

RON JOHNSON, WISCONSIN
JAMES LANKFORD, OKLAHOMA
RICK SCOTT, FLORIDA
JOSH HAWLEY, MISSOURI
BERNIE MORENO, OHIO
JONI ERNST, IOWA
ASHLEY MOODY, FLORIDA

GARY C. PETERS, MICHIGAN
MARGARET WOOD HASSAN, NEW HAMPSHIRE
RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, CONNECTICUT
JOHN FETTERMAN, PENNSYLVANIA
ANDY KIM, NEW JERSEY
RUBEN GALLEGO, ARIZONA
ELISSA SLOTKIN, MICHIGAN

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

June 29, 2026

VIA EMAIL

Mr. David Gentile
601 Cleveland St. Ste. 120
Clearwater, FL 33755-4103

Dear Mr. Gentile:

Recent reporting indicates that leadership at the Department of Justice may have intervened to kill an investigation into improper payments, made by you or on your behalf, related to President Trump's commutation of your seven-year sentence for his role in a \$1.6 billion scheme that defrauded thousands of everyday investors.¹ I write to request information regarding potential misconduct relating to the commutation of your sentence.

On November 26, President Trump commuted your sentence after you had served just twelve days. In that short time in prison, you reportedly told other inmates that you had made payments of \$2.5 million or more to facilitate a commutation.² A reported recipient of a payment from you, Reverend Frank Mann, appears to have leveraged his relationship with and access to President Trump to lobby for a grant of clemency for you.

The circumstances surrounding the commutation of your sentence were sufficiently suspicious that federal prosecutors in the Eastern District of New York opened an investigation, reportedly focused on improper payments made to secure the commutation that may have exceeded \$2.5 million.³ That investigation was reportedly closed after a senior official from the Department of Justice, Associate Deputy Attorney General Aakash Singh, expressed concern regarding the investigation to U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of New York Joseph Nocella Jr.⁴

By commuting your sentence, President Trump deprived your victims of over \$15.5 million in restitution and ensured you served only twelve days of your seven-year sentence⁵ — one of the most extreme examples of how the President's disregard for the safeguards that historically govern the pardon process has resulted in great harm to victims, through both the loss of financial

¹ Kenneth P. Vogel, Nicole Hong & William K. Rashbaum, *Trump Administration Shuttered a Criminal Probe Into Fraudster's Clemency*, N.Y. TIMES (June 21, 2026), <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/06/21/us/politics/trump-fraudster-priest-investigation-brooklyn.html>.

² *Id.*

³ *Id.*

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ Restitution Motion of the United States, *United States v. Gentile*, No. 21-cr-00054 (E.D.N.Y. Jun. 10, 2025), ECF No. 610, <https://www.politico.com/f/?id=0000019a-e5e8-da2c-af9f-ffe9ff0f0000>; *see also* Santul Nerkar & Kenneth P. Vogel, *Fraudster's Victims Are Seething After Trump Commuted His Sentence*, N.Y. TIMES (Dec. 12, 2025), <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/12/12/nyregion/david-gentile-trump-commutation.html>.

restitution and the extraordinary disrespect of seeing the president champion unrepentant criminals.

Over 1,000 of your victims provided impact statements during your sentencing.⁶ Those victims, many of them working-class retirees, describe entrusting you with the hard-earned savings, only to be “betrayed” in a scheme in which you lined your own pockets at their expense.⁷ Many were forced to delay their retirements, sell personal belongings, or take on credit card debt in order to make ends meet in the wake of your fraud scheme.⁸ Particularly insulting is the fact that you have repeatedly taken actions that have delayed restitution for your victims.⁹ And now, your commutation has wiped out your obligation to provide restitution to your victims.

Congress and the American people deserve full and timely details of the criteria and process by which the President has issued clemency actions since the beginning of his second term. Pursuant to Articles I and V of the Constitution, Senate Resolution 94 (119th Cong.), and PSI Rule 1, the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations has opened a preliminary inquiry to examine the President’s abuse of the pardon power. To assist the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations in its inquiry, please preserve all documents, records,¹⁰ and communications¹¹ related to the commutation of your sentence, and please provide detailed responses to the following requests by July 10, 2026.

1. All communications between you and Reverend Frank Mann regarding a grant of clemency for you from President Trump.
2. Any contract or other agreement between you and Reverend Frank Mann regarding his efforts to obtain a grant of clemency for you from President Trump.
3. All communications between you and any other individuals or firms regarding efforts to obtain a grant of clemency for you from President Trump.
4. All communications between you and any attorneys at the United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of New York regarding their investigation into potential misconduct around your commutation.

⁶ Sentencing Memorandum of the United States at 12, *United States v. Gentile*, No. 21-cr-00054 (E.D.N.Y. Feb. 21, 2025), ECF No. 539, <https://static01.nyt.com/newsgraphics/documenttools/4ec42e53e412e0e3/c324f8f4-full.pdf>.

⁷ *Id.* at 16.

⁸ *Id.* at 10-16.

⁹ *Id.* at 13.

¹⁰ For purposes of this request, “records” include any written, recorded, or graphic material of any kind, including letters, memoranda, reports, notes, electronic data (emails, email attachments, and any other electronically-created or stored information), direct messages, chats, calendar entries, inter-office communications, meeting minutes, phone/voice mail or recordings/records of verbal communications, and drafts (whether or not they resulted in final documents).

¹¹ For purposes of this request, “communications” include any records, as defined above, transmitted in any way between two or more individuals or entities.

Mr. David Gentile
June 29, 2026
Page 3

Please contact the Subcommittee should you have any questions about responding to these requests. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Richard Blumenthal". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Richard" and last name "Blumenthal" clearly legible.

Richard Blumenthal
Ranking Member
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

cc: The Honorable Ron Johnson
Chairman
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations