My position is very well-known.” A few months earlier, Johnson had [declared](#): “if this is not election interference, how are we supposed to think about this?”

MAGA Judiciary Chair Jim Jordan Helped Plan The Events of January 6th. Jordan is a MAGA extremist known for being one of Donald Trump’s closest allies in Congress. Jordan chaired the far-right Freedom Caucus during the Trump administration and used his position to [shield](#) members of the Trump administration [from oversight](#) for years. Critically, he was also a [key figure](#) in the criminal conspiracy to overturn the results of the 2020 election. After the election, Jordan helped [push](#) Trump’s false narrative that the election was supposedly stolen. He even [pushed](#) the Trump administration to “unilaterally reject certain states’ electors” the day before January 6th, and on the morning of Jordan spoke [“at length”](#) with Trump. After the riot at the Capitol complex, Jordan [worked closely](#) with members of the Trump administration to shield them from accountability and [asked](#) Trump about congressional pardons. He [opposed](#) the creation of a January 6th Select Committee and has continuously [refused to cooperate](#) with any investigative efforts into the violence that day.

- **Just Last Month, Jordan Bragged That MAGA Impeachment Efforts Against President Biden Were Boosting Trump.** In December 2023, Jordan [bragged](#) that the impeachment inquiry is impacting polling numbers for the 2024 presidential election: “I think all that together is why you see the [polling] numbers where they are at.”
- **Even Before Republicans Took Control Of The House of Representatives, Jordan Was Plotting Politically-Motivated Investigations To Benefit Trump’s Reelection Bid.** Throughout 2022, Jordan openly discussed plans to launch politically motivated investigations of the Biden administration if they took control of Congress. Jordan planned to lead an [“onslaught”](#) of committee investigations into the Biden administration in the run-up to 2024 on a variety of conspiratorial topics. Before the 2022 midterm election, Jordan explicitly [stated](#) that his investigations into President Biden “will help frame up the 2024 race...we need to make sure that [President Trump] wins.”

Oversight Chair James Comer Has Shielded Trump and His Allies From Oversight For Years – Including Opposing Investigations Into January 6th. Comer has a long history of opposing accountability for his MAGA allies – he [opposed](#) the creation of the January 6th Select Committee and used his position to [shield](#) members of the Trump administration from oversight.

- **While Spearheading Investigations Against President Biden, Comer Bragged That His Efforts Were Boosting Trump.** For months, Comer has admitted political intent behind his investigations into President Biden and his family. In October 2022, Comer [suggested](#) that his Biden family investigations would help “prevent Joe Biden from running.” In May 2023, Comer [told](#) Fox News in May that his investigations were responsible for Trump’s improving poll numbers against Biden: “You look at the polling, and right now Donald Trump is 7 points ahead of Joe Biden and trending upward, Joe Biden’s trending downward. And I believe that the media is looking around, scratching their head, and they’re realizing that the American people are keeping up with our investigation.”
- **Comer Seated A Slate of MAGA Election Deniers On His Powerful Oversight Committee.** While serving as Oversight chair, Comer has allowed election deniers and MAGA extremists to dominate his committee. All but four of the 25 Republicans initially seated on his committee [defended Trump’s election lies](#) and 80% of incumbent Republicans initially seated on the committee [voted against](#) certifying the 2020 election results.

Election Deniers and Insurrection Apologists Deeply Involved In Trump’s Efforts to Overturn the 2020 Election Are Serving On The Top House GOP Committees Investigating President Biden

Key House Oversight Committee Members Were Involved In Trump’s Efforts To Overturn the 2020 Election.

- Rep. **Marjorie Taylor Greene** (R-GA) [relentlessly](#) spread lies about the 2020 election being supposedly stolen and was a key figure working in Congress to overturn the results in Donald Trump’s favor. She [texted](#) White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows frequently for strategic guidance on overturning the election and she went as far as to suggest declaring martial law to keep Trump in office. Greene also reportedly [attended](#) a December 21 White House meeting focused on efforts to pressure Mike Pence to help overturn the election. In 2022, Greene said she wanted to use her position on the Oversight Committee to “[go on offense](#)” against the January 6th Select Committee.
 - **Greene Has Worked to Downplay and Normalize the Violent Insurrection on January 6th.** In March 2023, Greene [led](#) a cohort of Trump’s closest election-denying MAGA allies in the House to the DC jail to visit with [January 6th defendants and insurrectionists](#). The visit served as part of an ongoing effort by Trump and his allies to normalize the violent insurrection he incited and turn convicted criminals into martyrs.

- **Greene Admitted That The GOP Impeachment Inquiry Against President Biden Is A Naked Political Scheme To Boost Trump and MAGA Republicans.** In September, Greene [admitted](#) that the impeachment inquiry is a nakedly political scheme to ensure Democrats “[lose big](#)” at the next presidential election: “We are going to drag Biden and everyone who covered up his crimes through the headlines day after day, month after month and prove to the country the entire Democrat party is corrupt and can’t be trusted.” Just months earlier, Greene [all but admitted](#) that MAGA impeachment efforts are politically motivated, tweeting: “We will not win in 2024 if we do not inspire the base and many people who won’t vote for Republicans because R’s are not addressing the two biggest issues in the country. Impeach criminals and protect kids if you want voters to flood the polls and vote Republican.”
- Rep. **Scott Perry** (R-PA) was a [key figure](#) in Trump’s efforts to overturn the election and was deeply implicated in planning January 6th. His phone was [seized](#) by the FBI after he [refused](#) to comply with a subpoena from the January 6th Select Committee, and a federal judge [indicated](#) that his seized text messages “demonstrate that he welcomed, rather than resisted, and indeed often initiated” a series of “proactive, persistent and protracted” communications with Trump administration officials in relation to January 6th.
- Rep. **Paul Gosar** (R-AZ) has [downplayed](#) the violence on January 6th as a “peaceful” protest by “patriots.” He has called himself “[the one who started the revolution](#)” on January 6th. He has since spread right-wing conspiracies about January 6th, suggesting that “[Antifa provocation](#)” was behind it.
- Rep. **Virginia Foxx** (R-NC) [spread](#) a conspiracy theory that post-election MAGA protesters were “unhinged mobs” of “Antifa thugs.” She [voted](#) to overturn the election for Trump and joined the Texas amicus brief that sought to overturn the votes of millions of Americans [claiming](#) that “other states have been subjected to irregularities and allegations of voter fraud and that is of grave concern to me.” Foxx was later [fined](#) \$5,000 for failing to comply with security measures put in place in the House after the January 6th attack.
- Rep. **Pete Sessions** (R-TX) [voted](#) against certification of the Electoral College and [joined](#) an amicus brief seeking to throw out the votes in four key states won by Joe Biden. On January 3, 2021, Sessions [tweeted](#), “Had a great meeting today with folks from ‘Stop the Steal’ at our nation’s Capitol. I encouraged them to keep fighting and assured them I look forward to doing MY duty on January 6.”

- Rep. **Byron Donalds** (R-FL) [voted](#) against certification of the Electoral College, [claiming](#) that he wanted to “ask legitimate questions to restore faith in our election system.” He also [joined](#) a letter to former Speaker Nancy Pelosi with 25 other Republican members-elect demanding a so-called investigation “of the irregularities in November’s election.” After MAGA Republicans ransacked the Capitol complex on January 6th, Donalds downplayed the violence that took place. When asked if the attack on our Capitol was an insurrection, Donalds [denied it](#), telling his interviewers “No.”
- Rep. **Lauren Boebert** (R-CO) is a MAGA election denier who pushed for [violence against lawmakers](#) —even tweeting out information about some lawmakers’ [locations](#) during the January 6th attack.

Key House Judiciary Committee Members Failed to Condemn The January 6th Attacks.

- Rep. **Matt Gaetz** (R-FL) is among the most [scandal-laden](#), controversial members of Congress — yet Jordan seated him on the influential Judiciary Committee. He helped lead Trump’s effort to undermine and overturn the 2020 election. After spending months [pushing](#) false claims of [voter fraud](#), he [voted](#) to overturn the results and signed a brief supporting Texas’s lawsuit seeking to throw out the election results in key states. Immediately after the attack on the Capitol, Gaetz went to the House floor and [claimed](#) that the people who breached the Capitol were actually “members of the violent terrorist group Antifa.” Gaetz even [sought a pardon](#) from Trump for his role in attempting to overturn the election.
 - **Gaetz Has Revealed That Impeaching President Biden Is Merely Political Staging To Boost Trump and MAGA Republicans.** Just months ago, Gaetz [admitted](#) that the Republicans’ bogus impeachment of President Biden is about politics and the 2024 election – not any actual wrongdoing: “The purpose of the impeachment to me is to use the Senate as the stage, but they’re not the jury. The jury is the American people... it will not result in a conviction, but the true verdict can still be rendered by the American people.”
- Rep. **Troy Nehls** (R-TX), who [voted against](#) certifying the 2020 election, has admitted that impeachment efforts against President Biden are meant to boost Donald Trump. Just last month, he [reportedly said](#) “All I can say is: Donald J. Trump 2024, baby!” when asked what he was hoping to gain from an impeachment inquiry. Previously, Nehls had [reportedly said](#), “he wants to give Trump ‘a little bit of ammo to fire back’ and say Biden has also been impeached.”

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- Rep. **Andy Biggs** (R-AZ) is one of the most extreme Republicans in the House and was [deeply implicated](#) in the events of January 6th. He [schemed with Mark Meadows](#) to overturn the 2020 election and [helped](#) far-right activists plan the Ellipse rally. Despite his extremism, Jordan and Comer seated Biggs on the two most powerful investigative committees, Oversight and Judiciary, where he remains a top figure in the impeachment inquiry against President Biden.
- Rep. **Dan Bishop** (R-NC) [spread misinformation](#) about so-called voter fraud after the 2020 election, filing dubious legal reports and [encouraging](#) voters to “Fight!” He [signed on](#) to the House GOP’s [amicus curiae brief](#) in support of a [Texas lawsuit](#) seeking to nullify the will of voters and later [voted](#) to overturn the election for Trump. Yet, when the time came to investigate the violent attack on the Capitol, he [opposed](#) a bipartisan commission and downplayed the insurrection. Even after calling the January 6th Select Committee a “[pure political power play](#).”
- Rep. **Greg Steube** (R-FL) is a key member of the House Judiciary Committee with a history of prioritizing [lies and conspiracy theories](#) over the real issues facing Americans. One of only 12 Republicans to [vote against](#) awarding the Congressional Gold Medal to law enforcement who responded during the January 6th attack on the Capitol, Steube [voted](#) to overturn the results of the 2020 election
- Rep. **Tom Tiffany** (R-WI) started [spreading](#) false claims about election fraud and so-called irregularities before the votes were even counted, later becoming the only member of the Wisconsin delegation who signed a brief supporting Texas’s lawsuit seeking to [throw out](#) the results in his home state. After he [voted](#) to overturn the results of the 2020 election, Tiffany [downplayed](#) the violence at the Capitol on January 6th as a “[sideshow](#).”
- Rep. **Scott Fitzgerald** (R-WI) helped organize efforts to overturn the 2020 election in Wisconsin. In December 2020, while Fitzgerald was still Majority Leader of the Wisconsin Senate, his office provided [meeting space](#) in the state Capitol for Wisconsin’s slate of fake electors seeking to overturn the election. Shortly after swearing-in, he became one of just two Republican members of the Wisconsin House delegation to [vote](#) against certifying the election results on January 6th.

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- Rep. **Cliff Bentz** (R-OR) [voted](#) against certification of the 2020 election and [joined](#) a letter to Nancy Pelosi with 25 other Republican members-elect demanding an investigation “of the irregularities in November’s election.” After the January 6th attack at the Capitol complex, Bentz [blamed](#) Democrats for the insurrection. Though he [called](#) investigating January 6th a “constitutional duty,” Bentz [voted](#) against a bipartisan commission to investigate the attack and [derided](#) the January 6th Select Committee as a “sham.”

Conclusion

The threat posed to our democracy three years ago by Donald Trump and his MAGA Republican allies remains. The evidence-free impeachment of President Biden that the GOP is forcing through the House of Representatives shows how our country is still under attack by election deniers, Trump loyalists, and insurrection apologists. The key players pushing for impeachment now are virtually all the same as in 2021, once again seeking power at all costs – including the destruction of our democracy if necessary.