

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5051
MINORITY (202) 225-5074
<https://oversight.house.gov>

April 21, 2022

The Honorable Janet Yellen
Secretary
Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20220

Dear Secretary Yellen:

We are continuing oversight of Hunter Biden’s foreign business schemes. The Biden Administration imposed sanctions on certain individuals after Russia’s undeclared war against Ukraine began in February, but not all of the names have been released publicly. Notably missing from the public list provided by the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury Department) is any reference to billionaire Elena Baturina, Russia’s wealthiest woman worth over \$1.4 billion¹ who paid Hunter Biden’s company over \$3 million in 2014 and was formerly married to the Mayor of Moscow.² In 2018, the Trump Administration classified Baturina as a Russian “political figure[] and oligarch[].”³ Because Hunter Biden is now subject to sanctions issued by Russia,⁴ his foreign business dealings are of heightened importance. We request further information to determine whether Hunter Biden’s relationships with Russian oligarchs are impacting the foreign policy decisions of the United States.

The Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), within the Treasury Department, released a list of 28 names—including Russian President Vladimir Putin—who it deemed “Russian Elites, Proxies, and Oligarchs.”⁵ The list notes 50 individuals—including the 28 released publicly—are “priorities for the United States.”⁶ The remaining 22 individuals are unknown to the public. If the United States is avoiding sanctioning certain Russian oligarchs because of concerns they may attempt to influence American policy by exploiting Hunter Biden’s connection with his father—the President of the United States—the American people deserve to know it.

¹ Elena Baturina, Real Time Net Worth, FORBES (updated Apr. 8, 2022).

² “Hunter Biden, Burisma, and Corruption: The Impact on U.S. Government Policy and Related Concerns,” Maj. Staff Report, S. Comm. on Homeland Sec. & Gov. Affairs and S. Comm. on Finance (2020), p. 69, available at https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/HSGAC_Finance_Report_FINAL.pdf.

³ Report to Congress Pursuant to Section 241 of the Countering America’s Adversaries Through Sanctions Act of 2017 Regarding Senior Foreign Political Figures and Oligarchs in the Russian Federation and Russian Parastatal Entities (Jan. 29, 2018).

⁴ See Letter from Hon. James Comer, Ranking Member, H. Comm. on Oversight & Reform and Comm. Republicans to Ms. Dana Remus, Counsel to the President, White House Counsel’s Office (Mar. 31, 2022).

⁵ List of individuals available at <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/3-16-22.pdf>.

⁶ *Id.*

The Biden Administration levied Russian sanctions before⁷ and in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine that began February 24, 2022. Many of these sanctions target "Russia's Kremlin-connected business elite" and their families.⁸ The response from the United States Congress has been bipartisan, swift, and sweeping.⁹ Though Russian counter-sanctions were largely expected, the inclusion of Hunter Biden and, notably, none of the other Biden children among the list of those sanctioned raises serious concerns about why Russia would believe Hunter Biden is a pressure point to exploit.¹⁰ Hunter Biden is not a member of the Administration or a government official. However, he does appear to have connections with Russia. As documented by the United States Senate, Hunter Biden or a company associated with him received \$3.5 million from Baturina for a "consultancy agreement" in 2014.¹¹

The sweeping sanctions the Biden Administration imposed on Russia and Russian oligarchs include restricting transactions with Russia's central bank, banning the import of Russian energy and investment in Russia's energy sector, and "full blocking sanctions" on not only Russian President Vladimir Putin but Russian oligarchs and their families.¹² If Hunter Biden's associates, including Elena Baturina, are being treated differently from other wealthy, politically-connected Russians because of their connections with the President of the United States' son, the Administration should disclose this information to the American public.

Please provide the following documents to Committee Republicans no later than May 5, 2022:

1. The complete list of Russian citizens subject to U.S. sanctions;
2. All documents and communications, from January 20, 2021 to present, between and among the Treasury Department, the White House, and/or the State Department, regarding the decision to withhold 22 names from the list of sanctioned individuals by OFAC; and
3. All documents and communications, from January 20, 2021 to present, between and among the Treasury Department, the White House, and/or the State Department, regarding Elena Baturina, Hunter Biden, and Rosemont Seneca Partners.

To ask any follow-up questions, please contact Committee on Oversight and Reform Republican staff at (202) 225-5074. The Committee on Oversight and Reform is the principal

⁷ U.S. Department of the Treasury, *U.S. Treasury Imposes Immediate Economic Costs in Response to Actions in the Donetsk and Luhansk Regions*, Feb. 22, 2022, available at <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy0602>.

⁸ *Russia's Invasion of Ukraine: Overview of U.S. and International Sanctions and Other Responses*, Cory Welt (Cong. Research Serv.), Mar. 18, 2022.

⁹ See, e.g., The Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022, P.L. 117-103; H.Res. 956; S.Res. 546.

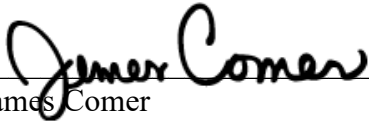
¹⁰ Jeff Stein, *Russia's sanctions on Biden, Hillary Clinton and others mocked by White House*, WASH. POST (Mar. 16, 2022).

¹¹ *Supra*, n. 2.

¹² *Supra*, n. 8.

oversight committee of the U.S. House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate “any matter” at “any time” under House Rule X. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



James Comer
Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Reform



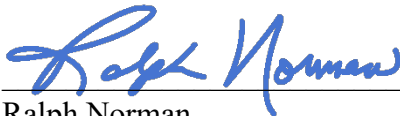
Jody Hice
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Government
Operations



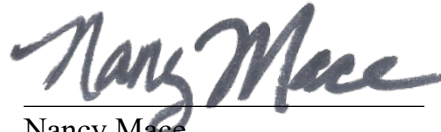
Glenn S. Grothman
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on National Security



Michael Cloud
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Economic and
Consumer Policy



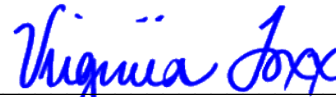
Ralph Norman
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Environment



Nancy Mace
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Civil Rights and
Civil Liberties



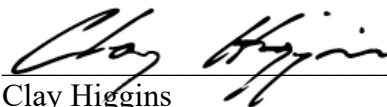
Jim Jordan
Member of Congress



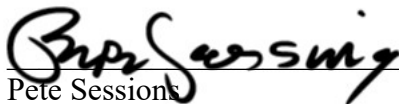
Virginia A. Foxx
Member of Congress



Bob Gibbs
Member of Congress



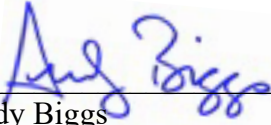
Clay Higgins
Member of Congress



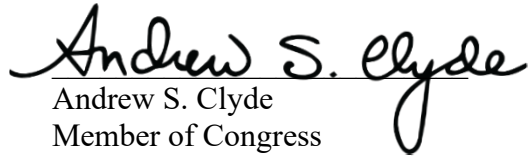
Pete Sessions
Member of Congress



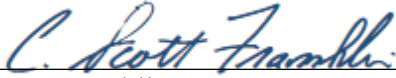
Fred Keller
Member of Congress



Andy Biggs
Member of Congress



Andrew S. Clyde
Member of Congress



Scott Franklin
Member of Congress



Jake LaTurner
Member of Congress



Pat Fallon
Member of Congress



Yvette Herrell
Member of Congress



Byron Donalds
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Carolyn Maloney, Chairwoman
Committee on Oversight and Reform

The Honorable Gerald E. Connolly, Chairman
Subcommittee on Government Operations

The Honorable Stephen F. Lynch, Chairman
Subcommittee on National Security

The Honorable Raja Krishnamoorthi, Chairman
Subcommittee on Economic and Consumer Policy

The Honorable Ro Khanna, Chairman
Subcommittee on Environment

The Honorable Jamie Raskin, Chairman
Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties