

# Episode 10

Friday, April 2, 2021 10:48 AM

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# Jeffery Epstein

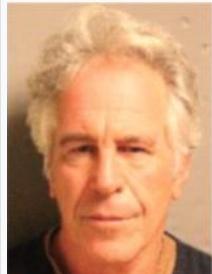
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**Jeffrey Edward Epstein** ([/ɛpstiːn/ EP-steen](#))<sup>[3]</sup> January 20, 1953 – August 10, 2019) was an American [financier](#) and convicted [sex offender](#).<sup>[4][5]</sup> He began his professional life as a teacher, but then switched to the banking and finance sector in various roles, working at [Bear Stearns](#) before forming his own firm. He developed an elite social circle and [procured](#) many women and children who were then sexually abused by Epstein and some of his contacts.<sup>[6][5][7][8]</sup>

In 2005, police in [Palm Beach, Florida](#), began investigating Epstein after a parent complained that he had sexually abused her 14-year-old daughter.<sup>[9]</sup> Epstein pleaded guilty and was convicted in 2008 by a Florida state court of procuring a [child for prostitution](#) and of soliciting a prostitute.<sup>[6][10]</sup> He served almost 13 months in custody, but with extensive [work release](#). He was convicted of only these two crimes as part of a controversial [plea deal](#); federal officials had identified 36 girls, some as young as 14 years old, whom Epstein had allegedly sexually abused.<sup>[11][12]</sup>

Epstein was arrested again on July 6, 2019, on federal charges for the [sex trafficking](#) of minors in Florida and New York.<sup>[13][14]</sup> [He died in his jail cell](#) on August 10, 2019.<sup>[15]</sup> The medical examiner ruled the death a suicide.<sup>[16]</sup> Epstein's lawyers have disputed the ruling, and there has been significant public [skepticism about the true cause of his death](#).<sup>[17][18]</sup> Since his death precluded the possibility of pursuing criminal charges, a judge dismissed all criminal charges on August 29, 2019.<sup>[19][20]</sup> Epstein had a decades-long association with [Ghislaine Maxwell](#), who has faced persistent allegations of procuring and sexually trafficking underage girls for Epstein, which led to her arrest by the FBI on July 2, 2020.<sup>[21][22][23]</sup> Epstein also maintained a years-long friendship with [Prince Andrew, Duke of York](#).<sup>[24]</sup>

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeffrey\\_Epstein](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeffrey_Epstein)>

Jeffrey Epstein	
	Epstein's final mugshot, July 9, 2019
<b>Born</b>	
	Jeffrey Edward Epstein January 20, 1953 <a href="#">New York City</a> , U.S.
<b>Died</b>	August 10, 2019 (aged 66) New York City, U.S.
<b>Cause of death</b>	<a href="#">Suicide by hanging</a> (disputed) <sup>[25]</sup>
<b>Resting place</b>	<a href="#">U Morris Star of David cemetery</a> , Palm Beach, Florida
<b>Education</b>	• <a href="#">Cooper Union</a> (no degree) • <a href="#">New York University</a> (no degree)
<b>Occupation</b>	• Financier • broker • educator • socialite
<b>Net worth</b>	US\$559 million (July 2019) <sup>[26]</sup>
<b>Title</b>	Owner of <a href="#">Jeffrey Epstein VI Foundation</a>
<b>Criminal charge</b>	Procuring an <a href="#">underage girl for prostitution</a> ; <a href="#">sex trafficking</a>
<b>Penalty</b>	13 months with work release (2008)
<b>Date apprehended</b>	July 6, 2019 (second criminal case)
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.jeffreyepstein.org">www.jeffreyepstein.org</a>

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeffrey\\_Epstein](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeffrey_Epstein)>

## What We Do and Don't Know About Jeffrey Epstein

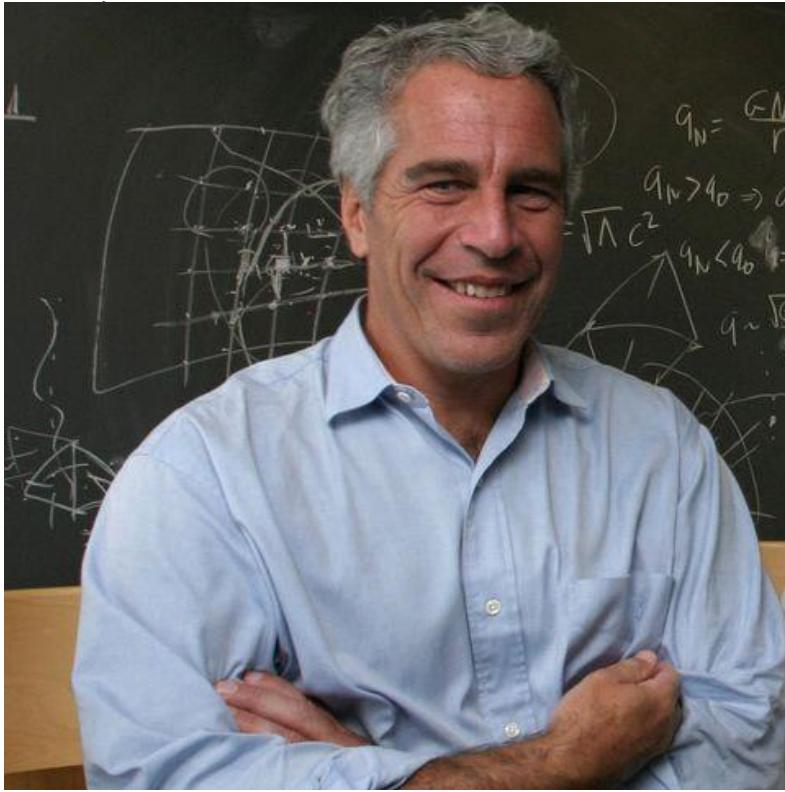
The financier, who had ties to celebrities, politicians, and royalty, was arrested last year on multiple disturbing charges. He died by suicide in jail, but questions about his life and crimes still remain.

- Financier Jeffrey Epstein was arrested in July 2019 on charges of sex trafficking and conspiracy to engage in sex trafficking. He was denied bail ahead of his trial.
- Epstein [died while in jail](#), and his death was officially ruled a suicide by the New York City medical examiner.
- Epstein, a convicted sex offender who previously served 13 months in a Palm Beach county jail, had a high-profile social circle. His former associates include Bill Clinton, Donald Trump, and [Queen Elizabeth's son Prince Andrew](#).
- In July 2020, his ex-girlfriend and longtime associate Ghislaine Maxwell was arrested on charges relating to Epstein's sex trafficking operation.

On July 8, 2019, federal prosecutors charged financier Jeffrey Epstein with one count of sex trafficking of a minor and one count of conspiracy to commit sex trafficking. Following the indictment, Epstein [pleaded not guilty](#) on both charges. He was denied bail and remained in jail until August 10, when several media outlets confirmed that Epstein had died by apparent suicide. But numerous questions still remain about Epstein's life, crimes, and fortune, some of which could be revealed in [the new case against his longtime associate Ghislaine Maxwell](#), who was arrested in July 2020.

Until then, here's what we do and don't know about him.

**Who was Epstein?**



A photo of Epstein in 2004.

Epstein started his career in New York City as a math teacher at the elite Dalton School, but in the 1970s, he went to work at the investment bank Bear Stearns before founding his own firm, J. Epstein and Co., in 1982. [According to Vox](#), he specifically marketed his services to "those with assets worth more than \$1 billion," and operated his company out of the U.S. Virgin Islands for tax reasons.

While Epstein appeared to be wealthy, [living in a massive townhouse](#) and giving large sums of money to a wide variety of causes and institutions, the source of his money is obscure. He has been widely called a billionaire, but [Forbes disputes that claim](#), saying that he was more likely "worth a fraction of that." And when Epstein died, he was worth \$577,672,654, according to a will signed just two days before his death.

In 2008, Epstein [pleaded guilty to a felony charge of solicitation of prostitution involving a minor](#), and was sentenced to 18 months in prison; he served 13, and was granted work release, which allowed him to commute to an office outside the jail six days a week. [He also registered as a sex offender](#).

The plea deal came under renewed scrutiny last winter, after *Miami Herald* [investigative reporter Julie K. Brown](#) published a series on Epstein, his victims, and the powerful people who advocated for him to receive a more lenient sentence over a decade ago.

**Epstein died in his cell in mid-August.**

On July 24, Epstein [was reportedly found injured in his cell](#). Several weeks later, on August 10, he was found dead by apparent suicide, [per the New York Times](#), and his death is being investigated by the FBI.

Here is the official statement regarding his death from the Federal Bureau of Prisons:

On Saturday, August 10, 2019, at approximately 6:30 a.m., inmate Jeffrey Edward Epstein was found unresponsive in his cell in the Special Housing Unit from an apparent suicide at the Metropolitan Correctional Center (MCC) in New York, New York. Life-saving measures were initiated immediately by responding staff. Staff requested emergency medical services (EMS) and life-saving efforts continued. Mr. Epstein was transported by EMS to a local hospital for treatment of life-threatening injuries, and subsequently pronounced dead by hospital staff. The FBI is investigating the incident.

On Wednesday October 30, a forensic pathologist working for Jeffrey Epstein's brother Mark announced he believed that Epstein did not die by suicide. Dr. Michael Baden [said on the morning TV show Fox & Friends](#) that Mr. Epstein, 66, experienced a number of injuries that "are extremely unusual in suicidal hangings and could occur much more commonly in homicidal strangulation."

The city's Chief Medical Examiner, Dr. Barbara Sampson, disputed Dr. Baden's claim, [according to the New York Times](#). She had previously ruled his death a suicide.

[NPR reports that](#) Epstein's death "effectively end[ed]" the criminal case, but several of his alleged victims [have gone on to sue his estate](#).

**What we know about the recent case against Epstein.**

Epstein was arrested at Teterboro Airport in New Jersey on July 6, after arriving back in the United States from France. He was charged by federal prosecutors the following Monday. [Per the indictment](#), "over the course of many years, Jeffrey Epstein, the defendant, sexually exploited and abused dozens of minor girls at his homes in Manhattan, New York, and Palm Beach, Florida, among other locations."

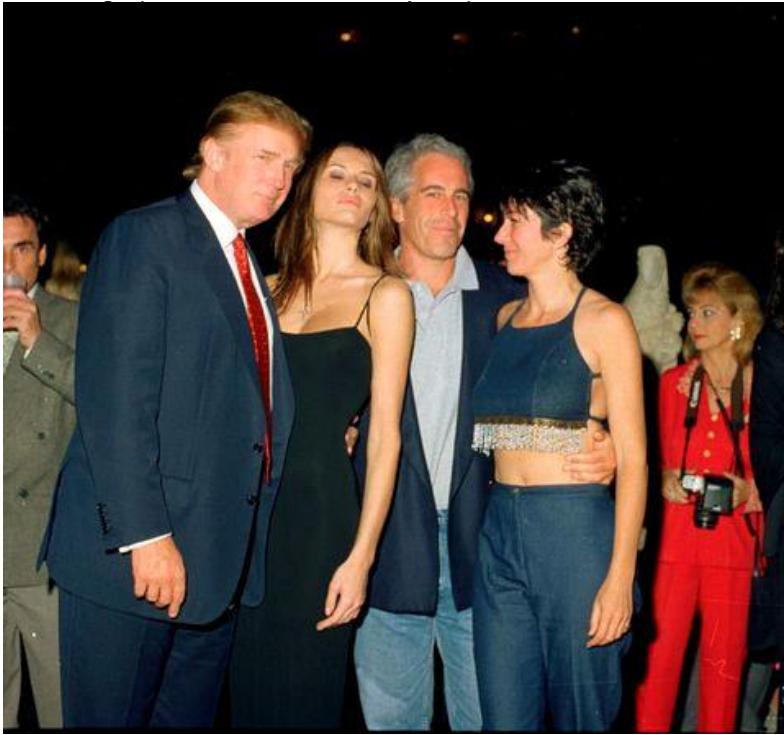
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His indictment also noted that that "in order to maintain and increase his supply of victims, Epstein also paid certain of his victims to recruit additional girls to be similarly abused." The prosecution alleged that he sexually assaulted girls as young as 14 years old.

Federal prosecutors also searched his New York City home following his arrest. According to the [New York Times](#), "During the search of his townhouse on Saturday, investigators seized photographs of nude underage girls."

Epstein pleaded not guilty. He was denied bail, and as mentioned above, he died by suicide in his cell before the trial.

**Epstein's high-profile social circle only amplified the attention on this case.**



Donald Trump and his then-girlfriend Melania pose for a photo with Jeffrey Epstein, and British socialite Ghislaine Maxwell at the Mar-a-Lago club in 2000.

DAVIDOFF STUDIOS PHOTOGRAPHY/GETTY IMAGES

Epstein was known to associate with politicians on both sides of the aisle (Bill Clinton and Donald Trump to name just two), numerous celebrities, and other people in the public eye.

"I've known Jeff for 15 years. Terrific guy," Trump told [New York magazine](#) in 2002. "He's a lot of fun to be with. It is even said that he likes beautiful women as much as I do, and many of them are on the younger side."

Following the news of his recent arrest, Trump said he has distanced himself from Epstein in recent years. "I had a falling out with him," [the President said, according to the New York Times](#). "I haven't spoken to him in 15 years. I was not a fan of his, that I can tell you."



Epstein and Alan Dershowitz, who was part of the legal team that defended Epstein in his 2008 sex abuse case.

RICK FRIEDMAN/GETTY IMAGES

Former president Bill Clinton issued a public statement, acknowledging that he has ridden on Epstein's private plane, but that he was unaware of Epstein's criminal activity.

"President Clinton knows nothing about the terrible crimes Jeffrey Epstein pleaded guilty to in Florida some years ago, or those with which he has been recently charged in New York," reads the statement from a Clinton spokesperson.

"In 2002 and 2003, President Clinton took a total of four trips on Jeffrey Epstein's airplane: one to Europe, one to Asia, and two to Africa, which included stops in connection with the work of the Clinton Foundation."

**Epstein also notably had ties to Queen Elizabeth's son Prince Andrew.**

They met in 1999, and the extent of their relationship is somewhat unclear, but the two men were spotted walking together in Central Park in late 2010. At that point, Epstein was already a convicted sex offender.

In the months following Epstein's death, Prince Andrew has [spoken out against him and his crimes in statements from Buckingham Palace](#). One reads in full:

"The Duke of York has been appalled by the recent reports of Jeffrey Epstein's alleged crimes. His Royal Highness deplores the exploitation of any

human being and the suggestion he would condone, participate in or encourage any such behaviour is abhorrent." In November, Prince Andrew also spoke about his relationship with Epstein with Newsnight, a conversation which journalist Emily Maitlis [described as](#) a "no holds barred interview."

They discussed how Prince Andrew first met Epstein (through Ghislaine Maxwell) and spoke about the times the royal stayed at Epstein's various properties. Prince Andrew also denied allegations that he had sex with one of Epstein's alleged victims, Virginia Giuffre, multiple times.

"I have no recollection of ever meeting this lady. None whatsoever," Prince Andrew said.

Additionally, Prince Andrew admitted that it was "wrong" to visit Epstein in New York City in 2010. But during that conversation, the Duke of York said he did not regret his friendship with Epstein, and he did not explicitly express sympathy for his former friend's victims.

[Following enormous public criticism after the interview](#), Prince Andrew announced he was stepping back from his duties "for the foreseeable future."

"I have asked Her Majesty if I may step back from public duties for the foreseeable future, and she has given her permission," he wrote in a statement.

"I continue to unequivocally regret my ill-judged association with Jeffrey Epstein. His suicide has left many unanswered questions, particularly for his victims, and I deeply sympathise with everyone who has been affected and wants some form of closure."

He also said he would be willing to speak with law enforcement. [Read the full statement here.](#)

In early December, Giuffre sat down for a TV interview of her own, in which she called Prince Andrew's responses to her allegations "BS."

"The people on the inside are going to keep coming up with these ridiculous excuses like his arm was elongated, or the photo was doctored, or he came to New York to break up with Jeffrey Epstein," she said.

"I mean come on. I'm calling BS on this because that's what it is. He knows what happened. I know what happened, and there's only one of us telling the truth, and I know that's me."

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Buckingham Palace has issued two statements in response to the program, the first of which is in regard to the Duke of York's association with Epstein. It's quite similar to previous statements issued by the royal family about their friendship, and reads:

"The Duke of York unequivocally regrets his ill-judged association with Jeffrey Epstein. Epstein's suicide left many unanswered questions, particularly for his victims. The Duke deeply sympathises with those affected who want some form of closure. It is his hope that, in time, they will be able to rebuild their lives. The Duke is willing to help any appropriate law enforcement agency with their investigations, if required."

The second statement focuses more specifically on Giuffre's allegations. It reads:

"It is emphatically denied that The Duke of York had any form of sexual contact or relationship with Virginia Roberts. Any claim to the contrary is false and without foundation."

### Epstein's choice of causes reveal some of his disturbing beliefs.

Of the many causes to which Epstein donated, academic scientists were a notable subgroup. He apparently "dangled financing for their pet projects," reports the *New York Times*, and attracted a distinguished group of acquaintances, including several Nobel laureates, to his home for parties and to scientific conferences he sponsored.

In meetings with these scientists he had discussed several of his own pet theories, including eugenics. [The New York Times has uncovered](#) that one ambition he discussed was to impregnate multiple women, thereby spreading his DNA. One account claimed his plan was for 20 women to bear his children, and that [his ranch in New Mexico](#) would be a base for this operation.

This may have been part of his interest in transhumanism, the study of how to improve the human population through technologies like genetic engineering and artificial intelligence.

From <<https://www.townandcountrymag.com/society/money-and-power/a28352055/jeffrey-epstein-criminal-case-facts/>>

# Manhattan Mansion

Friday, April 2, 2021 6:27 PM

Epstein owned the [Herbert N. Straus House](#) on 9 East 71st Street in the [Upper East Side of Manhattan](#) in New York City.<sup>[253][254]</sup> It was originally purchased for \$13.2 million in 1989 by Epstein's mentor, [Les Wexner](#), who renovated it completely.<sup>[180][255]</sup> Epstein moved into the mansion in 1995 after Wexner married and moved with his wife to [Columbus, Ohio](#), to raise their family.<sup>[33][255]</sup> He took full possession of the mansion in 1998, when he paid Wexner \$20 million for it.<sup>[57]</sup> The house was valued in 2019 by federal prosecutors at \$77 million, while the city assessed its value at \$56 million.<sup>[253]</sup> The mansion is reputedly the largest private residence in Manhattan at 21,000 sq ft (2,000 m<sup>2</sup>).<sup>[180][253]</sup> Hidden under a flight of stairs, there is a [lead-lined bathroom](#) fitted with its own [closed-circuit television](#) screens and a telephone, both concealed in a cabinet under the sink. The house also has its own heated sidewalk to melt away the snow.<sup>[88]</sup> The entrance hall is lined with rows of individually framed prosthetic eyeballs that were made in England for injured soldiers.<sup>[1]</sup>

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeffrey\\_Epstein#First\\_crime\\_case](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeffrey_Epstein#First_crime_case)>

## Key takeaways from the Justice Department review of Jeffrey Epstein sweetheart deal

*One of the alleged victims called the report "another slap in the face."*

Victims' rights lawyers who have been battling the U.S. Department of Justice for a dozen years over the controversial "sweetheart deal" reached by federal prosecutors in Florida with convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein are blasting the department's long-awaited review of the deal as "offensive" and a "whitewash."

"I think, frankly, what we got was an effort to paper over what happened," said Paul Cassell, a former federal judge who now represents Epstein accusers. "I think they're trying to put the most favorable light on what's clearly misconduct on the part of their attorneys."

A 350-page report from the DOJ's Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR), which was made public Thursday, determined none of the five federal prosecutors who were deeply involved in the Epstein investigation committed professional misconduct or violated any clear and unambiguous rules when they reached the deal without informing or consulting with victims.

Instead, the OPR report faulted former Labor Secretary Alexander Acosta, then the U.S. Attorney in Miami, for exhibiting "poor judgment" in deciding to resolve the Epstein case through a non-prosecution agreement and in failing to make certain the alleged victims were notified in advance of Epstein's guilty plea in state court that ended the federal investigation.

"They just say he used poor judgment, and that's their way of basically letting everyone off the hook while offering some sort of an olive branch to the victims that we acknowledge weren't treated perfectly," said Brad Edwards, who sued the DOJ in 2008 on behalf of Epstein accusers, seeking to invalidate the once-secret deal. "But nobody really did anything wrong. It's really offensive. It's hurtful."



Alex Brandon/AP, File

*Labor Secretary Alex Acosta speaks during a media availability at the Department of Labor, Wed... [Read More](#)*

Jena-Lisa Jones, who has alleged Epstein sexually abused her when she was just 14, called the Justice Department's conclusions "like another slap in the face" to victims.

"Poor judgment is cheating on a spelling test or speeding five miles over the speed limit. That would be poor judgment to me," Jones said after attending a four-hour government briefing on the report's findings at the FBI office in Miami. "I honestly don't think that anybody will take responsibility in any sense, in any shape or form in the way that they actually should as adults."

The OPR report, which took 22 months to complete, is not likely to be the last word on the Florida prosecutors' treatment of Epstein, who was arrested last year by federal authorities in New York and then died while in custody in a Manhattan detention center.

Sen. Ben Sasse, R-Neb., who requested the department review after the *Miami Herald's* in-depth reports on the Epstein case were published in late 2018, harshly criticized OPR's conclusions and vowed to keep investigating what he labeled a "disgusting failure."

"OPR might have finished its report, but we have an obligation to make sure this never happens again," Sasse said in a statement.

Authorities in New York, meanwhile, have vowed to continue investigating anyone who may have conspired with Epstein or assisted him in the commission of his alleged crimes. Earlier this year, Manhattan prosecutors charged Epstein's former girlfriend and close associate, Ghislaine Maxwell, with helping to facilitate and, in some cases, participating in Epstein's crimes against three minor girls in the mid-1990s. Maxwell pleaded not guilty and has long denied any knowledge of Epstein's alleged sex-trafficking. Her trial is scheduled for next summer.

And next month, lawyers Edwards and Cassell will argue before the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta that the Epstein deal, which also conferred federal immunity to any potential co-conspirators, should be rescinded because it was reached in violation of the federal Crime Victims' Rights Act. The Justice Department has acknowledged that Epstein's victims were not informed in advance about the deal reached with Epstein but contends that notification was not required because the federal government didn't file charges.

Here are some key takeaways from the OPR report.

#### **The Lead Prosecutor & FBI Agents Repeatedly Pushed for Epstein's Arrest but were Overruled by Senior Officials**

Marie Villafaña, a career federal prosecutor assigned in 2006 to oversee the day-to-day Epstein investigation, repeatedly advocated for Epstein's indictment and frequently clashed with her superiors over their decision to meet with Epstein's high-profile defense lawyers, who were attempting to persuade the prosecutors to shut down the federal investigation and send it back to the state of Florida, where Epstein was under pending indictment for a single charge of solicitation of a prostitute.

In May 2007, Villafaña drafted a 60-count federal indictment of Epstein for "substantive crimes against multiple victims" and sent an 82-page prosecution memo to her supervisors, which included Acosta, then-First Assistant U.S. Attorney Jeffrey Sloman, and Matthew Menchel, the chief of the criminal division in Miami at the time.

According to the report, Sloman shared those documents with the head of the DOJ's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section in Washington, D.C., which reported back that while more research was needed, Villafaña's work was "exhaustive," "well done" and "correctly focused on the issues as we see them."

Villafaña planned to file the charges on May 15, and the FBI was planning to arrest Epstein shortly thereafter in the U.S. Virgin Islands, where Epstein was acting as a judge at a local beauty pageant. But those plans were quickly shot down by Villafaña's superiors, according to the OPR report.

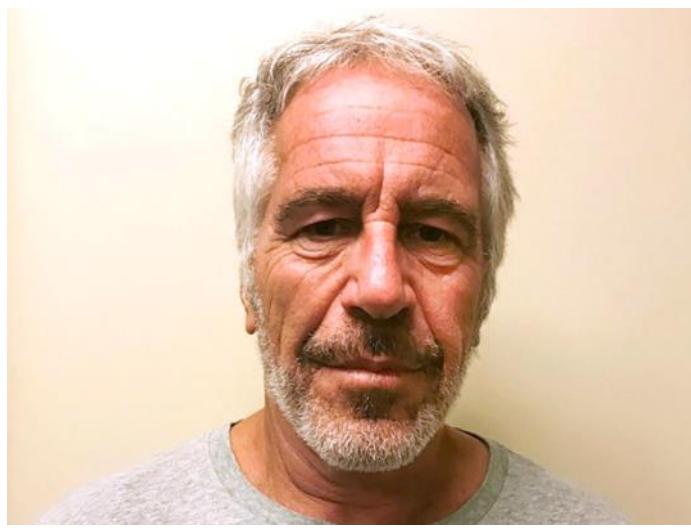
[MORE: New lawsuit claims Jeffrey Epstein trafficked girls to US Virgin Islands as recently as 2018](#)

"[A]fter learning that the FBI was planning a press conference for May 15, Sloman advised Villafaña that "[t]his Office has not approved the indictment," the report said. "Therefore, please do not commit us to anything at this time." An FBI agent leading the agency's investigation of Epstein told the OPR reviewers she and her co-case agent were "disappointed with the decision" not to arrest Epstein and her supervisor was "extremely upset" about it.

Acosta told OPR Villafaña was "very hard charging" but that her timeline for filing the charges was "really, really fast." Menchel described Villafaña as "out over her skis a little bit" and ahead of Acosta, who needed more time to make a decision over how to proceed, the report said. But in the months that followed, Epstein's attorneys heavily lobbied the prosecutors, often going around Villafaña or over her head when she rebuked the defense team's demands for in-person consultations.

"As the lead prosecutor, Villafaña vehemently opposed meeting with Epstein's attorneys and voiced her concerns to her supervisors, but was overruled by them," the report said, noting that senior prosecutors viewed the meetings as primarily "listening sessions" that could be helpful for learning how the defense intended to attack the credibility of certain witnesses and perceived weaknesses in the case.

Villafaña said she feared her office was "going down the same path" the state of Florida had gone down in allowing Epstein's defense attorneys to persuade prosecutors not to file serious charges, and she feared the delays might allow Epstein to continue to offend, the report said.



New York State Sex Offender Registry via AP, File

*This March 28, 2017, file photo, provided by the New York State Sex Offender Registry shows Jeffrey Epstein.*

"Villafaña told OPR that she 'could not seem to get [her supervisors] to understand the seriousness of Epstein's behavior and the fact that he was probably continuing to commit the behavior, and that there was a need to move with necessary speed.'

"Menchel told OPR that he didn't recall Villafaña raising concerns about Epstein continuing to engage in criminal behavior and that "Epstein was 'already under a microscope' and it would have been 'the height of stupidity' for Epstein to continue to offend in those circumstances." the report said.

In Villafaña's view, the report said, if it weren't for those early meetings granted to the defense team "the [office] would not have offered" Epstein a deal she believed "would never have been offered to anyone else" facing serious allegations of child sex crimes.

[MORE: Jeffrey Epstein survivor presses case to hold US gov't accountable for violating victims' rights](#)

Villafaña's disputes with her supervisors came to a head in July 2007, when she learned the office had proposed to Epstein's lawyers that the federal investigation be resolved through a plea deal between Epstein and state prosecutors, a resolution Villafaña believed "didn't make any sense" and "did not correspond" to Justice Department policy.

In an email to Menchel that is included in the report, she wrote: "[I]t is inappropriate for you to enter into plea negotiations without consulting with me or the investigative agencies, and it is more inappropriate to make a plea offer that you know is completely unacceptable to the FBI, ICE [Immigration and Customs Enforcement], the victims, and me." Villafañá also requested that all subsequent communications from the defense be directed to her and that she be afforded an opportunity to present a revised indictment to Acosta and other senior prosecutors to counter the defense arguments.

Menchel's reply, the report said, began with a rebuke of Villafañá: "Both the tone and substance of your email are totally inappropriate and, in combination with other matters in the past, it seriously calls your judgment into question," Menchel wrote to Villafañá.

"You may not dictate the dates and people you will meet with about this or any other case. If [Acosta or Sloman] desire to meet with you, they will let you know. Nor will I direct Epstein's lawyers to communicate only with you. If you want to work major cases in the district you must understand and accept the fact that there is a chain of command – something you disregard with great regularity," Menchel's message said.

According to a footnote in the report, Villafañá believed Menchel's email was "meant to intimidate" her and "put in [her] place," but Menchel contended to OPR that Villafañá had a "history of resisting supervisory authority" that warranted his strong response."

Villafañá did not get the meeting she requested with Acosta. Later in July 2007, according to the report, Acosta made the decision to offer Epstein a deal that would end the federal investigation if Epstein agreed to a two-year term of imprisonment, registered as a sex offender and paid restitution to his victims. The deal was signed two months later.

Edwards, the lawyer for some of the alleged Epstein victims, told ABC News the OPR report bears out what he had long believed — that Villafañá was "a good person and a good prosecutor" who "tried to fight for the victims all along."

#### **Acosta Decided to Make the Deal Before the Investigation was Complete**

Perhaps the most serious criticisms of Acosta's handling of the Epstein case was the determination by OPR that Acosta decided to resolve it through the negotiated plea "before the investigation was completed," a decision the report describes as "troubling" because the federal government was "uniquely positioned to fully investigate" Epstein's alleged conduct not only in Florida but in other places where Epstein traveled and maintained residences, including New York, New Mexico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

"As the investigation progressed, the FBI continued to locate additional victims, and many had not been interviewed by the FBI by the time of the initial offer. In other words, at the time of Acosta's decision, the [government] did not know the full scope of Epstein's conduct; whether, given Epstein's other domestic and foreign residences, his criminal conduct had occurred in other locations; or whether the additional victims might implicate other offenders," the report said.

Acosta's decision came before Villafañá and the FBI could complete several potentially significant investigative steps, the report said, including interviews with alleged victims in other states and planned efforts by the FBI to try to persuade some of Epstein's key assistants to cooperate with authorities.

"Although the FBI interviewed numerous employees of Epstein and Villafañá identified three of his female assistants as potential co-conspirators, at the time that [prosecutors] extended the terms of its offer, there had been no significant effort to obtain these individuals' cooperation against Epstein," the report notes.

Crucially, the report said, Acosta ended the investigation without obtaining potentially key evidence — the computers that had been removed from Epstein's Florida home prior to the Palm Beach Police Department's execution of a search warrant in 2005.



Johannes Eisele/AFP via Getty Images

*The Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn, a United States federal administrative detention... [Read More](#)*

"The PBPD knew that Epstein had surveillance cameras stationed in and around his home, which potentially captured video evidence of people visiting his residence," the report said. "There was good reason to believe the computers contained relevant — and potentially critical — information....[a]nd it was clear Epstein did not want the contents of his computers disclosed."

Villafañá learned early in the investigation that the missing computers were in the possession of an individual associated with one of Epstein's attorneys, and she tried repeatedly, but unsuccessfully, to get the defense attorneys to turn them over to investigators. She told the OPR "she had learned through law enforcement channels that the defense team had reviewed the contents of Epstein's computers" and she believed the reluctance of Epstein's attorneys to produce the computers "was further evidence" of their importance.

Villafañá ultimately obtained a grand jury subpoena for the computers, but Epstein's attorneys fought the effort in court. The litigation was put on hold several times while Acosta contemplated how to proceed in the case, and the subpoena was eventually withdrawn as a condition of the non-prosecution agreement.

Acosta told OPR "he had no recollection" of Villafañá's efforts to obtain the computers and objected to the report's conclusion that he should have given greater consideration to pursuing the evidence before entering the deal with Epstein, the report said.

Villafañá told OPR that if the evidence on the missing computers "had been what we suspected it was ... [i]t would have put this case completely to bed," according to the report.

#### **Prosecutors Included a Provision Protecting Alleged Co-Conspirators Without Giving It Much Thought**

Among the most controversial provisions of Epstein's deal was that it protected not only him but also any potential co-conspirators, known or unknown, specifically naming four women who were described as assistants to Epstein. That unusual clause has come to be regarded by many as being designed to immunize powerful and influential friends of Epstein who may have assisted him or participated in the alleged abuse of minors.

The OPR investigation found that the clause was inserted into the final agreement without much deliberation or consideration for how it might be interpreted in the future.

"OPR found little in the contemporaneous records mentioning the provision and nothing indicating that the subjects discussed or debated it — or even gave it much consideration," the report said.

"Villafañá told OPR that she could not recall a conversation specifically about the provision," the report said, "but she remembered generally that defense counsel told her Epstein wanted 'to make sure that he's the only one who takes the blame for what happened.' Villafañá told OPR that she and her colleagues believed Epstein's conduct was his own 'dirty little secret.'"

[MORE: Jeffrey Epstein's accusers ask judge to invalidate plea deal, point to 'co-conspirators'](#)

At the time of Epstein's arrest and leading up to his deal, Villafañá told OPR, there had not been public reports or allegations suggesting that any of Epstein's "famous contacts participated in Epstein's illicit activity" and that none of the victims interviewed before the deal was signed told the investigators about sexual activity with any of Epstein's influential friends. Those allegations didn't surface until years later, the report said.

At the time of the Florida investigation, "it was only Jeffrey Epstein," Villafañá told OPR.

The OPR report said the review found no evidence indicating that "Epstein had expressed concern about the prosecutive fate of anyone other than the four assistants and unnamed employees of a specific Epstein company."

The discussion in the OPR report regarding the co-conspirators' clause does contain one passing reference to British socialite Ghislaine Maxwell, though she isn't identified by name. And there's no indication in the OPR report that prosecutors were focusing on her or considered her to be among those Epstein was seeking to protect.



Jane Rosenberg via Reuters

Ghislaine Maxwell appears via video link during her arraignment hearing where she was denied... [Read More](#)

"Villafañá acknowledged that investigators were aware of Epstein's longtime relationship with a close female friend who was a well-known socialite, but, according to Villafañá, in 2007, they 'didn't have any specific evidence against her,'" the report said. "Accordingly, Villafañá believed that the only 'co-conspirators' of Epstein who would benefit from the provision were the four female assistants identified by name."

The report does note, however, that one alleged victim interviewed by the FBI in 2006 "implicated the female friend in Epstein's conduct, but the conduct involving the then minor did not occur in Florida."

Some former prosecutors who were not directly involved in the Epstein deal told OPR the immunity provisions for any potential co-conspirators were "very unusual" and "a little weird."

While OPR concluded that "the evidence does not show that Acosta, [Andrew] Lourie, or Villafañá agreed to the non-prosecution provision to protect any of Epstein's political, celebrity or other influential associates," the report faults Acosta, as the senior official overseeing the deal, for approving the provision without adequate consideration of the

potential ramifications.

The U.S. Attorney's Office "did not have a sufficient investigative basis from which it could conclude with any reasonable certitude that there were no other individuals who should be held accountable along with Epstein or that evidence might not be developed implicating others," the report said. "The rush to reach a resolution should not have led [prosecutors] to agree to such a significant provision without a full consideration of the potential consequences and justification for the provision."

#### **Epstein was Not an Intelligence Asset and Did Not Provide Assistance in Other Investigations**

The OPR report also looked into allegations that have surfaced in press reports over the years that Epstein may have gotten special treatment because he was some sort of "asset" to U.S. intelligence agencies.

"Acosta stated to OPR that 'the answer is no,'" the report said.

The OPR review also knocked down previous media reports that Epstein received leniency from Florida prosecutors by cooperating with federal prosecutors in New York who were investigating the collapse of investment bank Bear Stearns during the subprime mortgage crisis in 2008.

Villafañá told OPR she spoke to prosecutors in New York and was told they "had never heard of" Epstein and he was not a cooperating witness in the Bear Stearns case.

"In 2011, Villafañá reported to senior colleagues that 'this is urban myth. The FBI and I looked into this and do not believe that any of it is true,'" the OPR report said, adding that Villafañá believed that the rumors of Epstein's cooperation were "completely false."

"OPR found no evidence suggesting that Epstein was such a cooperating witness or 'intelligence asset,' or that anyone—including any of the subjects of OPR's investigation—believed that to be the case," the report said. "It is highly unlikely that defense counsel would have omitted any reason warranting leniency for Epstein if it had existed. Accordingly, OPR concludes that none of the subjects of OPR's investigation provided Epstein with any benefits on the basis that he was a cooperating witness in an unrelated federal investigation, and OPR found no evidence establishing that Epstein had received benefits for cooperation in any matter."

#### **Epstein Hired Multiple Lawyers with Personal Connections to the Prosecutors**

Much has been made over the years of Epstein employing a "dream team" of highly skilled lawyers to help persuade federal prosecutors to drop their investigation. Epstein's advocates included the famed Harvard law professor Alan Dershowitz and former U.S. Solicitor General Ken Starr, best known for his role as the independent counsel in the Whitewater investigation, which eventually led to the impeachment of former President Bill Clinton.

But the OPR report also details for the first time the breadth of the personal connections many of Epstein's lesser-known defense lawyers had to the prosecutors conducting the investigation.

Among the first wave of attorneys to contact the U.S. Attorney's Office on Epstein's behalf were three former prosecutors, including two who were friends with Andrew Lourie, who was part of the supervisory team overseeing the Epstein investigation and the negotiations leading to the non-prosecution agreement. The third, former Assistant U.S. Attorney Lilly Ann Sanchez, had been a deputy chief of the major crimes section in Miami until leaving in 2005. Sanchez worked with Menchel during her tenure in the office, and Menchel told OPR the two had a "social relationship" that included "a handful of dates" over a two- or three-week period in 2003, before they mutually decided it "was probably best not to pursue" the relationship further.

During the negotiations over the deal, Epstein supplemented his team with Starr and Jay Lefkowitz, who had served in the administrations of former Presidents George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush. Lefkowitz and Starr had each worked previously with Acosta when he was a junior associate at the law firm of Kirkland & Ellis. Acosta met personally with Lefkowitz and Starr after the non-prosecution agreement was signed but while Epstein's attorneys were pursuing further review of the deal's terms at higher levels of the Justice Department.

Villafañá told OPR she believed Acosta was "influenced by the stature of Epstein's attorneys" and that the defense lawyers convinced some members of the prosecution team that the case was "extremely novel and legally complex."

"It was not as legally complex as they made it out to be," Villafañá told OPR.

[MORE: Jeffrey Epstein trafficked women for sex while on work release, women say in lawsuits](#)

According to the report, Lourie disclosed his friendships with the two former prosecutors working for Epstein's defense and sought guidance from a professional responsibility officer before continuing to supervise the Epstein investigation. He told OPR his "pre-existing associations" with the attorneys "didn't influence anything."

Menchel told OPR he and his colleagues recognized that Epstein was selecting attorneys based on their perceived influence with the office, but that he viewed this tactic as "ham-fisted" and "clumsy."

"[O]ur perspective was this is not going to ... change anything," Menchel told OPR, according to the report.

The OPR report, however, did issue a mild rebuke of Menchel for failing to disclose he had previously dated Sanchez, a fact Acosta, Lourie and Sloman said they were unaware of at the time of the Epstein investigation.

"Although OPR does not conclude Menchel's prior relationship with Sanchez influenced the Epstein investigation, OPR assesses that it would have been prudent for Menchel to have informed his supervisors so they could make an independent assessment as to whether his continued involvement in the Epstein investigation might create the appearance

of a loss of impartiality," the report said.

Menchel said by the time he got involved in the Epstein investigation in 2006, he was married and his relationship with Sanchez had "changed dramatically" after she left the office.

"[T]hat was three and a half years [prior] for a very brief period of time, and I don't think I gave it a moment's thought," Menchel told OPR. "Menchel stated that his relationship with Sanchez did '[n]ot at all' affect his handling of the Epstein case," the report said.

After examining the scope of the relationships, OPR said it could not "rule out the possibility" that prosecutors may have been willing to meet with Epstein's lawyers because they knew them but concluded "OPR did not find evidence supporting a conclusion that the meetings themselves resulted in any substantial benefit to the defense."

#### **Acosta's Email Inbox had a "Data Gap" Covering Several Months**

In conducting its review, OPR indicated it had access to more than 850,000 emails of the five prosecutors who were the subject of the review as well as six additional witnesses. But in an appendix to the report, OPR revealed there was an 11-month gap in Acosta's incoming emails that coincided with the time frame of the Epstein investigation and negotiations over the deal.

After investigating the circumstances of the missing emails, which did not affect Acosta's sent mail, the OPR determined it was most likely a "technological error" that caused those emails not to be preserved.

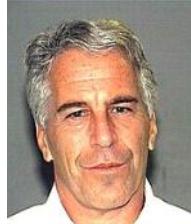
"OPR questioned Acosta, as well as numerous administrative staff, about the email gap, the report said. "Acosta and the witnesses denied having any knowledge of the problem, or that they or, to their knowledge, anyone else made any efforts to intentionally delete the emails."

After being informed of the "data gap" at a briefing for victims and their attorneys last week, Cassell said he was stunned, because he and his co-counsel Edwards have been seeking those emails for several years in their litigation on behalf of the victims, and they had never been told about the issue.

"Let's assume it's all innocent," Cassell told ABC News. "Why weren't we told, you know, years ago there was a technical glitch or something? Why is that just coming out now?"

From <<https://abcnews.go.com/US/key-takeaways-justice-department-review-jeffrey-epstein-sweetheart/story?id=74222922>>

#### **First criminal case Initial developments (2005–2006)**



Epstein's 2006 mugshot

In March 2005, a woman contacted Florida's [Palm Beach Police Department](#) and alleged that her 14-year-old stepdaughter had been taken to Epstein's mansion by an older girl. There she was allegedly paid \$300 (equivalent to \$390 in 2019) to strip and massage Epstein.<sup>[93]</sup> She had allegedly undressed, but left the encounter wearing her underwear.<sup>[94]</sup> Palm Beach Police began a 13-month undercover investigation of Epstein, including a search of his home.<sup>[70][95]</sup> During the investigation, Palm Beach Police Chief [Michael Reiter](#) publicly accused the Palm Beach County state prosecutor, Barry Krischer, of being too lenient and called for help from the FBI.<sup>[93]</sup>

The [Federal Bureau of Investigation](#) (FBI) then became involved. Subsequently, the police alleged that Epstein had paid several girls to perform sexual acts with him.<sup>[90]</sup> Interviews with five alleged victims and 17 witnesses under oath, a high-school transcript and other items found in Epstein's trash and home allegedly showed that some of the girls involved were under 18, the youngest being 14, with many under 16.<sup>[96][97]</sup> The police search of Epstein's home found two hidden cameras and large numbers of photos of girls throughout the house, some of whom the police had interviewed in the course of their investigation.<sup>[94]</sup> Adriana Ross, a former model from Poland who became an Epstein assistant, reportedly removed computer drives and other electronic equipment from the financier's Florida mansion before Palm Beach Police searched the home as part of their investigation.<sup>[98]</sup> The court documents record that a search of Epstein's residence by Palm Beach Police detective Joseph Recarey in 2005 uncovered an incriminating Amazon receipt, for books on sex slavery. The books he ordered are titled: "SM 101: A Realistic Introduction", "SlaveCraft: Roadmaps for Erotic Servitude – Principles, Skills and Tools" and "Training with Miss Abernathy: A Workbook for Erotic Slaves and Their Owners."<sup>[99]</sup>

A former employee told the police that Epstein would receive massages three times a day.<sup>[94]</sup> Eventually the FBI compiled reports on "34 confirmed minors" eligible for restitution (increased to 40 in the NPA) whose allegations of sexual abuse by Epstein included corroborating details.<sup>[100]</sup> [Julie Brown](#)'s 2018 exposé in the [Miami Herald](#) identified about 80 victims and located about 60 of them.<sup>[101][102][103]</sup> She quotes the then police chief, Michael Reiter, as saying "This was 50-something 'shes' and one 'he'—and the 'shes' all basically told the same story."<sup>[101]</sup> Details from the investigation included allegations that 12-year-old triplets were flown in from France for Epstein's birthday, and flown back the following day after being sexually abused by the financier. It was alleged that young girls were recruited from Brazil and other South American countries, [former Soviet countries](#), and Europe, and that [Jean-Luc Brunel](#)'s "MC2" modeling agency was also supplying girls to Epstein.<sup>[96][102][103]</sup>

In May 2006, Palm Beach police filed a [probable cause affidavit](#) saying that Epstein should be charged with four counts of [unlawful sex with minors](#) and one count of [sexual abuse](#).<sup>[94]</sup> [\[104\]](#) State prosecutor Krischer convened a [Palm Beach County grand jury](#), which was usually only done in capital cases. Presented evidence from only two victims, the grand jury returned a single charge of felony [solicitation of prostitution](#),<sup>[105]</sup> to which Epstein pleaded not guilty in August 2006.<sup>[106]</sup> Epstein's defense lawyers included [Roy Black](#), [Gerald Lefcourt](#), [Harvard Law School](#) professor [Alan Dershowitz](#), and former U. S. Solicitor General [Ken Starr](#).<sup>[93][107]</sup> Linguist [Steven Pinker](#) also assisted.<sup>[108]</sup>

#### **Non-prosecution agreement (NPA) (2006–2008)**

The controversial non-prosecution agreement

In July 2006, the FBI began its own investigation of Epstein, nicknamed "Operation Leap Year".<sup>[109]</sup> It resulted in a 53-page [indictment](#) in June 2007.<sup>[10]</sup> [Alexander Acosta](#), then the [U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Florida](#), agreed to a plea deal, which [Alan Dershowitz](#) helped to negotiate,<sup>[110]</sup> to grant immunity from all federal criminal charges to Epstein, along with four named co-conspirators and any unnamed "potential co-conspirators". According to the *Miami Herald*, the non-prosecution agreement "essentially shut down an ongoing FBI probe into whether there were more victims and other powerful people who took part in Epstein's sex crimes". At the time, this halted the investigation and sealed the indictment. The *Miami Herald* said: "Acosta agreed, despite a federal law to the contrary, that the deal would be kept from the victims."<sup>[111]</sup>

Acosta later said he offered a lenient plea deal because he was told that Epstein "belonged to intelligence", was "above his pay grade" and to "leave it alone".<sup>[112]</sup> Epstein agreed to plead guilty in Florida state court to two felony prostitution charges, register as a sex offender, and pay restitution to three dozen victims identified by the FBI.<sup>[113]</sup> The plea deal was later described as a "sweetheart deal".<sup>[114]</sup>

A federal judge later found that the prosecutors had violated the [victims' rights](#) in that they had concealed the agreement from the victims and instead urged them to have "patience".<sup>[115]</sup>

### Conviction and sentencing (2008–2011)

On June 30, 2008, after Epstein pleaded guilty to a state charge (one of two) of procuring for prostitution a girl below age 18,<sup>[116]</sup> he was sentenced to 18 months in prison. While most convicted sex offenders in Florida are sent to state prison, Epstein was instead housed in a private wing of the Palm Beach County Stockade and, according to the sheriff's office, was after 3 1/2 months allowed to leave the jail on "work release" for up to 12 hours a day, 6 days a week. This contravened the sheriff's own policies requiring a maximum remaining sentence of 10 months and making sex offenders ineligible for the privilege. He was allowed to come and go outside of specified release hours.<sup>[101]</sup>

Epstein's cell door was left unlocked, and he had access to the attorney room where a television was installed for him, before he was moved to the Stockade's previously unstaffed infirmary. He worked at the office of a foundation he had created shortly before reporting to jail; he dissolved it after he had served his time. The Sheriff's Office received \$128,000 from Epstein's non-profit to pay for the costs of extra services being provided during his work release. His office was monitored by "permit deputies" whose overtime was paid by Epstein. They were required to wear suits, and checked in "welcomed guests" at the "front desk". Later the Sheriff's Office said these guest logs were destroyed per the department's "records retention" rules (although inexplicably the Stockade visitor logs were not).<sup>[116]</sup> He was allowed to use his own driver to drive him between jail and his office and other appointments.<sup>[101][116]</sup>



Epstein in 2013, photographed for [sex offender registry](#)

Epstein served almost 13 months before being released for a year of probation on house arrest until August 2010. While on probation he was allowed numerous trips on his corporate jet to his residences in Manhattan and the [U.S. Virgin Islands](#). He was allowed long shopping trips and to walk around Palm Beach "for exercise".<sup>[101]</sup>

After a contested hearing in January 2011, and an appeal, he stayed registered in New York State as a "level three" (high risk of repeat offense) [sex offender](#), a lifelong designation.<sup>[117]</sup> <sup>[118]</sup> At that hearing the Manhattan District Attorney argued unsuccessfully that the level should be reduced to a low-risk "level one" and was chided by the judge. Despite opposition from Epstein's lawyer that he had a "main" home in the U.S. Virgin Islands, the judge confirmed he personally must check in with the [New York Police Department](#) every 90 days. Though Epstein had been a level-three registered sex offender in New York since 2010, the New York Police Department never enforced the 90-day regulation, though non-compliance is a felony.<sup>[114]</sup>

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeffrey\\_Epstein#First\\_crime\\_case](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeffrey_Epstein#First_crime_case)>

## Civil Cases

Friday, April 2, 2021 5:11 PM

### 1. Jane Does v. Epstein (2008)

On February 6, 2008, an anonymous Virginia woman, known as Jane Doe No. 2, filed a \$50-million civil lawsuit<sup>[123]</sup> in federal court against Epstein, saying that when she was a 16-year-old minor in 2004–05, she was "recruited to give Epstein a massage". She claims she was taken to his mansion, where he exposed himself and had sexual intercourse with her, and paid her \$200 immediately afterward.<sup>[105]</sup>

A similar \$50-million suit was filed in March 2008, by a different woman, who was represented by the same lawyer.<sup>[124]</sup> These and several similar lawsuits were dismissed.<sup>[125]</sup>

All other lawsuits have been settled by Epstein out of court.<sup>[126]</sup> Epstein made many [out-of-court settlements](#) with alleged victims.<sup>[125]</sup>

### 2. Victims' rights: Jane Does v. United States (2014)

A December 30, 2014, federal civil suit was filed in Florida by Jane Doe 1 (Courtney Wild) and Jane Doe 2 against the United States for violations of the [Crime Victims' Rights Act](#) by the [U.S. Department of Justice](#)'s NPA with Epstein and his limited 2008 state plea. There was a later unsuccessful effort to add Virginia Roberts (Jane Doe 3) and another woman (Jane Doe 4) as plaintiffs to that case.<sup>[127]</sup> The addition accused Alan Dershowitz of sexually abusing a minor, Jane Doe 3, provided by Epstein.<sup>[128]</sup> The allegations against Dershowitz were stricken by the judge and eliminated from the case because he said they were outside the intent of the suit to reopen the plea agreement.<sup>[129][130]</sup> A document filed in court alleges that Epstein ran a "sexual abuse ring", and lent underage girls to "prominent American politicians, powerful business executives, foreign presidents, a well-known prime minister, and other world leaders".<sup>[131]</sup>

This long-running lawsuit is pending in federal court, aimed at [vacating](#) the federal plea agreement on the grounds that it violated victims' rights.<sup>[132]</sup> On April 7, 2015, Judge [Kenneth Marra](#) ruled that the allegations made by alleged victim Virginia Roberts against Prince Andrew had no bearing on the lawsuit by alleged victims seeking to reopen Epstein's non-prosecution plea agreement with the federal government; the judge ordered that allegation to be struck from the record.<sup>[129]</sup> Judge Marra made no ruling as to whether claims by Roberts are true or false. Though he did not allow Jane Does 3 and 4 to join the suit, Marra specifically said that Roberts may later give evidence when the case comes to court.<sup>[133]</sup>

On February 21, 2019, in the case of the [Two Jane Does v. United States](#), Senior Judge of the [U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida](#) [Kenneth Marra](#) said federal prosecutors violated the law by failing to notify victims before they allowed him to plead guilty to only the two Florida offenses. The judge left open what the possible remedy could be.<sup>[134]</sup>

### 3. Virginia Roberts Giuffre v. Epstein (2015)

In a December 2014 Florida court filing by Bradley Edwards and [Paul G. Cassell](#) meant for inclusion in the Crime Victims Rights Act lawsuit,<sup>[135]</sup> [Virginia Roberts Giuffre](#) (then known as Virginia Roberts), alleged in a sworn affidavit that at age 17, she had been sexually trafficked by Epstein and [Ghislaine Maxwell](#) for their own use and for use by several others, including [Prince Andrew](#)<sup>[136]</sup> and retired [Harvard Law](#) professor [Alan Dershowitz](#).<sup>[9][137]</sup> Giuffre also claimed that Epstein, Maxwell and others had physically and sexually abused her.<sup>[138]</sup> She alleged that the FBI may have been involved in a [cover-up](#).<sup>[139]</sup> She said she had served as Epstein's sex slave from 1999 to 2002, and had recruited other underage girls.<sup>[140]</sup> Prince Andrew, Epstein, and Dershowitz all denied having had sex with Giuffre. Dershowitz took legal action over the allegations.<sup>[141][142][143]</sup> Giuffre filed a defamation suit against Dershowitz, claiming he purposefully made "false and malicious defamatory statements" about her.<sup>[140]</sup> A diary purported to belong to Giuffre was published online.<sup>[144][145]</sup> Epstein entered an out-of-court settlement with Giuffre, as he had done in several other lawsuits.<sup>[90]</sup>

In 2019, Giuffre was interviewed by the [BBC's Panorama](#) where she continued to attest that Epstein had trafficked her to Prince Andrew.<sup>[146]</sup> She appealed directly to the public by stating "I implore the people in the UK to stand up beside me, to help me fight this fight, to not accept this as being ok."<sup>[146]</sup> As of 2016, these accusations had not been tested in any court of law.<sup>[147]</sup>

### 4. Virginia Roberts Giuffre v. Ghislaine Maxwell (2015)

As a result of Giuffre's allegations and Maxwell's comments about them, Giuffre sued Maxwell for [defamation](#) in September 2015. After much legal confrontation, the case was settled [under seal](#) in May 2017. The [Miami Herald](#), other media, and Alan Dershowitz filed to have the documents about the settlement unsealed. After the judge dismissed their request, the matter was appealed to the [U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit](#).<sup>[148]</sup>

On March 11, 2019, in the appeal of the district judge's refusal to unseal the documents relating to the 2017 defamation settlement of *Giuffre v. Maxwell*, the Second Circuit Court gave parties one week to provide good cause as to why they should remain under seal, without which they would be unsealed on March 19, 2019. Later the Court ordered these documents to be unsealed (after having them redacted to protect innocent parties). In Giuffre's testimony, she claims that she was "directed" by Maxwell to give erotic massages and engage in sexual activities with [Prince Andrew](#); [Jean-Luc Brunel](#); [Glenn Dubin](#); [Marvin Minsky](#); Governor [Bill Richardson](#); another unnamed prince; an unnamed foreign president; "a well known Prime Minister"; and an unnamed hotel chain owner from France, among others.<sup>[149]</sup> The deposition does not claim that any of these men in fact engaged with Giuffre, and as of August 2019, none of these men have been indicted or sued for related sex crimes.<sup>[149]</sup> Giuffre testified, "my whole life revolved around just pleasing these men and keeping Ghislaine and Jeffrey happy. Their whole entire lives revolved around sex."<sup>[149][148]</sup>

On August 9, less than 24 hours before Epstein's death, 2,000 pages of previously sealed documents from the case were released. Two sets of additional sealed documents will be analyzed by a federal judge to determine whether they should also be made public. A "John Doe" asked the judge on September 3 to permanently keep the documents secret, claiming "unproven allegations of impropriety" could damage his reputation, though he had no evidence his name was included.<sup>[150]</sup>

### 5. Jane Doe v. Epstein and Trump (2016)

*Main article: [List of lawsuits involving Donald Trump](#)*

*Main article: [Donald Trump sexual misconduct allegations](#)*

A federal lawsuit filed in California in April 2016, against Epstein and [Donald Trump](#) by a California woman alleged that the two men sexually assaulted her at a series of parties at Epstein's Manhattan residence in 1994, when she was 13 years old. The suit was dismissed by a federal judge in May 2016 because it did not raise valid claims under federal law. The woman filed another federal suit in New York in June 2016, but it was withdrawn three months later, apparently without being served on the defendants. A third federal suit was filed in New York in September 2016.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

The two latter suits included affidavits by an anonymous witness who attested to the accusations in the suits, asserting Epstein employed her to [procure](#) underage girls for him, and an anonymous person who declared the plaintiff had told him/her about the assaults at the time they occurred. The plaintiff, who had filed anonymously as [Jane Doe](#), was scheduled to appear in a Los Angeles press conference six days before the [2016 election](#), but abruptly canceled the event; her lawyer [Lisa Bloom](#) asserted that the woman had received threats. The suit was dropped on November 4, 2016. Trump attorney Alan Garten flatly denied the allegations, while Epstein declined to comment.<sup>[151][152][153][154][155]</sup>

## 6. Sarah Ransome v. Epstein and Maxwell (2017)



Epstein was accused of sex trafficking of minors at his [mansion at 9 East 71st Street](#).

In 2017, Sarah Ransome filed a suit against Epstein and Maxwell, alleging that Maxwell had hired her to give massages to Epstein and later threatened to physically harm her or destroy her career prospects if she did not comply with their sexual demands at his mansion in New York City and on his private Caribbean island, [Little Saint James](#). The suit was settled in 2018 under undisclosed terms. [\[156\]](#)[\[21\]](#)[\[157\]](#)

## 7. Bradley Edwards' defamation v. Epstein (2018)

A state civil lawsuit in Florida filed by attorney Bradley Edwards against Epstein was scheduled for trial in December 2018. The trial was expected to provide victims with their first opportunity to make their accusations in public. However, the case was settled on the first day of the trial, with Epstein publicly apologizing to Edwards; other terms of the settlement were confidential. [\[132\]](#)[\[158\]](#)

## 8. Maria Farmer v. Epstein and Maxwell (2019)

On April 16, 2019, [Maria Farmer](#) went public and filed a sworn affidavit in federal court in New York, alleging that she and her 15-year-old sister, Annie, had been sexually assaulted by Epstein and Maxwell in separate locations in 1996. Farmer met Epstein and Maxwell at her graduate art gallery reception at the [New York Academy of Art](#) in 1995. The following year, in the summer of 1996, they hired her to work on an art project in Leslie Wexner's Ohio mansion, where she was then sexually assaulted. [\[159\]](#) Farmer reported the incident to the New York City Police Department and the FBI. [\[160\]](#) Farmer's affidavit also stated that during the same summer, Epstein flew her then-15-year-old sister to his New Mexico property where he and Maxwell sexually abused her on a massage table. [\[161\]](#)

## 9. Jennifer Araoz v. Epstein and Maxwell (2019)

On July 22, 2019, while in jail awaiting trial, Epstein was served with a petition regarding a pending state civil lawsuit filed by Jennifer Araoz. [\[162\]](#) She stated that an associate for Epstein had recruited her outside [Talent Unlimited High School](#) at age 14 and she was gradually groomed for over a year before Epstein raped her in his New York City mansion when she was 15. [\[163\]](#) Araoz filed her suit on August 14, 2019, when New York State law was updated to allow one year for adult survivors of child sexual abuse to sue for previous offenses, regardless of how long ago the abuse took place. [\[164\]](#) In October 2019, Araoz amended her complaint to include over 20 corporate entities associated with Epstein and named the additional individuals Lesley Groff and Cimberly Espinosa as enablers. [\[165\]](#)

## 10. Katlyn Doe, et al. v. Epstein's estate (2019)

Three women (Katlyn Doe, Lisa Doe and Priscilla Doe) sued the estate of Jeffrey Epstein on August 20, 2019. Two of the women were 17 and one was 20 when they met Epstein. The women allege they were recruited, subjected to unwanted sex acts, and controlled by Epstein and a "vast enterprise" of co-conspirators. [\[166\]](#)[\[167\]](#)

## 11. Jane Doe v. Epstein's estate (2019)

A New York accuser of Epstein, known only as Jane Doe, announced a federal lawsuit against his estate in the Southern District of New York on September 18, 2019, stating that she was recruited in 2002 and sexually abused by Epstein for three years starting at age 14. [\[168\]](#)

## 12. Teresa Helm, et al. v. Epstein's estate (2019)

Five women (Teresa Helm, Annie Farmer, Maria Farmer, Juliette Bryant, and an unidentified woman), represented by [David Boies](#), sued Epstein's estate in Federal District Court in Manhattan in November 2019, accusing him of rape, battery and false imprisonment and seeking unspecified damages. [\[169\]](#)

## 13. Jane Doe 15 v. Epstein's estate (2019)

On November 18, 2019, a woman identified as Jane Doe 15 made a public appearance with her attorney [Gloria Allred](#) to announce that she was suing the estate of Jeffrey Epstein in the District Court for the Southern District of New York, alleging that he manipulated, trafficked, and sexually abused her in 2004, when she was 15 years old. [\[170\]](#)

## 14. Teala Davies v. Epstein's estate (2019)

On November 21, 2019, Teala Davies appeared with her attorney Gloria Allred and announced her lawsuit in Manhattan federal court against Epstein's estate. [\[171\]](#)[\[172\]](#) Davies stated that after meeting Epstein in 2002, he sexually assaulted and trafficked her in New York, New Mexico, Florida, the Virgin Islands and France. [\[171\]](#)

## 15. Jane Does 1-9 v. Epstein's estate (2019)

On December 3, 2019, lawyer Jordan Merson filed a lawsuit in New York on behalf of nine anonymous accusers (Jane Does 1-9) and against Epstein's estate for battery, assault, and intentional emotional distress. [\[173\]](#) The claims date from 1985 through the 2000s, and include individuals who were 13, 14, and 15 when they first encountered Epstein. [\[173\]](#)

## 16. JJ Doe v. Epstein's estate (2019)

The lawsuit was filed by Bradley Edwards on behalf of his client in late December 2019. The accuser, JJ Doe, is described as being a 14-year-old resident of Palm Beach County at the time Epstein abused her in 2004. [\[174\]](#)

## 17. US Virgin Islands v. Epstein's estate, et al. (2020)

A lawsuit was filed in Superior Court of the US Virgin Islands in January 2020 alleging that Epstein ran a sex trafficking conspiracy for over two decades, through 2018, with children as young as 11 years old on Epstein's Caribbean islands. [\[175\]](#) According to Attorney General Denise George, his alleged criminal activities on the islands

were concealed through a complex network of companies.<sup>[175]</sup>

#### 18. Jane Doe v. Maxwell and Epstein's estate (2020)

In January 2020, a lawsuit was filed against Maxwell and Epstein alleging that they recruited a 13-year-old music student at the [Interlochen Center for the Arts](#) in 1994 and subjected her to sexual abuse.<sup>[176]</sup> The suit states that Jane Doe was repeatedly sexually assaulted by Epstein over a four-year period and that Maxwell played a key role in both her recruitment and by participating in the assaults.<sup>[176]</sup>

#### 19. Jane Does v. Epstein estate (2020)

In August 2020 9 Jane Does filed suit accusing Epstein of sexual abuse. The alleged victims in the lawsuit include a 11 and 13 year old and a victim who alleged abuse in 1975.<sup>[177]</sup>

#### 20. Jane Doe v. Epstein estate (2020)

In August 2020 Epstein was sued by a Jane Doe accusing him of sexually abusing her for one and a half years, beginning when she was an 18-year-old aspiring singer and model in New York.<sup>[178]</sup>

#### Payouts

In 2020 Epstein estate's finances revealed that it had paid out nearly **\$50 million between June 2020 and December 2020 to more than 100 women who brought claims to the "Epstein Victims Compensation Fund" set up in the U.S. Virgin Islands.**<sup>[179]</sup> By February 2021, the estate was valued at about \$240 million, down from estimates of \$630 million a year earlier. This prompted the attorney general of the U.S. Virgin Islands, [Denise George](#), to file an emergency motion seeking the immediate asset freeze. She contended in the court filing, which the victims joined, that the estate executors had "mismanaged" the money.<sup>[179]</sup>

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeffrey\\_Epstein#First\\_criminal\\_case](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeffrey_Epstein#First_criminal_case)>

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeffrey\\_Epstein#First\\_criminal\\_case](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeffrey_Epstein#First_criminal_case)>

## Second Criminal Case

Friday, April 2, 2021 5:18 PM

### Trafficking charges



*U.S. v. Jeffrey Epstein* indictment<sup>[4]</sup>

On July 6, 2019, Epstein was arrested by the [FBI-NYPD](#) Crimes Against Children Task Force at [Teterboro Airport](#) in [New Jersey](#) on sex trafficking charges.<sup>[28][179][180][181]</sup> He was jailed at the [Metropolitan Correctional Center](#) in New York City, which has held prisoners such as [John Gotti](#), [Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman](#), and [Paul Manafort](#).<sup>[182][183]</sup>

According to witnesses and sources on the day of his arrest, about a dozen FBI agents forced open the door to his Manhattan townhouse, the [Herbert N. Straus House](#), with search warrants. The search of his townhouse turned up evidence of sex trafficking and also found "hundreds – and perhaps thousands – of sexually suggestive photographs of fully – or partially – nude females". Some of the photos were confirmed as those of [underage](#) females. In a locked safe, compact discs were found with handwritten labels including the descriptions: "Young [Name] + [Name]", "Misc nudes 1", and "Girl pics nude".<sup>[91]</sup> Also found in the safe were \$70,000 in cash, 48 diamonds,<sup>[184]</sup> and a fraudulent Austrian passport, which expired in 1987, that had Epstein's photo but another name. The passport had numerous entrance and exit stamps, including entrance stamps that showed the use of the passport to enter France, Spain, the United Kingdom, and [Saudi Arabia](#) in the 1980s. The passport showed his place of residence as Saudi Arabia.<sup>[51][52][185][186][187]</sup> According to his attorneys, Epstein had been advised to acquire the passport because "as an affluent member of the Jewish faith", he was in danger of being kidnapped while traveling abroad.<sup>[188]</sup>

On July 8, prosecutors with the Public Corruption Unit of the [Southern District of New York](#) charged him with sex trafficking and conspiracy to traffic minors for sex. The grand jury indictment alleges that "dozens" of underage girls were brought into Epstein's mansions for sexual encounters.<sup>[13][14][189]</sup> Judge [Kenneth Marra](#) was to decide whether the non-prosecution agreement that protected Epstein from the more serious charges should still stand.<sup>[190]</sup>



Federal paperwork regarding Jeffrey Epstein being denied bail

Epstein requested to be released on bond, offering to post \$100 million with the condition that he would also submit to house arrest in his New York City mansion.<sup>[191]</sup> US District Judge [Richard M. Berman](#) denied the request on July 18, saying that Epstein posed a danger to the public and a serious flight risk to avoid prosecution.<sup>[191]</sup>

On July 23, Epstein was found injured and semiconscious at 1:30 a.m. on the floor of his cell, with marks around his neck that were suspected to be the result of either a suicide attempt or an assault.<sup>[192]</sup> His cellmate, former New York City police officer Nicholas Tartaglione, who is charged with four counts of murder, was questioned about Epstein's condition. He denied having any knowledge of what happened. Epstein himself said he recollects nothing.<sup>[184][193][194][195]</sup> According to [NBC News](#), two sources said that Epstein might have tried to hang himself, a third said the injuries were not serious and could have been staged, and a fourth source said that an assault by his cellmate had not been ruled out.<sup>[196]</sup>

On August 29, 2019, following Epstein's death 10 days prior, the case against Epstein was closed after Judge Berman dismissed all sex trafficking charges.<sup>[19][20]</sup> However, he also expressed support for Epstein's accusers.<sup>[19]</sup> Prosecutors objected to the ruling and stated they would continue an investigation for potential co-conspirators.<sup>[20]</sup>

### Investigation in France

On August 23, 2019, the prosecutor's office in Paris, France, opened a preliminary investigation into Epstein. He is being investigated for rape and sexual assault of minors under and over the age of 15, criminal association with a view to committing crimes, and association with criminals with a view to committing offenses. The prosecutors said that the goal of the investigation is to find possible crimes committed in France and elsewhere against French citizens.<sup>[197]</sup>

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeffrey\\_Epstein#First\\_criminal\\_case](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeffrey_Epstein#First_criminal_case)>

## Death

Saturday, April 3, 2021 8:31 AM

When Epstein was placed in the [Security Housing Unit](#) (SHU), the jail informed the Justice Department that he would have a cellmate and that a guard would look into the cell every 30 minutes. These procedures were not followed on the night he died.<sup>[27]</sup> On August 9, was transferred, and no replacement was brought in. The evening of his death, Epstein met with his lawyers, who described him as "upbeat" before being escorted back to the SHU at 7:49 p.m. by guard Tova Noel.<sup>[24]</sup> CCTV footage shows that the two guards failed to perform the required institutional count at 10:00 p.m. and recorded Noel briefly walking by Epstein's cell at 10:30 p.m., the last time the guards entered the tier where his cell was located.<sup>[28]</sup> Through the night, in violation of the jail's normal procedure, Epstein was not checked every 30 minutes.<sup>[22]</sup> The two guards assigned to check his cell overnight, Noel and Michael Thomas, fell asleep at their desk<sup>[note 4]</sup> for about three hours and later falsified related records.<sup>[29][30]</sup> Two cameras in front of Epstein's cell also malfunctioned that night.<sup>[31]</sup> Another camera had footage that was "unusable".<sup>[31]</sup>

### Discovery



Epstein's body being moved to the medical examiner's office

As the guards were distributing breakfast shortly after 6:30 a.m. on the morning of August 10, Epstein was found unresponsive in cardiac arrest in his cell.<sup>[28]</sup> He was found in a kneeling position with a strip of bedsheets<sup>[note 5]</sup> wrapped around his neck. The sheet was tied to the top of his bunk.<sup>[33]</sup> He is believed to have been dead for about two hours. The guards performed [CPR](#) on Epstein, and other prisoners heard them yell "Breathe, Epstein, breathe."<sup>[24]</sup> At 6:33 a.m., the guards pulled an alarm, notifying their supervisor, to whom Noel said, "Epstein hung himself."<sup>[28]</sup> He was rushed to the [New York Downtown Hospital](#) where he was pronounced dead at 6:39 a.m.<sup>[34]</sup> His body was transported to the medical examiner's office soon after.<sup>[35]</sup>

The removal of Epstein's body from his cell was a violation of protocol, as the [Bureau of Prisons](#) (BOP) mandates that a suicide scene be treated with the "same level of protection as any crime scene in which a death has occurred."<sup>[24]</sup> Consequently, prison personnel also failed to photograph Epstein's body as it was found.<sup>[36]</sup>

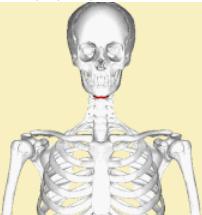
### Discrepancies

Epstein's death was the first death ruled a suicide at the MCC in 14 years. [Michael Baden](#) and [60 Minutes](#) questioned whether Epstein, who was almost 6 ft (1.8 m) tall and weighed 185 pounds (84 kg), could have been able to hang himself from the lower bunk. Photos taken after the death also show bottles and medicine standing upright on the top bunk.<sup>[24]</sup> Baden also questioned why Epstein did not use other materials available in his cell as a ligature, such as wires and tubing from a [sleep apnea machine](#), which were stronger and longer.<sup>[24]</sup>

### Autopsy

New York City's Chief Medical Examiner [Barbara Sampson](#) conducted a four-hour autopsy on Epstein's body on August 11. Epstein's lawyers sent pathologist Michael Baden to observe the autopsy.<sup>[24][37]</sup> Following the autopsy, the medical examiner's office reported that Epstein had hanged himself with a sheet from his bed.<sup>[38]</sup> On August 14, unofficial sources reported that broken bones were found in Epstein's neck, although this can occur in the suicide of the elderly. According to forensic experts and studies, these broken bones are "more common in victims of homicide by strangulation".<sup>[39]</sup> The last death ruled a suicide at the MCC was in 1998.<sup>[40]</sup> Epstein's lawyers released a joint statement after the medical examiner's report, expressing dissatisfaction with it, challenging its conclusions and saying a more complete response was forthcoming. They said that the defense team fully intended to continue its own investigation into the circumstances and cause of Epstein's death,<sup>[41]</sup> including taking legal action to view the camera footage near his cell during the night of his death.<sup>[42]</sup> They later said that the evidence concerning Epstein's death was "far more consistent" with murder than suicide.<sup>[43]</sup>

### Autopsy report and criticism



Epstein's [hyoid bone](#), among others, was broken. It is disputed whether this is more indicative of hanging or strangulation.

On August 16, Sampson announced that Epstein's death had been ruled a suicide by hanging.<sup>[44]</sup> Later, conflicting reports said the injuries Epstein sustained were as consistent, if not more so, with strangulation or homicide as with suicide.<sup>[39][45]</sup> Sampson's report found there was no [foul play](#) in his death.<sup>[46][47][48]</sup> Three of Epstein's lawyers expressed their dissatisfaction with Sampson's conclusion, having hired forensic pathologist Michael Baden to observe the autopsy; they said they would initiate their own investigation and provide a more detailed statement in the future.<sup>[49][50]</sup> Baden observed Sampson's autopsy when it was conducted; after the autopsy he said he could not comment because of gag orders filed by Sampson's office and Epstein's estate.<sup>[44]</sup>

On October 30, 2019, Baden issued a report stating that Epstein's neck injuries were much more consistent with "homicidal strangulation" than suicide. He stated that Epstein "had two fractures on the left and right sides of his [larynx](#), specifically the thyroid cartilage or [Adam's apple](#), as well as one fracture on the left hyoid bone above the Adam's apple". In particular, Baden claimed that Epstein's [hyoid bone](#) was [broken](#) in a way indicative of strangulation from behind.<sup>[51]</sup> Later that day, Sampson refuted Baden's claims, saying, "I stand firmly behind our determination of the cause and manner of death for Mr. Epstein. The cause is hanging, the manner is suicide."<sup>[52]</sup> Baden later said, "Going over a thousand jail hangings, suicides in the New York City state prisons over the past 40-50 years, no one had three fractures."<sup>[24]</sup> Neurosurgeon and [CNN](#) medical correspondent [Sanjay Gupta](#) asserted Epstein could have easily broken his hyoid bone in a hanging because of the bone's weakening and loss of flexibility with age. Gupta also suggested that multiple broken neck bones were more characteristic of hanging. Gerald Rodts, chief of spinal surgery at [Emory University Hospital](#), also stated that multiple broken neck bones are consistent with hanging.<sup>[53]</sup> A professor of [forensic science](#) at [John Jay College of Criminal Justice](#) said the hyoid bone can indeed break from hanging, noting that it is a weak bone. According to their analysis, a broken hyoid bone is not

sufficient proof of homicide.<sup>[54]</sup>



Marks on Epstein's neck

According to Baden, the neck wound was in the center of Epstein's neck, not under his mandibles as in a typical hanging. Baden said this is more common when a victim is strangled by a wire or cord. Baden also said that the wound was much thinner than the strip of bedsheet, and although there was blood on Epstein's neck, it was absent on the bed-sheet ligature.<sup>[24]</sup> In response to Baden's claims, Sampson stood by the conclusion that Epstein's death was suicide.<sup>[54]</sup>

#### Burial

Following the autopsy, Epstein's body was claimed by an "unidentified associate", later revealed to be his brother, Mark.<sup>[55][56]</sup> On September 5, the body was buried in an unmarked tomb next to those of his parents at the IJ Morris Star of David mausoleum in [Palm Beach](#), Florida. His parents' names were removed from their tombstone to prevent vandalism.<sup>[57]</sup>

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Death\\_of\\_Jeffrey\\_Epstein#Homicide\\_suspicions\\_and\\_conspiracy\\_theories](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Death_of_Jeffrey_Epstein#Homicide_suspicions_and_conspiracy_theories)>

### Theory #1: Mossad banker

Ah yes, Israel. Essential to any serious conspiracy theory, especially when you're called Epstein and have had your photo taken with Shimon Peres and Ehud Barak. Cockburn can report that in late 1982, Epstein was seen at a bat mitzvah in Westchester, waving his hands while talking animatedly with a man about salmon. Did Epstein handle cashish for a foreign power?

**Plausibility:** 3/10, because if Epstein was Mossad, we wouldn't know, would we?

### Theory #2: Russian troll

Or maybe Epstein was the king of kompromat. Or the Chinese, whose ties to leading Democratic figures has long been the stuff of legend, even back in the Nineties when Donald Trump was a Democrat, sort of. The Russians make good villains because they keep insisting on being villainous. Epstein's homes, especially the infamous bungalows in New York and the Sunshine State, were apparently bugged. Wild Bill Clinton and Epstein's other house guests didn't know they were being entrapped. Did Wild Bill make the mistake of underestimating new sheriff, Vladimir I. Putin?

**Plausibility:** 6/10, because you should never underestimate those crazy Russians.

### Theory #3: Common criminal

Maybe Cockburn is overthinking this and needs a siesta. Jeffrey Epstein was a financial fraudster who frequently rubbed shoulders with the rich and famous. He [stole some money](#), slept with some underage girls, and his old party pals are now too embarrassed to be associated with him. They can carry the financial losses, but they're not willing to disclose publicly, either cause they know there's nothing to recoup, or because it'll be too embarrassing. Epstein recorded stuff because he's Jeffrey Epstein, pervert.

**Plausibility:** 8/10, but it doesn't explain the money, does it?

### Theory #4: Tax-dodger

One rumor that Cockburn's heard while seeking cash loans in both London and New York City is that Epstein was assisting wealthy clients who wished to evade taxation. That might explain all that jetting to and from the Caribbean. It might also explain why no one has come forward to say, 'I'm very rich. I paid Jeffrey Epstein a commission to illegally hide my money from the IRS. I can afford to do this, but you, the suckers who work away their lives day by day like dumb ants, just have to pay it.'

**Plausibility:** 9/10, because even Elizabeth Warren knows it's a rigged game.

### Theory #5: Eyes Wide Open

Epstein is merely the tip of the iceberg. He's a mid-level player, one of the global elite's sloppiest, who got caught and is now helping to expose an international sex mafia. The honored society, indeed. Stanley Kubrick's last film, *Eyes Wide Shut*, was an exposé, and that's why Kubrick died while editing it. Take a look at [this Rothschild Surrealist party](#) from the Seventies. If all this makes sense, then you're in deeper than you think.

**Plausibility:** 0/10, and if you believe that, you'll believe anything.

### Homicide suspicions and conspiracy theories

Because of violations of standard prison procedures and Epstein's knowledge of compromising information about famous individuals, his death spawned skepticism, and multiple [conspiracy theories](#).<sup>[97][98]</sup> Epstein conspiracy theorists have been pejoratively labeled "Epstein Truthers", similar to [those who dispute the accepted account of the 9/11 attacks](#).<sup>[97]</sup> A [Rasmussen Reports](#) poll conducted shortly after his death in August 2019 found that only 29% of U.S. adults believed Epstein actually committed suicide, while 42% thought he was murdered to prevent him from testifying against powerful people with whom he associated, and 29% of people were undecided.<sup>[99]</sup> By November 2019, a [Business Insider](#) poll found that those who believed Epstein was murdered outnumbered suicide proponents three to one.<sup>[100]</sup> In a 2020 poll, Rasmussen found a majority of Americans believed Epstein was murdered, with just 21% believing that he committed suicide.<sup>[101]</sup> [University of Chicago](#) professor Eric Oliver, a conspiracy theory expert, labeled [populist](#) sentiment and a [mistrust of the political system](#) as major contributors to the widespread rejection of the official narrative.<sup>[102]</sup>

Because of his connections to many wealthy and powerful people, there was speculation that one or more co-conspirators or participants in his sex crimes might have arranged for him to be silenced.<sup>[103]</sup> In the hours after the death, the hashtag [#ClintonBodyCount](#) and the countering [#TrumpBodyCount](#) were trending on Twitter as users accused Bill and Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump of being involved in Epstein's death.<sup>[103]</sup> Several hours after Epstein was found dead, Trump retweeted a [conspiracy theory](#) by Terrence K. Williams, a comedian and conservative commentator, suggesting there was a connection between the Clintons and Epstein's death—furthering a perennial conspiracy theory dating to the early 1990s that the Clintons have had numerous people killed to silence them.<sup>[104]</sup>

At an August 27 hearing, Epstein defense attorney Reid Weingarten expressed "significant doubts" that Epstein's death was due to suicide. According to Weingarten, when attorneys met with their client shortly before his death, "we did not see a despairing, despondent, suicidal person".<sup>[105]</sup> Epstein's brother, Mark, has rejected the possibility of Jeffrey's suicide, claiming, "I could see if he got a life sentence, I could then see him taking himself out, but he had a bail hearing coming up."<sup>[106]</sup> He also claimed his "life may also be in danger," if Epstein was indeed murdered.<sup>[107]</sup> In a press conference about two months after Epstein's death, de Blasio declined to endorse chief medical examiner Sampson's conclusions, saying, "Something doesn't fit here. It just doesn't make sense that the highest-profile prisoner in America—you know, someone forgot to guard him."<sup>[108]</sup> Former US Attorney and Senate Judiciary Committee counsel [Brett Tolman](#) said the death was "more than coincidental" considering Epstein's "many connections to powerful people".<sup>[109]</sup>

Immediately after his death, online conspiracy theorists falsely claimed that the images of Epstein in transport to the hospital were actually that of a body double. They relied on purported differences between the body's ear and Epstein's ear in a juxtaposed photo. Fact-checker [Snopes](#) pointed out that the image of Epstein was 15 years old and that it was "more plausible that these discrepancies were the result of aging".<sup>[110]</sup> Nonetheless, the American band [Foster the People](#) promoted these claims on Twitter.<sup>[111]</sup> In October 2020, over a year after his death, similar false theories emerged that claimed that Epstein was living at [Zorro Ranch](#), his residence in [New Mexico](#),<sup>[112][113]</sup> in popular culture

From

<[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Death\\_of\\_Jeffrey\\_Epstein#Homicide\\_suspicions\\_and\\_conspiracy\\_theories](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Death_of_Jeffrey_Epstein#Homicide_suspicions_and_conspiracy_theories)>

## Sex trafficking crimes brought against Epstein ex-girlfriend

Prosecutors have added sex trafficking charges and another alleged victim in their case against financier Jeffrey Epstein's ex-girlfriend, saying a conspiracy to sexually abuse girls stretched over a decade

By LARRY NEUMEISTER Associated Press

29 March 2021, 21:33

\* 3 min read



The Associated Press

FILE- In this July 2, 2020 file photo, Audrey Strauss, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, speaks during a news conference in New York. (AP Photo/Mark Lennihan, File)

NEW YORK -- Sex trafficking charges were added Monday to the indictment against financier Jeffrey Epstein's ex-girlfriend as prosecutors alleged that she groomed a 14-year-old girl to recruit other young females in the early 2000s to provide "sexualized massages" to Epstein in return for cash.

The charges contained in a superseding indictment returned by a Manhattan grand jury alleged that Epstein and Ghislaine Maxwell conspired between 1994 and 2004, when, prosecutors say, Epstein was paying her to manage his properties. An indictment returned after Maxwell's July arrest limited crimes to a three-year period in the 1990s.

Maxwell, 59, has remained in a federal jail without bail after a judge three times rejected bail packages, the last of which included offers to renounce her citizenships in the United Kingdom and France, to be kept in place by armed guards and to post \$28.5 million in assets.

Maxwell, a U.S. citizen, has pleaded not guilty to charges brought a year after Epstein was arrested on sex trafficking charges. He killed himself at a Manhattan federal lockup in August 2019. A message for comment was sent to her lawyers. Maxwell has appealed the bail rejections.

The rewritten indictment added a sex trafficking conspiracy and a sex trafficking charge against Maxwell. It took allegations beyond the earlier charges, which had alleged that Maxwell recruited three girls for Epstein to sexually abuse from 1994 to 1997 and sometimes joined in the abuse. The indictment said Maxwell and Epstein had an intimate relationship during those years.

The indictment added a fourth girl to the allegations, saying she was sexually abused multiple times by Epstein between 2001 and 2004 at his Palm Beach, Florida, residence, beginning when she was 14 years old.

The indictment said Maxwell groomed the unidentified girl to engage in sex acts with Epstein through multiple means, including by giving her lingerie and hundreds of dollars in cash and by encouraging the girl to recruit other young females to provide "sexualized massages" to Epstein.

It said Maxwell "facilitated Jeffrey Epstein's access to minor victims knowing that he had a sexual preference for underage girls and that he intended to engage in sexual activity with those victims."

Earlier this year, Maxwell's lawyers challenged the charges against her, saying they were obtained unjustly and didn't properly allege crimes. They said the indictment also violates an agreement federal prosecutors made a dozen years ago not to charge Epstein or those who worked for him.

In a letter to a judge Monday, prosecutors acknowledged that the rewritten indictment may require defense lawyers to supplement their arguments to dismiss charges.

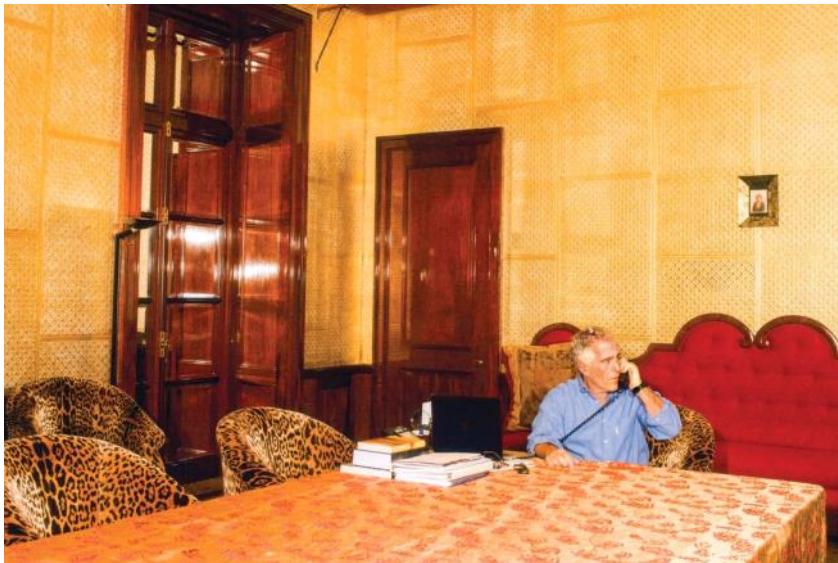
But the government also promised not to bring another rewritten indictment against her if lawyers do not request to postpone a trial scheduled for July 12.

They also said the fact that the superseding indictment was returned by a Manhattan grand jury should negate an argument by Maxwell's lawyers that the indictment was unjustly returned by a White Plains grand jury that primarily would have been composed of white people.

From <<https://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/sex-trafficking-crimes-brought-epstein-girlfriend-76755451>>

# Who Was Jeffrey Epstein Calling?

A close study of his circle — social, professional, transactional — reveals a damning portrait of elite New York.



Perhaps, at long last, a serial rapist and pedophile may be brought to justice, more than a dozen years after he was first charged with crimes that have brutalized [countless girls and women](#). But what won't change is this: the cesspool of elites, many of them in New York, who allowed Jeffrey Epstein to flourish with impunity. For decades, important, influential, "serious" people attended Epstein's dinner parties, rode his private jet, and furthered the fiction that he was some kind of genius hedge-fund billionaire. How do we explain [why they looked the other way](#), or flattered Epstein, even as they must have noticed he was often in the company of a young harem? Easy: They got something in exchange from him, whether it was a free ride on that airborne "[Lolita Express](#)," some other form of monetary largesse, entrée into the extravagant celebrity soirées he hosted at his townhouse, or, possibly and harrowingly, a pound or two of female flesh.

If you watch Fox News, you will believe Bill Clinton was Epstein's No. 1 pal and enabler. If you watch MSNBC, this scandal is usually all about [Donald Trump](#). In fact, both presidents are guilty (at the very least) of giving Epstein cover and credibility. There are so many unanswered questions about Epstein, but one that looms over all of them is whether the bipartisan crowd who cleared a path for him will cover its tracks before we can get answers — not just Clinton and Trump and all those who drank at Epstein's trough but also (among others) institutions like Harvard, Dalton, and the Council on Foreign Relations, or lawyers like the New York prosecutor Cy Vance Jr., whose office tried to downgrade Epstein's sex-offender status; Kenneth Starr, who tried to pressure Republican Justice Department officials to keep the Epstein case from ever being prosecuted; and [Alan Dershowitz](#), who tried to pressure the Pulitzer Prizes to shut out the *Miami Herald* for its epic investigative reporting that cracked open the case anew.

In 2015, [Gawker](#) published Epstein's "little black book," which had surfaced in court proceedings after a former employee took it from Epstein's home around 2005 and later tried to sell it. He said that the book had been created by people who worked for Epstein and that it contained the names and phone numbers of more than 100 victims, plus hundreds of social contacts. Along with the logs of Epstein's private plane, released in 2015, the book paints a picture of a man deeply enmeshed in the highest social circles.

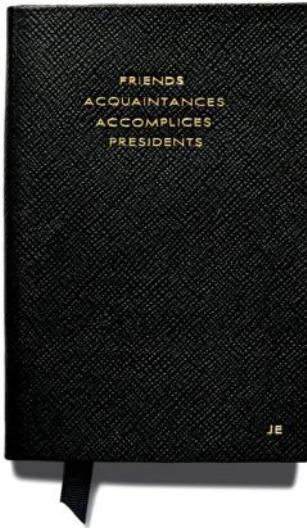
Collectively, these documents constitute just a glance at the way society opened itself to Epstein in New York, Hollywood, and Palm Beach. In the weeks since his arrest, we have learned even more about the cliques he traveled in and the way they protected him. Though some observers have likened Epstein's enigmatic rise as a glamorous social magnet to that of Jay Gatsby, a more appropriate archetype may be the [fixer, sexual hedonist, and \(ultimately disbarred\) lawyer Roy Cohn](#). In the 1970s and early '80s, Cohn was a favor broker for boldface chums as various as the top Democratic-machine politicians, the mobster Carmine "Lilo" Galante, Nancy Reagan, the proprietors of Studio 54, the Catholic Archdiocese of New York, Andy Warhol, the publishers Rupert Murdoch and Si Newhouse, Dershowitz, and the ambitious young real-estate developer Donald Trump.

This project is meant to catalogue how Epstein's secure footing in elite spheres helped hide his crimes. It includes influential names listed in his black book, people he flew, funded, and schmoozed, along with others whose connections to him have drawn renewed attention. Certainly, not everyone cited here knew of everything he was up to; Malcolm Gladwell told *New York*, "I don't remember much except being baffled as to who this Epstein guy was and why we were all on his plane." Some said they never met Epstein at all, or knew of him only through his ex-girlfriend and alleged accomplice, the socialite [Ghislaine Maxwell](#). Others backed away from him after the scandal. But all of the influential people listed here were attached in some way to Epstein's world. The sum of their names constitutes a more concrete accounting of Epstein's power than could any accounting of his disputed wealth. Consider this a pointillist portrait of enablement that all too chillingly overlaps with a significant slice of the Establishment.

—Frank Rich

## His Contacts, A to Z

A guided tour of a perverse power list.



### **Allen, Woody: Director.**



With Woody Allen and Soon-Yi Previn in 2013. Photo: Elder Ordonez/Elder Ordonez/Splash News

Epstein kept a photo of his friend Allen, the sexual pariah, on his wall and was photographed walking with him on the Upper East Side. They had more than a neighborhood in common. For years before his relationship with Mia Farrow, Allen had carried on with a 16-year-old girl he'd met at Elaine's named Babi Christina Engelhardt. In an [interview](#) with *The Hollywood Reporter*, she wondered if she was the inspiration for *Manhattan*, Allen's 1979 movie about a man in his 40s who dates a high-school student, which was nominated for two Academy Awards. Engelhardt had sex with Allen more than 100 times, she says, sometimes with Farrow. "The whole thing was a game that was being operated solely by Woody so we never quite knew where we stood," she said. Engelhardt went on to become Epstein's assistant.

### **Althorp, Charles: Princess Diana's brother.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Andersson-Dubin, Dr. Eva: Doctor and former Miss Sweden.**

*Name found on Epstein's private jet log.*

Epstein's ex-girlfriend and her husband, billionaire hedge-funder Glenn Dubin, had Epstein over for Thanksgiving dinner in 2009, telling his probation officer they were "100 percent comfortable" with his being around their teenage daughter, *Insider* [reported](#). She also created a foundation so Epstein could donate to her breast-cancer charity without attaching his name. "The Dubins are horrified by the new allegations against Jeffrey Epstein," they said in a [statement](#). "Had they been aware of the vile and unspeakable conduct described in these new allegations, they would have cut off all ties and certainly never have allowed their children to be in his presence."

### **Prince Andrew, The Duke of York: Looking for a friend.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book and on Epstein's private jet log.*



With Prince Andrew in Central Park in 2010. Photo: Jae Donnelly/News Licensing

Epstein and the second son of Queen Elizabeth II have been friends for years and were introduced, it is generally thought, by Brit Ghislaine Maxwell, Epstein's former girlfriend and longtime aide-de-camp. Epstein has entertained the prince at his townhouse, where he would toss aside regal formalities and refer to him simply, and to English ears heretically, as "Andy." Prince Andrew has had Epstein and Maxwell to shooting parties at Sandringham House, the queen's country retreat in Norfolk. Theirs is an unusual alliance, given their stations — the born royal and the Brooklyn boy who made it big — but its disparities may be part of the point. "Jeffrey had Andrew put on a pair of sweatpants for the first time in his life," a source told [Vanity Fair](#) about the two. "It was Jeffrey who taught Andrew how to relax."

But their relationship, and their relaxing, took on darker shades as time went on. Andrew stood by Epstein after his release from a 13-month prison sentence and was the star attraction at the party he threw to reenter society. (Katie Couric and George Stephanopoulos also came.) The British press wrung its hands with equal parts pain and glee when it was discovered that Sarah, the perennially indebted Duchess of York — Fergie to her Weight Watchers fans — [had accepted £15,000 from Epstein](#) to pay off one of her creditors, a deal brokered by her ex-husband, and that a former employee at Epstein's Palm Beach manse had alleged in a sworn deposition that the duke was a long-time guest, enjoying massages and naked pool parties. (Prince Andrew denied ever attending, or any awareness of, naked pool parties.) The ongoing affiliation with Epstein likely contributed to the end of Andrew's duties as a U.K. trade envoy. In 2015, Virginia Roberts Giuffre alleged in a court filing that Andrew was one of the powerful friends to whom Epstein lent her out for sex. Buckingham Palace issued a statement emphatically denying the allegation. She hasn't pressed her case further in court. But a photograph of the duke with his arm around a 17-year-old Roberts Giuffre, with Maxwell grinning beside them, didn't help. —Matthew Schneier

## Assaf, Vittorio: Restaurateur.

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Started the Upper East Side institution Serafina.

## Band, Doug: Influence peddler.

*Name found in Epstein's black book and on Epstein's private jet log.*

A onetime White House intern who climbed his way to being Bill Clinton's bag carrier, body man, fixer, and all-purpose gatekeeper, Band arranged for the former president to travel to Africa on Epstein's 727 in 2002. Band would go on to help his boss found the Clinton Global Initiative in 2005, a choice platform from which he launched his own lucrative favor-trading corporate-advisory firm, Teneo. Throughout that time, he took a number of trips on Epstein's plane and attended parties at his townhouse. Band resigned from his position at CGI in 2012; leaked emails later showed Band and Chelsea Clinton trading accusations of conflicts of interest in a war of influence over her parents. More recently, Band's been teaching a "Public Service" class at NYU.

## Balazs, André: Celebrity hotelier.

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

## Baldwin, Alec: Actor.

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Denies knowing Epstein, though he appears in the black book. Recently, Baldwin invited Julie K. Brown, the Miami *Herald* reporter who resurfaced the Epstein story, to do a [podcast](#).

## Bannon, Steve: Former White House chief strategist.

In August 2018, the New York *Post* reported that Bannon had been seen entering Epstein's townhouse. Neither Bannon nor Epstein has commented on the substance of their meeting, but when Ivanka Trump condemned Roy Moore's campaign in Alabama, saying, "There's a special place in hell for people who prey on children," Bannon, who backed Moore, responded, "What about the allegations about her dad and that 13-year-old?" It was a clear reference to the woman who had accused Donald Trump and Epstein of raping her when she was 13.

## Barr, Donald: The headmaster who offered entrée.

In the 1975 Dalton School yearbook. Photo: The Dalton School  
Barr was ousted shortly before Epstein, 21 and without a college degree, showed up for his first day of work teaching math and physics at the Manhattan's elite Dalton School in the early 1970s. Barr announced his resignation soon after, in February 1974: "He was disliked by the faculty, he was highly controversial, he hadn't raised much money, he was very conservative," said the board's chairman. Barr's leadership style was described as "authoritarian" and "undemocratic" at the time. Memorably, several former students told the New York *Times* that Epstein was overly familiar with teenage girls at the school. Donald's son William would intersect with Epstein's orbit while serving as a counsel at Kirkland and Ellis in 2009. The law firm secured Epstein his obscenely lenient 2007 non-prosecution deal, which the Justice Department is now reviewing. In July, Barr the son refused to recuse himself from the ongoing Epstein investigation.

## Barrack, Tom: Trump adviser and private-equity manager.

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

In [Fire and Fury](#), Michael Wolff wrote that Trump, Epstein, and Barrack were a "set of nightlife musketeers" in the '80s and '90s.

## Berger, Sandy: National-security adviser for Bill Clinton.

*Name found on Epstein's private jet log.*

## **Berggruen, Nicolas: Billionaire investor.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

## **Berkman, Bill: New York businessman.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

A wealthy executive whose family established the Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society at Harvard, Berkman was sued in 2014 by his administrative assistant, who said she was forced to read emails Berkman had sent to a colleague containing "pictures of random and unsuspecting women on the street" — that is, creepshots. (The suit was settled.)

## **Birley, Robin: Nightclub impresario.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Owned the club where Meghan Markle and Prince Harry had their first date.

## **Bismarck, Debonnaire von: Countess.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Listed as Debbie in the black book.

## **Bismarck, Leopold von: Count.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Yes, those von Bismarcks. His nickname, Bola, was listed in the black book.

## **Bismarck, Vanessa von: Heiress and publishing entrepreneur.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

## **Black, Conrad: Media mogul.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

He's perhaps best known for being sentenced to 42 months in prison for fraud, then writing a book about Trump and receiving a pardon. Vicky Ward, who profiled Epstein for *Vanity Fair* in 2003, said Epstein heavily leaned on Black, who is her ex-husband's uncle (and was her ex-husband's then-boss), to try to exert his influence on Ward.

## **Black, Leon: Private-equity tycoon.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

The billionaire co-founder of Apollo Global Management and chairman of MoMA, Black made Epstein the director of his family foundation in 2001. The foundation continued to list Epstein as director on its tax forms until 2012, four years after he had pleaded guilty to soliciting a minor for prostitution in Florida. The foundation now says that Epstein resigned in 2007 and that his name continued to appear on its rolls owing to a "recording error." In 2011, he was listed as an investor in Environmental Solutions Worldwide, a Pennsylvania company, alongside several people close to Black, including his four children. Black himself was seen with Epstein at a movie screening just a few months after Epstein finished probation in 2010, and Epstein was spotted at a party at Black's home in the Hamptons as recently as 2015.

## **Black, Roy: An Epstein lawyer.**

The trial attorney and legal analyst's client roster has included Justin Bieber, *Girls Gone Wild* creator Joe Francis, and Rush Limbaugh. Black is perhaps best known for representing William Kennedy Smith against rape charges in Palm Beach in 1991. (The Kennedy nephew was acquitted.) In 2005, Black played the "managing partner" on NBC's *The Law Firm*, a knockoff of *The Apprentice* for up-and-coming lawyers.

## **Blaine, David: Magician.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Blaine put on a private show for Epstein's dinner guests in 2003, doing card tricks for the likes of Sergey Brin, Mort Zuckerman, and Bill Clinton aide Doug Band. The dinner was organized by Ghislaine Maxwell and included a group of young women who were introduced as Victoria's Secret models.

## **Blair, Tony: Former British prime minister.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

## **Bloomberg, Michael: Billionaire, private-jet enthusiast, former mayor.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

## **Bolkiah, Hassanal: Sultan of Brunei.**

Epstein had at least one meeting with the sultan when he traveled to Brunei in 2002 with Bill Clinton. Bolkiah and his brother are famous for their lavish spending, including a collection of 2,500 cars and a \$1.5 billion palace. Bolkiah was once sued by Miss USA 1997, who claimed she had been held as a sex slave. The suit was dismissed on the grounds that Bolkiah had sovereign immunity.

## **Bond, Annabelle: British socialite.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

## **Bonomi, Andrea: Italian businessman.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

The chairman and founder of Investindustrial was a key character in the Paradise Papers international tax-shelter scandal.

## **Borrico, Michael: Long Island contractor.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Described by *Social Life* magazine as the "ambassador of the all-important Hamptons polo culture," Borrico is known for hosting polo matches at his estate in Water Mill.

### **Bourke, Frederic: A founder of Dooney & Bourke.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Bourke went to prison for a scheme to bribe government officials in Azerbaijan.

### **Bowles, Hamish: European editor-at-large for *Vogue*.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Brandolini, Muriel: Interior designer.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Her clients have included Matt Lauer and the Crown Prince and Princess of Greece.

### **Branson, Richard: Founder of Virgin Group.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Like Epstein, Branson enjoys entertaining on a private island.

### **Briatore, Flavio: Italian millionaire businessman.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

A friend of Trump, a convicted card cheat, and an accused Formula 1 race fixer, Briatore was a longtime fugitive in the Virgin Islands.

### **Brockman, John: Agent for scientific "freethinkers."**

*Name found on Epstein's private jet log.*



John Brockman, Steven Pinker, Daniel C. Dennett, Katinka Matson, Richard Dawkins flying to a TED conference in Monterey, California, with science philosopher Jeffrey Benthin.



From left, John Brockman, Steven Pinker, Daniel Dennett, Katinka Matson, and Richard Dawkins flying to a TED conference in 2002 aboard Epstein's plane, pictured below. Photo: Dailymail.com.

What seems new, in flipping through the reams of society photos of perhaps the world's most prolific sexual predator that have been circulating over the past few weeks, is not the powerful and the beautiful who surrounded Epstein, but the intellectuals — the Richard Dawkinses, the Daniel Dennetts, the Steven Pinkers. All men, of course. But the group selfies probably shouldn't have been a surprise — documents of an age in which every millionaire doesn't just fancy himself a philosopher-king but expects to be treated as such, and every public intellectual wants to be seen as a kind of celebrity.

Cultural shifts like these require visionaries, networkers, salespeople. Brockman is one. A Warhol Factory kid turned freelance philosopher of science turned literary agent to Dawkins and Dennett and Pinker (and many others), in the 1980s he formed a casual salon of like-minded scientists and futurists that came to be known as the Reality Club, a knock against the poststructuralism then dominant in the academy. In the 1990s, he rebranded it as the Edge Foundation, an organization whose central event was an annual online symposium devoted to a single, broad question. In 2000, it was "What is today's most important underreported story?" In 2006, "What is your dangerous idea?"

Epstein was a regular contributor, and his plane — to judge from the photographs, at least — was an especially appealing way for other contributors to get to ted. They could also catch Epstein at Harvard, where so many of them taught and where he became so prolific a donor that one whole academic program seemed to be run like his private Renaissance ateliers. Epstein had long described himself as a "scientific philanthropist," and in a press release put out by the Jeffrey Epstein VI Foundation announcing its "substantial backing" of Edge, he called it "the world's smartest think tank."

Many in [Brockman's Edge community](#) are, or were, inarguably significant figures in the American intellectual Establishment: Freeman Dyson, Jared Diamond, Craig Venter, John Horgan, Paul Bloom (to name a random but representative sample). They are also among the gods and heroes of the Trump-era internet community of "freethinkers," whom Eric Weinstein, the venture capitalist and regular Edge contributor, memorably called "the intellectual dark web." The name suggests a self-glamorizing style of dangerous discourse, and as soon as the community was identified, it was criticized as revanchist, an effort to reopen areas of intellectual inquiry — about innate differences between the races, say, or the genders — now considered problematic, at a minimum. But to listen to the IDW warriors themselves — talking about the "war on free speech" as though their universities had sent assassins their way rather than tenured chairs — their crusade seems motivated just as much by a thin-skinned sense of their own world-historical significance. They were special people, deserving of special acclaim and, of course, special privileges.

Many contributions to Edge were plausibly the products of genuinely special minds. Epstein's were not. In 2008, the year he went to jail for prostitution, the prompt was "What have you changed your mind about?" Epstein replied, "The question presupposes a well defined 'you' and an implied ability that is under 'your' control to change your 'mind.' The 'you' I now believe is distributed amongst others (family friends, in hierachical structures), i.e. suicide bombers, believe their sacrifice is for the other parts of their 'you.' The question carries with it an intention that I believe is out of one's control. My mind changed as a result of its interaction with its environment. Why? Because it is a part of it."

"Jeffrey has the mind of a physicist," the Harvard professor Martin Nowak has said, incredibly. But what he really did have was the life of a very rich person — unable to see any world he felt unqualified to enter and surrounded by too many people enamored with his money to ever hear the word *no*. —David Wallace-Wells

### **Bronfman Jr., Edgar: Executive.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

The former Warner Music Group CEO, son of the late Seagram's CEO Edgar Bronfman Sr., is related to the NXIVM-sex-cult Bronfmans. His son has a child with pop star M.I.A.

### **Brunel, Jean-Luc: Model scout.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book and on Epstein's private jet log.*

Brunel was accused in court testimony of having used his agency to supply Epstein with girls. (He was not charged.) He also has a long history of allegations that he had abused his fashion-world position. In 1988, he was the subject of a *60 Minutes* investigation alleging that he and a fellow agent sexually assaulted nearly two dozen models. He denied the claims but later told *Model* author Michael Gross, "You get laid tonight with a model, is that a crime?" In 2005, Brunel co-founded the Mc2 modeling agency; Epstein invested \$1 million, according to a 2010 deposition.

### **Buck, Joan Juliet: Fashion editor.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

In 2003, Buck met Maxwell at a fashion party at a New York City boutique. Buck had recently moved on from her seven-year tenure as the editor of *Paris Vogue* and was writing for its American counterpart and living in New Mexico. She was a lifelong resident of a rarefied social world. Maxwell, a regular on that particular circuit, quickly made a connection. "Oh, Jeffrey's got a ranch in Santa Fe, blah blah blah," Buck recently remembered their conversation going. She gave Maxwell her Santa Fe number and later asked a friend about Epstein and New Mexico. "His ranch?" the friend replied. "As we say in Texas, all hat, no cattle."

### **Burkle, Ron: Supermarket magnate.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book and on Epstein's private jet log.*

Burkle took what were described as humanitarian trips to Africa with Bill Clinton on Epstein's private Boeing 727. According to a 2008 *Vanity Fair* feature about the former president, "Burkle's usual means of transport is the custom-converted Boeing 757 that Clinton calls 'Ron Air' and that Burkle's own circle of young aides privately refer to as 'Air Fuck One.'"

### **Bushnell, Candace: Columnist who inspired *Sex and the City*.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Busson, Arpad: French financier.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

During a custody battle with ex Uma Thurman, her lawyer asked Busson, a prominent hedge-funder, if he had ever said he was "addicted to prostitutes." (He said no.)

### **Calacanis, Jason: Businessman.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

An investor in Uber, Calacanis was a fixture in the early-aughts New York tech scene as the founder and editor of *Silicon Alley Reporter*. ("I can't tell you how many propositions I get, it's absolutely insane," he told the *Observer* in 2000.) In 2014, *Vice* awarded him Most Offensive Tweet of the Year for describing as racist the idea of white privilege.

### **Caledon, Nicky: Earl.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Campbell, Naomi: Supermodel.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book and on Epstein's private jet log.*

### **Candy, Nicholas and Christian: British property-developer brothers.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Carter, Graydon: Former editor of *Vanity Fair*.**

According to journalist Vicky Ward, he killed portions of a 2003 story that accused Epstein of pedophilia after an office visit from Epstein. (Carter says there wasn't enough on-the-record sourcing.) "I didn't invent the system. I just lived by the system," he said when *The New York Times Magazine* [questioned him](#) about the story last week.

### **Cecil, Aurelia: PR chairman.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Allegedly the former girlfriend of Prince Andrew.

### **Cecil, Mark: Hedge-funder.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Has hosted Prince William and Kate Middleton at his villa in Mustique.

### **Chatwal, Vikram: Hotelier.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

When the 1990s playboy settled down, Bill Clinton attended his wedding. In 2017, Chatwal pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor violation after being accused of trying to set a pair of dogs on fire on a Soho street.

### **Cipriani, Giuseppe: Restaurant magnate.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

The scene-y Cipriani Italian spots are known for inventing the Bellini cocktail — and more infamously for being Harvey Weinstein's "hunting ground."

### **Cisneros, Gustavo: Venezuelan billionaire.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

The patriarch of a family so wealthy it operates practically as its own nation-state in Latin America.

Jeffrey Epstein in his townhouse in 2015. Photo: Christopher Anderson for New York Magazine

## **Clinton, Bill: President and problem.**

*Name found on Epstein's private jet log.*

As soon as the Epstein news broke two weeks ago, the taunting and tallying began, suffocating in its familiarity. First were the jeering reminders, as if we didn't know it in our every molecule: It wasn't just Donald Trump who'd be ensnared in this stygian nightmare of underage sexual assault and trafficking of girls, it was Bill Clinton, who'd been a friend and repeat flier on Epstein's plane. Then came the numbers, the attempts to quantify the nature of the Clinton-Epstein relationship. Clinton issued a statement totting up four plane trips, one Epstein meeting in Clinton's Harlem office, one visit to Epstein's home, and zero trips to his island. Meanwhile, reporters recalled that Gawker's published flight logs had tallied 12 separate plane legs and that Epstein had more than 20 numbers and email addresses for Clinton and one signed photo of him in his home, along with one of Woody Allen and one of Mohammed bin Salman, the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia.

All of this was presented as if these numbers could clarify some exact science of guilt or complicity. The reality is: *Yes, Clinton was grimy and had grimy friends, and, more broadly, this is how powerful men have behaved toward women and one another. Yes, we know it's dirty and mean and exhausting and true.*

We know, of course, because the shadow of Clinton's sexual history and his associations with other men who have terrible legacies of sexually inappropriate-to-criminal behavior have for decades hung like a greasy and unscrubbable film over the Democratic Party he once led. Clinton paled around not just with Epstein but with Charlie Rose and Harvey Weinstein and Trump himself.

They hung out together and flew together and went to each other's offices and visited each other's homes and appeared on each other's TV shows and had each other's phone numbers and attended each other's weddings and created a circle of money and protection. The prosecutorial and defensive math — the haggling over flights and phone numbers — is just used to complicate this basic reality.

Those on the left have been going over how we're supposed to feel about him for decades, but in the arguing about it, we have been asked to focus again and again on Clinton and his dick and what he did or didn't do with it. The questions we've asked ourselves and one another have become defining.

Are we morally compromised in our defense of him or sexually uptight in our condemnation? Are we shills for having not believed he should have resigned, or doing the bidding of a vindictive right wing if we say that, in retrospect, he probably should have?

Meanwhile, how much energy and time have been spent circling round this man and how we've felt about him, when in fact his behaviors were symptomatic of far broader and more damaging assumptions about men, power, and access to — as Trump has so memorably voiced it — pussies?

After all, Clinton was elected president during a period that may turn out to be an aberration, just as the kinds of dominating, sexually aggressive behaviors that had been norms for his West Wing predecessors had become officially unacceptable, and 24 years before those behaviors would again become a presidential norm. So yes, Clinton got in trouble, yet still managed to sail out of office beloved by many, his reputation as the Big Dog mostly only enhanced by revelations of his exploits.

But the election of Trump over Clinton's wife, and the broad conversation around sexual assault and harassment that has erupted in its wake, has recast his behavior more profoundly. The buffoonery, the smallness and tantrums of Trump, has helped make clear what always should have been: that the out-of-control behavior toward women by powerful men, the lack of self-control or amount of self-regard that undergirded their reckless treatment of women, spoke not of virility or authority but of their immaturity. And the people who have paid the biggest price for these men's fixation on sex as a measure of manhood have, of course, not been the men themselves.

In Clinton's case, it has been Monica Lewinsky, whose life and name became defined by her relationship to him. It has been his wife, Hillary, who, in addition to having been celebrated and pilloried for her defense of her husband, also had to conduct one of her three historic presidential debates with women who'd accused him of sexual misconduct sitting in the audience, invited there by her opponent as props to unsettle and disempower her. It has been decades of left feminist women who have had Clinton's misdeeds thrown in our faces as proof of our own hypocrisy.

I try sometimes to imagine a contemporary Democratic Party without Bill Clinton in its recent past — yes, of course, from a policy perspective, but also simply from a personal one. What if so much energy had not been eaten up by his colleagues, by his wife, by feminists, by his supporters and friends and critics, all of whom had to dance around him, explain their associations with him, or carefully lay out their objections to him without coming off as frigid reactionaries?

What else might we have done with our politics had we not been worrying about Clinton and his grubby buddies? What further power have they taken from us? —Rebecca Traister

## **Clinton, Chelsea: First Daughter.**

Ghislaine Maxwell attended her wedding after Epstein had first been charged. This was shortly after she skipped a deposition for the Epstein case, claiming she needed to return to the U.K. to be with her deathly ill mother.

## **Coleridge, Nicholas: Chairman of Condé Nast Britain.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

## **Collins, Phil: Musician.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

## **Copperfield, David: Magician.**

According to a message-pad entry dated January 27, 2005, at 3:55 p.m., Copperfield rang Epstein's line while he was out. The handwritten entry reads, "Magic David called."

## **Couric, Katie: Journalist.**

Among those who attended a dinner at Epstein's townhouse for Prince Andrew in 2010.

## **Cosby, Bill: Comedian, convicted rapist.**

Lived across the street from Epstein in Manhattan.

## **d'Arenberg, Prince Pierre: Royal.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Americans often imagine aristocrats floating on a cloud of above-it-all wealth, but even real-life princes, this one descended from a German royal family that long ago united with the most influential and wealthiest family of the Hapsburg Netherlands, could get something out of a relationship with a font of new American money like Epstein.

## **de Broglie, Louis Albert: Political scion, founder of luxury garden brand.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **de Carvalho-heineken, Charlene: Heiress.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **de Crussol, Jacques: 17th Duke of Uzès.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Cuomo, Andrew: Governor of New York.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Dahl, Sophie: Former model, granddaughter of Roald Dahl.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **de Rothschild, Lynn Forester: De Rothschild!**

*Name found on Epstein's private jet log.*

### **Dershowitz, Alan: Lawyer who stands accused.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book and on Epstein's private jet log.*

With Alan Dershowitz at Harvard in 2004. Photo: Rick Friedman/Polaris

For around a decade, Dershowitz kept casual company with Epstein, who introduced him to his friends, like Ghislaine Maxwell and Prince Andrew.

(Dershowitz says he and the prince ended up not getting along because they disagreed about Israel.) Dershowitz visited Epstein's mansions in New York and Palm Beach and occasionally accompanied him on his private plane. He says these trips were family oriented. Once, Epstein lent him the Palm Beach home so he could attend a granddaughter's soccer tournament. Another time, he and his nephew flew down to watch a space launch with another Epstein connection, a top NASA official. He and his wife, Carolyn Cohen, once stayed with Epstein on his island in the Caribbean, where they were joined by another Harvard professor and his family.

When Epstein first started to attract media attention in the early aughts, mainly because of his friendship with former president Bill Clinton, Dershowitz served as a character witness for the reclusive financier.

He told *Vanity Fair* that he shared manuscripts of his books with Epstein before they were published and swore that his money was irrelevant. "I would be as interested in him as a friend if we had hamburgers on the boardwalk in Coney Island and talked about his ideas," he told the magazine.

But Dershowitz says their interactions changed in 2005, when Epstein faced a local police investigation into his relations with underage girls in Palm Beach and he hired Dershowitz as a lawyer. With his assistance, Epstein was able to whittle down the state's indictment against him to a single count of soliciting prostitution. But in the years to come, as Epstein's legal problems compounded, they would eventually ensnare Dershowitz himself. He is also accused of having sex with two of Epstein's alleged victims. "The stories are so phantasmological," Dershowitz says. He recognizes that the #MeToo movement has surfaced countless accounts of preposterous-sounding sexual misbehavior by powerful men and almost all of them have turned out to be true. But Dershowitz swears he is different. "Mine is the only case, singular, the only one, where I never met the people," he says. "There's no evidence we've ever met, no evidence we were ever in the same place at the same time, ever."

Today, Dershowitz claims he and Epstein were never really even friends, despite their proximity. "He was an acquaintance," he says. "In retrospect, I wish I hadn't taken the case, but I didn't see a problem with taking the case. We didn't have a close personal relationship." —Andrew Rice

### **Dickinson, Janice: Model, actress, TV personality.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Diniz, Pedro: Agroforester, businessman, former Formula 1 racing driver.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Driver, Minnie: Actress.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Dunbar-Johnson, Stephen: President, international, of the New York Times Company.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Dunne, Griffin: Director.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Joan Didion's nephew and a Martin Scorsese leading man.

### **Edelman, Gerald: Nobel Prize winner.**

Edelman received funding from the Jeffrey Epstein VI Foundation. "Jeff is extraordinary in his ability to pick up on quantitative relations," he told *New York* in 2002. "He came to see us recently. He is concerned with this basic question: Is it true that the brain is not a computer? He is very quick."

### **Ellenbogen, Eric: Former CEO of Marvel Enterprises.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Estrada, Christina: Model.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book and on Epstein's private jet log.*

Ex-wife of the late Walid Juffali, billionaire chairman of the largest privately owned enterprise in Saudi Arabia.

### **Fekkai, Frédéric: Celebrity hairstylist.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book and on Epstein's private jet log.*

Fekkai's expensive salons are up and down the Upper East Side and in Palm Beach, and he's known for butter blondes, layered bobs, and participating in the polishing up of Hillary Clinton. Epstein's assistants were given house accounts for blowouts, waxing, nails, highlights, the works.

### **Ferguson, Sarah: Duchess of York.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book and on Epstein's private jet log.*

Epstein loaned Prince Andrew's then-wife \$18,000 to [pay off some debts](#). "I personally, on behalf of myself, deeply regret that Jeffrey Epstein became involved in any way with me," Ferguson told the *Telegraph* in 2011. "I abhor paedophilia."

### **Fiennes, Ralph: Actor, producer, director.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Fisher, Paula Heil: Opera producer.**

Epstein's former girlfriend met him through Bear Stearns, where she was once an associate.

### **Forbes, Steve: Chairman and editor-in-chief of *Forbes* magazine.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Ford, Tom: Designer.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Gell-Mann, Murray: Physicist.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

In 1969, Gell-Mann won the Nobel Prize. In 2003, he told *Vanity Fair*, " 'There are always pretty ladies around' when he goes to dinner chez Epstein."

### **Getty, Mark: Co-founder and chairman of Getty Images.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Ginsberg, Gary: Communications pooh-bah.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Once a lawyer in the Clinton White House, Ginsberg joined *George*, then News Corp., then Time Warner. He has also done pro bono speechwriting for Benjamin Netanyahu and now works for SoftBank, a Japanese investment company with close ties to the Saudi government.

### **Gladwell, Malcolm: Writer.**

"I was invited to the TED conference in maybe 2000 (I can't remember), and they promised to buy me a plane ticket to California," Gladwell says now. "Then at the last minute they said, 'We found you a ride on a private plane instead.' As I recall, there were maybe two dozen TED conferencegoers onboard. I don't remember much else, except being slightly baffled as to who this Epstein guy was and why we were all on his plane."

### **Goldsmith, Gerald: Rothschild North America.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Greenberg, Ace: Bear Stearns chairman, Epstein's first patron.**

Jeffrey Epstein didn't have any formal training when he started working at Bear Stearns in 1976, but that wouldn't have mattered to then-CEO Alan "Ace" Greenberg, who famously hired "PSD degrees," short for "poor, smart, with a deep desire to be rich." As it happened, Epstein was all three. He came from a modest Coney Island background, had no college degree, and worked a job — as a math teacher at Dalton and a tutor to Greenberg's son — that was unlikely to support his tastes, which were apparently of the private islands-and-gilded desks-purportedly-belonging-to-J. P. Morgan variety. At Bear Stearns, Epstein made a name for himself in the "special-products division," essentially figuring out how to help the rich pay less taxes. "He would recommend certain tax-advantageous transactions," Greenberg's protégé, James "Jimmy" Cayne, told *New York* in 2002. Cayne, who succeeded Greenberg in 1993, seems to have become the closer party to Epstein, whose mysterious departure from the firm he publicly defended decades after Epstein's departure. "Jeffrey said specifically, 'I don't want to work for anybody else. I want to work for myself,'" Cayne insisted, despite transcripts from an SEC deposition that suggest other concerns around them both. It's easier to imagine Cayne, a cigar-chomping, archetypal fat cat who was infamously off playing bridge when Bear Stearns collapsed in 2008, as a member of Epstein's inner circle than his mentor, a folksy, bow-tie-wearing soul who referred to his successor as "crude," "full of himself," and "warped" in a memoir published shortly before his death. At the very least, it seems Cayne and Epstein were both capable of, ah, massaging the truth. —*Jessica Pressler*

### **Guest, Cornelia: Socialite.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

She was dubbed "debutante of the decade" in 1986.

### **Gutfreund, John: CEO of Salomon Brothers.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Hamilton, George: Actor.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

The overtanned C-lister that Hollywood turns to when casting any vaguely and/or mysteriously aristocratic cameo role.

### **Handler, Chelsea: Comedian.**

Attended a dinner at Epstein's townhouse for Prince Andrew in 2010. "It was just one of those strange nights," she later said.

### **Haskell, Nikki: Socialite.**

Epstein dated Haskell, one of Donald Trump's closest friends. "Jeffrey didn't talk about his past, although he claimed to have been a concert pianist," Haskell told the *Daily Mail* in 1992. "He told me he was a spy hired by corporations to find major amounts of money which had been embezzled."

### **Hawking, Stephen: Physicist.**

In 2006, the world's most famous brain visited Little St. James, Epstein's private island, which came to be known as "[Pedophile Island](#)." Hawking, who was in the Caribbean for a conference, was photographed at a barbecue on the island and aboard a submarine for a tour. According to the [Telegraph](#), "Epstein is said to have paid for the submarine to be modified for Professor Hawking, who had never been underwater before."

### **Hoffenberg, Steven: A mentor and a con man.**

Before Bernie Madoff, there was Hoffenberg, who in 1985 pleaded guilty to cheating investors out of \$460 million — at the time, the largest Ponzi scheme ever. He was sentenced to 20 years in prison and, after his release in 2013, began sounding the alarm on Epstein, who had worked at Hoffenberg's Towers Financial Corporation after leaving Bear Stearns. He claimed that Epstein had been his co-conspirator in the scheme and that Epstein's fortune was built on Towers Financial's fraud. "He was great at moving money illegally," Hoffenberg says. "He was the deeper architect to getting things accomplished."

Hoffenberg claims he was introduced to Epstein by Douglas Leese, a mysterious British arms dealer, and that he paid Epstein \$25,000 a month as Towers Financial began making risky plays to take over companies like Pan American World Airways and Emery Air Freight. Advisers on the Pan Am deal included Richard Nixon's attorney general John Mitchell, Nixon's brother Edward, and John Lehman, a former secretary of the Navy. The move fell apart after the Lockerbie bombing, and when Towers Financial later went belly-up, Hoffenberg says, the two of them engineered a Ponzi scheme to fill the hole.

"He has a magnificent personality," Hoffenberg says. "He's very easy to interact with, very social, very easy to bond with, an unusually nice person. And he's pretty dynamic on financial savvy. He could move money in different areas to get the stock prices to go up and down."

Hoffenberg still owes his victims some \$1 billion in restitution, and in 2016 he sued Epstein to recover some of the money. (He eventually dropped the suit.) Last year, two victims brought a suit against Epstein making the same claims as Hoffenberg but voluntarily dismissed the suit two months later.

"You're about to see an entire story about this supposed billionaire and the story about his financial empire, which is as big as the tragedy with the girls," Hoffenberg says. "It's billions of dollars, and it's a fiasco." —James D. Walsh

### **Hoffman, Dustin: Actor.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Hurley, Elizabeth: Actress.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Hutton, Lauren: Model and actress.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Isaacson, Walter: Former editor of *Time*.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

The onetime journalist is now an emeritus figure in the TED universe thanks to his role at the Aspen Institute and his widely worshipped biography of Steve Jobs.

### **Jagger, Mick: Musician.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Jarecki, Andrew: Filmmaker.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

The director of the documentaries *Capturing the Friedmans*, about an accused pedophile, and *The Jinx*, which profiled Robert Durst, the madman at the center of another New York fortune.

### **Jarecki, Henry: Billionaire.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book and on Epstein's private jet log.*

Once a psychiatrist, Henry, Andrew's father, made his fortune in gold and silver speculation.

### **Johnson, Elizabeth: Heiress.**

*Name found on Epstein's private jet log.*

Epstein was a co-trustee on 14 parcels of land the Johnson & Johnson heiress owned in Dutchess County, New York. He resigned as a trustee for Johnson's revocable trust at the end of 1998.

### **Johnson, Richard: Gossip journalist for "Page Six."**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Kellen, Sarah: An alleged enabler on a staff of them.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book and on Epstein's private jet log.*

In a world where most women still work for men, and where their jobs are overwhelmingly in the "service" or "caring" professions, it should surprise no one that Epstein's procurers, schedulers, fixers, and enablers were female.

Four women — Sarah Kellen, Nadia Marcinkova, Adriana Ross, and Lesley Groff — were identified in the 2007 Florida case against Epstein as possible co-conspirators, though none was charged.

History is full of the self-serving enabling of men by women, ending with the Trump court but not starting there. Was it money? Probably. The word is that Epstein paid his "executive assistants" \$200,000 a year and let them order takeout from Le Cirque. When Groff had a baby, Epstein gave her a Mercedes and paid for a full-time nanny. "There is

no way I could lose Lesley to motherhood," he told the New York *Times* in 2005 (for a front-page story on the indispensability of good help for Wall Street tycoons).

Marcinkova, referred to in court documents as Epstein's "sex slave," hails from the former Yugoslavia; Ross, a model, is from Poland. Kellen (who has since married a NASCAR driver) was a scheduler, making sure that Epstein always had a slate full of girls, and it was she who sometimes walked the girls up the stairs in the Florida mansion and laid the oils out on the massage table. Marcinkova would have sex with the girls for Epstein's viewing pleasure and sometimes all together. Groff booked travel, and Ross also helped with the calendar. After the Miami *Herald* published its investigation in 2018, Epstein wired the "possible co-conspirators" \$250,000 and \$100,000, respectively, prosecutors say, to buy their silence. Since then, none of them have been reached for comment. —Lisa Miller

## **Kennedy, Ethel: Human-rights advocate.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Widow of Robert Kennedy.

## **Kennedy, Ted: Senator.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Epstein had his home number.

## **Kent, Geoffrey: High-end safari entrepreneur.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

## **Kerry, John: Secretary of State.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

The seven numbers listed for Kerry in Epstein's address book include the direct line to his presidential campaign.

## **Khashoggi, Adnan: Saudi Arabian man of mystery.**

To bolster their argument that private-jet owner Epstein is a massive flight risk, SDNY prosecutors produced an expired Austrian passport under an alias that listed Saudi Arabia as Epstein's primary country of residence. His lawyers claim the fake ID was for the "personal protection" of "an affluent member of the Jewish faith" traveling in the Middle East, but it could also point to one of his more secretive income sources.

According to his former friend the journalist Jesse Kornbluth, in the mid-1980s Epstein said he "worked for governments to recover money looted by African dictators" and occasionally subcontracted to those same autocrats to "help them hide their stolen money." A source who spoke with journalist Vicki Ward said one of Epstein's clients was the late Saudi arms dealer Khashoggi, a middleman in the Iran-Contra scandal who helped smuggle cash for the Marcos family out of the Philippines. In 1988, Khashoggi was arrested in Switzerland for concealing assets and later faced fraud and racketeering charges in the U.S. (He was later acquitted.) That year, he sold his 282-foot yacht to the Sultan of Brunei, who soon flipped it to Donald Trump. —Matt Stieb

## **Kissinger, Henry: Secretary of State and national-security adviser.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

One of the century's most notorious practitioners of cutthroat realpolitik, Kissinger served on the Council on Foreign Relations with Epstein.

## **Kissinger, Nancy: Philanthropist.**

Epstein and Kissinger served on the Rockefeller University board alongside Nobel laureate Joseph Goldstein, socialite Brooke Astor, and Texas billionaire Robert Bass.

## **Kleiman, Leah: Art dealer.**

She told *Vanity Fair* in 2003 that Epstein lived like a "modern maharaja" and described his haggling over art prices as "something like a scene out of the movie *Mad Max: Beyond Thunderdome*."

## **Koch, David: Plutocrat.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

## **Kosslyn, Stephen: Harvard psychologist.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

"He is amazing," Kosslyn said of Epstein in a 2002 *New York* profile. "Like a honeybee — he talks to all these different people and cross-pollinates. Just two months ago, I was talking to him about a new alternative to evolutionary psychology. He got excited and sent me a check."

## **Krauss, Lawrence: Cosmologist.**

Epstein was a major donor to his program at Arizona State University, and Krauss teamed with the financier to host a conference of Nobel laureates in the U.S. Virgin Islands in 2012. "Jeffrey has surrounded himself with beautiful women and young women, but they're not as young as the ones that were claimed," he told the *Daily Beast* in 2011. "I always judge things on empirical evidence, and he always has women ages 19 to 23 around him but I've never seen anything else. So as a scientist, my presumption is that whatever the problems were I would believe him over other people. I don't feel tarnished in any way by my relationship with Jeffrey. I feel I raised by it." This spring, Krauss retired amid allegations of his own sexual harassment.

## **Labourne, Geraldine: TV executive.**

*Name found on Epstein's private jet log.*

Co-founder of Nickelodeon and, with her husband, Kit, and pal Oprah, the Oxygen network.

## **Le Bon, Simon: Singer.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

The caricature playboy heartthrob at the front of Duran Duran.

## **Lefcourt, Gerald: Epstein's lawyer.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

A white-collar defense attorney to the stars, Lefcourt has also represented Black Panther Huey P. Newton, Sid Vicious, Tracy Morgan, Russell Crowe, insider trader Michael Milken, and Murder Inc. Records founder Irv Gotti. —*Matt Stieb*

## **Lefkowitz, Jay: Attorney for Epstein**

Lefkowitz negotiated the terms of Epstein's negligently lenient plea deal with his former Kirkland & Ellis colleague [Alexander Acosta](#). Now at Columbia Law, he served in both Bush administrations, as director of Cabinet affairs for H.W. and deputy executive secretary to the Domestic Policy Council and special envoy for human rights in North Korea for W. —*Matt Stieb*

## **Love, Courtney: Singer.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

## **Maxwell, Ghislaine: Epstein's ex turned right-hand woman.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book and on Epstein's private jet log.*

With Ghislaine Maxwell at Cipriani Wall Street in 2005. Photo: Patrick McMullan/Getty Images

She was there at the socialites' dos: Cornelia Guest's holiday bash, Georgette Mosbacher's party for the writer Michael Gross. At real-estate mogul Aby Rosen's birthday, at Harvey Weinstein's cocktail party. At film screenings and store openings and fashion shows, at Tina Brown's home and Arianna Huffington's and the *Time* 100 Gala. For years, though not lately, Maxwell was a constant on the New York social scene in its most Upper East iteration. She was a friend of everyone, if an intimate of few.

Maxwell seemed to know many rich and powerful men — articles mention her dining with Bill Clinton, photos show her partying with Elon Musk and deep in conversation with Stephen Schwarzman — but her most durable connection has been with Epstein. She was, as he once put it, his "best friend." Maxwell, 57, has been accused in civil suits of serving as his procress, luring women and girls into Epstein's web.

In court documents, Epstein's accusers allege that Maxwell — who denies all and has never been criminally charged — acted as a recruiter, an instructor, and in some cases a participant in the abuse he practiced. Virginia Roberts Giuffre, who claims Maxwell recruited her on behalf of Epstein when Giuffre was a 16-year-old spa attendant at Mar-a-Lago in Palm Beach, where Epstein has a home, said much of her grooming came from Maxwell. "The training started immediately," Giuffre said in a video interview with the *Miami Herald*. "It was everything down to how to give a blow job, how to be quiet, be subservient, give Jeffrey what he wants."

"Every pretty girl in New York, in those days, Ghislaine would invite to Jeffrey's," said Euan Rellie, an investment banker and social fixture who has known Maxwell for years and who, along with his wife, the author and socialite Lucy Sykes, was a fellow guest at a dinner for Prince Andrew at Epstein's townhouse in the early aughts. Maxwell and Epstein had been attached, but she was "now an employee of his, as I understood it," Rellie said. "Her job was to jazz up his social life by getting fashionable young women to show up." He presumed the young women to be in their 20s.

Tabloid reports on Maxwell claim she managed Epstein's properties from his office on Madison Avenue, which appeared in public records for many years as one of Maxwell's addresses. Epstein, for his part, said she wasn't on the payroll, yet she did errands for him: hunted for a yoga teacher in California and acted as intermediary when he wanted to give his friend the billionaire Les Wexner a family portrait painted by Nelson Shanks.

She was said to be wickedly funny and unusually knowledgeable, glamorous, and, on top of that, British. ("I think New Yorkers are charmed by that high-end English accent," photographer Patrick McMullan said.)

What's more, she was exotic. She had explored the seas and could pilot a helicopter, or maybe a submarine, one acquaintance thought — a MacGyver of the gala circuit.

Maxwell arrived in New York in the early '90s, on the cusp of her 30th birthday. English-born and poshly educated, she was the favorite daughter of Robert Maxwell, the English media mogul, whose holdings included newspapers, notably the tabloid *Daily Mirror* in London, and the Macmillan publishing house in the U.S. Ghislaine had founded a social club for women in London and worked for another of her father's papers, and, according to the *New York Post*, she came as his emissary to American society when he bought the *New York Daily News* in 1991.

But that same year, Robert was found dead — by suicide, murder, or accident (the official inquest's ruling, though opinions vary) — in the Atlantic, off the Canary Islands. (He was last seen on the deck of his yacht, the *Lady Ghislaine*.) Soon after, he was discovered to have plundered the pension funds of the *Mirror* to shore up his floundering empire. Ghislaine was reported to have an income for life from a family trust, but at £80,000 a year, it would hardly be enough to sustain a high-flying lifestyle.

The meet-cute of Epstein and Maxwell in New York is unclear, and neither has historically gone into any great detail. By 1992, they were already linked, showing up at a Mar-a-Lago party with each other in Palm Beach, where Trump and Epstein ogled women together in front of NBC cameras. Suffice it to say they were romantically linked and then platonic. (Epstein told people his former paramours move "up, not down," to friend status.)

For a woman seen everywhere about town, she is curiously silent in the press, except where ocean conservation is concerned. In 2008, she hosted a cocktail party for the board of the nonprofit Oceana at her townhouse on East 65th Street. And by 2012, she had launched the TerraMar Project, a conservation nonprofit of her own, of which, according to tax filings, she was president but from which she drew no salary. She gave a Ted Talk about its work and talked it up at the U.N. and in the press, which credited TerraMar as her "brainchild."

From the New York social world, she has vanished. "I have not seen her in a zillion years," one acquaintance said. The party photos dried up in 2016. Her 65th Street townhouse was sold for just over \$15 million that year. Where is she now? One social-watcher guessed the islands; others think Europe. She incorporated a company — Elmax, a play on her name — in the U.K., and TerraMar's last two years of tax filings listed the address of an accounting firm near Boston. (An executive there declined to provide any forwarding information.)

"She seemed like a woman who didn't have any real job, didn't have any real boyfriend, had lost her dad," Rellie said of his impressions of her when they'd met. "A woman adrift who was clinging on to whatever she could find." —*Matthew Schneier*

**Read More: [The Socialite on Epstein's Arm](#)**

## **McMullan, Patrick: Photographer.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

## **Meister, Robert: Insurance executive.**

Introduced Epstein to Leslie Wexner after Epstein met and charmed Meister on a plane to Palm Beach, according to James Patterson's book [Filthy Rich](#).

**Read More: [Author James Patterson on Jeffrey Epstein's 'Unbelievable' Crimes](#)**

## **Minsky, Marvin: MIT professor and pioneer of artificial intelligence.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book and on Epstein's private jet log.*

## **Mitchell, George: Senate majority leader.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

The former senator was appointed the U.S. special envoy for Northern Ireland by President Clinton and was an architect of the Good Friday Agreement. He called Epstein a "friend," and the address book lists a dozen numbers for him under the heading "Piper, Rudnick," the name of the Washington law firm where Mitchell was a partner.

## **Monckton, Rosa: Former CEO of Tiffany & Co. in the U.K.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Epstein's "close friend since the early 1980s," according to the 2003 profile of Epstein written by Vicky Ward in *Vanity Fair*: "Monckton recalls Epstein telling her that her daughter, Domenica, who suffers from Down syndrome, needed the sun, and that Rosa should feel free to bring her to his house in Palm Beach anytime."

## **Murdoch, Rupert: Media mogul.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Murdoch has two numbers — one New York, one California — listed in the address book.

## **Myhrvold, Nathan: Businessman.**

The legendary patent troll turned impresario of molecular gastronomy dined at Epstein's home.

## **Pagano, Joe: Venture capitalist.**

*Name found on Epstein's private jet log.*

The chief executive, secretary and treasurer, principal accounting officer, and principal financial officer of an insecticide-research company, Pagano even visited Epstein in jail.

## **Pastrana Arango, Andrés: Former Colombian president.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book and on Epstein's private jet log.*

Filed in the address book under "ex president of Colu."

## **Perelman, Ronald: Revlon chairman.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

The billionaire invited 14 guests, including Epstein, Jimmy Buffett, and DNC co-chair Don Fowler, to his Palm Beach home for a Bill Clinton fund-raiser in 1995.

## **Perlman, Itzhak: Violinist.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

## **Pinker, Steven: The linguist who became a celebrity optimist.**

With Lawrence Krauss and Steven Pinker, Photo: via Facebook

Pinker is one of the famous intellectuals most often linked to Epstein, but he says he flew on Epstein's private plane only once in 2002 and that he was involuntarily placed next to him for a picture at Lawrence Krauss's Origins Project's annual conference in 2014: "If I had more wherewithal, I would not have indulged my friend in sitting with him. Despite what various friends and colleagues all said about what a genius he was, I found him tedious and distasteful. Even before I knew about the criminality, I found it irritating to talk to him, all the more so because the reason he was in the conversation was because he had given money to these various projects. He likes schmoozing with smart and intellectual people, but he couldn't really or had very little interest in exploring an issue. He'd wisecrack, change subjects, or get bored after a few seconds. He's a kibitzer more than a serious intellectual." Nevertheless, Pinker supplied some linguistic expertise that his friend Alan Dershowitz used to defend Epstein during the 2008 trial. —Matt Sieb

## **Pinto, Alberto: Interior designer for the gold-leaf life.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book and on Epstein's private jet log.*

Forget for a moment the mural featuring Epstein in the middle of a prison yard complete with guards and barbed wire. Let's also forget the life-size doll hanging from a chandelier, and the chess set with figures of his staff as pieces to play with. Let's instead focus on the very lush Euro-Orientalist décor of Epstein's 21,000-square-foot seven-story Beaux-Arts mansion, decorated by none other than the late great Alberto Pinto, one of the world's top prestige interior designers. His clientele included princes, moguls, and wannabe princes, as captains of industry so frequently are, and Epstein clearly aspired to that provenance and history. He flew Pinto on his private plane, as he did other architects and designers (Jean-Michel Gathy, Ricardo Legorreta, and Peter Marino are also listed in Epstein's flight logs), and lived like a modern pasha in rooms lavished with money that bought custom-tooled gold leather walls (at least they were made to look like tooled-leather walls) and leopard-print upholstered armchairs in the dining room that appear to be covered in silk velvet. It was exactly the sort of project Pinto relished, flexing all the artisanal muscle that a designer of his stature can exercise when cushioning his client's home. —Wendy Goodman

## **Pittman, Bob: Chairman and CEO of iHeartMedia, Inc.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

## **Posen, Felix: Philanthropist**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Former business partner of Marc Rich (who was famously indicted for tax evasion and trading with Iran, before being even more famously pardoned by President Clinton), with whom he paired on deals in the Soviet Union before the fall of communism.

## **Pritzker, Tom: Executive chairman of the Hyatt Hotels Corporation.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book and on Epstein's private jet log.*

Known to dine with Epstein in the early aughts.

## **Radziwill, Carole: Author and television personality.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

The daughter-in-law of Lee Radziwill and a Real Housewife of New York.

## **Ranieri, Lewis: The "father" of mortgage-backed securities.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Another Epstein dinner partner.

## **Richardson, Bill: Former New Mexico governor.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Zorro Ranch, Epstein's New Mexico property. Photo: Reuters/REUTERS

Epstein donated \$50,000 to each of his gubernatorial campaigns. A spokeswoman for Richardson told the *Albuquerque Journal* that Richardson recalls visiting Epstein's New Mexico ranch only once, during his first run for governor in 2002.

## **Riggio, Steve: Barnes & Noble CEO.**

Photographed with Epstein at the 1999 Edge Foundation Billionaires' Dinner, and twice met him at the TED conference.

## **Rivers, Joan: TV host, actress, and comedian.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

## **Rose, Charlie: Television journalist.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

You learn things answering phones, and in the spring of 2005, answering Charlie Rose's phone at his PBS show, you would learn that his friend Jeffrey Epstein had some recommendations to make for whom Rose ought to hire as his next assistant. Written call logs from 2005 and 2006 show Epstein and his own assistant calling dozens of times, making plans for lunch and tea in Manhattan or to try to meet up in Paris. Epstein also called with a total of five women's names and phone numbers. One woman was described as "world's most perfect assistant she used to work for Harvey Weinstein he's lucky if he can get her." Another entry reads, "Jeffrey Epstein wants to talk to you before you call these two girls." A fourth woman shows up on the manifests of Epstein's jet, including on Bill Clinton's trip across Africa, and wound up working at the Clinton Foundation. Two former staffers remember another Epstein referral, a young woman not mentioned in the logs, who interned at the show. In all, Rose hired three ("Jeffrey Epstein from time to time recommended various candidates for open positions at the *Charlie Rose Show*," Rose's representative said in a statement, but said the ex-host only learned about Epstein's alleged abuse years later, when he pleaded guilty in Florida). When I called one of these women recently, she was stunned to learn she was one of many women Epstein recommended for the job. "I was being offered up for abuse," said the woman, who was 22 at the time she worked for Rose. It helped her understand not only how her boss Rose — whom in 2017 she would accuse, [along with 34 other adult women, of sexual harassment](#) — had treated her, but also how the rest of the staff had seen her. And it helped her understand a grim version of networking among powerful men. —Irin Carmon

## **Sacco, Amy: Nightlife impresario.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

The undisputed club queen of aughts New York, Sacco ran Lot 61 in Chelsea, which was famous for using fresh fruit in its drinks, and later Bungalow 8, which prided itself on discretion, the kind of place where celebrities could behave badly and not have to worry about appearing in "Page Six." Sacco was a pioneer of marrying nightlife with concierge-style indulgences for the very rich: Her staff would get you whatever you needed: pizza delivery, peanut M&M's, a private flight to Miami leaving from Teterboro as soon as you could get there.

## **Schank, Roger: Chief learning officer at Trump University.**

Visited Epstein in prison in 2008.

## **Schumer, Chuck: New York's senior senator.**

One of many politicians to receive donations from Epstein over the years. Epstein gave bipartisanly but not equally: Between 1990 and 2004, he gave more than \$139,000 to Democrats and just over \$18,000 to Republicans. Epstein also gave to a handful of politicians in New Mexico, where he'd purchase the Zorro Ranch from former governor Bruce King and where he was not required to register as a sex offender. In recent weeks, politicians including Schumer decided to donate an equal amount to charity.

## **Shriver, Maria: Journalist and former First Lady of California.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Two California numbers are listed in the address book.

## **Siegal, Peggy: Elite New York's glue.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

A brazen and relentless publicist of the old school, Siegal understands one thing well: "Bringing people together. Everyone needs to feel that they belong." At least a certain kind of accomplished person, no matter, frankly, how they went about getting there (who was she to judge?). Known for her movie premieres and other guest-list-driven social events, she bragged that she "ruined the Hamptons" to *Vanity Fair* in a profile back in 1996.

Publicity-party invites are an amoral game, driven by status and FOMO. Like everyone, she worked with Harvey Weinstein when he was an Oscar machine, the toast of the town. So you can't blame Siegal for including someone who already knew all the boldface power people. In 2008, in the teeth of the accusations against Epstein, he was spotted by a *New York* party reporter, "unshaven, smiling that feline-monkey grin," at the Siegal-engineered screening of the HBO film *Bernard and Doris* at the Time Warner Center. But after prison, apparently Epstein needed her more than ever: In a *Times* story on how Manhattan's A-list refused to shun him, Siegal in particular was willing to help him (for free, apparently), "using her gate-keeping powers to usher Mr. Epstein, a friend, into screenings and events." In 2010, she threw a dinner party at his Upper East Side townhouse for Prince Andrew, Katie Couric, George Stephanopoulos, Charlie Rose, and Woody Allen. She and Epstein might have had other reasons to get along: Siegal, who has just turned 72, is a self-invention as well, without a particularly pedigreed background. Also notable is the fact that, as she told *Vanity Fair* in 2012, "my favorite way to travel" to Cannes is "on a friend's G5 from Teterboro to Nice." —Carl Swanson

## **Slater, Rodney: Secretary of Transportation under Bill Clinton.**

*Name found on Epstein's private jet log.*

Flight logs record Slater taking a flight from Ghana to Nigeria in September 2002.

## **Soros, Peter: Nephew of George Soros.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Conspiracy theorists looking through Epstein's black book will be disappointed that George Soros never appears — but they can find Peter.

## **Spacey, Kevin: Actor.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book and on Epstein's private jet log.*

Flew with Bill Clinton to Africa (and, according to flight logs, the Azores) on Epstein's plane.

### **Spector, Warren: Bear Stearns executive.**

*Name found on Epstein's private jet log.*

### **Stanbury, Caroline: Socialite.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Went on to star on Bravo's *Ladies of London*.

### **Starr, Kenneth: Former United States solicitor general.**

Obviously, lawyers do not share guilt for their clients' crimes. But it's striking that Kenneth Starr chose to join Jeffrey Epstein's defense team in 2007, after his moral fulminations against Bill Clinton's sexual perfidy. His obsessive pursuit of President Clinton made him a folk hero on the right, representing the defense of traditional sexual virtue and the notion that it was under assault by Bill Clinton and the liberal elite. His special-prosecutor exploits propelled him to the presidency of the conservative Baptist Baylor University. During his tenure, the football program engaged in a horrific pattern of sexual abuse that led to the dismissal of the football coach and the removal of Starr after an investigation found "actions by University administrators that directly discouraged some complainants from reporting or participating in student conduct processes."

It is perhaps coincidental, but Starr has tracked the broader conversion of the religious right from sexual shaming to sexual shamelessness. In an era when Donald Trump has exposed the hollowness of so many values conservatives allegedly hold dear, it is fitting that this Zelig of right-wing sexual hypocrisy has made yet another cameo. —*Jonathan Chait*

### **Stephanopoulos, George: Former White House communications director.**

Attended a dinner at Epstein's Upper East Side townhouse for Prince Andrew in 2010. "That dinner was the first and last time I've seen him," Stephanopoulos said recently. "It was a mistake to go."

### **Summers, Larry: Former Treasury secretary.**

*Name found on Epstein's private jet log.*

With Robert Trivers and Larry Summers at Harvard in 2004. Photo: Rick Friedman/Polaris

By the time the accusations of Epstein trafficking in girls surfaced, Larry Summers was out as Harvard's president, having alienated much of the faculty, including two black professors who jumped ship, and spitballing about women's biological inferiority in the sciences. But his tenure — 2001 to '06, bookended by serving as Bill Clinton's Treasury secretary and Barack Obama's director of the National Economic Council — overlapped with a high-water mark of Harvard's love affair with Epstein. Epstein, reads a story published in the *Harvard Crimson* in 2003, "has found Harvard the perfect staging ground for his intellectual pursuits." Then-president Summers didn't comment, but Alan Dershowitz confided that Epstein "speaks well of Larry, and I think he admires Larry's economic thinking." Lucky Larry, to be recognized by such an eminence.

Epstein, of course, was not an alumnus of Harvard (or anywhere), or a faculty member, but he was a donor. Asked by the *Crimson* in 2006 whether Epstein's \$6.5 million donation should be returned, interim president Derek Bok referred to an earlier statement that Harvard has no "obligation to investigate each donor and impose detailed moral standards." Summers imposed his own moral standards, hitching a ride on Epstein's plane. (A representative had no comment.) Even after Epstein registered as a sex offender, the Boston *Globe* reported, Summers's wife, Harvard English professor Elisa New, accepted Epstein's \$110,000 donation to her PBS poetry show. —*Irin Carmon*

### **Taymor, Julie: Director.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Responsible for one of the biggest hits in Broadway history, *The Lion King*, and one of the biggest flops, *Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark*.

### **Trivers, Robert: Evolutionary biologist.**

In 2015, he defended Epstein, saying, "By the time they're 14 or 15, they're like grown women were 60 years ago, so I don't see these acts as so heinous." This month, he called his past statement "stupid and offensive."

### **Trump, Donald: President and partygoer.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

At a party at Mar-a-Lago on November 1992. Photo: via NBC

There it was, yet another tape. This time, the now-president was filmed, in footage dredged up by NBC, in 1992 at Mar-a-Lago, hosting a party attended by a bevy of Buffalo Bills cheerleaders — and Epstein, from whom Trump has tried to distance himself since the arrest. He knew him only like anyone else in Palm Beach knew him, he said recently, although there were several entries for Trump in the black book, including a "direct emergency contact," and 17 years ago Trump had boasted to this magazine that he'd known him forever and that he was a "terrific guy."

It's not just the denial in the face of evidence that, yes, he really did hang out with the guy that makes this set of film so classically Trumpian. The tape distills Trump to a certain essence: In this frame, he dances, snapping his fingers and spinning, surrounded by women — but profoundly alone, backing off and avoiding eye contact the second a woman moves in to dance with him. In another frame, he smiles with self-satisfaction as a crowd of women chants his name. Surrounded by a group of cheerleaders about to pose for a picture, he reaches around the waist of one and pulls her sharply in to him, then briskly cups her behind in a businesslike, joyless fashion while she reaches for her hair to maintain smiling composure. It's as if he thinks it's his vaguely grim duty, as an American man playing the campiest possible version of swinging billionaire bachelor, to grab the closest available body part.

And most telling is his sideline locker-room talk with Epstein, whom the camera catches entering the party, greeted warmly by Trump. Like teenagers, they stand at the edges of the dance floor, pointing out the women they like, laughing at private jokes about them, rating them as hot. Here, there is joy. You see in this moment two outer-borough boys who have successfully crashed the Manhattan Establishment, who have boorishly, clumsily used money to get everything they want — but whose desires have never moved beyond an adolescent vision of the world, of women, of men, of the good life, of who merits consideration and who can be used.

In middle age, Trump had enough self-control to understand that his worst instincts were best received by men who were an awful lot like him. Now, as an old man — the oldest teenager ever — Trump has lost even that filter. He's turned the whole country into his bunga-bunga party, made a Mar-a-Lago of the world stage, and divided us into Epsteins and cheerleaders — either co-conspirators who love the license his immaturity grants or else disposable collateral damage. —*Noreen Malone*

**Read More: [NBC Obtained Trump-Epstein Footage After Trump Kissed an Anchor Without Consent](#)**

### **Trump, Ivana: Donald Trump's first ex-wife.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

### **Trump, Ivanka: Daughter of Donald and Ivana Trump.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

## **Trump, Melania: Wife of Donald Trump.**

With Trump, Melania, and Maxwell at Mar-a-Lago in 2000. Photo: Davidoff Studios Photography/Getty Images

Epstein has reportedly bragged that he's the one who introduced Melania to her future husband. At the very least, the three have traveled together: She flew with Epstein on then-boyfriend Donald Trump's plane in 2000.

Read More: [Remembering the Time Jeffrey Epstein Rode on Donald Trump's Plane](#)

## **Tucker, Chris: Actor.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book and on Epstein's private jet log.*

Flew with Bill Clinton to Africa on Epstein's plane.

## **Tuttle, Edward: Architect of a conspiratorial fever dream.**

*Name found on Epstein's private jet log.*

Aerial detail of "the temple" on "Pedophile Island." Photo: via Inside Edition

Who built the temple? Tuttle, a designer of luxury resorts by trade, renovated the main compound on Epstein's 70-acre private island in 2003. Sometime between 2009 and 2013, a "temple" appeared on the island: a large, boxy, blue-and-white-striped structure with a golden dome, surrounded by palm trees. In the days after Epstein's arrest, the temple became the object of fervent speculation online. It was the kind of irresistible conspiracy-bait that exemplifies the Epstein story: On the one hand, shouldn't it be enough that a mysteriously wealthy banker with connections to the globe's most powerful people was apparently operating a child sex-trafficking ring without dabbling in theories about occult island temples? On the other hand, though, once you've accepted that, why would occult island temples be so out of the question? On the edges, the Epstein saga could seem less like a news story than like a brutal, unreadable fairy tale. Or maybe it was a desire to take a story about financial power and social privilege colluding to protect a criminal predator and transform it into something more terrible and monumental. After weeks of speculation, the first eyewitness account revealed that what the "temple" contained wasn't a necromantic shrine but a gym, decorated with a framed photograph of a topless woman. —Max Read

## **Vance, Cyrus Jr.: Prosecutor in the crosshairs.**

There are currently 475 level-three sex offenders registered in New York County, but in 2011, when an attorney from the office of Cy Vance, Manhattan DA, argued that Epstein's risk level should be reduced, Justice Ruth Pickholz responded, "I have to tell you I am a little overwhelmed because I have never seen a prosecutor's office do anything like this." Pickholz denied the request — Epstein's risk assessment put him 20 points above the required threshold for the highest level of offender — and the DA's office later reversed its request. Though there's no indication Vance and Epstein were friendly, his office has been criticized previously for [declining to pursue sex-crimes charges against Harvey Weinstein](#) that coincided with a donation from his attorneys (though Weinstein has since been charged by Vance's office) and fraud charges against Ivanka and Donald Trump Jr. —Irin Carmon

## **Wachner, Linda: Head of the textile corporation behind Calvin Klein and Speedo.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

## **Wallace, Mike: 60 Minutes journalist.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

## **Walters, Barbara: Broadcast journalist and TV personality.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

## **Weinstein, Bob: Former co-chairman of Miramax Films and the Weinstein Company.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

## **Wexner, Leslie: The money behind the money.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

Retailing billionaire Leslie Wexner was Epstein's only known client, the man who transferred the rights to that famous townhouse to him for free in 2011, years after they were supposed to no longer be in contact. The relationship stretches back to the late 1980s, a time when Wexner's star was on the rise. A 1985 cover story for *New York* visited him in Columbus, Ohio, where his retail empire was built. Journalist Julie Baumgold described how he, not unlike Epstein, was a self-made man, addicted to self-improvement, how he didn't know how to pronounce La Grenouille correctly and wanted to have his picture taken at the Whitney, and noted that "Wexner is what used to be known as a 'confirmed bachelor.'" (He later married and has four children.) Not long after that piece, he was introduced to Epstein, who had left Bear Stearns under a cloud and was broke. He and Wexner hit it off, and Epstein soon began managing Wexner's finances. Wexner's credibility lent plausibility to the notion that Epstein managed billions from his Caribbean-island redoubt. Associates of Wexner, who is now worth \$6.6 billion, didn't understand the attraction. Soon after the men began working together, Epstein moved into Wexner's Upper East Side mansion. Wexner bought the seven-story townhouse in 1989 for \$13.2 million but apparently lived there only for a few months. The title was transferred in 2011 to a Virgin Islands entity controlled by Epstein. It is now worth \$56 million. —Michelle Celarier and Carl Swanson

Read More: [Who Is Les Wexner, and How Is He Connected to Jeffrey Epstein?](#)

## **Wiesel, Elie: Nobel Prize winner.**

*Name found in Epstein's black book.*

## **Zagat, Nina and Jim: Publishers.**

*Name found on Epstein's private jet log.*

## **Zuckerman, Mort: Media mogul and newspaper publisher.**

Zuckerman went into business with Epstein — briefly — in 2004, spending \$25 million to invest in *Radar*, but he pulled the plug after just three issues. He first attempted a deal with Epstein in 2003, when he was part of a consortium with Michael Wolff, Donny Deutsch, Nelson Peltz, and Harvey Weinstein to buy *New York Magazine*.

# Crazyboard

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