

## Trump orders release of Epstein Files amid public pressure



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WASHINGTON, July 18— Former U.S. President Donald Trump has directed Attorney General Pam Bondi to seek court approval for the release of grand jury documents related to Jeffrey Epstein, amid mounting pressure from conservative circles and public demand for transparency.

In a post on social media, Trump stated: “Based on the ridiculous amount of publicity given to Jeffrey Epstein, I have asked Attorney General Pam Bondi to produce any and all pertinent grand

jury testimony, subject to court approval.”

Attorney General Bondi confirmed the directive, saying the Department of Justice will move swiftly to request unsealing of documents in court.

Trump’s announcement follows backlash over recent claims that his administration failed to deliver promised disclosures in the Epstein case. The move also coincides with a controversy involving The Wall Street Journal, which published allegations of a lewd birthday letter sent to Epstein bearing Trump’s name. Trump dismissed the letter as “fake,” threatening legal action and accusing the paper of defamation.

The documents in question may relate to federal charges brought in 2019 or earlier state proceedings from the early 2000s. Some materials from the 2006 Florida case have already been partially released, sparking public outrage over the leniency of Epstein’s original plea deal.

Trump had previously pledged to declassify Epstein-related files during his 2024 campaign, with Bondi suggesting additional revelations were imminent. However, her recent claim that there was no Epstein “client list” drew criticism and calls for her resignation.

The renewed focus on the case underscores persistent public suspicion over Epstein’s death in 2019 and the network of high-profile individuals connected to his activities. Legal experts caution that releasing grand jury materials requires strict judicial oversight due to their sensitive nature.

