

**Raimondi, Marc (OPA)**

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**From:** Raimondi, Marc (OPA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 12:01 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Cc:** Carr, Peter (OPA)  
**Subject:** FW: DOJ to scale back recommendation for 9-year sentence for Stone -Fox

Kerri, I assume you want this one?

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**From:** Hosenball, Mark J. (Reuters) <Mark.Hosenball@thomsonreuters.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 11:58 AM  
**To:** Carr, Peter (OPA) <pcarr@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Raimondi, Marc (OPA) <mraimondi@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** FW: DOJ to scale back recommendation for 9-year sentence for Stone -Fox

Do you know if this is accurate ? is there any public record to back it up ? thanks mh

**DOJ expected to scale back Roger Stone's 'extreme' sentencing recommendation: official**

The Department of Justice will scale back its recommendation of a 9-year sentence for Trump associate Roger Stone, an official told Fox News, adding that the "extreme" term sought by prosecutors was not in line with what DOJ brass had been told.

**Herlihy, Brianna (PAO)**

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**From:** Herlihy, Brianna (PAO)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 12:19 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Cc:** Lloyd, Matt (PAO)  
**Subject:** FW: Stone sentencing - Politico

FYI – should I do anything here or hold?

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**From:** Kyle Cheney <kcheney@politico.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 12:16 PM  
**To:** Herlihy, Brianna (PAO) <bherlihy@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Stone sentencing

Hi Brianna -- Seeing a Fox report that DOJ is about to issue revised sentencing recommendations for Stone and considered the initial one to be excessive. Curious if oyu can A) confirm and B )provide any context/details/

Thanks,

Kyle Cheney  
Congress Reporter  
POLITICO  
(C) (b) (6)  
(O) 202-225-2941  
[kcheney@politico.com](mailto:kcheney@politico.com)  
[@kyledcheney](#)

**Kjergaard, Alison (OPA)**

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**From:** Kjergaard, Alison (OPA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 1:11 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** FW: Stone sentencing update

Hi Kerri,  
Just received this inquiry and wanted to make sure it got to you.

Ali

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**From:** Shabtai.Gold@dpa.com <Shabtai.Gold@dpa.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 1:05 PM  
**To:** Kjergaard, Alison (OPA) <akjergaard@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Stone sentencing update

Dear Ali,

Good afternoon. I am a journalist with the German Press Agency, dpa, here in Washington.

We are seeing reports saying DOJ aims to clarify the sentencing recommendation for Roger Stone, with the goal of a more moderate position than the 7-9 years prosecutor initially put forward. Is there any chance you can confirm this and perhaps give some guidelines on what DOJ will recommend?

Thanks very much,

Shabtai

Shabtai Gold  
Washington Correspondent  
German Press Agency, dpa

dpa ●●● English Services GmbH  
Mobile: (b) (6)  
Email: [shabtai.gold@dpa.com](mailto:shabtai.gold@dpa.com)  
Web: [www.dpa.de](http://www.dpa.de)

**Kupec, Kerri (OPA)**

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**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 1:21 PM  
**To:** Betsy Woodruff  
**Subject:** RE: Can you confirm the quote CNN has?

On background - thanks

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**From:** Betsy Woodruff <Betsy.Swan@thedailybeast.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 12:20 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Can you confirm the quote CNN has?

Stone sentencing rec is "extreme and excessive and is grossly disproportionate to Stone's offenses," and an updated recommendation is coming today

MA RE Roger Stone -- are you able to confirm that that's the DOJ position?

Betsy Woodruff Swan  
Politics Reporter, The Daily Beast  
Cell phone, Signal, and WhatsApp: (b) (6)  
1825 Connecticut Ave NW, Suite 620, Washington D.C.



**Herlihy, Brianna (PAO)**

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**From:** Herlihy, Brianna (PAO)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 1:30 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** FYI Sean Davis calling you

Re Roger Stone

Brianna Herlihy  
Public Affairs Officer  
Department of Justice  
c: (b) (6)  
o: 202-305-1859

**Stromberg, Stephen**

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**From:** Stromberg, Stephen  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 2:59 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Re: Stone

OK. Thanks. Not sure we are writing on this yet, but will be back in touch if we are.

The obvious next question is why interfere in a line attorney's recommendation in favor of a friend of the president? Was the recommendation so out of line that it was worth inviting inevitable questions about conflict of interest? After AG Barr's handling of the Mueller report, isn't there a question of DOJ impartiality/legitimacy on the line here?

Thanks, again.

Best,  
Steve

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

On Feb 11, 2020, at 2:50 PM, Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) > wrote:

**CAUTION: EXTERNAL SENDER**

Hi, Steve - see my answers below:

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

From: Stromberg, Stephen <Stephen.Stromberg@washpost.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2020 2:47 PM  
To: Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
Subject: Stone

Hi Kerri,

Obviously, we are interested in the Stone story.  
Was this presidential interference? On the record: No.  
Who made the call? On the record: Department leadership.  
When? Last night. (And since I know you are wondering, shortly after the recommendation was filed).  
Weren't Justice brass consulted before the sentencing recommendation was submitted to Judge Jackson? On background as senior DOJ official: They were briefed, but the filing was inconsistent with that briefing.

Thank you.

All Best,  
Steve

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

**Kerri Kupec**  
Director  
Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
(b) (6)  
(b) (6)

**Kupec, Kerri (OPA)**

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**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 3:18 PM  
**To:** Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)  
**Subject:** Stone

**Here's what I've said on the record thus far:**

- That the decision to change the sentencing recommendation was done pre-Tweet.
- That we had no contact with the WH on this.
- That the President did not direct the Department to do this.

**Here's what I've said on background as a senior DOJ official:**

- Department leadership was shocked when they read the sentencing recommendation filed by the U.S.-DC Attorney's Office last night.
  - That recommendation was inconsistent with what the Department had previously been told would happen.
  - The Department believes the sentencing recommendation (7-9 years) is excessive and extreme.
- The Department believes the sentencing recommendation is disproportionate to Stone's offenses.
- The Department will clarify its sentencing recommendation later today in a court filing.

**Barrett, Devlin**

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**From:** Barrett, Devlin  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 4:11 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** big, if true

[https://politics.theonion.com/it-s-time-to-go-mr-stone-says-ski-masked-william-b-1841610429?utm\\_content=Main&utm\\_source=Twitter&utm\\_medium=SocialMarketing&utm\\_campaign=SF&twitter\\_impression=true](https://politics.theonion.com/it-s-time-to-go-mr-stone-says-ski-masked-william-b-1841610429?utm_content=Main&utm_source=Twitter&utm_medium=SocialMarketing&utm_campaign=SF&twitter_impression=true)



**Timmons, Mollie R. (PAO)**

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**From:** Timmons, Mollie R. (PAO)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 5:08 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Media Inquiry from Kevin W Breuninger - CNBC

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Press <[Press@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:Press@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Date:** February 11, 2020 at 5:06:32 PM EST  
**To:** "Herlihy, Brianna (PAO)" <[bherlihy@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:bherlihy@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Timmons, Mollie R. (PAO)" <[mrtimmons@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:mrtimmons@jmd.usdoj.gov)>, Press <[Press@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:Press@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Media Inquiry from Kevin W Breuninger - CNBC

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

**From:** [no-reply@usdoj.gov](mailto:no-reply@usdoj.gov) <[no-reply@usdoj.gov](mailto:no-reply@usdoj.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 4:43 PM  
**To:** Press <[Press@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:Press@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Media Inquiry from Kevin W Breuninger - CNBC

Date Tuesday, February 11, 2020 - 4:43pm EST

Name: Kevin W Breuninger

Email Address: [kevin.breuninger@nbcuni.com](mailto:kevin.breuninger@nbcuni.com)

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

Media Outlet: CNBC

Deadline: ASAP

Inquiry:

I cover politics for CNBC. Adam Jed has just resigned as counsel in Roger Stone's case in US Court in DC. Has he returned to his work in the DOJ civil division? Please respond as soon as possible. Email or call (b) (6)

Mike Allen

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**From:** Mike Allen  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 1:26 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Cc:** Jonathan Swan  
**Subject:** Re: checking a few things - time sensitive

Thank you so much for getting back after your marathon day ...

On Feb 11, 2020, at 10:20 PM, Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) wrote:

Hey Jonathan - so, I haven't talked to NBC about below items. Not sure what that's about. But see below.

On Feb 11, 2020, at 9:19 PM, Jonathan Swan <[jonathan@axios.com](mailto:jonathan@axios.com)> wrote:

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?

No.

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.)

Department leadership made the decision last night (hours before tweet).

- 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.

On background: I don't know. Could be true.

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.

On background: I don't challenge 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?

On background: I have no idea who Barbara Leeden is and have never heard her mentioned.

- 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?

I'll have to check. But on background, my understanding was Liu was pursuing the Treasury position since summer of 2019.

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)

**Stromberg, Stephen**

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**From:** Stromberg, Stephen  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 11:32 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Re: Stone

Hi Kerri —

So we are writing today. Things I'm still wondering:

-What was the AG's understanding of what the Stone sentencing recommendation was going to be? At what point did he form this understanding? With whom?

-To what extent was that previous understanding a reflection of Stone's relationship to President Trump — or set in anticipation of the president's likely reaction to a tough sentence?

-Why, after line prosecutors went a different route, was the decision deemed so egregious that it must be overturned, prompting obvious questions about the politicization of the Justice Department?

-Why, once it was overturned, did DOJ not formulate a clear sentencing recommendation for Judge Jackson? It seems like DOJ decided to pass the buck on this rather than face more presidential wrath.

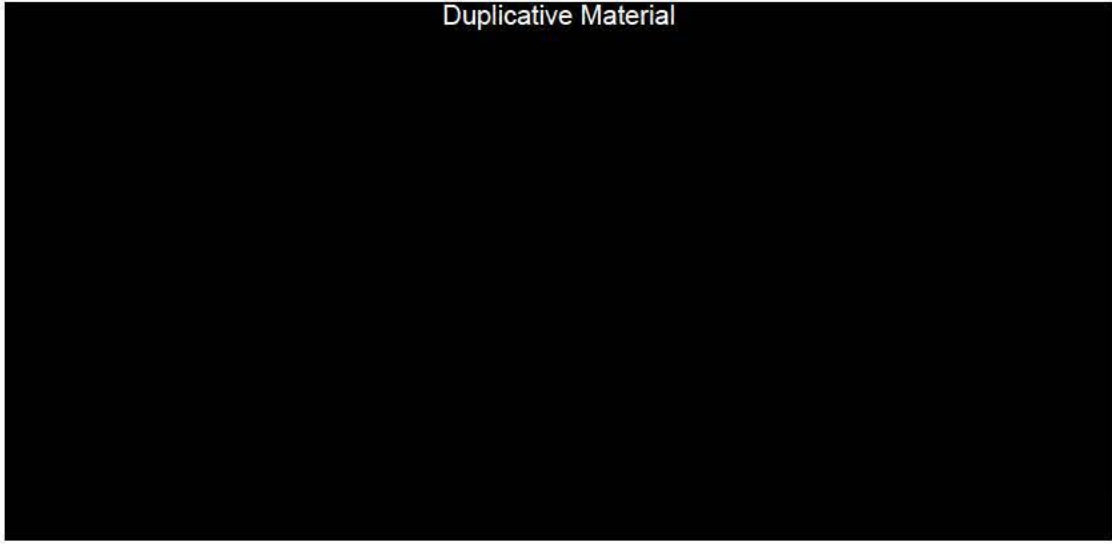
Thank you.

All Best,  
Steve

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

On Feb 11, 2020, at 2:50 PM, Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) wrote:

Duplicative Material





**Hornbuckle, Wyn (OPA)**

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**From:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (OPA)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 2:54 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** FW: Media Inquiry from Shane Croucher - Newsweek

I don't think this necessarily requires a response, but just flagging it.

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

From: Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2020 8:28 AM  
To: Hornbuckle, Wyn (OPA) <whornbuckle@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
Cc: Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
Subject: FW: Media Inquiry from Shane Croucher - Newsweek

Not entirely sure who this would go to.

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

From: no-reply@usdoj.gov <no-reply@usdoj.gov>  
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2020 3:33 AM  
To: Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
Subject: Media Inquiry from Shane Croucher - Newsweek

Date Wednesday, February 12, 2020 - 3:33am EST

Name: Shane Croucher

Email Address: s.croucher@newsweek.com

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

Media Outlet: Newsweek

Deadline: ASAP

Inquiry:

Good morning. Do you have any comment on the tweet by former AG Eric Holder that states: "Jonathan Kravis, Aaron Zelinsky, Adam Jed and Michael Marando — Department of Justice heroes. I support them and all of the men and women of goodwill at DOJ. Be tough. Do not compromise your values; there can be no compromise with those who act corruptly."



Thanks.

**Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)**

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**From:** Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 4:56 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Re: testimony

It is a general oversight hearing. Obviously stone will come up but so will a hundred other things.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 12, 2020, at 4:47 PM, Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) wrote:

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**From:** Shortell, David <David.Shortell@turner.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 4:45 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** testimony

Hey – the testimony HJC just announced. Is this a regular budget oversight hearing, or a specially agreed to hearing? HJC spinning it up like this was scheduled to address the Stone events.

Shortell, David

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**From:** Shortell, David  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 5:16 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: testimony

Thanks

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**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) [REDACTED] (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 5:12 PM  
**To:** Shortell, David <David.Shortell@turner.com>  
**Subject:** RE: testimony

It's a general oversight hearing.

---

**From:** Shortell, David <[David.Shortell@turner.com](mailto:David.Shortell@turner.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 4:45 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) [REDACTED] (b) (6)  
**Subject:** testimony

Duplicative Material



Barrett, Devlin

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**From:** Barrett, Devlin  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 5:16 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: I had to go back to my office but wanted to ask for comment on this

Got it, thank you.

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 5:11 PM  
**To:** Barrett, Devlin <Devlin.Barrett@washpost.com>  
**Subject:** RE: I had to go back to my office but wanted to ask for comment on this

**CAUTION: EXTERNAL SENDER**

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**From:** Barrett, Devlin <Devlin.Barrett@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 5:04 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**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, **Decline to comment**
2. POTUS comments on Comey – **Decline to comment**
3. POTUS saying "the prosecutors who need to go back to school" – **Decline to comment**
4. DoJ not providing specifics about how they were surprised by the first Stone sentencing filing. **Confused about this, because I thought I had answered this now a number of times on background: We were surprised because what was filed was inconsistent with what had been communicated to the Department, i.e., the Department expected a filing that was like the one that was filed yesterday.**

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

**Carr, Peter (OPA)**

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**From:** Carr, Peter (OPA)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 5:30 PM  
**To:** Press; Kupec, Kerri (OPA); Lloyd, Matt (PAO)  
**Cc:** Nichols, Danielle (PAO)  
**Subject:** Re: Media Inquiry from Suzanne Smalley - Yahoo News

Believe these should go to Kerri/Matt.

> On Feb 12, 2020, at 5:19 PM, Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

>

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: no-reply@usdoj.gov <no-reply@usdoj.gov>

> Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2020 5:11 PM

> To: Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>

> Subject: Media Inquiry from Suzanne Smalley - Yahoo News

>

> Date Wednesday, February 12, 2020 - 5:11pm EST

>

> Name: Suzanne Smalley

>

> Email Address: suzanne.smalley@yahoonews.com

>

> Topic: Criminal Law

>

> Media Outlet: Yahoo News

>

> Deadline: Today at 6:30

>

> Inquiry:

> I am hoping to speak with someone about the Roger Stone sentencing and the guidelines - I am quoting several former top federal criminal prosecutors who suggest the recommended sentence was within the guidelines

>

>



**Betsy Woodruff**

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**From:** Betsy Woodruff  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 6:26 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Re: HJC testimony from Barr on 3/31?

Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 12, 2020, at 6:12 PM, Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) wrote:

General oversight hearing-

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**From:** Betsy Woodruff <Betsy.Swan@thedailybeast.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 3:28 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** HJC testimony from Barr on 3/31?

Hi Kerri,

I'm told Barr has agreed to testify to House Judiciary on March 31, and is expected to be questioned about Jessie Liu, Giuliani, and Roger Stone. Can you let me know if you all have any comment on that and/or if you dispute it? If you could get back to me asap, that would be great. Thank you.

Best,

Betsy Woodruff Swan  
Politics Reporter, The Daily Beast  
Cell phone, Signal, and WhatsApp: (b) (6)  
1825 Connecticut Ave NW, Suite 620, Washington D.C.

## Gurman, Sadie

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**From:** Gurman, Sadie  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 13, 2020 12:12 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Cc:** Viswanatha, Aruna  
**Subject:** Re: do you have a minute to chat?

Hey, Kerri, I know it's a hectic day -- I am back and down here and we are pursuing a story that looks more broadly at the AG's hands-on approach to decision making, which was on display this week. Hope to chat with you about it when you come up for air. Also -- hearing he might be doing some interviews. Is there any chance he would talk for a few minutes with us?

Sadie Gurman  
WASHINGTON BUREAU

O: 202.862.9273 | M: (b) (6)  
E: [sadie.gurman@wsj.com](mailto:sadie.gurman@wsj.com) | T: [@sgurman](https://twitter.com/sgurman)  
A: 1025 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 800 | Washington, D.C. 20036

Sign up for WSJ's free Capital Journal newsletter [here](#).

On Wed, Feb 12, 2020 at 4:31 PM Sadie Gurman <[sadie.gurman@wsj.com](mailto:sadie.gurman@wsj.com)> wrote:

If you guys don't connect today I'll be back tomorrow and one of us will come find you.

Sadie Gurman  
Reporter  
The Wall Street Journal

(b) (6)

On Feb 12, 2020, at 1:20 PM, Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) wrote:

Come by -- I'm in here.

**From:** Viswanatha, Aruna <[aruna.viswanatha@wsj.com](mailto:aruna.viswanatha@wsj.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 4:05 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Gurman, Sadie <[sadie.gurman@wsj.com](mailto:sadie.gurman@wsj.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: do you have a minute to chat?

hey Kerri, I need to head out but let me know if you have a minute -- we may be filing a story about the AG's role in the Stone decision and how it is another example of him getting involved in DOJ decisions big and small, to cheers from administration allies and some discontent within the agency, many thanks

On Wed, Feb 12, 2020 at 12:17 PM Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) wrote:

Feel free to stop by my office

**From:** Viswanatha, Aruna <[aruna.viswanatha@wsj.com](mailto:aruna.viswanatha@wsj.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 12:06 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Gurman, Sadie <[sadie.gurman@wsj.com](mailto:sadie.gurman@wsj.com)>  
**Subject:** do you have a minute to chat?

Hi Kerri, I'm in the building as Sadie is travelling back to DC today. 2 things - 1) Can you provide more detail about the AGs specific involvement in the decision to file the revised recommendation in Stone? and 2) Can Tim Shea talk to us about what happened here?

Many thanks, - Aruna

**Kupec, Kerri (OPA)**

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**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2020 9:22 AM  
**To:** Ciniglio, Brianna  
**Subject:** RE: Fox News Cavuto Saturday Request

Thanks, Brianna – we decline.

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**From:** Ciniglio, Brianna <brianna.ciniglio@FOXNEWS.COM>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2020 8:48 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Fox News Cavuto Saturday Request

Good morning,

Just wanted to follow up and see if we would be able to make something work for Saturday?

Thanks,  
Brianna

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**From:** Ciniglio, Brianna  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 13, 2020 5:38 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) - Kerri Kupec Email Address  
**Subject:** Fox News Cavuto Saturday Request

Good evening Kerri,

I hope you're having a nice week. I wanted to reach out to see if Attorney General Barr would have any availability to join Neil Cavuto's show on Fox News this Saturday at any point between 10AM-12PM ET. We're interested in discussing the Roger Stone sentencing and the response it has gotten, as well as other news of the day. We will be live from New York, but would be able to arrange a remote interview. Please let me know if there's any way we can coordinate something.

Thanks,

**Brianna Ciniglio**  
Booker, "Cavuto Live"  
Fox News Channel  
Office: (212)-301-5051  
Cell: (b) (6)

This message and its attachments may contain legally privileged or confidential information. It is intended solely for the named addressee. If you are not the addressee indicated in this message (or responsible for delivery of the message to the addressee), you may not copy or deliver this message or its attachments to anyone. Rather, you should permanently delete this message and its attachments and kindly notify the sender by reply e-mail. Any content of this message and its attachments that does not relate to the official business of Fox News or Fox Business must not be taken to have been sent or endorsed by either of them. No representation is made that this email or its attachments are without defect.



**Kupec, Kerri (OPA)**

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**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2020 9:32 AM  
**To:** Herlihy, Brianna (PAO)  
**Subject:** FW: Request for comment: Ex-U.S. Attorney under Barr accuses DOJ and President of engaging in "conspiracy in plain view"

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**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2020 9:27 AM  
**To:** Christina Zhao <c.zhao@newsweek.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Request for comment: Ex-U.S. Attorney under Barr accuses DOJ and President of engaging in "conspiracy in plain view"

"Ridiculous."

**From:** Christina Zhao <c.zhao@newsweek.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 13, 2020 7:26 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Request for comment: Ex-U.S. Attorney under Barr accuses DOJ and President of engaging in "conspiracy in plain view"

Hi Kerri,

Former U.S. Attorney Patrick Cotter appeared on MSNBC today and accused Barr (DOJ) and Trump of engaging in a "conspiracy in plain sight" over the handling of Roger Stone's sentencing.

Can you issue us a response?

--

Kind regards,

**Christina Zhao** | Deputy News Editor

**NEWSWEEK**

T

E | [c.zhao@newsweek.com](mailto:c.zhao@newsweek.com)

W | [newsweek.com](http://newsweek.com)

A | Floor 24, 25 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London, E14 5LQ

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**Marcus, Ruth**

---

**From:** Marcus, Ruth  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2020 9:51 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Re: Would the AG like to write an oped

If you don't want to engage in a conversation that's up to you. I asked you two perfectly reasonable questions.

Sent from my iPhone

> On Feb 14, 2020, at 9:46 AM, Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) wrote:

>

> If your actual takeaway from watching that interview is that Bill Barr cares more about himself than the Department, I doubt there is anything I can do to help you on background.

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Marcus, Ruth <Ruth.Marcus@washpost.com>

> Sent: Friday, February 14, 2020 9:31 AM

> To: Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)

> Subject: Re: Would the AG like to write an oped

>

> I did not hear great concern,

>

> Sent from my iPhone

>

>> On Feb 14, 2020, at 9:23 AM, Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) wrote:

>>

>> CAUTION: EXTERNAL SENDER

>>

>> Ruth, I'm assuming you watched the ABC interview where he expressed great concern over how the President is speaking of those folks?

>>

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Marcus, Ruth <Ruth.Marcus@washpost.com>

>> Sent: Friday, February 14, 2020 7:48 AM

>> To: Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)

>> Subject: Would the AG like to write an oped

>>

>> Also, I am planning a column on the events and would like talk to you on background if possible.

Two things that particularly concern me are 1) interviewing in the State contracting recommendation

two things that particularly concern me are 1) intervening in the Stone sentencing recommendation in any case, whether or not in response to tweet. That seems unwise at best. 2) the seeming—maybe I missed something—lack of concern about the way POTUS speaks of prosecutors (corrupt) and judges. Focus on his ability to do his job, not his troops.

>> I'm at (b) (6) Thanks

>>

>> Sent from my iPhone

(b) (6)

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2020 11:30 AM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Re: An open letter to the DC - DOJ Office



Paul Sperry  
@paulsperry\_

POTUS is right: The real crimes WERE on the other side, & NOTHING's happened to those dirty cops & prosecutors--or dirty spies. His impatience is 100% understandable. Wouldnt u be clamoring for justice if u & your aides were set up, framed, illegally surveilled & falsely accused?

On Fri, Feb 14, 2020 at 9:05 AM (b) (6) (b) (6) wrote:  
Kerri and DC Office of the DOJ,

I know those of you reading this got into a career in justice because you believed in lady justice and blind justice. (Please read to the end) Your office has been in the news more than normal lately and I would like to share what the average American wishes for from your office - and you SHOULD want to know what people outside DC think.

Many of you are doing your best to restore justice to our country and the DOJ and FBI, but if Roger Stone is going to be charged for lying to Congress (relating to an illegally originated "investigation") and John Brennan, Andrew McCabe, James Comey, James Clapper, and countless others walk free for similar and worse offenses the president is RIGHT to be angry. You KNOW this is not equal justice. We all see this for what it is - political prosecution and a two tiered justice system.

If General Michael Flynn is going to be persecuted/prosecuted for...supposedly lying will those above also be prosecuted and if not, how do you justify that?

NO one is asking for you to TARGET Democrats or political enemies. MILLIONS of us are asking you to MAKE your department either enforce the laws against NO ONE or EVERYONE, enough protecting Democrats and those with "friends" in the right places. This is the opposite of justice. I am sure it is complicated and hard but quite frankly the country deserves justice NOW and



all of us, including the president are rightfully upset. We are upset at the illegal Mueller coup attempt, the Ukraine hoax, the potential perjury of Vindman, the potential perjury of Robert Mueller, the massive abuses of Mueller's entire team, the countless coverups, etc.

Doesn't the country deserve justice and not excuses?

Who is going to start standing up for blind justice and when? It takes ONE of you to be courageous to start.

(b) (6)



**Stromberg, Stephen**

---

**From:** Stromberg, Stephen  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2020 3:25 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Re: Follow-up editorial

OK. Thanks, Kerri.

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

> On Feb 14, 2020, at 12:43 PM, Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) wrote:

>

> CAUTION: EXTERNAL SENDER

>

> Hi, Steve -see below.

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Stromberg, Stephen <Stephen.Stromberg@washpost.com>

> Sent: Friday, February 14, 2020 11:12 AM

> To: Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)

> 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. Refer you to his interview. He was pretty clear about this.

>

> -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? He specifically referenced judges and prosecutors in his interview.

>

>  
> Thanks very much in advance.  
>  
> All Best,  
> Steve  
>  
>  
> Stephen Stromberg  
> Office: 202.334.6370  
> Cell: (b) (6)

**Kupec, Kerri (OPA)**

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 16, 2020 10:10 PM  
**To:** Littler1, Caryn (NBCUniversal)  
**Subject:** Re: NBC Inquiry: Response to WaPo article

Decline to comment

On Feb 16, 2020, at 3:54 PM, Littler1, Caryn (NBCUniversal) <[Caryn.Littler1@nbcuni.com](mailto:Caryn.Littler1@nbcuni.com)> wrote:

Kerri,

NBC was wondering if the DOJ had a response to the Washington Post article that more than 1,100 former Justice Department employees signed a public letter Sunday urging Attorney General Barr to resign over his handling of the Roger Stone case.

Article: [https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/more-than-1100-ex-justice-department-officials-call-for-barrs-resignation/2020/02/16/d9b56d10-50c0-11ea-9e47-59804be1dcfb\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/more-than-1100-ex-justice-department-officials-call-for-barrs-resignation/2020/02/16/d9b56d10-50c0-11ea-9e47-59804be1dcfb_story.html)

Thank you,

<!--[if !vml]--><image001.png>

Caryn Littler

Nightside Assignment Editor, NBC News Washington

W: (202) 885-4200

C: (b) (6)

T: @carylittler

[Caryn.Littler@nbcuni.com](mailto:Caryn.Littler@nbcuni.com)

**Kupec, Kerri (OPA)**

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 16, 2020 10:10 PM  
**To:** Chiacu, Doina (Reuters)  
**Cc:** Dunsmuir, Lindsay (Reuters); Zengerle, Patricia A. (Reuters); Schroeder, Pete (Reuters)  
**Subject:** Re: Seeking comment - 1,100 DOJ alumni call on Barr to resign

Decline to comment

On Feb 16, 2020, at 1:04 PM, Chiacu, Doina (Reuters) <[Doina.Chiacu@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:Doina.Chiacu@thomsonreuters.com)> wrote:

Good afternoon,

Reuters is doing a short story on the following statement and petition and is seeking DOJ comment. Can you please hit reply all with any response?

Thank you,  
Doina

<https://medium.com/@dojalumni/doj-alumni-statement-on-the-events-surrounding-the-sentencing-of-roger-stone-c2cb75ae4937>

Doina Chiacu  
Reuters Washington  
(202) 898-8322/19

(b) (6)

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<https://www.thomsonreuters.com/en/resources/disclosures.html>

**ODonnell, Kelly (NBCUniversal)**

---

**From:** ODonnell, Kelly (NBCUniversal)  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 16, 2020 10:26 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Quick check in

Thank you.

*Kelly O'Donnell*  
*White House Correspondent*  
*NBC News*  
*Mobile:* (b) (6)

*Twitter: @KellyO*  
*Instagram @TheKellyO*

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 16, 2020, at 10:09 PM, Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) wrote:

Hi Kelly - yes, testifying is still on.  
Re: the letter - decline to comment.

Best,  
Kerri

On Feb 16, 2020, at 8:18 PM, ODonnell, Kelly (NBCUniversal)  
<[Kelly.ODonnell@nbcuni.com](mailto:Kelly.ODonnell@nbcuni.com)> wrote:

Hi Kerri,

I'm reporting for TODAY on the "Open Letter" from former DOJ officials that calls on AG Barr to resign after the Stone matter.

Can you share a response from the department on that or lawmakers calls for him to step down?

Does he still plan to testify on the Hill as well?

Thank you as always.

*Kelly O'Donnell*  
*White House Correspondent*  
*NBC News*  
(b) (6)



(b) (6)

*Twitter: @KellyO*

*Instagram @TheKellyO*

Sent from my iPhone

**Spunt, David**

---

**From:** Spunt, David  
**Sent:** Monday, February 17, 2020 9:42 AM  
**To:** 'Kupec, Kerri (OPA)'  
**Subject:** RE: DOJ Alum Petition Comment

Understood!

Hope you have a good day. I'll be back at DOJ Wednesday.

David Spunt  
Correspondent  
Fox News Channel

(b) (6)  
[David.Spunt@foxnews.com](mailto:David.Spunt@foxnews.com)  
@davidspunt

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, February 17, 2020 9:37 AM  
**To:** Spunt, David <[David.Spunt@FOXNEWS.COM](mailto:David.Spunt@FOXNEWS.COM)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: DOJ Alum Petition Comment

Nope. Decline to comment.

(Off the record, I'd love to say something along the lines about how I'm not losing too much sleep over .0001% of past and present living DOJ officials not liking Bill Barr, but you know, trying to exercise some restraint.;)

On Feb 17, 2020, at 4:42 AM, Spunt, David <[David.Spunt@foxnews.com](mailto:David.Spunt@foxnews.com)> wrote:

Kerri,

Have you or are you putting out a statement re: below?

<https://medium.com/@dojalumni/doj-alumni-statement-on-the-events-surrounding-the-sentencing-of-roger-stone-c2cb75ae4937>

Thanks,

David

David Spunt  
Correspondent  
Fox News Channel

(b) (6)  
[David.Spunt@foxnews.com](mailto:David.Spunt@foxnews.com)  
@davidspunt

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**Rabbitt, Brian (OAG)**

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**From:** Rabbitt, Brian (OAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, February 24, 2020 11:30 AM  
**To:** (b)(6) - AG Barr (OAG)  
**Subject:** FW: Your op-ed in the WashPost re AG Barr

---

**From:** Terwilliger, George J. III <GTerwilliger@mcguirewoods.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 24, 2020 11:26 AM  
**To:** Rabbitt, Brian (OAG) <brrabbitt@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b)(6)  
**Subject:** FW: Your op-ed in the WashPost re AG Barr

You may want to show to Bill. Very nice to hear.

**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Monday, February 24, 2020 11:10 AM  
**To:** Terwilliger, George J. III <GTerwilliger@mcguirewoods.com>  
**Subject:** Your op-ed in the WashPost re AG Barr

**\*\*EXTERNAL EMAIL: use caution with links and attachments\*\***

Dear George,  
I was very glad to see your op-ed in the *Washington Post* on February 20. Thank you for writing it. You articulated my own feelings, which I know are representative of many other career prosecutors at the Justice Department, but which we aren't in a position to express.

(b)(6)

In that time, I have occasionally been overruled on some of my case-related recommendations, including those on politically sensitive cases. As you correctly noted, it goes with the territory, or at least it is supposed to.

I heard about Stone's original sentencing recommendation during the early evening before the tweets. I was surprised at its length and remember thinking that it was a vindictive act on the part of prosecutors seeking retribution for Stone's failure to cooperate with their investigation. I also remember thinking that there had been a failure of "adult supervision" of those prosecutors, perhaps because of the transition between U.S. Attorneys or the fact that this was a holdover case from Mueller's team. In any event, I completely take AG Barr at his word that he found the recommendation to be excessive and moved to correct it, irrespective of any presidential tweets, and I believe he was completely justified in doing so. I'm sure the tweets discomfited him more than anyone. I was therefore disappointed to see many names I recognized on the list of former DOJ attorneys calling on him to resign. They should know better, I assume they do know better, and I would have expected them to act more responsibly, despite their political views.

This is my second time serving under AG Barr. I have been proud to do so both times (as I was to serve under you). Last week, I tried to send a supportive message to the AG's office, and to encourage him not to resign, but the comment line was full and neither the switchboard nor the Command Center claimed they could transfer a call to his front office staff, even an internal one. In the event you communicate with him, please convey to him the fact that many of us believe that DOJ is very fortunate to have him. Thanks and best regards.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

---

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**Terwilliger, George J. III**

---

**From:** Terwilliger, George J. III  
**Sent:** Monday, February 24, 2020 2:47 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Cc:** Rabbitt, Brian (OAG)  
**Subject:** RE: Your op-ed in the WashPost re AG Barr

Thanks- will do.

---

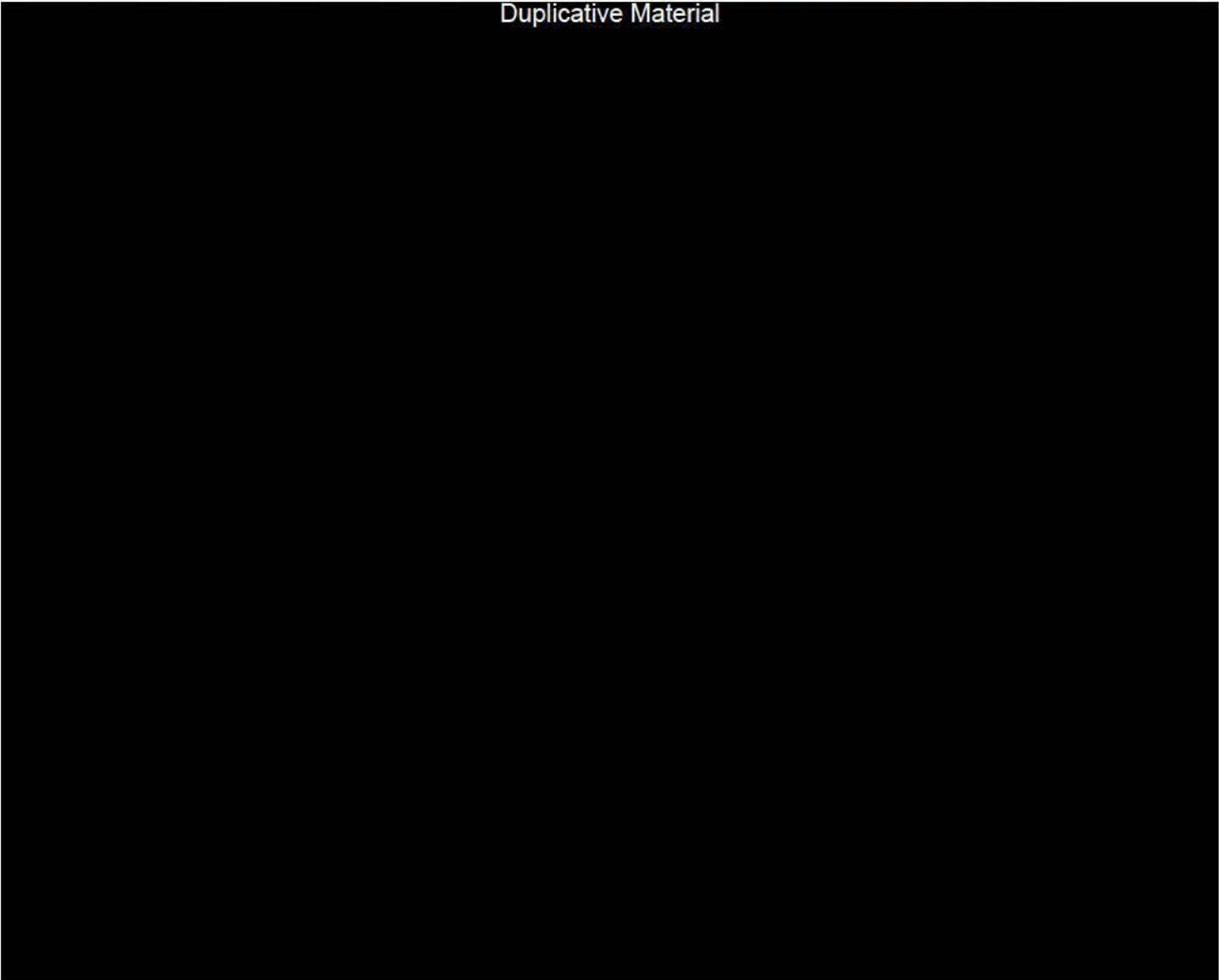
**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, February 24, 2020 11:47 AM  
**To:** Terwilliger, George J. III <GTerwilliger@mcguirewoods.com>  
**Cc:** Rabbitt, Brian (OAG) <Brian.Rabbitt@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Your op-ed in the WashPost re AG Barr

**\*\*EXTERNAL EMAIL; use caution with links and attachments\*\***

This is a beautiful note. Please let him know we will express these sentiments to the AG. Thank you!

On Feb 24, 2020, at 11:27 AM, Terwilliger, George J. III <[GTerwilliger@mcguirewoods.com](mailto:GTerwilliger@mcguirewoods.com)> wrote:

Duplicative Material



**Kupec, Kerri (OPA)**

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 2:33 PM  
**To:** Gidley, Hogan H. EOP/WHO  
**Subject:** RE: do you have statement?

Here's what I've said on the record thus far:

- That the decision to change the sentencing recommendation was done pre-Tweet.
- That we had no contact with the WH on this.
- That the President did not direct the Department to do this.

Here's what I've said on background as a senior DOJ official:

- Department leadership was shocked when they read the sentencing recommendation filed by the U.S.-DC Attorney's Office last night.
  - That recommendation was inconsistent with what the Department had previously been told would happen.
  - The Department believes the sentencing recommendation (7-9 years) is excessive and extreme.
- The Department believes the sentencing recommendation is disproportionate to Stone's offenses.
- The Department will clarify its sentencing recommendation later today in a court filing.

**Groves, Steven A. EOP/WHO**

---

**From:** Groves, Steven A. EOP/WHO  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 2:54 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: Stone

Many thanks!

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 2:52 PM  
**To:** Groves, Steven A. EOP/WHO (b) (6) >  
**Subject:** Stone

**Here's what I've said on the record thus far:**

- That the decision to change the sentencing recommendation was done pre-Tweet.
- That we had no contact with the WH on this.
- That the President did not direct the Department to do this.

**Here's what I've said on background as a senior DOJ official:**

- Department leadership was shocked when they read the sentencing recommendation filed by the U.S.-DC Attorney's Office last night.
  - That recommendation was inconsistent with what the Department had previously been told would happen.
  - The Department believes the sentencing recommendation (7-9 years) is excessive and extreme.
- The Department believes the sentencing recommendation is disproportionate to Stone's offenses.
- The Department will clarify its sentencing recommendation later today in a court filing.

**Kupec, Kerri (OPA)**

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 3:17 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) - Katherine Henning Email Address  
**Subject:** Stone

Here's what I've said on the record thus far:

- That the decision to change the sentencing recommendation was done pre-Tweet.
- That we had no contact with the WH on this.
- That the President did not direct the Department to do this.

Here's what I've said on background as a senior DOJ official:

- Department leadership was shocked when they read the sentencing recommendation filed by the U.S.-DC Attorney's Office last night.
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  - The Department believes the sentencing recommendation (7-9 years) is excessive and extreme.
- The Department believes the sentencing recommendation is disproportionate to Stone's offenses.
- The Department will clarify its sentencing recommendation later today in a court filing.

**Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)**

---

**From:** Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 3:35 PM  
**To:** Escalona, Prim F. (OLA); Greer, Megan L. (OLA); Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA); Thorley, Charles A. (OLA)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Stone

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Kupec, Kerri (OPA)" (b) (6)  
**Date:** February 11, 2020 at 3:18:23 PM EST  
**To:** "Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)" (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Stone

?

Here's what I've said on the record thus far:

- That the decision to change the sentencing recommendation was done pre-Tweet.
- That we had no contact with the WH on this.
- That the President did not direct the Department to do this.

Here's what I've said on background as a senior DOJ official:

- Department leadership was shocked when they read the sentencing recommendation filed by the U.S.-DC Attorney's Office last night.
  - That recommendation was inconsistent with what the Department had previously been told would happen.
  - The Department believes the sentencing recommendation (7-9 years) is excessive and extreme.
- The Department believes the sentencing recommendation is disproportionate to Stone's offenses.
- The Department will clarify its sentencing recommendation later today in a court filing.



**Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)**

---

**From:** Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 3:35 PM  
**To:** Escalona, Prim F. (OLA); Greer, Megan L. (OLA); Hankey, Mary Blanche (OLA); Thorley, Charles A. (OLA)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Stone

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Kupec, Kerri (OPA)" [REDACTED] (b) (6)  
**Date:** February 11, 2020 at 3:18:23 PM EST  
**To:** "Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)" [REDACTED] (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Stone

Duplicative



**White House Press Office**

**From:** White House Press Office  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 5:18 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) - Kern Kupec Email Address  
**Subject:** Pool Report # 4 - News from the Oval

**From:** Tom DeFrank <tdefrank@nationaljournal.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 5:11 PM

**Subject:** Pool Report # 4 - News from the Oval

After the veterans' bill signing, POTUS spent about 13 minutes taking questions. Here are the headlines:

- He hasn't gotten involved in the Roger Stone sentencing matter even though he could have, but "I thought it was ridiculous...I thought the (original) recommendation was ridiculous, I thought the whole prosecution was ridiculous."

- He demurred when asked if he might consider commuting Stone's sentence.

- Blamed the severity of the original Stone sentencing proposal on some of the same prosecutors who worked for Robert Mueller; "They ought to be ashamed of themselves...I think it's been disgraceful."

- On two separate occasions he launched on Michael Bloomberg for going to a church and apologizing for his stop-and-frisk policies as NYC mayor. "He was practically crying...pathetic...he's a lightweight and and you're gonna find out. he's also one of the worst debaters I've ever seen."

"Our country doesn't need that kind of leadership."

"Romney is a disgrace."

More hard shots against Lt. Col. Vindman. More TK

Biden may be able to come back but it will be hard. "Obama took him off the garbage heap."

"I don't see how we lose but you never know."

Urge all to check the transcript carefully.

Tom DeFrank - National Journal

(b) (6)

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**White House Press Office**

**From:** White House Press Office  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 5:29 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) - Kerri Kupec Email Address  
**Subject:** Pool Report #5 - Addendum and Lid

**From:** Tom DeFrank <tdefrank@nationaljournal.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 5:27 PM  
**Subject:** Pool Report #5 - Addendum and Lid

A travel/photo lid was called at 4:52.

Again, please check the transcript and cable news video.

Trump on Stone matter: "I have not been involved."

Asked if he knew the whistleblower's identity, he smiled and replied: "I don't want to say, but you'd be surprised."

He didn't break much new ground on Lt. Col. Vindman, but clearly he's still not happy with the ex-NSC officer. He went on at length about the transcript: "we had a totally accurate transcript." As for Vindman, "we sent him on his way" and the military can do whatever it wants.

As he has before, he described Adam Schiff as a sick person."

Tom DeFrank - National Journal

(b) (6)

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**White House Press Office**

**From:** White House Press Office  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 11:49 AM  
**To:** (b)(6) - Kerri Kupec Email Address  
**Subject:** Remarks by President Trump at Signing Ceremony for S.153, The Supporting Veterans in STEM Careers Act

📧 The White

Office of the Press Secretary

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 12, 2020


REMARKS BY PRESIDENT TRUMP  
AT THE SIGNING CEREMONY FOR S.153,  
THE SUPPORTING VETERANS IN STEM CAREERS ACT

Oval Office

February 11, 2020

4:13 P.M. EST

Duplicative Material





**Kjergaard, Alison (OPA)**

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**From:** Kjergaard, Alison (OPA)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 2:01 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) per NSD (NSD); Raimondi, Marc (OPA)  
**Cc:** Bratt, Jay (NSD); (b)(6) per NSD (NSD); Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: Checking in

Adding in Kerri.

---

**From:** (b)(6) per NSD (NSD) <(b)(6) per NSD>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 2:01 PM  
**To:** Raimondi, Marc (OPA) <mraimondi@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Kjergaard, Alison (OPA) <akjergaard@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Bratt, Jay (NSD) (b)(6) per NSD >; (b)(6) per NSD (NSD) (b)(6) per NSD  
**Subject:** FW: Checking in

Marc and Ali, please see below.

---

**From:** Polantz, Katelyn <[Katelyn.Polantz@turner.com](mailto:Katelyn.Polantz@turner.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 1:57 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) per NSD (NSD) (b)(6) per NSD  
**Subject:** Checking in

Hi (b)(6) per NSD,

I've written about the work of the DC USAO and the Mueller team extensively in recent years and am trying to learn more about what's happening on the remaining cases this week, especially after Main Justice stepped in on the Stone sentencing memo.

I would love to talk with you if you'd be willing.

I'm on my cell phone at (b) (6) if you have a moment. I also use Signal.

Thank you,  
Katelyn

--  
Katelyn Polantz  
Reporter – Justice/courts  
CNN  
Cell: (b) (6)  
[Katelyn.polantz@cnn.com](mailto:Katelyn.polantz@cnn.com)

**Polantz, Katelyn**

---

**From:** Polantz, Katelyn  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 2:44 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Cc:** Raimondi, Marc (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: Checking in

Thanks, Kerri

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 2:43 PM  
**To:** Polantz, Katelyn <Katelyn.Polantz@turner.com>  
**Cc:** Raimondi, Marc (OPA) <Marc.Raimondi@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Checking in

Hi, Katelyn – decline to comment.

Kerri

**From:** Polantz, Katelyn <Katelyn.Polantz@turner.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 1:57 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) per NSD (NSD) (b)(6) per NSD  
**Subject:** Checking in

Hi (b)(6) per NSD

I've written about the work of the DC USAO and the Mueller team extensively in recent years and am trying to learn more about what's happening on the remaining cases this week, especially after Main Justice stepped in on the Stone sentencing memo.

I would love to talk with you if you'd be willing.

I'm on my cell phone at (b) (6) if you have a moment. I also use Signal.

Thank you,  
Katelyn

--  
Katelyn Polantz  
Reporter – Justice/courts  
CNN  
Cell: (b) (6)  
[Katelyn.polantz@cnn.com](mailto:Katelyn.polantz@cnn.com)

**Kerri Kupec**  
Director  
Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
(b) (6)

(b) (6)

## **White House Press Office**

**From:** White House Press Office  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 3:31 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) - Kerri Kupec  
**Subject:** Pool Report 6 -- Follow-up feed on Roger Stone

**From:** Figueroa, Laura <Laura.Figueroa@newsday.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 3:27 PM  
**Subject:** Pool Report 6 -- Follow-up feed on Roger Stone

On Roger Stone

### **Q from NBC's Peter Alexander: Isn't your tweet political interference?**

"No, not at all. He was treated very badly. Nine years recommended by four people that perhaps they were Mueller people, prosecutors...I don't know what happen, they all hit the road pretty quickly."

Went on to rail against the Mueller investigation and James Comey.

"If you look at the Mueller investigation it was a scam..."

"Where's Comey?...What's happening to McCabe."

"What's happening to Lisa, and Peter Stroz..."

"The fact is that Roger Stone was treated horribly and so were many other people, their lives were destroyed."

Twice cited this example: "a man leaks classified information, highly classified, they give him 2 months." POTUS was asked who he was referring to but did not respond.

### **Q from Reuters' Steve Holland: Are you considering a pardon?**

"I don't want to say that yet but I tell you what, people were hurt viciously and badly by these corrupt people, and I want to thank...the Justice Department for seeing this horrible thing. I didn't speak to them by the way. Just so you understand. They saw the horribleness of a nine year sentence. You have murderers and drug addicts that don't get nine years. Nine years for doing something that no one can even define what he did. He put out a tweet."

"In the meantime Comey walks around making book deals."



**Laura Figueroa**  
**White House Reporter**  
**Newsday**  
**Twitter: @Laura\_Figueroa**  
**E-mail: Laura.Figueroa@newsday.com**

-----  
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**White House Press Office**

**From:** White House Press Office  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 5:25 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) - Kerri Kupec Email Address  
**Subject:** Remarks by President Trump and President Moreno of the Republic of Ecuador Before Bilateral Meeting

 The White

Office of the Press Secretary

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 12, 2020

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT TRUMP  
AND PRESIDENT MORENO OF THE REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR  
BEFORE BILATERAL MEETING

Oval Office

2:42 P.M. EST

PRESIDENT TRUMP: Well, thank you very much. It's great to be with the President of Ecuador -- and it's one of the most beautiful countries in the world -- and perhaps equally as important, and maybe even more importantly, your great First Lady. Thank you very much for being here. This is a tremendous honor. Some of the most beautiful landscapes in the world and one of the most beautiful places on Earth, they say. I've heard that for a long time.

And we are working on trade deals, we're working on military options, including the purchase of a lot of our military equipment. We do make the best equipment in the world, by far. And we're negotiating some very important pacts between Ecuador and the United States.

So, Mr. President, Madam First Lady, thank you very much. Thank you very much. Appreciate it. Please.

PRESIDENT MORENO: (As interpreted.) I would like to first thank everyone for -- especially Mr. President, for his kindness and to invite us over to talk about these very important topics -- topics which are common to both countries. I'd like to thank the President for the warmth with which he has greeted us.

And I have to stress the fact that our relationship between Ecuador and the USA is a relationship of fraternity that has been going -- that dates back a very long time.

We actually have taken the foundational principles of the U.S. to -- as a basis for our own foundational principles to create the first Republic of Ecuador.

We are going to be discussing issues that are common to both nations, such as democracy, liberty, freedom, respect of human rights, the fight against organized crime, the fight against drug trafficking, the fight against corruption.

And we are going to also be speaking about the importance of investment, trade, technology transfer that are all common principles to us. We know that both our peoples want to be governed with justice and equality, and that is what both of us are striving for.

PRESIDENT TRUMP: We want to thank you very much. This is a great honor to be with you.

Okay. Do you have any questions? Yeah.

Q On Roger Stone, sir. On Roger Stone: Isn't your tweet political interference?

PRESIDENT TRUMP: No, not at all. He was treated very badly. Nine years recommended by four people that -- perhaps they were Mueller people. I don't know who they were. Prosecutors. And they -- I don't know what happened. They all hit the road pretty quickly.

Look, you had somebody -- just recently, you saw what happened. He got two months. He got sentenced to two months for leaking classified information at the highest level.

Q Who's that that you're referring to?

PRESIDENT TRUMP: They treated Roger Stone very badly. They treated everybody very badly. And if you look at the Mueller investigation, it was a scam because it was illegally set up. It was set up based on false documentation and false documents.

If you look at what happened -- how many people were hurt. Their lives were destroyed. And nothing happened with all the people that did it and launched this scam. Where's Comey? Why -- where is Comey? What's happening to McCabe? What's happening to Lisa and -- to Pete Strzok and Lisa Page? What's happening with them? It was a whole setup, it was a disgrace for our country, and everyone knows it too -- everyone -- including NBC, which gives a lot of fake news.

The fact is that Roger Stone was treated horribly and so were many other people. And their lives were destroyed.

And it turns out -- if you look at the FISA warrants and what just happened with FISA, where they found out it was fixed, that it was a dirty, rotten deal. So when you look at that, and you see what happened to Roger Stone --

But think of it: A man leaks classified information -- highly classified. They give him two months -- Roger Stone -- for doing -- nobody even knows what he did. In fact, they said he intimidated somebody. That person said he had no idea he was going to jail for that. That person didn't want to press charges. They put him in for nine years. It's a disgrace.

And, frankly, they ought to apologize to a lot of the people whose lives they've ruined.

All right. Next question. Go ahead.



Q Mr. President, it's the first time --

Q Mr. President --

PRESIDENT TRUMP: Yeah. Please, Steve.

Q -- are you considering a pardon for Roger Stone?

Q -- that (inaudible) official visit --

PRESIDENT TRUMP: Wait, wait, wait. What?

Q Oh, sorry.

Q Are you considering a pardon for Roger Stone?

PRESIDENT TRUMP: I don't want to say that yet. But I tell you what: People were hurt viciously and badly by these corrupt people.

And I want to thank -- if you look at what happened, I want to thank the Justice Department for seeing this horrible thing. And I didn't speak to them, by the way, just so you understand. They saw the horribleness of a nine-year sentence for doing nothing. You have murderers and drugs addicts; they don't get nine years. Nine years for doing something that nobody even can define what he did.

Somebody said he put out a tweet, and the tweet -- you based it on that. We have killers, we have murderers all over the place -- nothing happens. And then they put a man in jail and destroy his life, his family, his wife, his children. Nine years in jail. It's a disgrace.

In the meantime, Comey walks around making book deals. The people that launched this scam investigation -- and what they did is a disgrace. And, hopefully, it'll be treated fairly; everything else will be treated fairly.

Q Sir, aren't you speaking -- aren't you speaking to the  
attorney general through your tweets?

Attorney General through your tweets:

Q Mr. Donald Trump --

PRESIDENT TRUMP: Go ahead, please.

Q (As interpreted.) Mr. President, I'd like to congratulate you for the macroeconomic indicators; they're excellent. But in that number, the growth expectations are going down, especially for the growth in Ecuador, which is at zero. How can we help Latin American economies? How can we help Ecuador, Mr. President? And congratulations.

PRESIDENT TRUMP: Well, thank you. I love that question. I wish we had some people like that here. He's congratulating us on our great success as a country. And I want to congratulate you, too, because what you've done in Ecuador and your President have done a fantastic job. Thank you very much.

Q Mr. President, are you concerned about the four prosecutors?

Q Thank you, Mr. President --

PRESIDENT TRUMP: I'm not concerned about anything; concerned about nothing.

Q Does it show that there's something wrong at DOJ?

PRESIDENT TRUMP: I'm not concerned about anything. They ought to go back to school and learn, because I'll tell you, with the way they treated people, nobody should be treated like that.

Go ahead.

Q Mr. President, thank you so much. It's been 17 years since the last time a President from Ecuador visited the White House and a President of the United States did an official visit with them --

PRESIDENT TRUMP: And when was it? When was it?



-----  
Q Seventeen years ago.

PRESIDENT TRUMP: Wow.

Q It was with George W. Bush in 2003. What changed now?  
What is your specific interest with Ecuador now?

And usted -- also in Spanish now -- *Presidente de Ecuador* --  
(Continues question in Spanish.) (No translation provided.)  
Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT TRUMP: She did a good job. Go ahead. I think I understood it.

PRESIDENT MORENO: (As interpreted.) Ecuador has -- after having gone through very hard times, and especially in regards to its international relationships -- has decided to come together again with the international community and bring refreshed relationships to those who are -- who have the same way of thinking as we do. We wanted to come closer to them.

(Continues answer in Spanish.) (Interpreter pauses translation.)

(Cross-talk by reporters.)

PRESIDENT TRUMP: Don't interrupt. Don't interrupt.

(Interpreter resumes translation.)

PRESIDENT MORENO: (As interpreted.) We need to remember that the USA is the main trade partner for Ecuador. And this is not only in terms of trade, but because we share many common values such as the love for liberty, democracy, justice, solidarity, fraternity, and the respect of human rights.

PRESIDENT TRUMP: And I can tell you the thing that has changed from our standpoint: We're the number-one economy in the world, by far. We've never done better. We have the strongest

markets we've ever had. The market is up very substantially today: 250 points, when I last looked.

And our country has never done better, militarily. We've rebuilt our military. We've cut our taxes; we've cut regulations at a level that nobody has ever been able to cut them.

And our country is doing great, and we've really reestablished a lot of relationships, but we have certainly reestablished it with Ecuador. Ecuador had a very unusual outlook on life, but with your great President, he realizes how important it is to get along with the United States.

And I want to just congratulate him, because our relationship is very good. He's made tremendous progress.

Q Mr. President, are you open to working on a trade deal with Ecuador?

PRESIDENT TRUMP: Yeah, sure, we will. And they have incredible product. And they grow it and they make it, and we like it. So, we will. Sure. And they need our product, too.

Q Is it going to be like the USMCA? That's your model for that?

PRESIDENT TRUMP: Well, that's a great model. We just finished that, and it's a great model with Mexico and with Canada. USMCA has been very successful. Already, the fruits are really taking place. You take a look at what's happening in terms of the kind of numbers we'll be doing with the USMCA. And this, on a much smaller scale, would be interesting. We are looking at that kind of a model, yes.

Q And on Venezuela, are you going to talk about that? And are you worried about the assault on Juan Guaidó yesterday when he arrived in Caracas?

PRESIDENT TRUMP: Yeah, we'll be looking at and talking about Venezuela. And it's always close to our heart. We have millions

of people from Venezuela living in the United States very successfully. They love our country and they love Venezuela. We'll take care of the Venezuelan people.

Q Sir, some Republicans said they hope you learned a lesson from impeachment. What lesson did you learn from impeachment?

I think you were -- you weren't chosen. Steve, go ahead.

Q Thank you, sir. The Filipino President decided to --

Q (Asks question in Spanish.)

PRESIDENT TRUMP: Excuse me, one second. We'll do this gentleman and then you. Go ahead. Steve?

Q The President of the Philippines decided to sever a U.S. military pact with the United States. What was your reaction to that, sir? Is there anything to convince him otherwise?

PRESIDENT TRUMP: Well, I -- I never minded that very much, to be honest. We helped the Philippines very much. We helped them defeat ISIS. I get along -- actually, I have a very good relationship there. But I -- I really don't mind. If they would like to do that, that's fine. We'll save a lot of money. You know, my views are different than other people. I view it as, "Thank you very much. We save a lot of money."

But if you look back -- if you go back three years ago, when ISIS was overrunning the Philippines, we came in and, literally, single-handedly were able to save them from vicious attacks on their islands. But I haven't heard exactly that, what you -- the way you expressed the question.

And my relationship, as you know, is a very good one with their leader. And we'll see what happens. They'll have to tell me that.

Q Thank you, and good afternoon, Mr. President. (Asks



question in Spanish.)

(Repeats question in English.) My question is about security. We know that Ecuador has a problem with narco-traffic and some other problems. So one of the topics you're going to talk about is security. I want to know what Ecuador wants to learn from the United States in that topic.

PRESIDENT TRUMP: Well, we're doing very well on our southern border. We're doing incredibly well. We built over 100 miles now. It's substantially more than that, of wall. Very powerful wall. It's got all sorts of protections on it. We have alarm systems, we have lighting systems, we have everything you can have. It's pretty much the ultimate of what you can do in terms of that. We have great protection. We have great protection with our military.

We've been dealing also with Mexico. Mexico has 27,000 soldiers on our southern border, and they've been great. And we just set another record. As you saw, the numbers have come way down in terms of people coming through our border. Way down. They're going to be very low.

And after the wall is complete, even in the areas where we're now over 100 miles, incredibly, the traffic has virtually stopped. It's come to a halt. The wall has been a tremendous -- a tremendous thing.

So we'll have that finished by the end of next year. And sometime during next year, we'll have it finished. And we'll probably be up to close -- by the end of this year, close to 400 miles of wall. And it's made a tremendous difference.

So we have great security. We'll be discussing with Ecuador their situation and their security. They do have a problem with the narcos, and that's not good. And we will be working with them to help, okay?

Q (In Spanish.)

Q Mr. President, why (inaudible) nomination?

PRESIDENT TRUMP: One second. She's going to just answer the question.

Q He's going to answer my question.

PRESIDENT MORENO: (In Spanish.) (No translation provided.)

PRESIDENT TRUMP: Last night, as you know, we had a very interesting election, and from the standpoint of the Republican Party and myself, but from the standpoint of the Republican Party, it was a tremendous success. I got more votes than any incumbent President in many decades. That includes a lot of Presidents. And it was really incredible -- the love in New Hampshire.

And, by the way, we did the same thing in Iowa, and we were actually able to quickly count our votes. We knew within minutes after the poll how many votes we had, unlike the Democrats.

So we had a tremendous success in Iowa. And last night, we had a tremendous -- a very powerful success in New Hampshire. So it was a great honor.

But setting that record in both states was terrific, and now we're off to some areas that I like very much: Nevada, you look at that; South Carolina, you look at that. And I think we're going to do very well there. Probably setting up a major rally in South Carolina. We already have one in Nevada. So we'll be in those two locations, and we'll be at a few others also. But it's been incredible.

The rally we had in New Hampshire and in Iowa -- again, it was almost the same; it was -- they were both spectacular. You could have put them in a big stadium. We were already in large arenas, but you could've put them in a big stadium. We could've sold it out numerous times, so it was really, really terrific. And we appreciate it. Yeah, we appreciate it.

Q Who is the Democratic front-runner, sir?



PRESIDENT TRUMP: That's a good question. I would say Bernie looks like he's doing very well.

Q Why is he surging?

PRESIDENT TRUMP: I think people like his message. He's got energy. His people have energy. But they like his message. But a lot of people don't like that particular message. But there is a group that probably agrees with it. And, you know, whoever it is, we'll take them on. But it would certainly seem that Bernie Sanders has the advantage right now.

Q Will you debate whoever wins? Will you debate whoever wins?

PRESIDENT TRUMP: Sure. I look forward to it, actually.

Q Lisa Murkowski, moments ago -- Lisa Murkowski, earlier, said that you shouldn't have gotten involved with the Roger Stone case. She said it's just bad. Some Republicans have said they hoped you would learn a lesson from impeachment. What lesson did you learn from impeachment?

PRESIDENT TRUMP: That the Democrats are crooked. They've got a lot of crooked things going. That they're vicious. That they shouldn't have brought impeachment.

Q Anything about yourself?

PRESIDENT TRUMP: And that my poll numbers are 10 points higher because of fake news like NBC, which reports the news very inaccurately. Probably more inaccurately than CNN, if that's possible. "MSDNC" and you're "MS..." and if you take a look at NBC. No, I think they're among the most dishonest reporters of the news.

Okay. Thank you very much, everybody. I appreciate it. Thank you very much. Thank you. Thank you very much.

END

3:01

0232

P.M. EST

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**Benner, Katie**

---

**From:** Benner, Katie  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 7:28 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (JMD)  
**Subject:** Fwd: NYT story on the Stone fallout

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

From: **Benner, Katie** <[katie.benner@nytimes.com](mailto:katie.benner@nytimes.com)>  
Date: Wed, Feb 12, 2020 at 7:26 PM  
Subject: NYT story on the Stone fallout  
To: Shea, Timothy (OAG) <[timothy.shea@usdoj.gov](mailto:timothy.shea@usdoj.gov)>, (b)(6) per EOUSA  
(b)(6) per EOUSA

Hi all,

I wanted to let you know that I'm working on a story about the fallout from the Stone sentencing. Much of the story is taken up by reporting on Jessie Liu and the history of the office/complaints about DOJ being politicized.

However, there are specifics about the USA office in DC that I wanted to run by you for comment.

- We say that there were prosecutors in the office were confused by the process by which Jessie left and Tim joined.

- We say that Tim's COS, Metcalf, rubbed people the wrong way and didn't have a good relationship with some prosecutors. We mention that several folks took umbrage over the fact that he moved a woman from her office so that he could have it.

- We mention that on Monday Tim told the Stone team that he wanted a downward revision on the sentencing recommendation, but that three of the four prosecutors threatened to withdraw from the case if that happened.

- We mention that questions have arisen about how such a terrible miscommunication could have happened between the USA's office and Main Justice, especially given the fact that Tim and AG Barr are close and have worked together before.

I'm happy to talk through any of these things. My cell is (b)(6). We have probably 2 hours before anything is published.

Thank you so much,  
Katie

--  
Katie Benner

(b)(6) (m)

@ktbenner

Check out my recent stories [here](#)

--  
Katie Benner

(b)(6) (m)

@ktbenner

Check out my recent stories [here](#)

**Rabbitt, Brian (OAG)**

---


**From:** Rabbitt, Brian (OAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 13, 2020 6:23 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA); Lloyd, Matt (PAO)  
**Subject:** Fwd: NAAUSA Press Release  
**Attachments:** Feb 13 NAAUSA Statement.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Sofer, Gregg (OAG)" <gsofer@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Date:** February 13, 2020 at 6:07:53 PM EST  
**To:** "Rabbitt, Brian (OAG)" <brrabbitt@jmd.usdoj.gov>, "Levi, William (OAG)" <wlevi@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject: FW: NAAUSA Press Release**

Duplicative



**Hovakimian, Patrick (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Hovakimian, Patrick (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 13, 2020 6:52 PM  
**To:** Rosen, Jeffrey A. (ODAG); DuCharme, Seth (ODAG); Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Fwd: NAAUSA Press Release  
**Attachments:** Feb 13 NAAUSA Statement.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Patrick Hovakimian

(b) (6)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Ellis, Corey (USAEO)" (b)(6) per EOUSA  
**Date:** February 13, 2020 at 6:04:18 PM EST  
**To:** "Hovakimian, Patrick (ODAG)" <phovakimian4@jmd.usdoj.gov>, "Sofer, Gregg (OAG)" <gsofer@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: NAAUSA Press Release

Duplicative Material





**Hovakimian, Patrick (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Hovakimian, Patrick (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 13, 2020 8:48 PM  
**To:** Rosen, Jeffrey A. (ODAG)  
**Subject:** FW: IG

FYI.

---

**From:** Weinsheimer, Bradley (ODAG) <bradweinsheimer@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 13, 2020 7:25 PM  
**To:** Hovakimian, Patrick (ODAG) <phovakimian4@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** IG

IG Horowitz told me earlier today that that OIG received a press inquiry from the Post suggesting that the IG had "agreed" to look into the Stone matter. (b) (5)

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Thanks, Brad.

Brad Weinsheimer  
Associate Deputy Attorney General  
Office: 202-305-7848  
Cell: (b) (6)  
[Bradley.weinsheimer@usdoj.gov](mailto:Bradley.weinsheimer@usdoj.gov)

Levi, William (OAG)

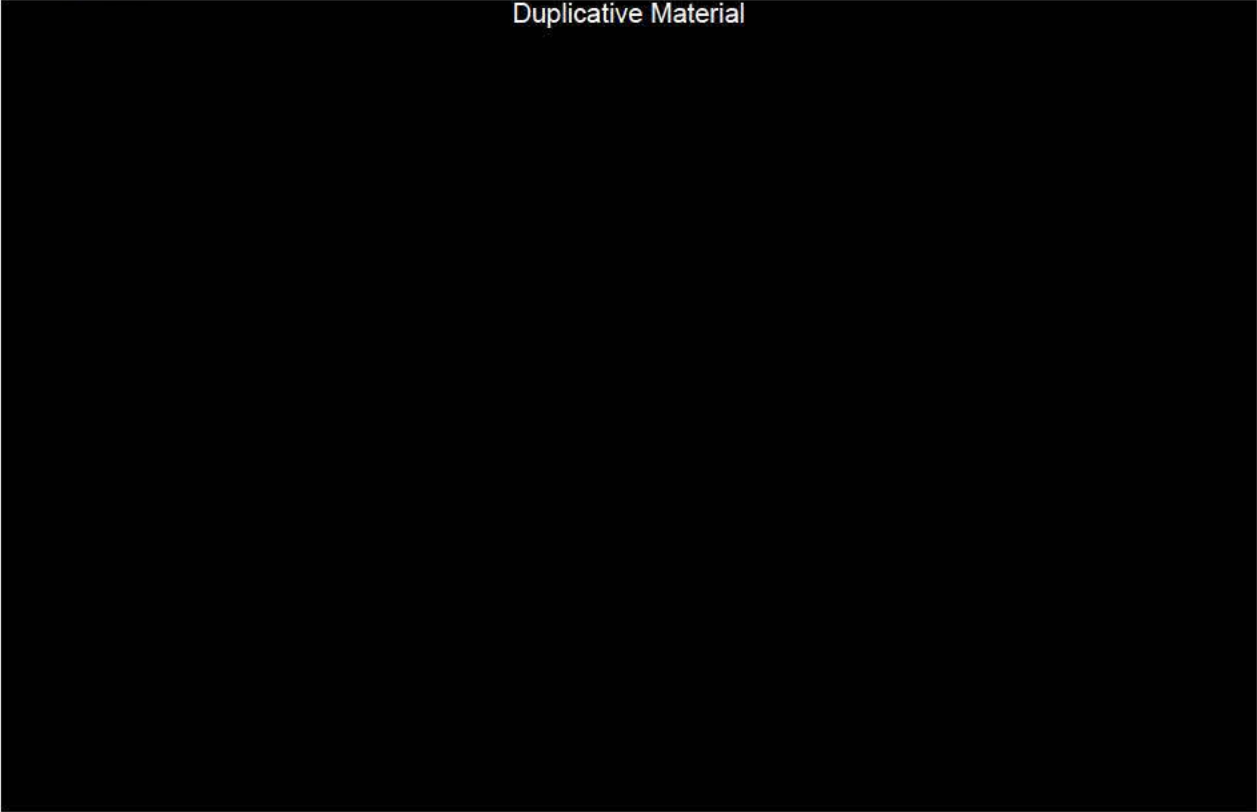
---

**From:** Levi, William (OAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 13, 2020 8:55 PM  
**To:** Hovakimian, Patrick (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Re: IG

Thanks for this

On Feb 13, 2020, at 8:51 PM, Hovakimian, Patrick (ODAG) <phovakimian4@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

Duplicative Material



**Kupec, Kerri (OPA)**

---

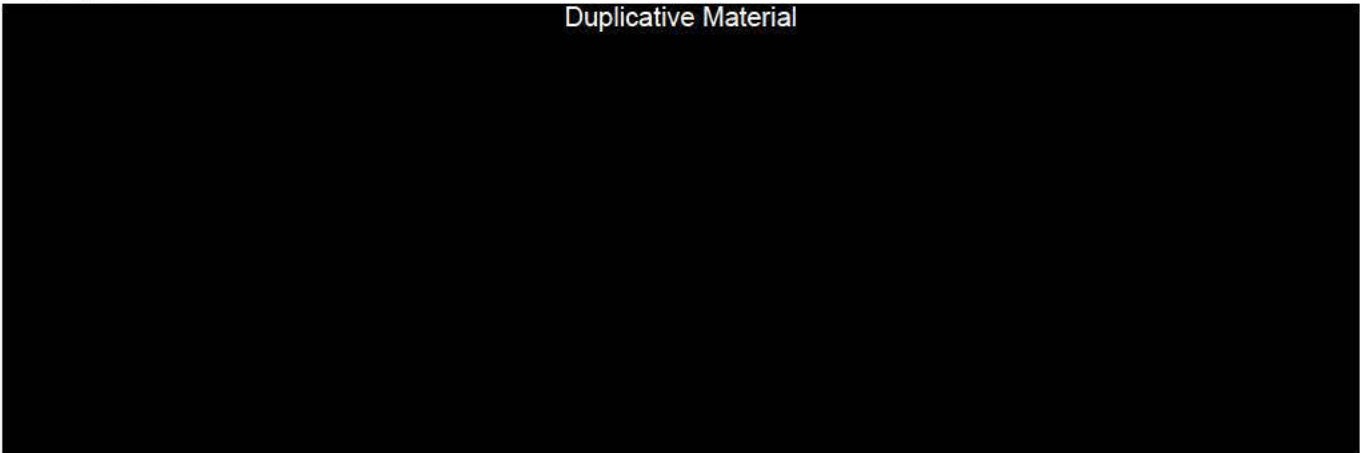
**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2020 9:28 AM  
**To:** Weinsheimer, Bradley (ODAG); Hovakimian, Patrick (ODAG)  
**Subject:** RE: IG

Thanks, Brad. They are saying same to me. I have flatly declined to comment and said nothing beyond that.

---

**From:** Weinsheimer, Bradley (ODAG) <bradweinsheimer@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 13, 2020 7:25 PM  
**To:** Hovakimian, Patrick (ODAG) <phovakimian4@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** IG

Duplicative Material



**Mastropasqua, Kristina (OPA)**

---

**From:** Mastropasqua, Kristina (OPA)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2020 12:00 PM  
**To:** Hsu, Spencer  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT, Wash Post deadline query for USA Shea and CoS Metcalf re AG Barr's remarks toA BC

When are you filing?

Kristina Mastropasqua  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
(b) (6)

---

**From:** Hsu, Spencer <Spencer.Hsu@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2020 11:47 AM  
**To:** Mastropasqua, Kristina (OPA) <kmastropasqua@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: URGENT, Wash Post deadline query for USA Shea and CoS Metcalf re AG Barr's remarks toA BC

FYI, sharing what I sent last night re SHEA/Metcalf story.

---

**From:** Hsu, Spencer <Spencer.Hsu@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 13, 2020 7:10 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) per EOUSA (USADC) <(b)(6) per EOUSA (b)(6) per EOUSA (b)(6) per EOUSA>  
**Subject:** URGENT, Wash Post deadline query for USA Shea and CoS Metcalf re AG Barr's remarks toA BC

Hello (b)(6) per EOUSA

AG Barr's remarks today about USA Shea have accelerated the timing of our Shea profile.

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/barr-pushes-back-against-trumps-criticism-of-justice-dept-says-tweets-make-it-impossible-for-me-to-do-my-job/2020/02/13/7ff5f308-4e7c-11ea-9b5c-eac5b16dafaa\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/barr-pushes-back-against-trumps-criticism-of-justice-dept-says-tweets-make-it-impossible-for-me-to-do-my-job/2020/02/13/7ff5f308-4e7c-11ea-9b5c-eac5b16dafaa_story.html)

- 1) On immediate deadline, would he or Mr. Metcalf respond to the AG's remarks.
- 2) Would either wish to respond, comment, or provide any corrections or guidance on the following.



After 10 days on the job, Interim U.S. Attorney Timothy J. Shea of Washington has emerged as a key figure in the political crisis over the Justice Department's reduced sentencing recommendation for President Trump's longtime friend Roger Stone, an unfamiliar place for one of Attorney General William P. Barr's closest advisers.

Shea, 59, has kept a low-profile despite endorsing both the prosecutors' initial recommendation of a 7 to 9 year prison term for Stone that enraged the president, and a second version 24 hours later calling the first request "excessive" and suggesting a term half as long would be appropriate. Both filings were signed by prosecutors under Shea's name; in protest, all four line prosecutors who signed the first withdrew when the second was filed.

In an interview with ABC on Thursday, Barr said he was "very surprised" at the first recommendation, saying he expected it to say what the second Stone filing did.

Barr pinned responsibility on Shea — Barr's counselor since April — and indirectly on Shea's new 34-year-old chief of staff, David Metcalf, who since March had served as counsel to Deputy Attorney General Jeffrey A. Rosen.

The attorney general asserted that Shea had chatted with him briefly on Monday, before the first Stone filing, and told him the prosecutors "very much wanted to recommend the seven to nine years to the judge." But, Barr claimed that Shea told him "he thought that there was a way of satisfying everybody and providing more flexibility."

When that didn't happen, Barr said he told aides Monday night to get ready to respond Tuesday, when they entered a second filing citing factors in Stone's favor and deferring to the judge to decide.

Barr criticized Trump for reacting angrily and tweeting Tuesday: "This is a horrible and very unfair situation. The real crimes were on the other side, as nothing happens to them. Cannot allow this miscarriage of justice!"

In the ABC interview, Barr said, "I think it's time to stop the tweeting about Department of Justice criminal cases," and adding, "I'm not going to be bullied or influenced by anybody."

The remarks provided some cover for Shea, but did not address fierce criticism of his role. If Shea was aware of his prosecutors' initial sentencing recommendation and failed to explain it to Barr and Rosen in Stone's case, then he failed as a manager, detractors said. If he failed to defend it and folded because of political pressure, he lacks the independence required to serve as U.S. attorney they said.



...and the independence required to serve as chief attorney, they said.

"[Shea] must resign. Otherwise, he is either not in charge of his own office, or is a pawn of the president. Both are intolerable," according to former Detroit U.S. attorney and Obama appointee Barbara McQuade, a legal commentator for NBC.

Shea declined to comment for this article, perhaps hunkering down for pending investigations by Congress and Justice Department Inspector General Michael Horowitz, relying on Barr's continuing support, trusting in his own political and legal instincts, or some combination.

Shea's backers say he is a skilled and politically attuned lawyer with 30 years of experience heading legal and investigative entities at the federal and state level for elected leaders in both parties, as well as former lobbyist and longtime private corporate attorney and adviser.

"I've known Tim for 20 years or so. He's very fair, a smart guy, balanced. He's committed to doing the right thing, and the right thing was done here," said former Massachusetts attorney general Thomas J. Reilly, a Democrat, for whom Shea worked from 1999 to 2001 as chief of the office's consumer-oriented Public Protection Bureau.

Regarding Shea's managerial experience, Reilly said he recalled that Shea helped oversee the turnaround in 1999 of a major health insurer placed in state receivership, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, which had 1.1 million members.

Reilly said he was no supporter of Trump, but called Barr a man of "utmost integrity" and "a hell of a role model for Shea."

"Is he caught in the middle here? Yeah. Things like that can happen your first week on the job," Reilly said, blaming line prosecutors for quitting and saying the office ultimate position "got it right."

Shea returned to the Justice Department last year as counselor to Barr after a two decade absence from Washington. The Massachusetts native first entered Barr's orbit in 1991, when the Georgetown law school graduate went to work directly for then-deputy attorney general Barr, remaining in the deputy's office when President George H.W. Bush elevated Barr to attorney general.

Barr has since tapped Shea to spearhead a department crackdown targeting violent crime in seven U.S. cities, and to support a new Presidential Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice whose members were sworn in Jan. 22.

Just one week later, however, Barr on Thursday's publication announced that Shea



just one week later, however, Barr on three days' public notice announced that Shea was take over as the top federal prosecutor in Washington effective Feb. 3.

As interim U.S. attorney, Shea took charge of 300 attorneys who have unusual jurisdiction to prosecute both local and federal crimes, and who play a key role in politically sensitive prosecutions of public corruption by members of both parties and across the federal government, as well as national security cases.

Shea succeed Trump appointee Jessie K. Liu, who had been in line to become Treasury undersecretary for terrorism and financial crimes before Trump abruptly withdrew her nomination on Tuesday — five weeks after sending it on to the Senate. Administration officials said Trump had grown unhappy with Liu after being lobbied extensively by people who did not like her handling of the D.C. office — particularly of individuals like Stone charged in former special counsel Robert S. Mueller III's investigation of Russian interference in the 2016 U.S. election.

Liu has declined to comment on her departure. **Attorneys in the office and others familiar with the situation have raised fears of encroaching political interference, saying the recent arrival of Shea, Metcalf, and others from the Justice Department leadership reflects a push to exert more control over public corruption and national security cases.**

Such doubts now will occupy Shea's time, among other management headaches. The U.S. attorney's office also faces a strained relationship with the District's Department of Forensic Sciences, the city's independent crime lab that handles DNA and firearm testing and is a linchpin for investigating hundreds of cases of violent crime. In a report filed by Liu, prosecutors said they were concerned about the "integrity and competence" of the agency's management and how analysis done by analysts might be influenced by such outside factors.

Shea was born in Fall River, Mass., about 55 miles south of Boston near the Massachusetts and Rhode Island border, to a family of five generations of firefighters, including his father, Louis Shea Jr., who served 13 years as chief of the Fall River Fire Department.

The department's current chief, John D. Lynh, recalled meeting Shea about two decades ago on his father's retirement, saying in an interview, "He has that Shea look. Tall, broad shouldered, strapping and strong."  
"Courage and leadership are in their blood," Lynh said.

Shea graduated from Boston College in 1982 in political science and government, and spent nine years working for the late liberal Republican congressman Silvio O. Conte (R-



Mass.) as a personal and professional House Appropriations Committee staffer.

He joined the Justice Department in 1991, as an associate deputy attorney general to Barr. In a precursor to Barr's current lightning-rod role for Trump, then-President George H.W. Bush in 1992 relied on Barr's advice, pardoning all six Reagan administration officials who faced criminal charges in the Iran-contra affair, independent counsel Lawrence E. Walsh's investigation of the failed covert effort to trade arms to Nicaraguan rebels for the freedom of U.S. hostages in Iran.

After Bush lost reelection, Shea stayed active in Washington legal and political circles, spending a decade as a federal prosecutor in the Eastern District of Virginia, as chief counsel and staff director for a Senate investigations subcommittee focusing on consumer protection under then-freshman Sen. Susan M. Collins (R-Maine) before returning to Massachusetts in 1999 to work for Reilly.

As an Alexandria federal prosecutor under U.S. attorneys Kenneth E. Melson, Helen Fahey and Richard Cullen — the latter a well-connected Virginia Republican who later represented Vice President Michael Pence in Mueller's Russia probe — Shea entered his appearance in about 120 cases, handling major crimes such as bank robberies and drug offenses, as well as escapes and illegal weapons charges against inmates of the former prison at Lorton, Va.

Shea spent 18 years in private practice at Bingham Consulting and the Morgan Lewis Bockius law firm, including a stint at a lobbyist. Both firms have been led by former New Hampshire governor Stephen Merrill (R).

Neither Merrill Collins nor the three former U.S. attorneys who supervised Shea responded Wednesday and Thursday to requests for comment.

Thank you for your time.

Best, Spencer

Spencer Hsu  
The Washington Post  
M: (b) (6)  
O: 202.334.7335



(b)(6) per EOUSA (USADC)

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**From:** (b)(6) per EOUSA (USADC)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2020 12:12 PM  
**To:** Mastropasqua, Kristina (OPA)  
**Subject:** FW: URGENT, Wash Post deadline query for USA Shea and CoS Metcalf re AG Barr's remarks toA BC

FYI

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**From:** Hsu, Spencer <Spencer.Hsu@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 13, 2020 7:10 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) per EOUSA (USADC); (b)(6) per EOUSA; (b)(6) per EOUSA (USAMD); (b)(6) per EOUSA  
**Subject:** URGENT, Wash Post deadline query for USA Shea and CoS Metcalf re AG Barr's remarks toA BC

Duplicative Material



(b)(6) per EOUSA (USADC)

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**From:** (b)(6) per EOUSA (USADC)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2020 12:55 PM  
**To:** Mastropasqua, Kristina (OPA)  
**Subject:** FW: NYT story on the Stone fallout

**From:** Benner, Katie <katie.benner@nytimes.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 7:26 PM  
**To:** Shea, Timothy (OAG) <tshea@jmd.usdoj.gov>; (b)(6) per EOUSA (USADC) (b)(6) per EOUSA  
**Subject:** NYT story on the Stone fallout

Hi all,

I wanted to let you know that I'm working on a story about the fallout from the Stone sentencing. Much of the story is taken up by reporting on Jessie Liu and the history of the office/complaints about DOJ being politicized.

However, there are specifics about the USA office in DC that I wanted to run by you for comment.

- We say that there were prosecutors in the office were confused by the process by which Jessie left and Tim joined.
- We say that Tim's COS, Metcalf, rubbed people the wrong way and didn't have a good relationship with some prosecutors. We mention that several folks took umbrage over the fact that he moved a woman from her office so that he could have it.
- We mention that on Monday Tim told the Stone team that he wanted a downward revision on the sentencing recommendation, but that three of the four prosecutors threatened to withdraw from the case. If that happened.
- We mention that questions have arisen about how such a terrible miscommunication could have happened between the USA's office and Main Justice, especially given the fact that Tim and AG Barr are close and have worked together before.

I'm happy to talk through any of these things. My cell is (b) (6). We have probably 2 hours before anything is published.

Thank you so much,

Katie

--

Katie Benner

(b) (6) (m)

@ktbenner

Check out my recent stories [here](#)

(b)(6) per EOUSA (USADC)

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**From:** (b)(6) per EOUSA (USADC)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2020 1:04 PM  
**To:** Mastropasqua, Kristina (OPA)  
**Subject:** FW: Backstory on the McCabe decision?  
**Importance:** High

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**From:** Lynch, Sarah N. (Reuters) <Sarah.N.Lynch@thomsonreuters.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2020 1:03 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) per EOUSA (USADC) (b)(6) per EOUSA  
**Subject:** Backstory on the McCabe decision?  
**Importance:** High

(b)(6) per EOUSA

I am covering the McCabe news today.  
We are really hoping for some insights here even on background.  
Why is this happening today?  
Does it have anything to do with the pressure the DOJ is facing due to the Stone case and the Trump tweets?  
It certainly does not seem to be a coincidence from where outsiders sit....

Sarah

Criminal Justice Correspondent  
Thomson Reuters  
Office: 202-354-5831  
Cell/Signal/WhatsApp: (b) (6)  
Justice Department Reuters Desk: 202-898-8396  
[Sarah.N.Lynch@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:Sarah.N.Lynch@thomsonreuters.com)  
Follow me on Twitter @SarahNLynch  
Investigative tips welcome  
#FollowtheMoney

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<https://www.thomsonreuters.com/en/resources/disclosures.html>

**Lynch, Sarah N. (Reuters)**

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**From:** Lynch, Sarah N. (Reuters)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2020 1:04 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (JMD)  
**Subject:** FW: Backstory on the McCabe decision?  
**Importance:** High

Fyi


Sent this to (b)(6) per EOUSA

Can you get us anything?

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**From:** Lynch, Sarah N. (Reuters)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2020 1:03 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) per EOUSA  
**Subject:** Backstory on the McCabe decision?  
**Importance:** High

Duplicative Material





**Mastropasqua, Kristina (OPA)**

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**From:** Mastropasqua, Kristina (OPA)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2020 1:05 PM  
**To:** [katie.benner@nytimes.com](mailto:katie.benner@nytimes.com)  
**Subject:** FW: NYT story on the Stone fallout  
**Importance:** High

Hi Katie, where are you with this? I'm just seeing it and wondering if I have some time.


Thanks!

Kristina Mastropasqua  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice

(b) (6)

**From:** Benner, Katie <[katie.benner@nytimes.com](mailto:katie.benner@nytimes.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 7:26 PM  
**To:** Shea, Timothy (OAG) <[tshea@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:tshea@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; (b)(6) per EOUSA (USADC) <(b)(6) per EOUSA>  
**Subject:** NYT story on the Stone fallout

Duplicative Material



**Mastropasqua, Kristina (OPA)**

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**From:** Mastropasqua, Kristina (OPA)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2020 1:06 PM  
**To:** Lynch, Sarah N. (Reuters)  
**Cc:** (b)(6) per EOUSA (USADC)  
**Subject:** RE: Backstory on the McCabe decision?

Hi Sarah,

No comment.

(yes I'm covering USAO DC this week!)


Best,

Kristina Mastropasqua  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
(b) (6)

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**From:** Lynch, Sarah N. (Reuters) <[Sarah.N.Lynch@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:Sarah.N.Lynch@thomsonreuters.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2020 1:03 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) per EOUSA (USADC) (b)(6) per EOUSA >  
**Subject:** Backstory on the McCabe decision?  
**Importance:** High

Duplicative Material



Rosen, Jeffrey A. (ODAG)

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**From:** Rosen, Jeffrey A. (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 15, 2020 6:37 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Cc:** Hovakimian, Patrick (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Re: NYT

Following up—need 2 minutes on this.

On Feb 14, 2020, at 6:29 PM, Rosen, Jeffrey A. (ODAG) (b) (6) wrote:

Ok. Let me know time and best number, or just call my DOJ cell whenever convenient.  
(b) (6).

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 14, 2020, at 6:25 PM, Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) wrote:

Ugh ok. I can do it tonight.

On Feb 14, 2020, at 6:04 PM, Rosen, Jeffrey A. (ODAG) (b) (6) wrote:

Sometime this weekend, let's discuss this latest false statement in today's NYT. Thanks.

On Tuesday, Mr. Barr and Mr. Rosen overruled career prosecutors' recommendation that a judge sentence Mr. Trump's friend Roger Stone Jr. to seven to nine years in prison after a jury found him guilty of witness intimidation and several false statements charges, in accordance with standard sentencing guidelines, and insisted on a lower recommendation.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/02/14/us/politics/michael-flynn-prosecutors-barr.html?action=click&module=Top%20Stories&pgtype=Homepage>

Terwilliger, George J. III

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**From:** Terwilliger, George J. III  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 15, 2020 8:41 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Cc:** Rabbitt, Brian (OAG)  
**Subject:** Re: In the pipeline



Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 15, 2020, at 6:08 PM, Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) wrote:

**\*\*EXTERNAL EMAIL: use caution with links and attachments\*\***

Good old "Protect" [Destroy] Democracy.

Great quote in the Journal, George. Thanks.

On Feb 15, 2020, at 4:40 PM, Terwilliger, George J. III  
<[GTerwilliger@mcguirewoods.com](mailto:GTerwilliger@mcguirewoods.com)> wrote:

On Friday, February 14, 2020, Justin  
Vail <[justin.vail@protectdemocracy.org](mailto:justin.vail@protectdemocracy.org)> wrote:

Dear DOJ Alumni,

We are helping to organize the attached statement on behalf of former Department of Justice employees in response to the events surrounding the sentencing of Roger Stone. The statement condemns President Trump's and Attorney General Barr's political interference, calls for Attorney General Barr to resign, and expresses support for the career employees of DOJ.

If you would like to add your name to the statement, [please fill out this form](#).

Please note that because of the challenges associated with assembling an effort with many signatories, **we are unable to accept edits to the statement**. We collected input from dozens of DOJ alumni, including several former senior officials appointed by both Republican and Democratic presidents. We feel the statement captures a widely-shared sentiment, and we hope you will join us to call attention to this important issue.

We will determine the timing of the public release of the statement depending on how quickly we gather signatories, and **we will not release the statement unless we reach a critical mass of 300 signatories**.



although we hope to far surpass that target. We will keep you updated on our progress and will notify all signatories about publication specifics ahead of the release, but **we request that everyone refrain from discussing this effort with the press until then.**

Again, [you can add your name using this form](#). Please forward this email to others who you think might be interested in signing.

Best,  
Justin

**Justin Vail**

[protectdemocracy.org](https://protectdemocracy.org) | (b) (6)

P.S. -- While we at Protect Democracy are helping to coordinate this effort, we will not brand it as a project of our organization, but rather as a collective effort of the signatories (though we assume it may be reported that we helped to organize it). Protect Democracy is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that includes liberal and conservative staff who have worked for both parties.

#### DOJ ALUMNI STATEMENT ON THE EVENTS SURROUNDING THE SENTENCING OF ROGER STONE

We, the undersigned, are alumni of the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) who have collectively served both Republican and Democratic administrations. Each of us strongly condemns President Trump's and Attorney General Barr's interference in the fair administration of justice.

As former DOJ officials, we each proudly took an oath to support and defend our Constitution and faithfully execute the duties of our offices. The very first of these duties is to apply the law equally to all Americans. This obligation flows directly from the Constitution, and it is embedded in countless rules and laws governing the conduct of DOJ lawyers. The Justice Manual — the DOJ's rulebook for its lawyers — states that "the rule of law depends on the evenhanded administration of justice"; that the Department's legal decisions "must be impartial and insulated from political influence"; and that the Department's prosecutorial powers, in particular, must be "exercised free from partisan consideration."

All DOJ lawyers are well-versed in these rules, regulations, and constitutional commands. They stand for the proposition that political interference in the conduct of a criminal prosecution is anathema to the Department's core mission and to its sacred obligation to ensure equal justice under the law.

And yet, President Trump and Attorney General Barr have openly and repeatedly flouted this fundamental principle, most recently in connection with the sentencing of President Trump's close associate, Roger Stone, who was convicted of serious crimes. The Department has a long-standing practice in which political appointees set broad policies that line prosecutors apply to individual cases. That practice exists to animate the constitutional principles regarding the even-handed application of the law. Although there are times when political leadership appropriately weighs in on individual prosecutions, it is unheard of for the Department's top leaders to overrule line prosecutors who are following established policies in order to give preferential treatment to a close associate of the President, as Attorney General Barr did in the Stone case. It is even more outrageous for the Attorney General to interfere as he did here — after the President publicly condemned the sentencing



intervene as he did here — after the President publicly condemned the sentencing recommendation that line prosecutors had already filed in court.

Such behavior is a grave threat to the fair administration of justice. In this nation, we are all equal before the law. One should not be given special treatment in a criminal prosecution because they are a close political ally of the President. Governments that use the enormous power of law enforcement to punish their enemies and reward their allies are not constitutional republics, they are autocracies.

We welcome Attorney General Barr's belated acknowledgment that the DOJ's law enforcement decisions must be independent of politics; that it is wrong for the President to interfere in specific enforcement matters either to punish his opponents or help his friends; and that the President's public comments on DOJ matters have gravely damaged the Department's credibility. But Mr. Barr's actions in doing the President's personal bidding unfortunately speak louder than his words. Those actions, and the damage they have done to the Department of Justice's reputation for integrity and the rule of law, require Mr. Barr to resign. But because we have little expectation he will do so, it falls to the Department's career officials to take appropriate action to uphold their oaths of office and defend nonpartisan, apolitical justice.

For these reasons, we support and commend the four career prosecutors who upheld their oaths and stood up for the Department's independence by withdrawing from the Stone case and/or resigning from the Department. Our simple message to them is that we — and millions of other Americans — stand with them. And we call on every DOJ employee to follow their heroic example and be prepared to report future abuses to the Inspector General, the Office of Professional Responsibility, and Congress; to refuse to carry out directives that are inconsistent with their oaths of office; to withdraw from cases that involve such directives or other misconduct; and, if necessary, to resign and report publicly — in a manner consistent with professional ethics — to the American people the reasons for their resignation. We likewise call on the other branches of government to protect from retaliation those employees who uphold their oaths in the face of unlawful directives. The rule of law and the survival of our Republic demand nothing less.

### **George J. Terwilliger III**

Partner

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 McGuireWoods LLP

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Kupec, Kerri (OPA)

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**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020 2:10 PM  
**To:** Lloyd, Matt (PAO)  
**Subject:** FW: OPINION FLAG: James Comey: Justice is supposed to be blind. Bill Barr can't see that.

---

**From:** Groves, Steven A. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020 2:07 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) <(b) (6)>  
**Subject:** FW: OPINION FLAG: James Comey: Justice is supposed to be blind. Bill Barr can't see that.

FYI

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**From:** News Alerts <[NewsAlerts@WHO.eop.gov](mailto:NewsAlerts@WHO.eop.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020 2:06 PM  
**Subject:** OPINION FLAG: James Comey: Justice is supposed to be blind. Bill Barr can't see that.

**Justice is supposed to be blind. Bill Barr can't see that.**

Washington Post

Op-Ed

James Comey

February 18, 2020

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2020/02/18/james-comey-bill-barr-justice-should-be-blind/>

*James B. Comey is a former director of the FBI and former deputy attorney general.*

Recent events have prompted a lot of talk about the Justice Department and threats to its credibility. [Many alumni of the department](#) believe the president and attorney general are doing grievous damage to an essential American institution.

Other people might not understand what we are so worried about. They might not know this institution and appreciate the gravity of the threat.

What is the Justice Department? Most people — even those who work there — don't fully know, because it is such a large and complex organization. Only the attorney general and deputy attorney general can really see the whole thing. Because I was lucky enough to hold one of those jobs, let me tell you what I saw.

The Justice Department is 113,000 people trying to do good in every part of this country and around the world. They are:

- Special agents and deputy marshals, thousands of them, right now risking their lives to protect others.
- Career prosecutors who will be up late tonight working on a summation to explain to a jury tomorrow why



a gangster, fraudster or sexual predator is guilty.

- Paralegals who spent the long weekend organizing the exhibits to be shown to that jury because the prosecutors keep mixing them up.
- Civil lawyers trying court cases against lavishly funded law firms and private entities, struggling to find enough three-ring notebooks to put their papers in and laughing when they hear people speak of the “awesome resources of the federal government” as they jealously eye the fancy supplies on the opposing law firm’s courtroom table.
- Employees on Indian reservations, in embassies abroad, in crime labs, at crime scenes and in small hotel rooms interviewing protected witnesses.
- Thousands and thousands of secretaries, document clerks, custodians and support people who never get thanked enough.

*That’s the Justice Department.*

It is a hugely diverse collection of people who all depend on the same thing — an amazing gift they received on joining the department. It is a gift they might not have noticed until the first time they stood up and identified themselves as a Justice employee and said something — whether in a courtroom, a conference room or at a cookout — and found that total strangers believed what they said next.

They were believed because, when they spoke, they weren’t seen as Republicans or Democrats. They were seen as something separate and apart in American life — a group of people trying to do the right thing.

That gift, which makes possible so much of the good they accomplish — is a reservoir of trust and credibility, a reservoir built for them, and filled one drop at a time, by those who went before — most of whom they never knew. They were people who made sacrifices and kept promises to contribute to that reservoir. They were people who made mistakes, and admitted them. They were people who made hard calls without regard to politics or privilege, who sought the facts and applied them to the law.

The obligation of all Justice employees is to protect that reservoir, to pass it to those who follow, who will likely never meet or know them.

The problem with reservoirs is that it takes tremendous time and effort to fill them, but one hole in a dam can drain them quickly. The protection of that reservoir requires vigilance, an unerring commitment to truth and a recognition that the actions of one may affect the priceless gift that benefits all.

If Justice Department employees are no longer seen as something separate in American life, we are all less safe. If jurors, judges, victims, witnesses, cops and sheriffs come to see them as part of a political tribe, and so trust them less, something essential is lost.

Now, one person, Attorney General William P. Barr, threatens the reservoir of trust. From the beginning, this attorney general has echoed the president, aping his dishonest characterizations of the department’s work and appearing to respond to President Trump’s [self-interested demands for new investigations](#) and prosecutions. And the water began draining. Last week, [it started gushing out when the attorney general intervened](#) in a case involving one of the president’s friends to overrule the sentencing recommendation of career prosecutors.

I have heard Barr [say he doesn’t care about his legacy](#). Maybe not, but he should care about the reservoir. The people of Justice depend upon it. He should care enough about them — and the rest of us — to protect this vital American asset. The reputation of the Justice Department is more important than any of us, even an angry,



vindictive president.

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020 2:30 PM  
**To:** Rabbitt, Brian (OAG); Levi, William (OAG)  
**Subject:** Trump comments

© Getty Images

President Trump said Tuesday that he had "total confidence" in Attorney General William Barr and acknowledged that he makes his top law enforcement officer's job "harder" with his tweets.

"I have total confidence in my attorney general," Trump told reporters at Joint Base Andrews. "I think he is doing an excellent job."

Trump also defended his tweets about the criminal case against his longtime associate, Roger Stone, which caused Barr to make a rare and public statement last week urging Trump to stop tweeting about Justice Department cases.

"Somebody has to stick up for the people," Trump told reporters, referring to Stone and other associates he believes have been mistreated by federal prosecutors. "My social media is very powerful."

Asked about Barr's own comments in an interview with ABC News last week, Trump said he agreed that his tweets make the attorney general's job harder, but continued to defend his public statements about the Stone case.

"I do make his job harder. I do agree on that," Trump said. "We have a great attorney general and he's working very hard."

Trump described Barr as a man with "great integrity."

The president also maintained that he has the right to intervene in ongoing criminal cases but chose not to, referring to Stone's case.

"I chose not to be involved," Trump said. "I could be involved if I wanted to be."

Trump maintained that Stone and other associates of his 2016 campaign who were charged in connection with former special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation were treated unfairly, specifically naming former national security adviser Michael Flynn.

Trump's remarks come days before Stone, who was convicted in November of lying to Congress, witness tampering and obstructing a proceeding, is set to be sentenced in federal court in Washington, D.C. Trump said he had not considered

sentenced in federal court in Washington, D.C. Trump said he had not considered whether he would pardon Stone, Flynn, or his former campaign chairman, Paul Manafort, who is currently serving a federal sentence for crimes uncovered during Mueller's investigation.

The president sparked a firestorm last week when he tweeted that a seven- to nine-year sentence that federal prosecutors recommended Stone face was unfair and a "miscarriage of justice."

Hours later, Justice Department leaders reduced the recommendation, calling Stone to be sentenced to far less. The developments spurred speculation that the Justice Department had reversed course under pressure from the president.

Barr told ABC News in a bombshell interview last Thursday that Trump had never asked him to anything with respect to a criminal case. But he also urged the president to stop tweeting about Justice Department cases and prosecutors, saying that the president's public comments about such matters make it "impossible for me to do my job."

"I think it's time to stop the tweeting about Department of Justice criminal cases," Barr told ABC.

The remarks represented a rare break between the attorney general and the president, though the White House insisted Trump was not bothered by Barr's statements. Trump has continued to tweet about Stone's case. On Tuesday morning, the president suggested he could sue over the Mueller probe.

**Kerri Kupec**

Director

Office of Public Affairs

U.S. Department of Justice

(b) (6)

(b) (6)



**Kupec, Kerri (OPA)**

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**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020 3:31 PM  
**To:** Rabbitt, Brian (OAG); Levi, William (OAG)  
**Subject:** FW: In-town pool report #11 -- tarmac comments part 1

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**From:** White House Press Office <info@mail.whitehouse.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020 2:56 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** In-town pool report #11 -- tarmac comments part 1

**From:** Lindsey McPherson  
<[lindseymcpherson@rollcall.com](mailto:lindseymcpherson@rollcall.com)>  
**Date:** February 18, 2020 at 2:52:24 PM EST  
**Subject:** In-town pool report #11 -- tarmac  
comments part 1

Pool is back at the White House. Here's the first part of  
Trump's tarmac comments, transcribed. More TK in  
subsequent pool reports.

POTUS had begun talking to the out-of- town pool by the  
time the in-town pool joined them on the tarmac. Picking  
up from the first question I heard:

**Q: Do you have confidence in the attorney general?**

"I have total confidence."

**Q: Do you agree with his statement [exact words  
inaudible but about Barr comments that Trump  
tweeting makes his job harder]?**



Beginning part inaudible but something about right to speak their mind -- not clear if he was referring to Barr or himself in that moment, but he moved onto himself, saying:

"I do social media. I guess I use it well because here I am. I probably wouldn't have gotten here without social media because I certainly don't get fair press."

Familiar remarks about the "Mueller hoax" and having to use social media to fight back because he doesn't get fair press.

"So I'm very happy with social media. But I think he is doing an excellent job. He's a strong guy. I never spoke to him about the Roger Stone situation. Roger Stone, just so you know, never worked -- he didn't work for my campaign. There might have been a time way early, long before I announced, where he was somehow involved a little bit. But he was not involved in our campaign at all.

And I think it was a very, very rough thing that happened to Roger Stone. Because when you look at what happened to Comey after 78 days, horrific report, when you remember what happened to McCabe with a recommendation of prosecution and you look at all of these other people. And then you look at what happened to General Flynn, a highly respected man. Look at him. I mean his life has been destroyed.

You look at a Roger Stone for a tweet and some other things. You take a look at what's happening to these people. Somebody has to stick up for the people.

So my social media is very powerful. I guess Mark Zuckerberg recently said Trump is number one in the world in social media, which is a very nice statement. ... It means I have a voice so I'm able to fight the fake news."

**Q: Lengthy question about Barr. Couldn't hear first half but second half was about Barr saying Trump**

**is making his job impossible. "Are you making his job impossible?"**

"I do make his job harder. I do agree with that. I think that's true. He's a very straight shooter. We have a great attorney general and he's working very hard. He's working against a lot of people that don't want to see good things happen, in my opinion. That's my opinion, not his opinion. That's my opinion. You'll have to ask what his opinion is.

But I will say this: Social media for me has been very important because it gives me a voice, because I don't get that voice in the press, in the media. I don't get that voice. So I'm allowed to have a voice."

**Q: Do you think he can still do his job with integrity though?**

"Oh yeah. He's a very -- he's a man with great integrity.

The attorney general is a man with incredible integrity. Just so you understand: I chose not to be involved. I'm allowed to be totally involved. I'm actually, I guess the chief law enforcement officer of the country, but I've chosen not to be involved. But he is a man of great integrity. But I would be -- I could be involved if I wanted to."

Lindsey McPherson  
Senior House Reporter  
Roll Call

(b) (6)

@lindsemcpherson

~Sent from my cell, so forgive any typos please~

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Viswanatha, Aruna

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**From:** Viswanatha, Aruna  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2020 4:38 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Cc:** Gurman, Sadie  
**Subject:** Re: Roger Stone / Randy Credico

he is saying that he didn't want his letter to be used to overrule the trial prosecutors' decisions, and he is saying that while he didn't think Mr. Stone was going to harm him directly, he was worried that Mr. Stone's associates and followers might act on the threats of harm. We are adding a few lines of this interview to a story we posted earlier today breaking down the sentencing recommendations - <https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-dispute-over-roger-stones-recommended-sentence-explained-11582132688>

On Wed, Feb 19, 2020 at 4:31 PM Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) wrote:

Hi, Aruna – can you be more specific – how exactly is he alleging the Attorney General misused the letter?

**From:** Viswanatha, Aruna <[aruna.viswanatha@wsj.com](mailto:aruna.viswanatha@wsj.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2020 3:28 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Gurman, Sadie <[sadie.gurman@wsj.com](mailto:sadie.gurman@wsj.com)>  
**Subject:** Roger Stone / Randy Credico

Hi Kerri,

Randy Credico, the witness in Roger Stone's case, just said in an interview with our colleague that he felt DOJ was "misusing" his letter about Mr. Stone, so I wanted to reach out for any comment you might have.

He is saying that while he didn't think Mr. Stone would harm him, he was scared that Mr. Stone's friends and followers might target him. This appears to be backed up by other text messages he has sent over the past two years. Mr. Credico specifically said that he felt his letter to the court was being misused by the Attorney General and President Trump "to advance their own cynical agenda." Would you have any comment on that?



Many thanks,

Aruna

-----  
Aruna Viswanatha  
REPORTER

M: (b) (6) O: +1 202 862 9269  
E: [aruna.viswanatha@wsj.com](mailto:aruna.viswanatha@wsj.com)  
A: 1025 Connecticut Ave., 8th floor, Washington, DC 20036



DuCharme, Seth (ODAG)

From: DuCharme, Seth (ODAG)  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2020 7:50 AM  
To: Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
Subject: Re: Huawei story

Thanks. Sad I missed that.

Unrelated, Jeff Toobin just said on CNN that 7 to 9 years for Roger Stone would be really long and he'd be surprised if the judge imposed that.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 19, 2020, at 10:52 PM, Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) wrote:

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Benner, Katie" <katie.benner@nytimes.com>  
Date: February 19, 2020 at 6:48:12 PM EST  
To: "Kupec, Kerri (OPA)" (b) (6)  
Subject: Huawei story

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/02/13/technology/huawei-racketeering-accusations.html>

We made it the front page of the biz section. (Knocked off AI by Kerr's also inv.)

## U.S. Charges Huawei With Racketeering, Adding Pressure on China

The indictment is the Trump administration's latest move in its fight against the Chinese tech giant, which it deems a security threat.

By David McCabe, Nicole Hong and Katie Benner

Feb. 13, 2020

WASHINGTON — The U.S. government has [charged Huawei](#) and two of its subsidiaries with federal racketeering and conspiracy to steal trade secrets from American companies, a significant escalation in the Trump administration's legal fight with the Chinese telecommunications company.

In a federal indictment unsealed on Thursday in the Eastern District of New York, the Department of Justice accused Huawei and its affiliates of a "pattern of racketeering activity" and said the companies had worked to steal trade secrets from six American firms. The stolen information included source code, as well as the manuals for wireless technology.

The indictment did not identify the six companies, but a source familiar with the investigation — as well as court filings made in several civil lawsuits — indicated they were Cisco Systems, Motorola Solutions, Fujitsu, Quintel Technology, T-Mobile and CNEX Labs.

"The new charges in this case relate to the alleged decades-long efforts by Huawei, and several of its subsidiaries, both in the U.S. and in the People's Republic of China, to misappropriate intellectual property, including from six U.S. technology companies, in an effort to grow and operate Huawei's business," the Justice Department said in a news release.

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The charges add more weight to Washington's pressure campaign against Huawei, which is already barred from buying many American products and is viewed by the Trump administration as a threat to national security. The escalation is also part of the administration's attempt to crack down on what it says is a pattern of Chinese espionage and theft aimed at giving Beijing a technological edge.

On Monday, four members of China's military [were charged](#) with hacking into Equifax, one of the nation's largest credit reporting agencies, and stealing trade secrets and the personal data of about 145 million Americans in 2017.

Also on Thursday, the Department of Commerce extended the temporary license that allows American companies to continue doing some business with Huawei. It will now expire in April.

The new indictment goes beyond the Justice Department's earlier allegations of trade-secret theft and sanctions violations.

It applies a federal antitrust law that has historically been used to bring down mob leaders and gang kingpins and allows the government to file charges that would otherwise fall outside the statute of limitations. The criminal conspiracy that Huawei is accused of carrying out has been going on since at least 1999, according to the Justice Department.

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[How Cooking Dinner Can Change Your Life](#)



[When America's Oldest Political Couple Fight, Those Sparks Are Real](#)

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Huawei officials argued that the latest charges were not new allegations and appeared to be part of a larger campaign against the company. It is confident that it will be exonerated in the criminal justice system, said Andy Parry, the chief security officer for Huawei in the United States.

He said the U.S. government was trying to hurt Huawei by pressuring allies not to use its equipment and was attempting to block American companies from selling parts to the Chinese firm. Both campaigns will ultimately hurt America, Mr. Parry said, by eliminating jobs in the United States and reducing competition in the telecommunications industry.

He said the U.S. government was engaged in a "campaign to carpet bomb Huawei out of existence," adding: "It seems like the United States is not thinking about the significance of this."

The indictment portrays Huawei as orchestrating a steady, if not sophisticated, campaign to steal trade secrets. For instance, the indictment alleged that in 2004, a Huawei employee sneaked back to a Chicago trade show to steal a competitor's technology.

The employee "was discovered in the middle of the night after the show had closed for the day in the booth of a technology company" and was found "removing the cover from a networking device and taking photographs of the circuitry inside." The individual wore a badge listing his employer as "Weihua" — an anagram of Huawei — according to the indictment.

In another episode, prosecutors say, Huawei planned "countermeasures" against a company making data storage technology. It invited leaders of the firm to make a presentation about its plans, then asked for a copy of the slides used in the presentation and "immediately" shared it with engineers at its subsidiary working on a competing product, according to the indictment.

Huawei has had legal disputes with several of the companies it is accused of stealing from. Cisco, a computer networking equipment maker in San Jose, Calif., [sued Huawei in 2009](#), claiming the Chinese company infringed on numerous patents and illegally copied its software source code and documentation. The suit was [dropped about a year later](#) in exchange for a promise of product changes from Huawei.

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Qualtel sued Huawei in 2015, claiming it had stolen its antenna technology. The litigation was settled in 2018. Motorola settled intellectual-property lawsuits with the Chinese company in 2011. T-Mobile was named in the earlier charges against Huawei, which prosecutors alleged that the manufacturer had tried to steal details about a robot, named Tappo, used by the wireless carrier.

Prosecutors also accused Huawei of helping the Iranian government install surveillance equipment to monitor and detain anti-government protesters in Tehran in 2009.

Last year, the Justice Department [charged](#) Huawei's chief financial officer, Meng Wanzhou, with outlining a decade-long attempt by the company to steal trade secrets, obstruct a criminal investigation and evade economic sanctions on Iran. Ms. Meng was also named in the Justice Department's indictment on Thursday.

Ms. Meng is in Canada, not off bail of 10 million Canadian dollars, or \$7.5 million, [awaiting extradition to the United States](#). She is under 24-hour surveillance and must wear a GPS tracker on her ankle.

[Gary Betting](#), a leading extradition expert in Canada, said the new charges were unlikely to have much effect on Ms. Meng's case in Canada since they were, in his view, "too little, too late."

The judge in that case has been deliberating on whether extradition would meet a fundamental requirement under Canadian law: that the crime Ms. Meng is accused of in the United States constitutes a crime in Canada.

While racketeering is not a crime under Canadian law, Mr. Betting said Canada's extradition treaty with the United States allowed aspects of racketeering to be legal grounds for an extradition. And Canadian prosecutors representing the United States could decide to add new charges.

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The White House has looked to ratchet up the pressure on Huawei for years, with members of Congress from both parties backing its efforts. The new charges may give more fodder to the company's critics on Capitol Hill, who have been pushing to make sure Huawei has no role in the next generation of wireless networks, known as 5G.

"The indictment paints a damning portrait of an illegitimate organization that lacks any regard for the law," said the top lawmakers on the Senate Intelligence Committee, Richard M. Burr, Republican of North Carolina, and Mark Warner, Democrat of Virginia.

Under the Trump administration, the Justice Department has focused on [combating an array of threats](#) that China poses to the United States and its allies in the West, including theft of trade secrets and espionage, as the country seeks to expand its sphere of economic and military power.

Huawei, whose equipment powers telecom networks, sits squarely at the center of both of these concerns.

Intelligence community analysts say Huawei can use its network equipment to monitor traffic across a network and potentially engage in unlawful surveillance. Mr. Pardy of Huawei pushed back against those claims, saying control of the 5G mobile networks is firmly with the carriers that build and operate them.

Huawei is also the leading supplier on every continent except for North America of equipment for 5G networks, which will underpin telecommunications and advanced technologies like self-driving cars.

As countries around the world migrate their communications systems to 5G, and as more technology innovation is built on top of it, Huawei is in a position to gain a huge economic edge over U.S. tech giants, which have long been at the forefront of innovation and have lately powered the U.S. economy.

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Attorney General William P. Barr said in a speech last week that the Chinese government was using "every lever of power to expand its 5G market share" because it would gain ground in every technology that then touched 5G.

"Our economic future is at stake," Mr. Barr said in the speech, during a conference in Washington on threats that China poses to the United States. "The risk of losing the 5G struggle with China should vastly outweigh other considerations."

For years, American intelligence officials have tried to convince companies and governments around the world that Huawei's equipment could give Beijing access to sensitive communications networks. But that global campaign has faltered, as countries like Britain and Saudi Arabia opt to use Huawei's gear in their 5G networks.

In January, Prime Minister Boris Johnson said Britain believed that any risk could be managed and that the company's products could be used in a portion of Britain's 5G network. Germany is said to be close to a decision on whether to allow the company to work on its network, as well.

As its global campaign to bar Huawei has faltered, American officials have argued that the United States should take aggressive action to help the world develop an alternative to Huawei's products. Mr. Barr, in his speech, argued that the United States should consider providing direct or indirect financial support to Nokia and Ericsson, two European companies that are the primary competitors to Huawei's networking gear.

--  
Katie Benner  
(b) (6) (m)  
@ktbenner

**Rabbitt, Brian (OAG)**

---

**From:** Rabbitt, Brian (OAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2020 1:06 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** FW: m055-3 William BARR (Business Council Interview - February 20- WDC) - edits v2.docx  
**Attachments:** m055-3 William BARR (Business Council Interview - February 20- WDC) - edits v2.docx; ATT00001.txt

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

From: Rabbitt, Brian (OAG)  
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2020 4:27 PM  
To: Watson, Theresa (OAG) <twatson@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
Subject: m055-3 William BARR (Business Council Interview - February 20- WDC) - edits v2.docx

**Kupec, Kerri (OPA)**

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**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2020 4:38 PM  
**To:** Levi, William (OAG); Rabbitt, Brian (OAG)  
**Subject:** FW: Travel pool report #3: NEWS - POTUS on Roger Stone - "very good chance of exoneration"

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**From:** White House Press Office <info@mail.whitehouse.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2020 3:24 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Travel pool report #3: NEWS - POTUS on Roger Stone - "very good chance of exoneration"

**From:** "Rogers, Katie" <[katie.rogers@nytimes.com](mailto:katie.rogers@nytimes.com)>  
**Date:** February 20, 2020 at 12:08:27 PM PST  
**Subject:** Travel pool report #3: NEWS - POTUS on Roger Stone - "very good chance of exoneration"

From the stage at the commencement ceremony, POTUS had this to say about Roger Stone's sentencing:

"I want to address today's sentencing of a man, Roger Stone. I'm following this very closely and I want to see it play out to its fullest because Roger has a very good chance of exoneration in my opinion."

Calls him a "character" and says he likes him. "He's a smart guy, he's a little different, but those are sometimes the most interesting. But he's a good person. His family is fantastic."

"Roger was never involved in the Trump campaign for president. Early on before I announced he may have done a little consulting work or something. He's a person who he knows a lot of people having to do with politics. It's my strong opinion that the forewoman of the jury ... is totally tainted."

On fully pardoning Jon Ponder, a former bank robber, three-time convicted felon

and host of this event: "We are giving him absolute consideration and I have a feeling he's going to get that full pardon. I'm going to give him an early congratulations, alright?"

He recognized Sheldon and Miriam Adelson, also at this event. "What a family. Miriam is a great doctor. She doesn't have to be a doctor. You can trust me, her husband doesn't need the money. But she devotes her life to addiction."

Recognized Jared Kushner on criminal justice reform: "He does a lot. He works hard."

Event is ongoing.

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**Lloyd, Matt (PAO)**

---

**From:** Lloyd, Matt (PAO)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 21, 2020 5:11 PM  
**To:** DuCharme, Seth (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Re: Follow up to my phone call on Friday

Yes sorry was in phone with USA in San Diego. Can I come up to see you real quick?

On Feb 21, 2020, at 5:05 PM, DuCharme, Seth (ODAG) <seducharme@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

Are you trying to reach me? I tried your phones

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 17, 2020, at 3:13 PM, Lloyd, Matt (PAO) <mlloyd@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

Seth,  
Wanted to make you aware of the below.  
Matt

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Lloyd, Matt (PAO)" <mlloyd@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Date:** February 17, 2020 at 3:12:26 PM EST  
**To:** "Schneider, Matthew (USAMIE)" (b)(6) per EOUSA  
**Cc:** "Hornbuckle, Wyn (OPA)"  
<whornbuckle@jmd.usdoj.gov>, "Balaya, Gina (USAMIE)"  
(b)(6) per EOUSA  
**Subject:** Re: Follow up to my phone call on Friday

Matthew,  
Thanks for your willingness to defend the AG— I will make sure  
the powers that be are aware.  
(b) (5)  
Please let  
me know if you have questions.  
Thanks,  
Matt

On Feb 17, 2020, at 12:47 PM, Schneider, Matthew  
(USAMIE) (b)(6) per EOUSA > wrote:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_?

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Hornbuckle, Wyn (OPA)"  
**<**[whornbuckle@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:whornbuckle@jmd.usdoj.gov)**>**  
**Date:** February 17, 2020 at 11:58:58 AM EST  
**To:** "Balaya, Gina (USAMIE)"  
 (b)(6) per EOUSA  
**Cc:** "Lloyd, Matt (PAO)"  
**<**[mlloyd@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:mlloyd@jmd.usdoj.gov)**>**  
**Subject:** Re: Follow up to my phone call on Friday

Hi Gina  
Sorry I missed your voice mail Friday. If  
urgent best hit me on my cell (b) (6)

[REDACTED]

(b) (5)

(b) (5) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

+Matt

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 17, 2020, at 11:29 AM, Balaya, Gina (USAMIE) wrote:

Hi, Wyn,

Sorry to bother you on a holiday but my USA is asking me to follow up on our voicemail message from Friday.

Lot of misinformation about the AG/Stone matter.

Former USA Barb McQuade was on the radio this morning asking Barr to resign. She repeatedly said he made his decision on the sentencing "after" the President tweeted. She said Barr saw the tweets and then reacted.

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

?

Thanks, Gina

Sent from my iPhone