

August 7, 2025

William K. Marshall III  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Prisons  
320 First St. NW  
Washington, DC 20534

Dear Director Marshall:

I write to request information related to the recent redesignation and transfer of Ghislaine Maxwell to a minimum-security Bureau of Prisons facility. Ms. Maxwell was transferred without explanation and in possible violation of standard Bureau policy. Against the backdrop of the political scandal arising from President Trump's relationship with Jeffrey Epstein, Ms. Maxwell's abrupt transfer raises questions about whether she has been given special treatment in exchange for political favors.

On July 24 and 25, 2025, following public criticism of the Justice Department's refusal to release files related to Jeffrey Epstein, Deputy Attorney General Todd Blanche met with Ms. Maxwell to discuss her knowledge of Epstein's associates and victims.<sup>1</sup> That meeting was unusual. Such a meeting would ordinarily be conducted by an FBI agent or member of the local U.S. Attorney's Office, not the Deputy Attorney General. The meeting was doubly unusual because of Mr. Blanche's former role as President Trump's personal criminal attorney and the ongoing political scandal resulting from the Wall Street Journal's report that Ms. Maxwell assembled a birthday book for Epstein that included a personal note from President Trump.<sup>2</sup>

Against that backdrop, roughly one week after Mr. Blanche's meetings, Ms. Maxwell was suddenly transferred from a low-security facility in Tallahassee, Florida, to a minimum-security prison camp in Bryan, Texas.<sup>3</sup> Ms. Maxwell is serving a 20-year sentence for participation in a scheme with Epstein to traffic and sexually exploit minors.<sup>4</sup> By default, Bureau policy requires

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<sup>1</sup> Kate Payne & Ed White, *Epstein ex-girlfriend Ghislaine Maxwell finishes interviews with Justice Department officials*, AP News (July 25, 2025), <https://apnews.com/article/epstein-maxwell-justice-department-interview-053ad2ae16f31b9d7300340d5f9349c5>.

<sup>2</sup> Khadeeja Safdar & Joe Palazzolo, *Jeffrey Epstein's Friends Sent Him Bawdy Letters for a 50th Birthday Album. One Was From Donald Trump.*, Wall St. J. (July 17, 2025), <https://www.wsj.com/politics/trump-jeffrey-epstein-birthday-letter-we-have-certain-things-in-common-f918d796>.

<sup>3</sup> Hollie McKay & Daniel Edward Rosen, *EXCLUSIVE: Ghislaine Maxwell Is Moved to Minimum Security Prison in Texas After Meeting With Justice Department About Epstein*, N.Y. Sun (Aug. 1, 2025), <https://www.nysun.com/article/ghislaine-maxwell-jeffrey-epsteins-longtime-associate-is-moved-from-florida-to-a-prison-in-texas>.

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Attorney's Office, Southern District of New York, Press Release, *Ghislaine Maxwell Sentenced to 20 Years in Prison For Conspiring With Jeffrey Epstein To Sexually Abuse Minors* (June 28, 2022), <https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdny/pr/ghislaine-maxwell-sentenced-20-years-prison-conspiring-jeffrey-epstein-sexually-abuse>.

individuals like Ms. Maxwell, whose criminal history involves sex offenses, to be placed, at a minimum, at low-security facilities because they “are not appropriate for placement at an institution which would permit inmate access to the community (i.e., MINIMUM security).”<sup>5</sup> Ordinarily, Bureau officials in Tallahassee would need to request waiver of this policy as part of their request to transfer Ms. Maxwell to a minimum-security facility, subject to approval by Bureau officials in Grand Prairie, Texas.<sup>6</sup>

Congress has a strong oversight interest in knowing whether these procedures were followed in transferring Ms. Maxwell and whether that transfer was part of a political deal. A federal statute sets forth the factors that the Bureau must consider when determining where and how to house people within the Bureau’s custody. These factors include the level of security needed to house that person safely and the person’s rehabilitation, medical, and faith-based needs.<sup>7</sup> The factors do not include whether the person can provide the President with political favors.

Longstanding Bureau policy provides that “members of Congress may be advised of designations in response to official inquiries for their official use.”<sup>8</sup> Accordingly, please provide the following information to assist with my inquiry into the propriety of Ms. Maxwell’s transfer.

All documents related to the redesignation and transfer of Ghislaine Maxwell from FCI Tallahassee to FPC Bryan, including any documents involving:

1. Deputy Attorney General Todd Blanche, any member of the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, or any other Department of Justice official not employed by the Bureau of Prisons.
2. Requests, and the disposition of such requests, for the redesignation and transfer of Ms. Maxwell.
3. Requests, and the disposition of such requests, for waiver of any Public Safety Factors associated with Ms. Maxwell’s designation or redesignation.
4. Any decision to waive, as applied to Ms. Maxwell, the standard procedures for submissions of an inmate transfer request as detailed in Chapter 7 of the Bureau’s Program Statement 5100.08, Inmate Security Designation and Custody Classification.
5. Any transfer codes associated with Ms. Maxwell’s redesignation and transfer.
6. Ms. Maxwell’s security point score; custody level; and any requests for, applications of, and reasons for Management Variables associated with Ms. Maxwell’s placement as of June 1, 2025.

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<sup>5</sup> Dep’t of Justice, Bureau of Prisons, Program Statement § 5100.008, Ch. 2, p. 4 (2025).

<sup>6</sup> *Id.* at Ch. 5, p. 4; Ch. 7, p. 1.

<sup>7</sup> 18 U.S.C. § 3621(b).

<sup>8</sup> Bureau of Prisons, Program Statement, *supra* note 5, at Ch. 3, p. 2.

7. Ms. Maxwell's security point score; custody level; and any requests for, applications of, and reasons for Management Variables associated with Ms. Maxwell's placement as of August 1, 2025.

Please provide any response no later than August 28, 2025. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Sheldon Whitehouse  
Ranking Member  
Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on  
Federal Courts, Oversight,  
Agency Action, and  
Federal Rights