

STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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FEC FORM 2

STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY

FILING FEC-1335528

1. MICHAEL R. PENCE DONALD J. TRUMP /

MICHAEL R. PENCE(Vice President)

725 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10022

2. Identification Number: P80001571

3. Party: Republican Party

4. Office Sought: President

5-6. State & District of Candidate: _____ - 0

Filed: 06/21/2019

The New York Times

Joe Biden Announces 2020 Run for President, After Months of Hesitation

Former Vice President Joseph R. Biden Jr. announced Thursday that he would seek the Democratic nomination to challenge President Trump in 2020, casting the election as a national emergency and asking Democrats to put the task of defeating Mr. Trump above all their other ambitions.

JULY 25 CALL

~~(S/NF)~~ The President:

UNCLASSIFIED

The other thing,
There's a lot of talk about Biden's son, that Biden stopped the prosecution and a lot of people want to find out about that so whatever you can do with the Attorney General would be great. Biden went around bragging that he stopped the prosecution so if you can look into it... It sounds horrible to me.

Excerpt

REPUBLICAN STAFF REPORT

Immediately following the telephone conversation between President Trump and President Zelensky, senior U.S. and Ukrainian government officials provided read-outs of the conversation. According to witness testimony, none of these read-outs indicated that the conversation between the presidents was substantively concerning.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL VINDMAN

Lieutenant Colonel Vindman.

I immediately went to John Eisenberg, the lead

legal counsel.

It is improper for the President of the United States to demand a foreign

government investigate a U.S. citizen and a political opponent. I was also clear that if

REPUBLICAN STAFF REPORT

Jennifer Williams, testified that although she found the call to be “unusual,” she did not raise concerns to LTG Kellogg.⁷³ LTG Kellogg similarly noted that Williams never raised concerns to him.⁷⁴

REPUBLICAN STAFF REPORT

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11-12

JENNIFER WILLIAMS

MS. WILLIAMS: Again, I would say that it struck me as unusual and inappropriate.

JENNIFER WILLIAMS

Ms. Williams. I thought that the references to specific individuals and investigations, such as former Vice President Biden and his son, struck me as political in nature, given that the former Vice President is a political opponent of the President.

TIM MORRISON

Mr. Goldman. So just to make sure I understand this correctly, Mr. Morrison:

You heard the call. You recognized that President Trump was not discussing the talking points that the NSC had prepared based on official U.S. policy and was instead talking about the investigations that Fiona Hill had warned you about, and then you reported it immediately to the NSC legal advisor? Is that the correct chain of events here?

Mr. Morrison. That's correct.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL VINDMAN

Ms. Speier. Are you aware of any written product from the National Security Council suggesting that investigations into the 2016 election, the Bidens, or Burisma are part of the official policy of the United States?

Lieutenant Colonel Vindman. No, I am not.

TIMOTHY MORRISON

Mr. Swalwell. But with all due respect, Mr. Morrison, you're not in the White House to carry out your policy objectives. You just testified that the President sets the foreign policy objectives for the United States, and the one call that you listened to between the President of the United States and the President of Ukraine, the President of the United States' priorities were to investigate the Bidens. And I'm asking you, sir, why didn't you follow up on the President's priorities when you talked to the Ukrainians?

Mr. Morrison. Sir, I did not understand it as a policy objective.

TIMOTHY MORRISON

Mr. Morrison. Sir, what we, myself, Colonel Vindman, others, what we prepared in the package we provided the President was background on President Zelensky, background on his positions about reforming Ukraine, reforming its institutions, rooting out corruption.

We were hoping -- we recommended the President very clearly support what President Zelensky had run on in his own election, and what his Servant of the People party had run on in its election where it received a majority mandate.

Mr. Himes. But that didn't come up in the call, did it?

Mr. Morrison. No, sir.



THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT *of* JUSTICE

“The President has not spoken with the Attorney General about having Ukraine investigate anything relating to former Vice President Biden or his son. The President has not asked the Attorney General to contact Ukraine—on this or any other matter. The Attorney General has not communicated with Ukraine—on this or any other subject.”

- Kerri Kupec, Office of Public Affairs,
Department of Justice

REPUBLICAN STAFF SUPPORT

The fundamental disagreement apparent in the Democrats' impeachment inquiry is a difference of world views and a discomfort with President Trump's policy decisions. To the extent that some unelected bureaucrats believed President Trump had established an "irregular" foreign policy apparatus, it was because they were not a part of that apparatus. There is nothing illicit about three senior U.S. officials—each with official interests relating to Ukraine—shepherding the U.S.-Ukraine relationship and reporting their actions to State Department and NSC leadership. There is nothing inherently improper with Mayor Giuliani's involvement as well because the Ukrainians knew that he was a conduit to convince President Trump that President Zelensky was serious about reform.

JULY 25, 2019

~~(S/NF)~~ The President: Good because I heard you had a prosecutor who was very good and he was shut down and that's really unfair. A lot of people are talking about that, the way they shut your very good prosecutor down and you had some very bad people involved. Mr. Giuliani is a highly respected man. He was the mayor of New York City, a great mayor, and I would like him to

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call you. I will ask him to call you along with the Attorney General. Rudy very much knows what's happening and he is a very capable guy. If you could speak to him that would be great. The

The New York Times

Rudy Giuliani Plans Ukraine Trip to Push for Inquiries That Could Help Trump

Mr. Giuliani said he plans to travel to Kiev, the Ukrainian capital, in the coming days and wants to meet with the nation's president-elect to urge him to pursue inquiries that allies of the White House contend could yield new information about two matters of intense interest to Mr. Trump.

One is the origin of the special counsel's investigation into Russia's interference in the 2016 election. The other is the involvement of former Vice President Joseph R. Biden Jr.'s son in a gas company owned by a Ukrainian oligarch.

The New York Times

Rudy Giuliani Plans Ukraine Trip to Push for Inquiries That Could Help Trump

“There’s nothing illegal about it,” he said. “Somebody could say it’s improper. **And this isn’t foreign policy** — I’m asking them to do an investigation that they’re doing already and that other people are telling them to stop. And I’m going to give them reasons why they shouldn’t stop it because that information will be **very, very helpful to my client**, and may turn out to be helpful to my government.”

“My only client is the president of the United States,” he said. **“He’s the one I have an obligation to report to, tell him what happened.”**

Giuliani: "Massive Collusion" Between DNC, Obama Admin, Clinton People & Ukraine To Create False Info About Trump

INGRAHAM: -- Russian collusion, Russia collusion, why not this? I mean, it's a fascinating story, and everyone, John Solomon is reporting on this.

GIULIANI: It's a big story. It's a dramatic story. And I guarantee you, Joe Biden will not get to election day without this being investigated, not because I want to see him investigated. This is collateral to what I was doing.

POLITICO

WHITE HOUSE

Transcript: POLITICO interviews President Donald Trump on Joe Biden, impeachment, Bill Barr, North Korea

POLITICO: He's leaving soon. I think in the next couple days.

TRUMP: I see. Well, I will speak to him about it before he leaves. I'm just curious about that.



Rudy Giuliani ✓

@RudyGiuliani



New Pres of Ukraine still silent on investigation of Ukrainian interference in 2016 election and alleged Biden bribery of Pres Poroshenko. Time for leadership and investigate both if you want to purge how Ukraine was abused by Hillary and Obama people.

11:04 AM · Jun 21, 2019 from [Queens, NY](#) · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

AMBASSADOR SONDLAND

We were also disappointed by the President's direction that we involve Mr. Giuliani. Our view was that the men and women of the State Department, not the President's personal lawyer, should take responsibility for all aspects of U.S. foreign policy towards Ukraine. However, based on the

AUGUST 13, 2019

12:11 PM

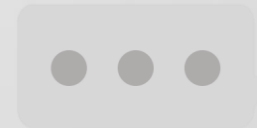


YERMAK

Thank you for meeting and your clear and very logical position Will be great meet with you before my departure and discuss. I feel that the key far many things is Rudi and I ready to talk with him at any time. Please. let me know when you can meet. Andrey



KURT
VOLKER





WH.GOV





**GEORGE
KENT**

**“THERE WAS GREAT
CONFUSION AMONG
THE REST OF US
BECAUSE WE DIDN'T
UNDERSTAND WHY
THAT HAD HAPPENED.
... SINCE THERE WAS
UNANIMITY THAT THIS
[AID] WAS IN OUR
NATIONAL INTEREST, IT
JUST SURPRISED ALL
OF US.”**



**DAVID
HOLMES**

**“AND THEN YOU HAD
THE ADDITIONAL
HOLD OF THE
SECURITY ASSISTANCE
WITH NO
EXPLANATION
WHATSOEVER, AND
WE STILL DON'T HAVE
AN EXPLANATION FOR
WHY THAT HAPPENED
OR IN THE WAY THAT IT
HAPPENED”**



**CATHERINE
CROFT**

**“THE ONLY REASON
GIVEN WAS THAT THE
ORDER CAME AT THE
DIRECTION OF THE
PRESIDENT.”**

REPUBLICAN STAFF SUPPORT

meetings with senior U.S. officials between July and September. Although U.S. security assistance was temporarily paused, the U.S. government did not convey the pause to the Ukrainians because U.S. officials believed the pause would get worked out and, if publicized, may be mischaracterized as a shift in U.S. policy towards Ukraine. U.S. officials said that the

AMBASSADOR SONDLAND

5. Also, I now do recall a conversation on September 1, 2019, in Warsaw with Mr. Yermak. This brief pull-aside conversation followed the larger meeting involving Vice President Pence and President Zelensky, in which President Zelensky had raised the issue of the suspension of U.S. aid to Ukraine directly with Vice President Pence. After that large meeting, I now recall speaking individually with Mr. Yermak, where I said that resumption of U.S. aid would likely not occur until Ukraine provided the public anti-corruption statement that we had been discussing for many weeks. I also recall some question as to whether the public statement could come from the newly appointed Ukrainian Prosecutor General, rather than from President Zelensky directly.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the aforementioned is true.

Executed on November 4, 2019.



The Honorable Gordon D. Sondland
United States Ambassador to the European Union

Comparison of Draft Statements

Yermak Draft August 12

Special attention should be paid to the problem of interference in the political processes of the United States, especially with the alleged involvement of some Ukrainian politicians. I want to declare that this is unacceptable. We intend to initiate and complete a transparent and unbiased investigation of all available facts and episodes, which in turn will prevent the recurrence of this problem in the future.

Giuliani-Volker-Sondland Draft August 13

Special attention should be paid to the problem of interference in the political processes of the United States, especially with the alleged involvement of some Ukrainian politicians. I want to declare that this is unacceptable. We intend to initiate and complete a transparent and unbiased investigation of all available facts and episodes, **including those involving Burisma and the 2016 US elections**, which in turn will prevent the recurrence of this problem in the future.





LIEUTENANT COLONEL VINDMAN

LT. COL. VINDMAN: So, Congressman, the power disparity between the President of the United States and the President of Ukraine is vast, and, you know, in the President asking for something, it became -- there was -- in return for a White House meeting, because that's what this was about. This was about getting a White House meeting. It was a demand for him to fulfill his -- fulfill this particular prerequisite in order to get the meeting.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL VINDMAN

It is important to understand that a White House visit was critical to President Zelensky. President Zelensky needed to show U.S. support at the highest levels in order to demonstrate to Russian President Putin that he had U.S. backing as well as to advance his ambitious anticorruption reform agenda at home.

President Zelensky's team immediately began pressing to set a date for that visit.

JULY 21, 2019

1:45 am



**BILL
TAYLOR**

“Gordon, one thing Kurt and I talked about yesterday was Sasha Danyliuk’s point that President Zelenskyy is sensitive about Ukraine being take seriously, not merely as an instrument in Washington domestic, reelection politics.”

4:45 am



**AMB. GORDON
SONDLAND**

“Absolutely, but we need to get the conversation started and the relationship built, irrespective of the pretext. I am worried about the alternative.”

AMBASSADOR TAYLOR

In fact, Ambassador Taylor, at your deposition in October, you stated that due to the hold that President Trump placed on aid to the Ukraine, the Ukrainians became, quote/unquote, desperate. Isn't that right?

Ambassador Taylor. In August, they did not know, as far as I'm aware. But at the end of August, the article came out. In September, the Minister of Defense, for example, came to me -- I would use the word "desperate" -- to figure out why the assistance was being held. He thought that perhaps if he went to Washington to talk to

AMBASSADOR TAYLOR

Ambassador Sondland also said that he had talked to President Zelensky and Mr. Yermak and had told them that, although this was not a quid pro quo, if President Zelensky did not clear things up in public, we would be at a stalemate. I understood a "stalemate" to mean that Ukraine would not receive the much-needed military assistance.

Ambassador Sondland said that this conversation concluded with President Zelensky agreeing to make a public statement in an interview on CNN.

DAVID HOLMES

Finally, also on September 13th, Ambassador Taylor and I ran into Mr. Yermak on our way out of a meeting with President Zelensky in his private office. Ambassador Taylor again stressed the importance of staying out of U.S. politics and said he hoped no interview was planned. Mr. Yermak did not answer but shrugged in resignation, as if to indicate that he had no choice.

In short, everybody thought there was going to be an interview and that the Ukrainians believed they had to do it.

The interview ultimately did not occur.

DAVID HOLMES

On September 8th, Ambassador Taylor told me, quote, "Now they're insisting Zelensky commit to the investigation in an interview with CNN," which I took to refer to those Three Amigos.

I was shocked the requirement was so specific and concrete. While we had advised our Ukrainian counterparts to voice a commitment to following the rule of law and generally investigating credible corruption allegations, this was a demand that President Zelensky personally commit on a cable news channel to a specific investigation of President Trump's political rival.

DAVID HOLMES

The Chairman. You also in your testimony, and I was struck by this anew today, when even after the aid is lifted, Ukraine still felt pressure to make these statements. And you and Ambassador Taylor were worried that they were going to do it on CNN. And you said that Ambassador Taylor again stressed the importance of staying out of U.S. politics and said he hoped no interview was planned.

Mr. Yermak did not answer but shrugged in resignation, as if to indicate that they had no choice. In short, everyone thought there was going to be an interview and that the Ukrainians believed they had to do it.

You're acknowledging, I think, Mr. Holmes, are you not, that Ukraine very much felt pressured to undertake these investigations that the President, Rudy Giuliani, and Ambassador Sondland, and others were demanding?

Mr. Holmes. Yes, sir. And although the hold on the security assistance may have been lifted, there were still things they wanted that they weren't getting, including a meeting with the President in the Oval Office. Whether the hold -- the security assistance hold continued or not, Ukrainians understood that that's something the President wanted, and they still wanted important things from the President.