

**To: Office of the Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530**

**Re: Formal Grievance Regarding DOJ
Handling of Epstein Files Release of
January 30–31, 2026**

Ms. Attorney General,

I am submitting this grievance regarding the Department of Justice's handling of the Epstein Files release made public on or about January 30–31, 2026, which consisted of millions of documents and, according to public reporting, included unredacted survivor-identifying information and materials that should have been protected from disclosure. This release has already caused renewed harm to survivors and placed members of the public in legal uncertainty due solely to DOJ's own dissemination process.

This grievance focuses on two urgent, concrete actions the Department must take now:

- immediate public “safe-handling” guidance for the public, and**
- mandatory safeguards to prevent recurrence.**

1) Immediate public guidance for anyone who downloaded or accessed the January 30–31, 2026 release

The DOJ must immediately issue clear, plain-language guidance for members of the public, media, researchers, and ordinary citizens who may have downloaded, opened, cached, or otherwise accessed files from DOJ’s January 30–31, 2026 Epstein Files release and later discovered that protected material was

included.

At minimum, DOJ should publish a public advisory that explains:

- what categories are prohibited from release (victim identifying information, CSAM, protected evidence, sensitive victim files);**
- what a person should do if they accessed such materials (including safe deletion and reporting procedures);**
- a non-punitive reporting channel that does not require retransmission of illegal content;**
- a written safe-harbor posture for good-faith recipients who follow DOJ instructions;**
- a contact process for survivors and advocates.**

The government cannot create the exposure risk and then remain silent about remediation.

3) Mandatory safeguards to prevent recurrence

The DOJ must immediately implement and publicly disclose safeguards governing all future releases, including:

- mandatory pre-publication redaction audits specifically protecting victims;
- independent quality control and automated scanning for personal identifiers and prohibited content;
- rapid takedown and correction protocols with public transparency logs;
- incident-response procedures that remove the burden from survivors;
- formal coordination standards with federal courts in any unsealing or disclosure actions.

Failure to adopt such safeguards after this incident would constitute continued reckless disregard for foreseeable harm.

Administrative Procedure Act and statutory failures

The Epstein Files Transparency Act and related federal statutes strictly prohibit the dissemination of CSAM and victim-identifying information. The DOJ's release practices must not be arbitrary, capricious, or contrary to law.

Where an agency's procedures predictably cause harm and violate statutory protections, the Administrative Procedure Act provides grounds for judicial review and corrective relief.

This letter constitutes formal notice requesting immediate corrective agency action.

Survivor acknowledgment

Survivors whose information was exposed in the January 30–31, 2026 release were re-victimized by this failure. The

Department of Justice should issue a public apology and acknowledgment of harm as a matter of institutional accountability.

Requested response

Please provide within ten business days:

- DOJ's public safe-handling guidance, and**
- a written description of safeguards now in place to prevent further disclosure failures.**

Distribution for oversight and record

DOJ Office of the Inspector General

House Committee on the Judiciary

Senate Committee on the Judiciary

House Committee on Oversight and

Government Reform

Senate Homeland Security &

Governmental Affairs Committee

Relevant federal judicial authorities

overseeing Epstein-related disclosure matters

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[City, State]

[Email]

[Phone]

Bluebook-Style Statutory

Footnotes

- Epstein Files Transparency Act, Pub. L. No. 119-38, 139 Stat. ____ (2025).
- 18 U.S.C. § 2256 (definitions of child sexual abuse material).
- 18 U.S.C. § 2252 (distribution and possession of CSAM).
- 18 U.S.C. § 2252A (receipt and dissemination of CSAM).
- 18 U.S.C. § 3771 (Crime Victims' Rights Act).
- Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C.

§§ 551, 702, 706.