

**Chuck Ross**

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**From:** Chuck Ross  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 11:50 AM  
**To:** (b)(6) - Kerri Kupec Email Address  
**Subject:** Inquiry on Roger Stone sentencing revision

Hi Kerri,

I saw something from Fox News about a possible change to Roger Stone's sentencing recommendation, and I was hoping to confirm and get any additional background on what the new recommendation might be.

Thank you for any help,  
Chuck Ross  
The Daily Caller  
(b) (6)

**Jerry Dunleavy**

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**From:** Jerry Dunleavy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 11:52 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Roger Stone Sentencing Guidelines

Hey Kerri,

Just seeing if you can confirm that DOJ will be changing its sentencing recommendation for Roger Stone or if you'd be willing to point me in the direction of who I should be checking with. Many thanks.

JD

--

**Jerry Dunleavy**  
**Washington Examiner**  
**[JDunleavy@WashingtonExaminer.com](mailto:JDunleavy@WashingtonExaminer.com)**

**(b) (6)**

**Mangan, Daniel (NBCUniversal)**

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**From:** Mangan, Daniel (NBCUniversal)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 11:57 AM  
**To:** (b)(6) - Kerri Kupec Email Address  
**Cc:** nicole.navas@usdoj.gov  
**Subject:** cnbc.com query - Roger Stone

Kerri –

Is it true that DOJ will be modifying sentencing recommendation for Roger Stones, as is being reported today? If so, why is that happening, and what will the recommendation now be?

Thanks –

Mangan

**Dan Mangan**  
**Reporter**  
**CNBC**  
**(b) (6)**



## Tierney Sneed

---

**From:** Tierney Sneed  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 12:00 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** DOJ changing sentencing recommendation in Stone case?

Hi Kerri,

Anything you can tell me about this Fox News report that the DOJ is going to change its sentencing rec for Roger Stone?

<https://twitter.com/JakeBGibson/status/1227271189346816000>

Thanks!

--

Tierney Sneed  
Talking Points Memo  
202-758-3048 ext. (b) (6)  
[@tierney\\_megan](https://twitter.com/tierney_megan)

**Greg Walters**

---

**From:** Greg Walters  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 12:01 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Hi Kerri - Anything you can tell me about Roger Stone?

Hi Kerri!

Hope you're well. We're seeing this report and wondering if you can comment?

Perhaps on background as "senior DOJ official"? Can you confirm?

Thank you!

The DOJ is changing its sentencing recommendation for Roger Stone, according to a Senior DOJ official. "The Department finds seven to nine years extreme, excessive and grossly disproportionate," the source said, adding the DOJ will clarify its position on sentencing later today

<https://twitter.com/JakeBGibson/status/1227271189346816000?s=20>

Appreciated,  
Greg

--

**GREG WALTERS**

Reporter

[VICE News](#)

Land: (b) (6)

Cell: (b) (6)

**Sommerfeldt, Chris**

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**From:** Sommerfeldt, Chris  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 12:31 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Regarding Roger Stone

Hi Kerri,

Fox News is reporting that DOJ will recommend a more lenient sentence for Roger Stone than the 7-9 years initially recommended by federal prosecutors from the U.S. Attorney's office in Washington, D.C.

Can you confirm this? If so, what's the reason for the recommendation being adjusted after the fact?

I'm per usual on my cell at (b) (6) if you have time for a call.

All best,  
Chris Sommerfeldt  
New York Daily News

**Greg Walters**

---

**From:** Greg Walters  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 12:40 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Hi Kerri - can we confirm?

Hi there - hoping we can get this comment confirmed from a senior official. Thanks!

The department "was shocked to see the sentencing recommendation in the Roger Stone case last night."

"That recommendation is not what had been briefed to the department," the official said. "The department finds the recommendation extreme and excessive and disproportionate to Stone's offenses. The department will clarify its position later today."

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/justice-dept-to-reduce-sentencing-recommendation-for-trump-associate-roger-stone-official-says-after-president-calls-it-unfair/2020/02/11/ad81fd36-4cf0-11ea-bf44-f5043eb3918a\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/justice-dept-to-reduce-sentencing-recommendation-for-trump-associate-roger-stone-official-says-after-president-calls-it-unfair/2020/02/11/ad81fd36-4cf0-11ea-bf44-f5043eb3918a_story.html)

--

**GREG WALTERS**

Reporter

[VICE News](#)

Land: (b) (6)

Cell: (b) (6)

**Jacqueline Thomsen**

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**From:** Jacqueline Thomsen  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 12:40 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Roger Stone statement

Hi Kerri -- do you have the DOJ statement on prosecutors reducing Roger Stone's sentencing recommendation? Thanks.

--

Jacqueline Thomsen  
The National Law Journal  
@jacq\_thomsen

(b) (6)

**Daniel Friedman**

---

**From:** Daniel Friedman  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 1:07 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Question re Roger Stone sentencing

Kerri:

Wanted to ask if this report that DOJ, via the US Attorney's office, will change its sentencing recommended for Roger Stone. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-02-11/doj-to-propose-shorter-roger-stone-sentence-after-trump-tweet>

This of course came after Trump complained about the recommended sentence in a tweet. Is that change a reaction to that?

If you are not the correct person to ask can you let me know who is. I have also tried the US Attorney's office.

Thanks,  
Dan Friedman  
Mother Jones

(b) (6)

**Paul HANDLEY**

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**From:** Paul HANDLEY  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 1:10 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** AFP query on Roger Stone sentencing

Hi Kerri,

Can we get the DOJ statement on the sentencing recommendations for Roger Stone?

Thanks,

**Paul HANDLEY**

*US National Security Correspondent*

*AFP - Agence France-Presse*

Suite 600, 1500 K Street NW, Washington DC 20005 USA

Tel: +1 202 4140546 - Mob: (b) (6) - Fax: +1 202 414 0638

Join us on:

**Stef W. Kight**

---

**From:** Stef W. Kight  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 1:29 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (JMD)  
**Subject:** Re: Confirmation on change in Stone sentencing recommendation

We're seeing multiple outlets confirming this now, can you provide a statement? Or any information on background? Thanks!

On Tue, Feb 11, 2020 at 11:49 AM Stef W. Kight <[stef@axios.com](mailto:stef@axios.com)> wrote:

Hi Kerri,

[Can you confirm](#) that DOJ is changing its sentencing recommendation for Roger Stone? What will you recommend? Feel free to give me a call at **(b) (6)**. Appreciate a quick response

Best,

Stef Kight

--

 A on White @1x. Stef W. Kight  
REPORTER  
[stef@axios.com](mailto:stef@axios.com) | **(b) (6)** | [@stefwkight](https://twitter.com/stefwkight)

 [Axios on HBO](#) Season 2 returns Sundays at 6:00 p.m. ET/PT.  
**Tune in:** Oct. 20 & 27 + Nov. 3 & 10 on all HBO platforms.

--

 A on White @1x. Stef W. Kight  
REPORTER  
[stef@axios.com](mailto:stef@axios.com) | **(b) (6)** | [@stefwkight](https://twitter.com/stefwkight)

 [Axios on HBO](#) Season 2 returns Sundays at 6:00 p.m. ET/PT.  
**Tune in:** Oct. 20 & 27 + Nov. 3 & 10 on all HBO platforms.

**Betsy Woodruff**

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**From:** Betsy Woodruff  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 1:50 PM  
**To:** Kerri Kupec  
**Subject:** I'm here! Lmk if there's a Stone backgrounder

Sent from my iPhone

**Chuck Ross**

---

**From:** Chuck Ross  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 3:11 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) - Kerri Kupec Email Address; Press  
**Subject:** Inquiry -- Zelensky withdrawing from Roger Stone case

Hello,

I'm seeing that Aaron Zelensky just withdrew from the Roger Stone case, and hoped to find out if this was in protest of the forthcoming revised sentencing recommendation, or for another reason.

Thank you,  
Chuck Ross  
The Daily Caller  
(b) (6)

**Zach Basu**

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**From:** Zach Basu  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 3:25 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Zelinsky/Stone case

Hi Kerri,

Can you confirm whether Aaron Zelinsky has resigned just as special assistant U.S. attorney working on the Roger Stone case or whether he's resigned from the DOJ altogether? Some confusion with this filing: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1okDJH2YFwHQc-ViDydvuyoJAJ\\_pKB66j/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1okDJH2YFwHQc-ViDydvuyoJAJ_pKB66j/view)

Thanks,  
Zach

--

Zach Basu  
News editor  
[zach.basu@axios.com](mailto:zach.basu@axios.com) | (b) (6)  
[@zacharybasu](#)

**John Kruzel**

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**From:** John Kruzel  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 3:38 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) - Kerri Kupec Email Address  
**Subject:** Hi Kerri — does DOJ have a comment on the withdrawal by Aaron Zelinsky?

Thanks Kerri.

Also, can you confirm the reporting that DOJ will be changing its sentencing recommendation in the Roger Stone case?

Best,

John

--

John Kruzel  
Legal Affairs Reporter  
The Hill

(b) (6)

[@johnkruzel](#)

**Jody Godoy**

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**From:** Jody Godoy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 4:30 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (JMD)  
**Subject:** Re: DOJ comment on Roger Stone sentencing

Hi Kerri,

Reupping this request as I haven't heard back yet. I am on deadline.

Thanks,

On Tue, Feb 11, 2020 at 12:53 PM Jody Godoy <[jody.godoy@law360.com](mailto:jody.godoy@law360.com)> wrote:

Hi Kerri,

Does the Department have comment on the Fox report just now citing a senior official that the Department will revise its recommended sentence in the Roger Stone case?

Can you confirm the following details from the story:  
Prosecutors on the Stone case did not brief the Department on their recommendation of a guidelines sentences of 87-108 months

The Department finds that proposed sentence to be "extreme, excessive and grossly disproportionate"

The Department is now requiring the prosecutors to revise their sentencing position

Can you comment on what prompted this change of course?

Was it the tweet this morning by the President calling the proposed sentence unfair?

--

Jody Godoy  
Senior Reporter, White Collar



Legal News & Data  
111 West 19<sup>th</sup> Street  
5th Floor  
New York, NY 10011

(b) (6)

--

Jody Godoy  
Senior Reporter, White Collar



Legal News & Data  
111 West 19<sup>th</sup> Street  
5th Floor  
New York, NY 10011  
**(b) (6)**

**Debra Saunders**

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**From:** Debra Saunders  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 4:41 PM  
**To:** Kerri Kupec  
**Subject:** Please include in list for statements today re. Stone sentence/lawyer resignatons

Thanks, Kerri.

DJS

--

Debra J. Saunders  
White House Correspondent  
Las Vegas Review-Journal  
529 14th Street NW Suite 994  
Washington, DC 20045  
202-662-7391  
Cell (b) (6)

**Kadhim Shubber**

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**From:** Kadhim Shubber  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 4:42 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (JMD)  
**Subject:** Re: Query re: Roger Stone sentencing

Hi Kerri,

Another prosecutor on the Stone case, Jonathan Kravis, has now resigned from DOJ.

Just checking if you had any comment on both his and Aaron Zelinsky's withdrawal from the case?

Also, would you be able to confirm the comments I think you made earlier to various news outlets that the decision to change the sentencing recommendation was made independently of the White House and before Trump's tweet?

Thanks for your help as ever.

Kadhim

On Tue, 11 Feb 2020 at 15:09, Kadhim Shubber <[kadhim.shubber@ft.com](mailto:kadhim.shubber@ft.com)> wrote:

Hi Kerri,

Just following up on my text: is there any statement/comment you can share about the intent to change the sentencing recommendation filed yesterday?

Also, Aaron Zelinsky has just withdrawn from the case and also resigned as a Special AUSA: <http://pacер-documents.s3.amazonaws.com/36/203582/04517655820.pdf>

Do you have any comment on his withdrawal/resignation?

Thanks for your help.

Kadhim

--

Kadhim Shubber | Financial Times | (b) (6) (cell) | @kadhim

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Kadhim Shubber | Financial Times | (b) (6) (cell) | @kadhim

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**Morgan Chalfant**

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**From:** Morgan Chalfant  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 4:46 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Re: Roger Stone sentencing recommendations

Hey Kerri -- just circling back on this. Thanks.

On Tue, Feb 11, 2020 at 2:22 PM Morgan Chalfant <[mchalfant@thehill.com](mailto:mchalfant@thehill.com)> wrote:

Hey Kerri,

I hope you're doing well! Really quick question for you -- any chance you can confirm (on background) that DOJ plans to scale back the sentencing recommendation for Roger Stone? Can you tell me if there was any consultation with the White House about this and whether the decision was made before the president's tweet this morning? Feel free to call me -- happy to speak off the record.

--

Morgan Chalfant  
White House correspondent, The Hill  
[mchalfant@thehill.com](mailto:mchalfant@thehill.com)

(b) (6)

--

Morgan Chalfant  
White House correspondent, The Hill  
[mchalfant@thehill.com](mailto:mchalfant@thehill.com)

(b) (6)

**Breuninger, Kevin (NBCUniversal)**

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**From:** Breuninger, Kevin (NBCUniversal)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 4:47 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: CNBC Inquiry, Aaron Zelinsky

Kerri,

Adam Jed has also withdrawn as a prosecutor in Stone's case. Has he returned to the civil division?

Please let me know as soon as possible. Please send a statement or comment on today's departures as soon as possible, as well.

Best,  
Kevin Breuninger

(b) (6)

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**From:** Breuninger, Kevin (NBCUniversal)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 4:00 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: CNBC Inquiry, Aaron Zelinsky

Kerri,

Jonathan Kravis has also resigned as an AUSA, according to Stone's docket. Please send a statement or comment as soon as possible.

Best,  
Kevin Breuninger

(b) (6)

---

**From:** Breuninger, Kevin (NBCUniversal)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 3:07 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** CNBC Inquiry, Aaron Zelinsky

Hi Kerri,

This is Kevin Breuninger from CNBC.

I'm reaching out to ask if the DOJ has a statement or comment on the resignation of Aaron Zelinsky as a special assistant US attorney in DC.

Was Zelinsky's resignation in any way related to the decision to revise downward the sentencing recommendation for Roger Stone?

Please respond as soon as possible. Email or call (b) (6)

Best,  
Kevin Breuninger  
CNBC

**Yamiche Alcindor**

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**From:** Yamiche Alcindor  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 4:54 PM  
**To:** Kerri Kupec  
**Subject:** Comment on Roger Stone sentencing?

Hi Kerri,

Is there any comment from the DOJ on the Roger Stone sentencing changes and the withdrawals of the prosecutors?

Thanks,  
Yamiche

--

Yamiche Alcindor  
White House Correspondent  
PBS NewsHour  
c. (b) (6)  
t. @Yamiche

**Paul HANDLEY**

---

**From:** Paul HANDLEY  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 5:29 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** AFP seeking comment on Roger Stone case issues

Hi Kerri,

Could we get a comment on the record of whether or not there was a linkage between President Trump's tweet on the Stone sentence recommendation late last night and the filing suggesting a lower amount of jail time this afternoon?

Also, three prosecutors who have been part of the case withdrew before that filing. Were they asked to withdraw? And does the DOJ have any comment about their withdrawal?

Respectfully,

**Paul HANDLEY**

*US National Security Correspondent*

*AFP - Agence France-Presse*

Suite 600, 1500 K Street NW, Washington DC 20005 USA

Tel: +1 202 4140546 - Mob: (b) (6) - Fax: +1 202 414 0638

Join us on:

**Jerry Dunleavy**

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**From:** Jerry Dunleavy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 5:52 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** DOJ's Stone Sentencing Recommendation Question

Hey Kerri,

Can DOJ say when and how it decided to overrule the sentencing recommendation from the D.C. office? Thanks!

—  
**Jerry Dunleavy**  
**Washington Examiner**  
**[JDunleavy@WashingtonExaminer.com](mailto:JDunleavy@WashingtonExaminer.com)**

(b) (6)

## Christopher Sheridan

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**From:** Christopher Sheridan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 6:52 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) - Kerri Kupec Email Address  
**Subject:** Prosecutors in Stone case

Hi Kerri...just checking reports to verify independently that the four prosecutors in the Stone case have stepped down. Thanks,

Chris Sheridan  
Senior White House Producer  
Al Jazeera English  
(b) (6)  
@ChrisSheridan34

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**Greg Farrell (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:)**

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**From:** Greg Farrell (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 7:25 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) - Kerri Kupec Email Address  
**Subject:** Bloomberg story on stone sentencing memo

Hi Kerrie,

We are doing a story about how the roger stone sentencing memo and its aftermath might affect other doj investigations into politically sensitive matters, particularly the sdney probe involving Giuliani.

We are quoting several former prosecutors who argue that today's events could have a chilling effect on such investigations.

Sdny declined comment. If main justice has any comment, please send. But in any event, I wanted to let you know the story was coming.

Thanks

Greg

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Sent from Bloomberg Professional for Android

**Debra Saunders**

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**From:** Debra Saunders  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 8:08 PM  
**To:** Kerri Kupec  
**Subject:** Still looking for your statements on Stone sentencing

Please.

DJS

--

Debra J. Saunders  
White House Correspondent  
Las Vegas Review-Journal  
529 14th Street NW Suite 994  
Washington, DC 20045  
202-662-7391  
Cell (b) (6)

## Jonathan Swan

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**From:** Jonathan Swan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 9:17 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Cc:** Mike Allen  
**Subject:** checking a few things - time sensitive

Hi Kerri -

a few qs and some reporting to give you visibility / opportunity to comment:

- I saw your statement to NBC News. Double checking your on record statement is that nobody at the White House communicated to anybody at the Justice Department about the Stone sentencing? And when did the AG overrule the sentencing - was it definitely before the tweet? (Not being a DoJ beat reporter I am not familiar with the process of how that happens.)

- A source familiar w the office told me that as of the time Liu left the US attorney office on Feb 3 she had NOT received a sentencing memo on the Roger Stone case. So all the decisions on the Stone and the battles between the line attorneys and Timothy Shea were all AFTER she left the position. I am told Shea wanted to have a lower sentence and some supervisors thought he's the boss, it's the U.S. attorneys call to make, as long as it's legally defensible let him have that. And then the line attorneys protested that. Shea ultimately caved in. Please let me know if you want to challenge any of that.

- Did the Attorney General or anyone on his staff have any contact or written or verbal communications with Barbara Ledeen about Liu before asking Liu to vacate her US attorney office early?

- Did the Attorney General or anyone on his staff have any contact or written or verbal communications with the White House about Liu before asking Liu to vacate her US attorney office early?

That's it! Looking to write something for the morning.

I'm on my cell if you want to talk.

Best, Jonathan, (b) (6)



A on  
White  
@1x.

Jonathan Swan  
NATIONAL POLITICAL REPORTER

[jonathan@axios.com](mailto:jonathan@axios.com) | (b) (6)

## Geoff Earle

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**From:** Geoff Earle  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 8:36 AM  
**To:** Kerri Kupec  
**Subject:** The president's congratulations to the AG on Roger Stone sentencing reversal

Hey Kerri.

Could I get a comment on this tweet?

'Congratulations to Attorney General Bill Barr for taking charge of a case that was totally out of control and perhaps should not have even been brought. Evidence now clearly shows that the Mueller Scam was improperly brought & tainted. Even Bob Mueller lied to Congress!'

This confirms that the AG ordered the reversal in the sentencing recommendation, right? When did he do that?

Thanks!

Geoff

Geoff Earle  
U.S. Deputy Political Editor

The Daily Mail | 51 Astor Place, 9th Floor, New York, NY 10003

[Daily Mail.com](https://www.dailymail.com)

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T: [@geoffearle](https://twitter.com/geoffearle)

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## Dominic Holden

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**From:** Dominic Holden  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 9:06 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (JMD)  
**Subject:** Re: Stone questions

I'm sad you didn't reply to these questions. You gave comments elsewhere.

On Tue, Feb 11, 2020 at 4:15 PM Dominic Holden <[dominic.holden@buzzfeed.com](mailto:dominic.holden@buzzfeed.com)> wrote:

Also, the same questions for Kravis. Just saw his filing. Many thanks!

Dominic Holden | Political Reporter | **BuzzFeed News**  
Desk: (646) 668-3199 | Mobile: (b) (6) | [@dominicholden](https://twitter.com/dominicholden)  
111 East 18th St, New York, NY 10003

On Tue, Feb 11, 2020 at 4:09 PM Dominic Holden <[dominic.holden@buzzfeed.com](mailto:dominic.holden@buzzfeed.com)> wrote:

Hi, I'm writing this up!

- Did the DOJ make moves in the Stone case to recommend a shorter sentence than the one described earlier this week?
- Whose decision was it to request a lesser sentence?
- Did Zelinsky quit, was he fired, or did something else happen?
- It appears Zelinsky quit to protest DOJ's interference in the case, specifically that the POTUS and AG sought to override the discretion of prosecutors in order to help a political ally. Does DOJ have any statement on this apparent set of facts or have any facts that dispute it?

Happy to include comments from my favorite DOJ official but I love to quote a *named source* even more!

Dom

Dominic Holden | Political Reporter | **BuzzFeed News**  
Desk: (646) 668-3199 | Mobile: (b) (6) | [@dominicholden](https://twitter.com/dominicholden)  
111 East 18th St, New York, NY 10003

Dominic Holden | Political Reporter | **BuzzFeed News**  
Desk: (646) 668-3199 | Mobile: (b) (6) | [@dominicholden](https://twitter.com/dominicholden)  
111 East 18th St, New York, NY 10003

**Aruna Viswanatha**

---

**From:** Aruna Viswanatha  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 9:21 AM  
**To:** Kerri Kupec  
**Cc:** Alex Leary  
**Subject:** Does DOJ have any comment on the president's tweets this morning?

On Stone? Also, do you know what case he is referring to when he tweeted this? ...And a swamp creature with "pull" was just sentenced to two months in jail for a similar thing that they want Stone to serve 9 years for. A phony Mueller Witch Hunt disgrace. Caught!

Thanks!

**Kadhim Shubber**

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**From:** Kadhim Shubber  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 9:41 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (JMD)  
**Subject:** Request for comment re: Stone

Hi Kerri,

Hope you're doing well.

I'm just writing a piece this morning off President Trump's tweets this morning about the Stone case where he congratulated AG Barr "for taking charge of a case that was totally out of control".

I just wanted to ask if you had any comment on:

- 1) The president's tweet?
- 2) On when and how DOJ made the decision to reverse the sentencing decision of the prosecutors? (I know you told some outlets yesterday it was independent of the White House and before Trump's first Tuesday early morning tweet -- just wanted to confirm that if possible.)
- 3) On the resignations of the four prosecutors generally?

I know you're super busy -- any comment at all would be much appreciated.

Kadhim

--

Kadhim Shubber | Financial Times | (b) (6) (cell) | @kadhim

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**Tessa Berenson**

---

**From:** Tessa Berenson  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 9:49 AM  
**To:** Kerri Kupec  
**Subject:** questions about Stone sentencing

Hi Kerri,

I hope you're doing well. A couple questions about the recent news on the Roger Stone sentencing. I know you've already shared some of this info with other outlets, would appreciate any on the record or background information you can provide:

1. Was there any direct contact between the White House and DOJ about the Stone sentencing recommendations?
2. When was the decision made at DOJ to push for the lighter sentence? Was that decision related to Trump's tweet saying it was a "miscarriage of justice"?
3. What is your reaction to Trump's series of tweets about this, including the new on this morning congratulating the AG? <https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1227561237782855680> Does this raise questions about the Department's independence from President Trump?

Thank you! Let me know.

Tessa

--

Tessa Berenson  
White House Correspondent  
**TIME**  
@tberenson

**Morgan Chalfant**

---

**From:** Morgan Chalfant  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 9:52 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** POTUS tweet

Hey Kerri -- does DOJ have a comment on the president's tweet this morning congratulating AG Barr?  
See here: [https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1227561237782855680?ref\\_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E1227561237782855680&ref\\_url=https%3A%2F%2Fthehill.com%2Fhomenews%2Fadministration%2F482707-trump-congratulates-barr-for-taking-charge-of-stone-case](https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1227561237782855680?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E1227561237782855680&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fthehill.com%2Fhomenews%2Fadministration%2F482707-trump-congratulates-barr-for-taking-charge-of-stone-case)

It suggests that Barr is personally involved in the Stone case. Is this true? Any information you could provide would be helpful. Thanks.

--

Morgan Chalfant  
White House correspondent, The Hill  
[mchalfant@thehill.com](mailto:mchalfant@thehill.com)

(b) (6)

Rohde, David

---

**From:** Rohde, David  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 10:47 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Stone case

Kerri:

Hope you're well. Sorry to bother you. I'm writing a piece this morning on the Roger Stone case. Realize that you're swamped. If you have time, I'd love to speak briefly with you by phone today. I want to be fair and include any comment that you have on the case. You can also email me any statement that you issue. I'm not on the DOJ Public Affairs email list. If you can get someone in your office to add me to that list, I'd be incredibly grateful. Would like to receive all of the statements and press releases that you issue. I know you were disappointed with parts of the profile. I really do want to be fair and include your comments and perspective. Thanks.

Best,  
David

**Chuck Ross**

---

**From:** Chuck Ross  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 12:19 PM  
**To:** Press (b)(6) - Kerri Kupec Email Address  
**Subject:** Hoping to speak about Roger Stone sentencing

Hi,

I'm hoping to speak to someone today on the record or on background regarding the decision to revise the Roger Stone sentencing filing, specifically about what prosecutors said they planned to recommend before submitting the filing.

Thank you for any help,

Chuck Ross

The Daily Caller

(b) (6)

Sommerfeldt, Chris

---

**From:** Sommerfeldt, Chris  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 1:00 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Regarding the president's tweet

Good afternoon Kerri,

As you may have seen, the President tweeted today to congratulate Attorney General Barr for "taking charge" of Roger Stone's criminal case.

What role has the Attorney General played in Mr. Stone's case? Was he responsible for overruling the Washington U.S. Attorney's initial sentencing recommendation?

Per usual, feel free to get back to me at (b) (6)

All best,  
Chris Sommerfeldt  
New York Daily News

**Tessa Berenson**

---

**From:** Tessa Berenson  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 1:14 PM  
**To:** Kerri Kupec  
**Subject:** Re: questions about Stone sentencing

Hi Kerri,

Following up on this, as I'm coming up on deadline. The Daily Beast [has this reporting](#): "*Kerri Kupec, a Justice Department spokesperson, said on Tuesday afternoon that DOJ officials did not consult with the White House regarding their decision to override the initial sentencing recommendation.*

*She also said the decision was not a response to the president's tweet, and that Barr was not aware of Trump's views before the department decided to override the recommendation. That decision was made on Monday night, she said.*"

Can you confirm this is accurate? For use in my story -- you say on the record that DOJ did not speak to the White House about the decision to override the sentencing recommendation, the decision was not a response to the president's tweet, the decision was made on Monday night, and AG Barr wasn't aware of Trump's views before the decision was made?

Thank you, please let me know.

Tessa

On Wed, Feb 12, 2020 at 9:49 AM Tessa Berenson <[tessa.berenson@time.com](mailto:tessa.berenson@time.com)> wrote:

Hi Kerri,

I hope you're doing well. A couple questions about the recent news on the Roger Stone sentencing. I know you've already shared some of this info with other outlets, would appreciate any on the record or background information you can provide:

1. Was there any direct contact between the White House and DOJ about the Stone sentencing recommendations?
2. When was the decision made at DOJ to push for the lighter sentence? Was that decision related to Trump's tweet saying it was a "miscarriage of justice"?
3. What is your reaction to Trump's series of tweets about this, including the new on this morning congratulating the AG? <https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1227561237782855680> Does this raise questions about the Department's independence from President Trump?

Thank you! Let me know.

Tessa

--

Tessa Berenson  
White House Correspondent  
**TIME**  
@tcberson

--

Tessa Berenson  
White House Correspondent  
**TIME**  
@tcberson

**Masood Farivar**

---

**From:** Masood Farivar  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 2:03 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) - Kerri Kupec Email Address  
**Subject:** Question Re DOJ Employee Morale

Hi Kerri,

Quick question: I'm hearing from current and former DOJ officials that the Roger Stone sentencing recommendation controversy has had a "debilitating effect on morale" at the department. Do you have a response to that? We're also getting questions from our international audience about DOJ's commitment to conducting investigations/prosecutions without undue political influence. Can you comment?

Thanks so much!

Masood Farivar  
Justice Department  
Voice of America  
(b) (6)

**Erin Banco**

---

**From:** Erin Banco  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 2:41 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Re: Flynn/DOJ-Daily Beast reaching out

Hi Kerri,  
Just circling back on this

Best,

Erin Banco

On Feb 12, 2020, at 11:54 AM, Erin Banco (b) (6) > wrote:

Hi Kerri,

I just wanted to see if this bit of reporting in NBC was accurate or if I should avoid: But that wasn't the first time senior political appointees had reached into a case involving a former Trump aide, officials told NBC News. Senior officials at the Justice Department also intervened last month to help change the government's sentencing recommendation for Trump's former national security adviser Michael Flynn, who pleaded guilty to lying to [the FBI](#). While the prosecutors had once recommended up to six months in jail, their latest filing now says they believe probation would be appropriate.

<https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/justice-department/barr-takes-control-legal-matters-interest-trump-including-stone-sentencing-n1135231>

Best,  
Erin

--

Erin Banco

National Security Reporter

**P** (b) (6)

 id:image001.png@01D3AB  
50.B65E19B0

**Kadhim Shubber**

---

**From:** Kadhim Shubber  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 3:32 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (JMD)  
**Subject:** Fwd: House Judiciary Democrats Announce AG Barr to Testify Before Committee

Hi Kerri,

I just wanted to confirm with you that AG Barr has agreed to testify before the House Judiciary Committee on March 31, as per House Dems below?

Kadhim

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** House Judiciary Democratic Press <[HouseJudiciaryDemPress@mail.house.gov](mailto:HouseJudiciaryDemPress@mail.house.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, 12 Feb 2020 at 15:27  
**Subject:** House Judiciary Democrats Announce AG Barr to Testify Before Committee  
**To:** <[kadhim.shubber@ft.com](mailto:kadhim.shubber@ft.com)>

 U.S House Committee on The Judiciary Democrats

## House Judiciary Democrats Announce AG Barr to Testify Before Committee

*Stay informed and connected: [Judiciary.House.Gov](http://Judiciary.House.Gov) / [@HouseJudiciary](https://twitter.com/HouseJudiciary)*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 12, 2020  
CONTACTS: Shadawn Reddick-Smith, 202-225-3951  
Daniel Schwarz, 202-225-5635

Washington, D.C. – Today, House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jerrold Nadler (D-NY) sent a letter signed by 23 Judiciary Committee Democratic Members confirming Attorney General William Barr will testify before the Committee on March 31st to address numerous concerns regarding his leadership of the Department of Justice and the President's improper influence over the Department and our criminal justice system.

Full text of the letter confirming Attorney General Barr's testimony can be found below and [here](#):

February 12, 2020

The Honorable William Barr  
Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

We are writing to confirm your agreement to testify before the House Judiciary Committee on March 31, 2020.

In the interest of transparency, we wish to be candid about one set of concerns we plan to address at the hearing. Since President Trump took office, we have repeatedly warned you and your predecessors that the misuse of our criminal justice system for political purposes is both dangerous to our democracy and unacceptable to the House Judiciary Committee.[1] Our Republican colleagues have warned the Department of the same.[2] We have been consistent—and bipartisan—in this message for years.

In your tenure as Attorney General, you have engaged in a pattern of conduct in legal matters relating to the President that raises significant concerns for this Committee.[3] In the past week alone, you have taken steps that raise grave questions about your leadership of the Department of Justice. These include:

- The ongoing developments following the removal of U.S. Attorney Jessie Liu, who oversaw the prosecutions of President Trump’s deputy campaign chairman Rick Gates, President Trump’s former national security advisor Michael Flynn, and President Trump’s longtime political adviser Roger Stone.[4]
- The creation of a new “process” by which President Trump’s personal attorney Rudy Giuliani can feed the Department of Justice information, through you, about the President’s political rivals.[5]
- The decision to overrule your career prosecutors and significantly reduce the recommended sentence for Roger Stone, who has been convicted for lying under oath, at the apparent request of the President—a decision that led to all four prosecutors handling the case to withdraw from the proceedings in protest.[6]

These are not the only issues that our Committee intends to discuss with you when you appear, but they are enough to require our immediate attention.

We look forward to your testimony.

Sincerely,

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[1] *See, e.g.*, Letter from Ranking Member John Conyers, Jr., et al., to Attorney General Jeff Sessions, Mar. 17, 2017 (“Given the Trump Administration’s wide-ranging and ongoing conflict-of-interest troubles . . . we wonder if the wiser course of action would have been to allow these [U.S. attorneys] to stay on and act as an independent voice on matters that might directly impact President Trump.”); Letter from Ranking Member Jerrold Nadler to Acting Attorney General Matthew Whitaker, Nov. 13, 2018 (“I

write with growing concern over President Trump's repeated attacks on the integrity of the Department of Justice and the FBI—including, but not limited to, his decision to fire former Attorney General Jeff Sessions, his frequent statements about ongoing criminal investigations, and his personal attacks on senior Department officials."); Letter from Chairman Jerrold Nadler, et al., to Attorney General William Barr, Mar. 25, 2019 ("Each of our committees is currently engaged in oversight activities that go directly to the President's conduct, his open attempts to obstruct federal investigators . . . and other alleged instances of misconduct.").

[2] *See, e.g.*, Letter from Chairman Robert Goodlatte, et al., to Attorney General Jeff Sessions and Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein, July 27, 2017 ("We need to enable these agencies to perform their necessary and important law enforcement and intelligence functions fully unhindered by politics").

[3] Carol E. Lee, Ken Dilanian, & Peter Alexander, Barr takes control of legal matters of interest to Trump, including Stone sentencing, NBC News, Feb. 11, 2020.

[4] Spencer S. Hsu, et al., *Trump withdraws Treasury nomination of former U.S. attorney for D.C. Jessie K. Liu after criticism of her oversight of Mueller prosecutions*, Wash. Post, Feb. 11, 2020.

[5] Matt Zapposky and Devlin Barrett, *Barr acknowledges Justice Dept. has created 'intake process' to vet Giuliani's information on Bidens*, Wash. Post, Feb. 10, 2020.

[6] Matt Zapposky, *Prosecutors quit amid escalating Justice Dept. fight over Roger Stone's prison term*, Wash. Post, Feb. 11, 2020.

###

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Kadhim Shubber | Financial Times | (b) (6) (cell) | @kadhim

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**Byron Tau**

---

**From:** Byron Tau  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 3:39 PM  
**To:** Kerri Kupec

Hey Kerri,

Please let me know if you have any comment on the resignations/withdrawals of the four Stone attorneys. We're doing a profile on their careers as a follow-up to yesterday's news.

--

byron tau

reporter, wall street journal

cell/signal app: (b) (6)

desk: 202.862.1374

email: [byron.tau@wsj.com](mailto:byron.tau@wsj.com)

protonmail: (b) (6)

WSJ secure drop instructions here: <https://www.wsj.com/tips>

**Sean Neumann**

---

**From:** Sean Neumann  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 4:08 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) - Kerri Kupec Email Address  
**Subject:** Comment on Roger Stone (PEOPLE Magazine)

Hi Kerri,

This is Sean Neumann with PEOPLE.

Would the DOJ be able to give us a comment on the Roger Stone case, regarding the DOJ seeking a lessened sentence and the four federal prosecutors who quit the case yesterday?

Please let me know.

Thank you,  
Sean Neumann

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**Barrett, Devlin**

---

**From:** Barrett, Devlin  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 5:04 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** I had to go back to my office but wanted to ask for comment on this

Hi,

We are writing a not crazy long story keyed off of the "congratulations" tweet and the POTUS remarks today that looks at the recent developments for Barr and politically sensitive cases. The instances we are going to mention aren't news to you – Stone filing, Flynn filing, "intake process," and the like, but wanted to see if you wanted to comment on

1. Trump's tweet "congratulating" Barr on the second sentencing recommendation in Stone,
2. POTUS comments on Comey
3. POTUS saying "the prosecutors who need to go back to school"
4. DoJ not providing specifics about how they were surprised by the first Stone sentencing filing.

\n Obviously, I am on cell (b) (6) if you want to discuss any of this. I am guessing you are still a no-comment on 1-3, but specifically flagging 4 in case you want to talk about that.

Thanks,

Dev

Tom Porter

---

**From:** Tom Porter  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 13, 2020 6:02 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Business Insider: Federal prosecutors wary of pursuing cases relating to President Trump

Hi Kerri,

Is the justice department commenting on the NYT piece, in which federal prosecutors say they are wary of investigating cases involving President Trump in the wake of intervention by senior justice dept officials in the Roger Stone case?

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/02/12/us/politics/justice-department-roger-stone-sentencing.html?action=click&module=Top%20Stories&pgtype=Homepage>

Kind regards,

Tom Porter

**Wilber, Del**

---

**From:** Wilber, Del  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 13, 2020 10:41 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** tried to reach you yesterday to comment on my story  
**Attachments:** pageviews2.PNG; pageviews.PNG

Would have been great to have had your voice in a story that has gotten nearly 2 million page views. Maybe next time? Know I haven't been around much. Juggling different assignments. moving into investigative reporting.

Del Wilber

Reporter

LA Times

@delwilber

202-824-8368 (o)

(b) (6) (m)

[A Good Month for Murder](#)

[Rawhide Down: The Near Assassination of Ronald Reagan](#)

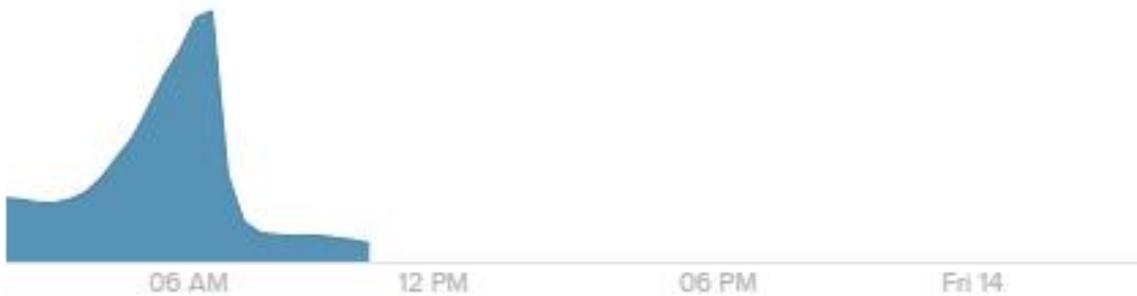
February 12, 2020

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# Justice Department roiled by resignations in Roger Stone case

by Del Quentin Wilber  
in Apple Top Stories, Home, Politics

Concurrents by Traffic Source



Pageviews  
866,836

Uniques  
670,877

Ranked by:

Total Engaged Mins

Pageviews

Avg Engaged Time

1	<b>Justice Department roiled by resignations in Roger Stone case</b> latimes.apple.news Del Quentin Wilber	780,624 Engaged Mins	1,007,610 Pageviews	0:46 Avg. Engaged Time
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**Zapotosky, Matt**

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**From:** Zapotosky, Matt  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 13, 2020 11:26 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (JMD)  
**Subject:** IG investigation on Stone?

Hey Kerri--

Are you in the building? We're preparing to report fairly imminently that the inspector general is opening an investigation into the Stone episode. Can you comment on that at all?

Also, Pelosi made some comments about Barr today, saying he had lied to Congress and damaged the rule of law, that I wanted to see if you had a response to. Let me know when I can swing by as soon as you're free.

Best,

Matt

**Andy Kroll**

---

**From:** Andy Kroll  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 13, 2020 2:27 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) - Kern Kupec Email Address  
**Subject:** Rolling Stone request for comment

Kerri,

Hope you're well. I'm working on a story about the reaction inside the US Atty's Office for DC after the reversal in the sentencing recommendation for Roger Stone and the withdrawals/resignation that followed.

I wanted to get DOJ's response to a handful of things in my reporting:

- Channing Phillips, who served in the Justice Department for nearly three decades and led the U.S. Attorney's Office in D.C. under Republican and Democratic presidents including Donald Trump, told me that he found "the whole sequence of events [this week] deeply disturbing. I've never seen anything like it and I hope never to see anything like it again."
- Phillips told me morale in the office "took a huge hit" this week based on the conversations he's had.
- Phillips also told me that he has concerns "going forward how independent the office will actually be in matters of this nature."
- Another former prosecutor who worked in USAO DC told me: "People in the office are livid and frightened. Some are just trying to fly under the radar. All are looking for jobs outside of the government, but many don't have the time in to leave. I really never have seen anything like this."
- On the decision to change the sentencing recommendation, Kristy Parker of Protect Democracy had this to say: "What's off about this is that the line prosecutors filed a memo recommending a guideline sentence, which is what the Department's rules require them to do unless they get permission to deviate. And then the Department not only rescinded it, but acted as if the line prosecutors had withheld information or hadn't told the truth about what they were recommending. That's just highly unlikely."

Any response from DOJ to these comments is appreciated. We're planning to publish my story by **4pm Eastern today**. Thanks so much.

Andy

**RollingStone**

**Andy Kroll**

D.C. Bureau Chief

(b) (6)

akroll@rollingstone.com

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**Thomas McParland**

---

**From:** Thomas McParland  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 13, 2020 3:17 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) - Kerri Kupec Email Address  
**Subject:** Comment: New York City Bar Calls for IG and Congressional Investigations of Stone Sentencing

Hi Kerri,

Is there any comment on the New York City Bar Association's call for investigations by Congress and the Justice Department's inspector general into the DOJ's reversal earlier this week on its sentencing recommendation for Roger Stone? The City Bar's letter said the move suggested President Trump and the Attorney General were "acting in concert" to protect Stone, and gave the appearance of improper political influence at DOJ.

[https://s3.amazonaws.com/documents.nycbar.org/files/StoneProsecutionDOJresponse\\_2.12.20.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/documents.nycbar.org/files/StoneProsecutionDOJresponse_2.12.20.pdf)

Thanks,  
Tom

--

**Tom McParland**  
Litigation Reporter  
Cell: (b) (6)  
Office: 212-457-9545  
[tmcparland@alm.com](mailto:tmcparland@alm.com)  
@TMcParlandALM

## **Stromberg, Stephen**

---

**From:** Stromberg, Stephen  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2020 11:12 AM  
**To:** Kerri Kupec  
**Subject:** Follow-up editorial

Hi Kerri,

We are writing another editorial, following Attorney General Barr's interview. His comments left us wondering about a few things.

-Though the president's tweeting no doubt put an extra political sheen on the Stone decisionmaking, we are still concerned that Mr. Barr's decision, with or without a tweet, was troubling. Wouldn't it have been the better part of valor for him to keep his distance from such an obviously fraught case and trust his line prosecutors and their supervisors? I know he discussed this in his interview, but if there's anything more to add on this point, we would like to hear it.

-We couldn't help but notice that the attorney general complained that he couldn't do his job in the presence of presidential tweeting, but he did not stick up for the independence of the judiciary — or say much in defense of his line prosecutors. Shouldn't he have said more in their defense?

Thanks very much in advance.

All Best,  
Steve

Stephen Stromberg  
Office: 202.334.6370  
Cell: (b) (6)

**Sarah Ruiz-Grossman**

---

**From:** Sarah Ruiz-Grossman  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2020 2:37 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) - Kerri Kupec Email Address  
**Cc:** Nicole.Navas@usdoj.gov  
**Subject:** URGENT MEDIA REQUEST from The Huffington Post

Hi,

I'm a reporter at HuffPost, covering the [letter](#) to Attorney General Barr from nine Senate Democrats calling on him to resign.

In the letter they refer to "the unethical political intervention of senior Department of Justice officials in the case of Roger Stone," and say this was a "clear violation of [Barr's] duty to defend fair, impartial and equal justice for all Americans." They also say: "A DOJ that abandons the rule of law in order to give sweetheart deals to criminals acting on behalf of the President of the United States is as corrupt as it is unacceptable."

**Do AG Barr or the DOJ have any comment?**

Thanks for a quick response,  
Sarah

--  
**/HUFFPOST/**  
Sarah Ruiz-Grossman  
110 5th St | San Francisco, CA 94103  
(b) (6)  
[sarah.grossman@huffpost.com](mailto:sarah.grossman@huffpost.com)

**Daniel Chaitin**

---

**From:** Daniel Chaitin  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 15, 2020 2:59 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Media inquiry from Washington Examiner

Good afternoon Kerri,

Any comment on the piece by the Wall Street Journal's Kimberley Strassel, which cites DOJ sources, saying that interim U.S. Attorney Timothy Shea caved to an "ultimatum" by the prosecutors in the Roger Stone case after telling leadership he believed the initial sentencing recommendation was too much?

Regards,  
Daniel Chaitin  
(b) (6)  
Washington Examiner

**Bill McCarthy**

---

**From:** Bill McCarthy  
**Sent:** Monday, February 17, 2020 5:34 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Cc:** Press; Woltornist, Alexei (PAO)  
**Subject:** PolitiFact media inquiry: Fact-checking Trump's claim about Stone prosecutors, deadline Tuesday afternoon

Greetings,

Bill McCarthy from PolitiFact here. I'm fact-checking President Trump's claim on [Twitter](#) that the four prosecutors working on Roger Stone's case "cut and ran after being exposed for recommending a ridiculous 9 year prison sentence."

Would the DOJ be willing to comment on the accuracy of Trump's claim, on the changes to the sentencing recommendation, or on the four prosecutors' motivations for withdrawing?

If so, anything you could get me by tomorrow around noon EST would be great. Thanks for your consideration!

All the best -- Bill

--

Bill McCarthy  
PolitiFact

**Rebecca Falconer**

---

**From:** Rebecca Falconer  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020 12:35 AM  
**To:** (b)(6) - Kerri Kupec Email Address  
**Subject:** Re: Seeking comment on Federal judges' association calls emergency meeting after DOJ intervenes in case of Trump ally Roger Stone

Also, if I could get your response to the American Bar Association's Litigation Section chairs' letter to the editor in the [Washington Post](#) on this issue please.

Thanks,

Rebecca

On Mon, Feb 17, 2020 at 7:26 PM Rebecca Falconer <[rebecca.falconer@axios.com](mailto:rebecca.falconer@axios.com)> wrote:

Hi Kerri,

I hope you're going well! I'm just seeking comment on this [USA Today story](#), Federal judges' association calls emergency meeting after DOJ intervenes in case of Trump ally Roger Stone.

Philadelphia U.S. District Judge Cynthia Rufe says "There are plenty of issues that we are concerned about" in regards to the DOJ's conduct in the case. So I'd like to offer you the right of reply.

Kind regards,

--

**Rebecca Falconer**

[New Zealand-based Journalist](#)

ET work hours: 7 p.m. to 3 a.m. Saturday-Wednesday.

Phone: (b) (6)

Twitter: [@BecFalconer](#)



-

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--  
**Rebecca Falconer**

[New Zealand-based Journalist](#)

ET work hours: 7 p.m. to 3 a.m. Saturday-Wednesday.

Phone: (b) (6)

Twitter: [@BecFalconer](#)



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**Press**

---

**From:** Press  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020 8:29 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Cc:** Timmons, Mollie R. (PAO); Press  
**Subject:** FW: Media Inquiry from Janita Kan - The Epoch Times

-----Original Message-----

From: no-reply@usdoj.gov <no-reply@usdoj.gov>  
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2020 4:33 PM  
To: Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
Subject: Media Inquiry from Janita Kan - The Epoch Times

Date Monday, February 17, 2020 - 4:33pm EST

Name: Janita Kan

Email Address: janita.kan@epochtimes.nyc

Topic: Other (please specify at the top of your message)

Media Outlet: The Epoch Times

Deadline: 6pm Feb 17 or whenever next available

Inquiry:

Re: Seeking Comment on DOJ Alumni Statement Calling for AG Barr's Resignation

Dear Sir/Madam

I am a reporter with The Epoch Times and I am currently doing a story on the DOJ alumni letter calling for AG William Barr's resignation.

I would like to seek a comment in response to the allegations made in the letter especially any further comments on the Roger Stone sentencing case.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could send me a statement by 6pm Monday so I could include it in my story.

Thank you

Kind regards,

Janita

**Press**

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**From:** Press  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020 8:35 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Cc:** Timmons, Mollie R. (PAO); Press  
**Subject:** FW: Media Inquiry from Connor Perrett - Business Insider

-----Original Message-----

From: no-reply@usdoj.gov <no-reply@usdoj.gov>  
Sent: Sunday, February 16, 2020 10:34 AM  
To: Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
Subject: Media Inquiry from Connor Perrett - Business Insider

Date Sunday, February 16, 2020 - 10:34am EST

Name: Connor Perrett

Email Address: cperrett@businessinsider.com

Topic: Other (please specify at the top of your message)

Media Outlet: Business Insider

Deadline: ASAP

Inquiry:  
Good morning,

Writing to inquire if the DOJ has a response to the letter published this morning by former DOJ officials calling for AG Barr to resign.  
<https://medium.com/@dojalumni/doj-alumni-statement-on-the-events-surrounding-the-sentencing-of-roger-stone-c2cb75ae4937>

A response ASAP is appreciated.

Best,

Connor Perrett

**Press**

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**From:** Press  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020 8:41 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Cc:** Timmons, Mollie R. (PAO); Press  
**Subject:** FW: Media Inquiry from Vincent Wood - The Independent

-----Original Message-----

From: no-reply@usdoj.gov <no-reply@usdoj.gov>  
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2020 2:55 AM  
To: Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
Subject: Media Inquiry from Vincent Wood - The Independent

Date Monday, February 17, 2020 - 2:55am EST

Name: Vincent Wood

Email Address: vincent.wood@independent.co.uk

Topic: Other (please specify at the top of your message)

Media Outlet: The Independent

Deadline: 10am GMT, 17 Feb

Inquiry:  
DOJ ALUMNI STATEMENT ON ROGER STONE SENTENCING

Sir/Madam,

As I am sure you are aware more than 1,100 DOJ alumni have issued a statement denouncing the attorney general's handling of the sentencing of Roger Stone (link here: <https://medium.com/@dojalumni/doj-alumni-statement-on-the-events-surrounding-the-sentencing-of-roger-stone-c2cb75ae4937>)

I was wondering if the DOJ would like to provide any comment on the matter?

**Masood Farivar**

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**From:** Masood Farivar  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020 10:32 AM  
**To:** (b)(6) - Kerri Kupec Email Address  
**Subject:** AG Reaction to latest POTUS Tweets?

Good morning, Kerri

Does the AG have any reaction to the president's latest tweets in which he calls the four DOJ prosecutors who withdrew from the Roger Stone case as "Mueller prosecutors" and suggests that Judge Jackson grant Stone a new trial.

Thanks!

Masood Farivar  
Justice Correspondent  
Voice of America

(b) (6)

**Press**

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**From:** Press  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020 11:52 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Cc:** Timmons, Mollie R. (PAO); Press  
**Subject:** FW: Media Inquiry from Pamela King - E&E News

-----Original Message-----

From: no-reply@usdoj.gov <no-reply@usdoj.gov>  
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2020 11:46 AM  
To: Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
Subject: Media Inquiry from Pamela King - E&E News

Date Tuesday, February 18, 2020 - 11:46am EST

Name: Pamela King

Email Address: pking@eenews.net

Topic: Other (please specify at the top of your message)

Media Outlet: E&E News

Deadline: 1 p.m. eastern Feb. 18

Inquiry:  
Good morning --

I'm writing a story about this letter from former DOJ employees calling for the attorney general's resignation:  
<https://medium.com/@dojalumni/doj-alumni-statement-on-the-events-surrounding-the-sentencing-of-roger-stone-c2cb75ae4937>

I'm noting some of the signatories who have been active on environmental issues.

I wanted to see if DOJ has any comment to offer on this letter. I can take comments as late as 1 p.m. eastern Feb. 18, or I can always update my story later.

Thank you,  
Pamela King  
E&E News legal editor and reporter

pking@eenews.net

(b) (6)

Press

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**From:** Press  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020 11:52 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA); Lloyd, Matt (PAO)  
**Cc:** Timmons, Mollie R. (PAO); Press  
**Subject:** FW: Media Inquiry from Pamela King - E&E News

-----Original Message-----

**From:** no-reply@usdoj.gov <no-reply@usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020 11:46 AM  
**To:** Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Media Inquiry from Pamela King - E&E News

Duplicative Material



## Morgan Chalfant

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**From:** Morgan Chalfant  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020 1:10 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Cc:** Woltornist, Alexei (PAO)  
**Subject:** Trump tweets

Hey Kerri and Alexei,

I hope you're both doing well. I wanted to reach out to see if DOJ has any response to the president's tweets this morning again about the Stone case, given that Attorney General Barr advised him not to tweet about DOJ matters last week? Have the two spoken since the attorney general's ABC interview? Has their relationship been affected at all by the developments?

Feel free to call me if needed -- just trying to get a sense of where they stand now and whether DOJ has a reaction to the president's decision to continue tweeting.

Thanks.

--

Morgan Chalfant  
White House correspondent, The Hill  
[mchalfant@thehill.com](mailto:mchalfant@thehill.com)

(b) (6)

**Press**

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**From:** Press  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020 5:25 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Cc:** Press; Timmons, Mollie R. (PAO)  
**Subject:** FW: Media Inquiry from Anne Cullen - Law360

-----Original Message-----

From: no-reply@usdoj.gov <no-reply@usdoj.gov>  
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2020 5:21 PM  
To: Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
Subject: Media Inquiry from Anne Cullen - Law360

Date Tuesday, February 18, 2020 - 5:20pm EST

Name: Anne Cullen

Email Address: anne.cullen@law360.com

Topic: Criminal Law

Media Outlet: Law360

Deadline: 7 pm EST

**Inquiry:**

Looking for comment on Federal Judges Association's emergency meeting tomorrow regarding AG Barr's replacement sentencing memorandum in the Roger Stone case. Did Barr alter the sentencing request at the behest of Donald Trump?

**Justine Coleman**

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**From:** Justine Coleman  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020 6:09 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Time Sensitive Rep. Waters' Tweets

Hi Kerri,

I hope you are doing well.

I am reaching out as a reporter from The Hill to ask if the White House has any response to Rep. Maxine Waters's recent tweets criticizing Attorney General Barr for the department's involvement in the Stone case.

Please let me know if so as soon as possible.

Thank you for your time,  
Justine

--

Justine Coleman  
Breaking News Reporter, The Hill  
(b) (6)  
@JustineColeman8

Langille, Sean

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**From:** Langille, Sean  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020 9:34 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Reax to WaPo Story?

Hi Kerri,  
Any reaction to the following report?

Thanks,  
Sean Langille  
Fox News @ Night

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/trump-raises-possibility-of-suing-those-involved-in-prosecuting-roger-stone/2020/02/18/238279fc-5250-11ea-9e47-59804be1dcfb\\_story.html?utm\\_campaign=wp\\_news\\_alert\\_revere&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=alert&wpisrc=al\\_news\\_alert-politics--alert-national&wpmk=1](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/trump-raises-possibility-of-suing-those-involved-in-prosecuting-roger-stone/2020/02/18/238279fc-5250-11ea-9e47-59804be1dcfb_story.html?utm_campaign=wp_news_alert_revere&utm_medium=email&utm_source=alert&wpisrc=al_news_alert-politics--alert-national&wpmk=1)

**Barr has told those close to Trump he is considering quitting if the president keeps tweeting about Justice Dept. investigations**

By  
Matt Zapotosky,  
Josh Dawsey,  
John Wagner and  
Rachel Weiner

Attorney General William P. Barr has told people close to President Trump — both inside and outside the White House — that he is considering quitting over Trump's tweets about Justice Department investigations, three administration officials said, foreshadowing a possible confrontation between the president and his attorney general over the independence of the Justice Department.

So far, Trump has defied Barr's requests, both public and private, to keep quiet on matters of federal law enforcement. It was not immediately clear Tuesday if Barr had made his posture known directly to Trump. The administration officials said Barr seemed to be sharing his position with advisers in hopes the president would get the message that he should stop weighing in publicly on the Justice Department's ongoing criminal investigations.

"He has his limits," said one person familiar with Barr's thinking, speaking on the condition of anonymity, like others, to discuss internal deliberations.

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