Comer: Investigating Biden family like 'tracking a bleeding bear through a snowstorm'

BY LAUREN SFORZA - 01/22/23 12:49 PM ET





Rep. James Comer (R-Ky.) speaks to reporters after a closed-door House Republican conference meeting on Tuesday, January 10, 2023.

Rep. James Comer (R-Ky.) on Sunday gave the latest rundown of House Republicans' investigations into President <u>Biden</u> and his family, making various claims of connections to China and stating that there was "evidence everywhere" of wrongdoing.

"I mean, this isn't the most complex investigation on the planet," Comer told Maria Bartiromo on Fox News' "Sunday Morning Futures." "Investigating Hunter – the Biden family is about like tracking a bleeding bear through a snowstorm. I mean, there's evidence everywhere."

Comer, the newly-appointed chairman of the House Oversight and Accountability Committee, began his tenure earlier this month by making good on promises to probe Biden and his family's finances by <u>requesting information</u> from the Treasury Department. Comer asked for documents and information on Biden's family businesses, including any suspicious activity reports (SARs) generated by banks in relation to the Biden family. The Kentucky Republican claimed the Biden family has numerous connections to the Chinese Communist Party before addressing the discovery of classified documents found at a former office if Biden's and at his Wilmington, Del.-area home.

"It's very startling. And with respect to the documents, Maria, I took the president at his word when the first set of documents were found at the Biden Center for Diplomacy that he had just ended verbally misplaced those documents. But now this is gone from just simply being irresponsible to downright scary," Comer said.

Comer has formally asked for <u>visitor logs</u> for Biden's residence over the documents matter. The White House counsel's office later said that there were <u>no visitor logs</u> for Biden's private home.

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Comer said he would be requesting information from the Secret Service to investigate the situation further, but added that the White House hasn't responded.

"This is very concerning," Comer said. "Hopefully, the Secret Service is going to work with us. We're requesting tomorrow formally any type of correspondence, any type of e-mails, any type of documentation that would help us determine who actually had access to those documents."

"We need to know now who had access to those documents because our national security could be at risk," he added.

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Тор



Biden an \$80,000 diamond after he agreed to help expand the business by making 'introductions' for \$10MILLION a year

- A new book, Laptop from Hell, claims that Hunter Biden helped expand Chinese influence in America for \$10 million a year and an \$80,000 diamond
- In her book, Miranda Devine claims that James Gilliar, a former SAS officer, recommended Ye Jianming, the chairman of CEFC China, link up with the Bidens
- · He reportedly connected Ye with Hunter Biden through family friend Rob Walker
- Gilliar then reportedly enlisted Tony Bobulinski's help in setting up a Chinese joint venture, later revealing it's for Hunter Biden and CEFC China
- To seal the deal, Devine claims, Ye offered Hunter \$10 million a year for three years and sent him a diamond worth \$80,000
- Shortly after, \$6 million was wired into Rob Walker's accounts, which the Department of Treasury deemed 'suspicious'
- Hunter soon reportedly received regular payments from Walker's business

By MELISSA KOENIG FOR DAILYMAIL.COM

PUBLISHED: 10:23 EST, 28 November 2021 | UPDATED: 09:17 EST, 30 November 2021



A damning new report claims that **Hunter Biden** helped expand Chinese influence in America in a \$10 million a year agreement and an \$80,000 diamond.

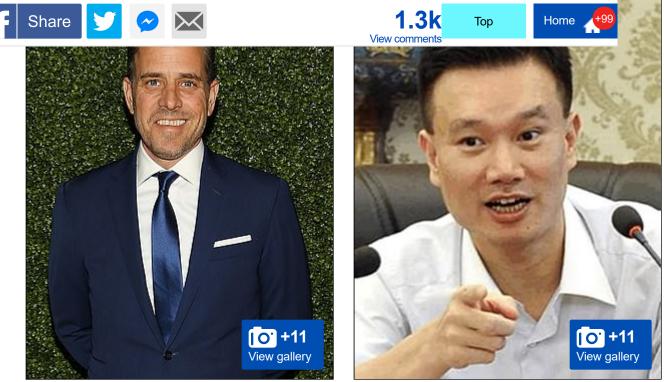
In her new book, Laptop from Hell, **New York Post** columnist Miranda Devine, describes Hunter Biden's business dealings with a Chinese-linked energy consortium, called CEFC.

Based on hundreds of emails from Hunter Biden's laptop which he left in a **Delaware**repair shop in April 2019, and transcripts of messages from WhatsApp, she claims that the Biden family offered their services to CEFC to help expand its business around the world.

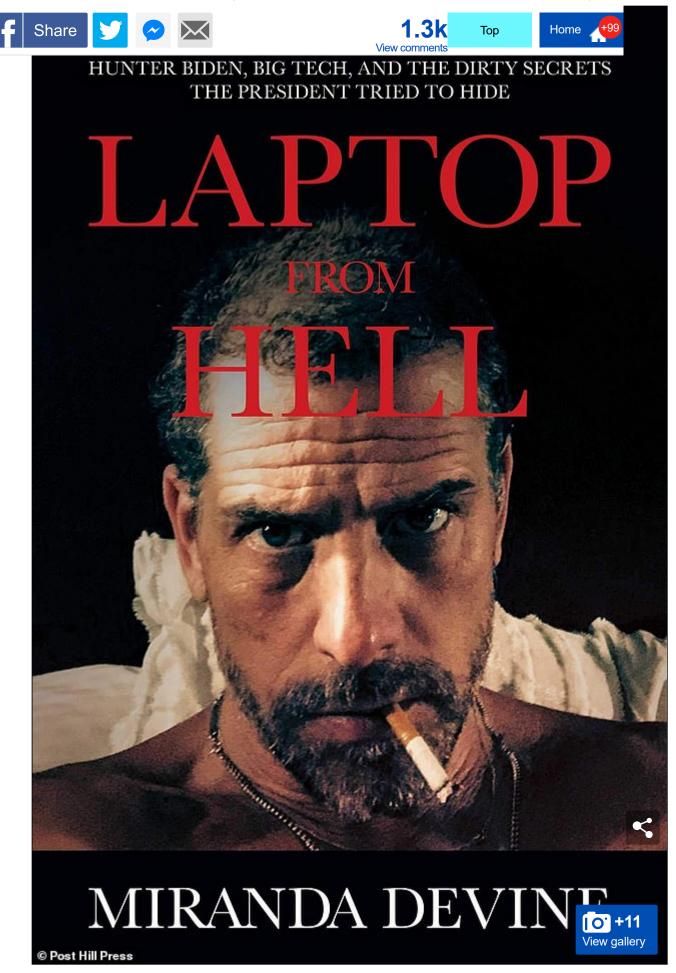
In exchange, Devine writes, Hunter Biden received \$10 million a year for three years, and a diamond worth at least \$80,000.

1/22/2023

Hunter Biden agreed to spread Chinese influence for \$10 MILLION a year and an \$80,000 diamond | Daily Mail Online



Hunter Biden, left, reportedly helped expand CEFC China Energy's influence in the United States after its chairman, Ye Jianming, right, offered him \$10 million a year and a diamond worth at least \$80,000





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Devine writes in her new book, out Tuesday, that Ye Jianming, the chairman of CEFC China Energy, was tasked with expanding the Chinese energy consortium's influence around the world, and James Gilliar, a former SAS officer, recommended he link up with the Biden family.

Gilliar reportedly connected Ye with Hunter Biden through Rob Walker, a former Clinton administration official, whose wife, Betsy Massey Walker, had been Jill Biden's assistant when she was second lady.

In December 2015, Devine claims, Ye and CEFC Executive Director Jianjun Zang flew to Washington D.C. At around the same time, a meeting was scheduled in Hunter Biden's diary for December 7, 2015.

One of his former associates, who spoke to Devine on the condition of anonymity, said they believe Hunter brought Ye to meet his father at one of their holiday parties, although there is no indication of any such meeting on Hunter's laptop.

By February 2015, Gilliar reportedly emailed Hunter directly saying: 'It has been made clear to me that CEFC wish to engage in further business relations with our group.'

He reportedly knew that CEFC was the capitalist arm of President Xi Jinping's Belt and Road Initiative to spread Chinese influence throughout the world, while Ye was pictured with world leaders.

Shortly thereafter, Devine writes, Gilliar told Tony Bobulinski, a naval officer turned wealthy institutional investor, he needed help restructuring a Chinese joint venture for 'one of the most prominent families in the United States.'

He reportedly wrote in a WhatsApp message the plan was to 'build an investment firm like Goldman Sachs.'

Gilliar later reportedly reveals it's for the Biden family, saying Joe, who announced he would not run for president in 2016, would be actively involved once he leaves office. He added that the Bidens expect billions of dollars of projects to flow through the company.

And by March 2016, Gilliar reportedly revealed to Bobulinksi that the Chinese partner is CEFC, which, he says, has 'more money than God.'

Nearly a year later, Devine claims, Gilliar sent Bobulinski a WhatsApp message saying he wants to introduce him to his 'partner.'

Bobulinski then asks who his partner is, to which Gilliar replies, 'Hunter Biden.'

'Money there, intent there ... skill sets missing,' he reportedly writes of Hunter. 'We need to create the best deal platform in history and they haven't got a clue.'

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'But he's super smart,' Gilliar replies. 'Just a lot of under-achievers around them using their name. [He] Has a few demons but u are used to those, right?'

At that point, Bobulinski asks Gilliar: 'Is he the decision maker or the Chinese?'

Gilliar replies: 'New platform. Best discuss face-to-face, but I'm the driver.'

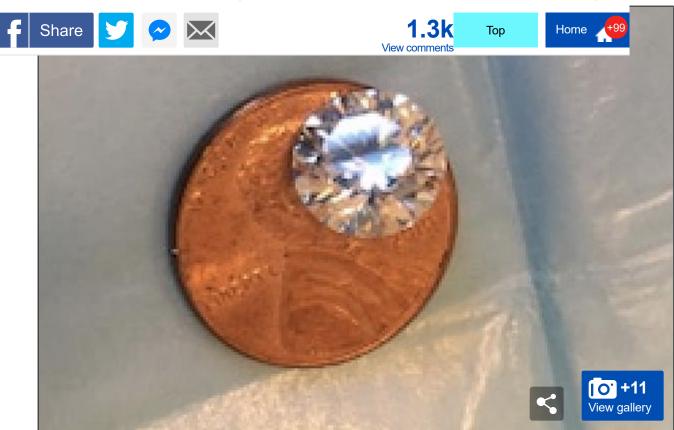
Later, Bobulinksi asks who is putting in the \$10 million for the business deal, to which Gilliar says it is a 'joint vehicle,' with both parties putting in half the money.



Tony Bobulinski reportedly helped set up the joint venture between Hunter Biden and CEFC

fact that he

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Ye Jianming reportedly gave Hunter Biden a 3.16 carat diamond worth \$80,000 for the deal

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A report on Hunter Biden's laptop lists the diamond as a 'round brilliant' of Grade F with prime VS2 clarity and an 'excellent' cut.

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Flash forward to February 2017, after Biden left the vice presidency, when, Devine writes, Hunter flew to Miami with Gilliar and Rob Walker to meet with Ye, who was there for the Miami International Boat Show.

They reportedly booked a \$700-a-night beachfront room at the Nobu Hotel on Monday, February 13, 2017 and scheduled lunch with the Chinese for Thursday in a private room at the Bourbon Steak restaurant in the upscale JW Marriot Turnberry Resort and Spa, where Ye was staying.

But Hunter reportedly flew home the day before the scheduled lunch, having already met with Ye over a private dinner that Tuesday, when the CEFC chairman offered Biden \$10 million a year for a minimum of three years and a 3.16 carat diamond worth \$80,000.

According to Devine, photographs of the diamond appeared on Hunter Biden's laptop, along with a report that lists it as a 'round brilliant' of Grade F with prime VS2 clarity and an 'excellent' cut.

The gift reportedly came as Hunter was divorcing Kathleen and his office manager, Joan Peugh, sent him a tax collection notice from DC for \$47,226.78.

Hunter would later tell the New Yorker's Adam Entous that he flew to Miami to meet Ye hoping to secure a donation to World Food Program USA, claiming it was just chance that the altruistic venture 'turned to business opportunities.'

WHO'S WHO IN THE HUNTER CHINESE EMAILS

Hunter Biden

Vice president's son was well-known to be seeking business deals in China. He traveled there in 2013 on Air Force Two and introduced his father to a business partner, Jonathan Li. In 2017, after his father left office, he pursued a relationship with Ye Jianming.

Ye Jianming

Chairman and founder of CEFC China Energy, 43. A wunderkind of the Chinese energy world. Gave Hunter a diamond in 2017 as they pursued a



business relationship. But in November 2017 company was accused of bribery in Africa by the DOJ, and in March 2018 he was arrested in China, reportedly on the orders of Xi Jinping. Has not been seen or heard from since but a prosecution in 2018 saw a senior Communist leader accused of taking bribes from him.



But nine days later, \$3 million is wired into an account for Rob Walker's company, Robinson Walker LLC, from State Energy HK Limited, a Shanghai-based company linked to CEFC.

Another \$3 million was wired into his company on March 1, Devine reports, and both transactions are flagged by the Department of Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement network in a 'suspicious activity report.'

Senators Chuck Grassley and Ron Johnson then looked into the money, and concluded on November 18, 2020 that State Energy HK Limited previously 'transferred funds to at least one company associated with Hunter Biden's business associate, Gongwen Dong.

'These transactions are a direct link between Walker and the communist Chinese government and, because of his close association with Hunter Biden, yet another tie between Hunter Biden's financial arrangements and the communist Chinese government,' they write.

The report concludes it is 'unclear what the true purpose is behind these transactions and who the ultimate beneficiary is.'

But, according to Devine, Hunter's laptop shows he received regular payments from Robinson Walker in the aftermath, with one document listing \$56,603.74 from Robinson Walker as income for Rosemont Seneca Advisors between June and December 2017.

Devine also claims that Walker paid at least \$511,000 to Hunter's firm Owasco in 2017, citing an email from Hunter's tax accountant Bill Morgan.

Eventually, though, Devine writes, Bobulinski becomes worried about Hunter's scandals, after he started dating his brother's widow, Hallie, and fearing he might pull out of the deal, Gilliar arranges for Bobulinksi to meet with Hunter at the Chateau Marmont in Los Angeles.

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Senior executive at OEFO and also a senior figure in the China Chamber of International Commerce.

Tony Bobulinski

Тор

Penn State wrestler and Navy veteran turned-California businessman, 48, who appears to



Jared Siskin/PMC

have done other business in China. Unclear how he and Gilliar know each other. Other business ventures include an investment in a Chinese men's clothing company called VLOV.

Rob Walker

Bill Clinton administration official who is now co-founder of a technologyfocused private equity firm, Pilot



Growth. His wife Betsy Massey Walker was Jill Biden's assistant when she was Second Lady.

James Gilliar

British-born 56-year-old businessman based in the Czech Republic. Set up jc2r, the company which is in the emails, in 2015. It is no longer active. Gilliar appears to breed race horses with his wife, Erika and appears to also be an adviser to a holding company run by the leader of Abu Dhabi's son.

James Biden

Joe Biden's younger brother and a serial entrepreneur who has long faced claims of profiting from his brother's

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reportedly found Hunter respectful and polite as he boasted that he has his father's ear and can bypass his advisers.

Hunter then reportedly gave Bobulinksi advice on how the joint venture should be structured, and expressed caution about US laws, including the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, which prohibits businesses from paying bribes to foreign officials.

He reportedly tells Bobulinski: 'We should have a company called CEFC America, and ownership should be 50 [percent] me, and 50 [percent] them. We then cut up our 50 in a separate entity between the four of us.'

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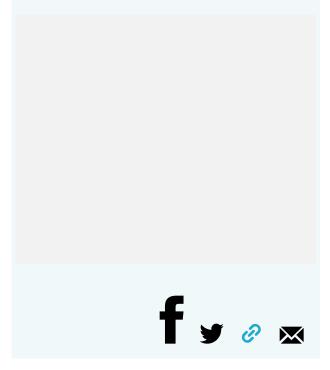
in pusiness together in 2006 when they bought investment firm Paradigm Global

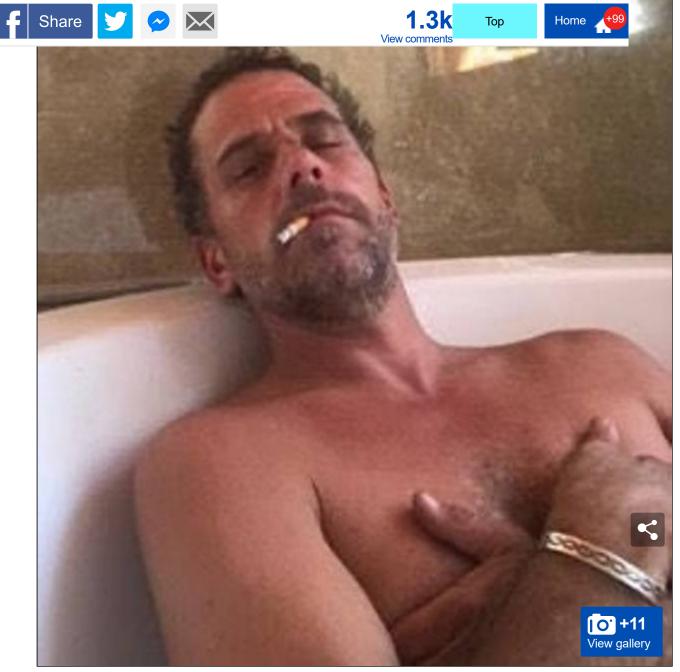


Advisors which they unwound in 2010 after connections to a Ponzi fraudster emerged.

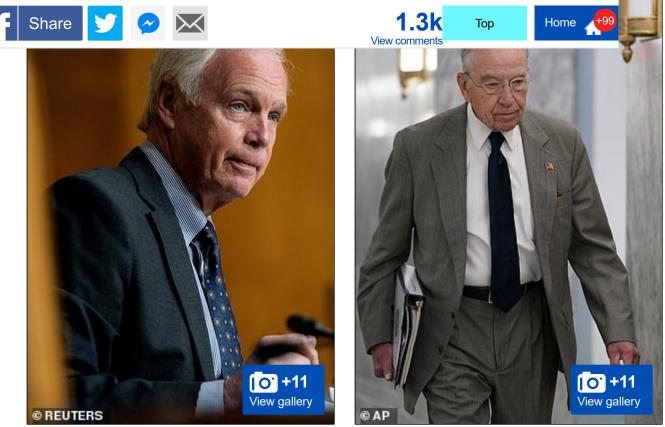
The Chairman and The Big Guy

Said to be Joe Biden in many of the text exchanges although Hunter's messages do not state this directly.

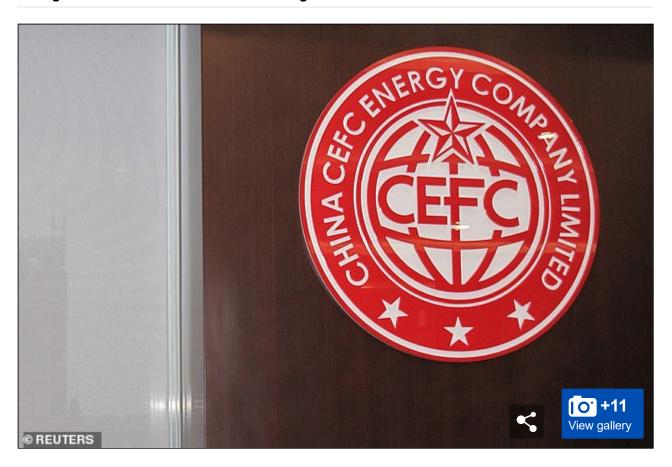




Hunter had reportedly impressed Bobulinski when they met at the Chateau Marmont in Los Angeles and he sat by the pool chain smoking



Senators Ron Johnson, left, and Chuck Grassley, right, investigated \$6 million transferred to Rob Walker's company, Robinson Walker LLC from State Energy HK Limited, a Shanghai-based company linked to CEFC and concluded they are 'another tie between Hunter Biden's financial arrangements and the communist Chinese government'



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Meanwhile, CEFC China began falling apart.

On November 18, 2017, FBI agents arrested Patrick Ho Chi-ping, the man Ye had employed to lead his NGO. Chi-ping was accused of offering \$3 million in bribes to the president of Chad, and Sam Kutesa, the Ugandan minister of foreign affairs and then-president of the UN General Assembly, **CNN** reports.

In the aftermath, a Chinese state owned investment company took over all of CEFC China Energy's Czech Republic assets.

AUTHENTICATING THE LAPTOP

DailyMail.com commissioned cyber forensics experts at Maryman & Associates to examine the hard drive to determine its authenticity.

The firm's founder, Brad Maryman, was a 29-year veteran of the FBI, served as a Chief Information Security Officer and founded the bureau's cyber forensics unit. His partner, Dr. Joseph Greenfield, is an associate professor at the University of Southern California and helped write their degree program in intelligence and cyber operations.

After an extensive analysis of the hard drive, Greenfield and Maryman produced a report for DailyMail.com detailing their findings.

Using the same forensic tools as federal and state law enforcement in criminal investigations, they found a total of 103,000 text messages, 154,000 emails and more than 2,000 photos.

- They found emails for multiple accounts on the laptop dating back to 2009, and other data which 'appears to be related to Mr. Biden' between 2016 and 2019.

- The report's findings were consistent with the known timeline for the hard drive. A Wilmington, Delaware computer store work order with Hunter's signature shows he left his 2017 MacBook Pro laptop there on April 12, 2019.

- The Maryman & Associates report said the original 'Macintosh HD' drive was created on March 28, 2018

- Hunter's iCloud email address was added to the laptop's system on October 21 2018, as well as his work email at his firm Rosemont Seneca on February 2 2019.

- The same day, a Gmail address he used to log onto sex cam sites, and another personal Gmail address belonging to Hunter, were also added.

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Emails addressed to municers various email addresses dating nom December 2009 to December 2020 were found on the system.

- An iPad with the name 'Hunter's iPad' and three email addresses associated with the Biden family was backed up on the laptop and on iCloud in January 2019 and again a month later.

- Greenfield found 818 call logs in this iPad backup with timestamps from June 2016 to February 2019.

- There were 8,942 entries in the iPad's contacts book, created between April 2016 and January 2019.

- In February 2019 an iPhone XS was also synced with the laptop. Its serial number was consistent with the timestamps of the data on the phone.

In conclusion, 'The operating system timestamps appear to be authentic, and no evidence was found to suggest that the timestamps or data were altered or manufactured,' the report said. 'No indications were found that would suggest the data was manufactured.'