

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

November 30, 2018

Mr. Michael E. Horowitz  
Inspector General  
Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 4706  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

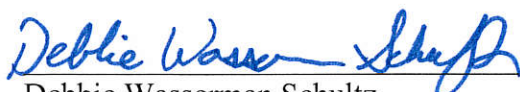
Dear Inspector General Horowitz:


We write to express great concern over reports that during his tenure as a United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida, the current Secretary of Labor, Alex Acosta, gave a non-prosecution deal to a wealthy and well-connected serial sex offender, hid it from the victims, and granted immunity to any potential co-conspirators who were involved in the crimes.<sup>1</sup>

According to recently obtained documents, the individual to whom Secretary Acosta provided the non-prosecution deal, Jeffrey Epstein, was facing a 53-page federal indictment that could have resulted in life imprisonment for trafficking minor girls for sex parties. Rather than pursue the indictment fully to ensure the individual could never again prey on minor girls, Secretary Acosta entered into an extremely preferential deal that resulted in this perpetrator of horrific crimes against children serving just 13 months in county jail. The non-prosecution deal also had the effect of shutting down a Federal Bureau of Investigation examination of whether there were more victims and astonishingly granted immunity to potential co-conspirators.<sup>2</sup>

As Members of Congress intent on ensuring the equal application of justice and gravely concerned with the plague of sex trafficking and sexual abuse, we urge you to conduct an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the non-prosecution agreement Mr. Acosta entered into with Mr. Epstein. It also appears that numerous related case files and court documents are heavily redacted, well beyond the reasonable protections accorded to victims and confidential informants. This lack of public transparency further necessitates an internal review. In the conduct of such investigation, we urge you to review whether any Department of Justice policies, procedures, or practices were violated and determine what, if any, violations were committed by then-United States Attorney and current Secretary of Labor Acosta.

Sincerely,

  
Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress (FL-23)

  
Al Lawson  
Member of Congress (FL-05)

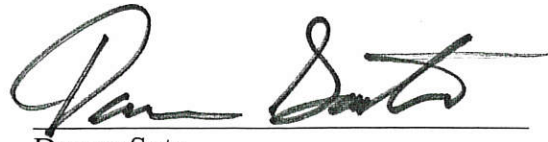
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<sup>1</sup> Julie K. Brown, *Perversion of Justice*, MIAMI HERALD, (Nov. 28, 2018), <https://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/article220097825.html>.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*



Charlie Crist  
Member of Congress (FL-13)



Darren Soto  
Member of Congress (FL-09)



Frederica Wilson  
Member of Congress (FL-24)



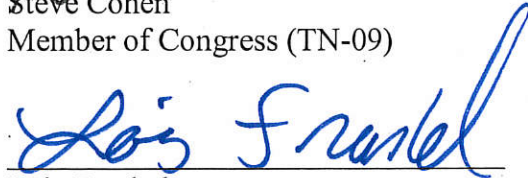
Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress (CA-51)



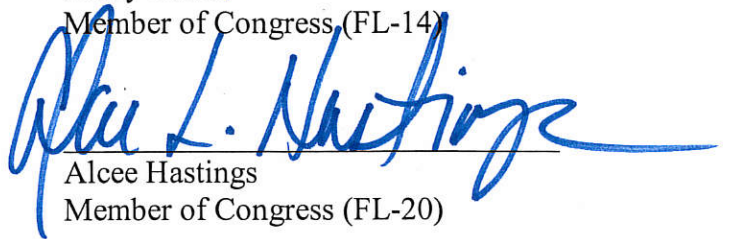
Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress (TN-09)



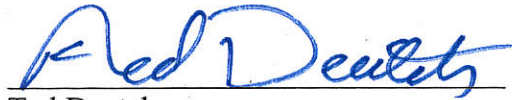
Kathy Castor  
Member of Congress (FL-14)



Lois Frankel  
Member of Congress (FL-21)



Alcee Hastings  
Member of Congress (FL-20)



Ted Deutch  
Member of Congress (FL-22)



Grace F. Napolitano  
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Cheri Bustos  
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Stephanie Murphy  
Member of Congress (FL-07)



Val Butler Demings  
Member of Congress (FL-10)