



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE | OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

April 23, 2026

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator

The Honorable Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator

The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator

The Honorable Mazie Hirono
United States Senator

The Honorable Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator

The Honorable Cory A. Booker
United States Senator

The Honorable Adam B. Schiff
United States Senator

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator

The Honorable Andy Kim
United States Senator

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator

The Honorable Gary C. Peters
United States Senator

Dear Senators:

I am writing in response to the letter that you sent to the Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of the Inspector General (OIG), dated December 24, 2026. Your letter requests that the DOJ OIG conduct an independent assessment into DOJ's compliance with the Epstein Files Transparency Act, specifically to include an assessment of the redactions applied and documents withheld by the Department.

Today, the OIG initiated an audit of DOJ's compliance with the Epstein Files Transparency Act. Our preliminary objective is to evaluate the DOJ's processes for identifying, redacting, and releasing records in its possession as required by the Act. To accomplish this preliminary objective, the OIG plans to focus on reviewing (1) the DOJ's identification, collection, and production of responsive material; (2) DOJ guidance and processes for redacting and withholding material consistent with the requirements enumerated in the Act; and (3) DOJ's processes for addressing post-release publication concerns. If circumstances warrant, the OIG will consider addressing other issues that may arise during the course of the audit.

Consistent with the requirements of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, we will issue a public report with the audit's results when our work is complete.

Thank you for your continued support of the work of the DOJ OIG. If you have questions, please contact me, or Chris Fontanesi, Senior Counsel, to the Inspector General, at (202) 514-3435.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W M Blier". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being more prominent than the middle initial.

William M. Blier
Deputy Inspector General
Performing the Duties of Inspector General

cc:

The Honorable Charles Grassley, Chairman,
Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate

The Honorable Rand Paul, Chairman,
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, United States Senate

The Honorable Jerry Moran, Chairman,
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, United States Senate