

EXHIBIT A-1: Johnson Criminal Conspiracy Confessions July 22, 2025

1. **Johnson:** Thank this leadership team and all of you. Good morning. Uh, thank you Representative Kegan's doing an extraordinary job for Virginia and, and, uh, our military families and, and all of the issues she worked so hard on. Thank you for all that hard work.
2. **Johnson:** Um, I tell you what. Uh, it's been an exciting six months, uh, Sunday. As, as you all probably know, mark, the first six months of the Trump, uh, presidency. The second term, the 47th president has had an incredible run. We're on a winning streak. America's hot again. We're bringing back strength and prosperity and, and, and, uh, capitalizing and delivering on all the campaign promises that President Trump made on the campaign trail and that all Republicans did, uh, by extension. We're really proud of that, and I tell you what history is gonna record this to be one of the most consequential. Extraordinary first six months of, of any administration ever, because we have unified government. The voters in this country gave Republicans the chance to turn this mess around. And we are.
3. **Johnson:** So we have the White House and the Senate in the house, and we're using it effectively every single day. And here in the house, we've kept pace with President Trump's. Extraordinary momentum. He never sleeps. And so we don't get to either. Uh, we've been codifying his executive orders at a record pace.
4. **Johnson:** We're cementing America first policies into law. We're enacting the full scale of the Trump admin, uh, administration's agenda with the passage, of course, of the one big beautiful bill, sort of a capstone of, of the first six months. And, um, we've accomplished so much in just that time period. And, and I think the key is we've done that. With Unity, as you all have noticed, it's very deliberate. We work very closely, hand in hand the Senate and House Republicans as one united team. That's kind of an innovation in Washington, but a very important one, and we've demonstrated that, that unity is how we deliver. There's no majority in the history of this body. that can wield power unless it stands together. And so I work really hard. We all do. This leadership team does every day. They keep everybody rowing in the same direction.
5. **Johnson:** This morning at our weekly conference meeting, we discussed the upcoming schedule given the, uh, the Democrats, um, endless efforts to politicize the, uh, the Epstein controversy in that whole investigation. I wanna be clear about this. Um, there, there is a reason behind what we are doing here. We have a responsibility, uh, actually a dual responsibility here. Okay? I've been on record very clearly that I believe in maximum transparency. I think every single house Republican will say the same thing. In fact, they've told me that publicly and privately. Uh, they, they talk about this. We want maximum transparency. We also understand. The other part of that duty is that we have to protect innocent victims. Okay? We have to do both things at the same time. What do we mean by that? Look involved in the Epstein Evil. Okay. Which is what it was. Let's call it what it was there. There are innocent. Victims of those unspeakable sex crimes. Okay. It, some of them were minors, some of them were not. When, when the, when the Epstein records are turned over to the public, which we must do as quickly as possible, we have to also be very judicious and careful about protecting the innocent.
6. **Johnson:** I think everybody in the country should understand the necessity of that. It is the standard I used to be. A litigator. It's the standard in the court of law, in the courts. It's the standard in law enforcement. Anyone who served in law enforcement understands the necessity of that. It is the standard with government agencies. We protect the innocence.
7. **Johnson:** So we cannot be careless in a, in a, in an open release like that. You have to be very careful. The president himself has said that he wants maximum, maximum transparency and all credible evidence to be turned over to the American public so that everyone can make their own decisions.

8. **Johnson:** We're owed that, and we want any individual. Who's been involved in any way in the Epstein evils to be brought to justice as, as quickly as possible, and the, and the law should be brought down upon their head. We're unequivocal about that. Okay. We, we, we, we have to make sure that the credible evidence is revealed and, and we're doing that.
9. **Johnson:** The president has made a request to the courts and the grand jury, uh, uh, testimony and the file's there, for example, and the court should turn that over, and that will be a continuing and ongoing quest. Now we, what we refuse to do. Is participate in another one of the Democrats' political games. This is a serious matter.
10. **Johnson:** We are not going to let them use this as a political battering ramp. The rules committee became, uh, the, the, uh, the ground for them to do that. We're not gonna allow them to engage in that charade anymore. Why do I call it a charade? Because the Democrats are trying to play Gotcha politics right now when as the leader just pointed out.
11. **Johnson:** They don't have any moral high ground on this at all. They controlled the Department of Justice for the last four years. Has anyone forgotten? They had all these files the entire time. They, they, they sat on everything Epstein related for four long years while President Biden was in office. You could draw your own conclusions as to why.
12. **Johnson:** But we've been intellectually consistent the entire time. And I wanna say this about my colleagues, Roanna and Jim McGovern and Hakeem Jeffries and so many others. They've tweeted about Epstein countless times in the last two weeks. But go back and look at their social media accounts we have and their public comments.
13. **Johnson:** They had exactly zero posts on the subject for the last four years. The Biden, uh, administration. Interesting, isn't it? We all understand that the America First agenda and the American people are best served by putting an end to the Democrat sideshows. And that's what we're doing by not allowing the rules Committee to continue with that nonsense.
14. **Johnson:** This week, as was noted, we've got tons of very important work going on here. Uh, the, the leader just gave you a small sampling of it, but we're done being lectured on transparency by the same party that orchestrated one of the most shameless, dangerous political coverups in the history of this country or any government on the face of planet Earth.
15. **Johnson:** If the Democrats wanna talk transparency, I'm happy to rewind the tape. 366 days ago, president Joe Biden was unceremoniously, forced off the Democrat ticket. Everybody knows why even after millions of Americans had already cast their primary votes for him. The self-proclaimed party of democracy throughout their nominee, the sitting president of the United States for his disastrous debate performance on the debate stage, president Biden revealed the American people.
16. **Johnson:** What Democrats in Congress spent four long years trying to hide that the President of the United States of America was in rapid mental decline and unable to continue serving as the leader of the free world. I'm gonna say that again. The man holding the most powerful office on the face of the earth.
17. **Johnson:** Who we now know was being propped up by a staff and Democrats in Congress was in rapid mental decline. It was as shocking as it was dangerous, and they all participated in it. Nearly every single one of the Democrats who shamelessly attempted to pull the wool over our eyes still holds office today. You ought to be chasing 'em down the hallways, asking for their responses on that.
18. **Johnson:** We released a 14 minute long video yesterday with just a small sample of the countless receipts of the Democrats at every level. Spending this fantastical lie to the American people. I encourage every reporter in this room to go watch that. You ought to use the clips and you ought to go ask 'em about it.
19. **Johnson:** And remember that the same Democrats who lied to us for years are now trying to convince you they stand for transparency. They participated in one of the greatest political scandals in in all of history and the House Republicans are not gonna allow this to be whitewashed from the historical record.
20. **Johnson:** We'll continue to investigate and shine light on those who perpetrated this and provide answers directly to the American people Now. President Biden's mental condition was poor, but his, his legacy of achievement in

office was, was even worse. And I've said many times after those four years of Biden and Harris, every single area of public policy was in a district state, in Congress and the White House.

21. **Johnson:** We've been hard at work. From day one of this Congress Day, one of the Trump administration trying to undo all that damage of the last four years, and we're laying the foundation for what will make our country safer, stronger, and more prosperous than ever before the American people gave President Trump a clear mandate to enact his America first agenda, and Republicans answered the call To date, we've enacted 50 of the President's executive orders from reigning in bureaucratic waste, fraud, and abuse, to passing common sense legislation to delivering our once in a generation legislative victories through the one big, beautiful bill.
22. **Johnson:** Lemme give you a quick summary. Americans asked for secure borders and safer communities, and Republicans delivered the largest investment in border security and interior enforcement on record. And with the Halt Fentanyl Act and the Lake and Riley Act, we're making sure American communities are safe from deadly drugs and illegal aliens that have taken far too many lives.
23. **Johnson:** The American people asked us for bigger paychecks and more affordable gas and groceries, and we delivered on that too. Uh, we, we, we delivered the largest working and middle class tax cut in the history of the United States, and we've torn down Biden era regulations like the California EV mandate that was just madness and, and worked against working families in American energy dominance.
24. **Johnson:** The American people demanded fiscal sanity and Republicans delivered again. We passed more than 1.5 trillion in spending cuts so the government can begin to live within its means. Again, all of this is real positive change for American families, the kind that they are going to directly feel in their bank accounts.
25. **Johnson:** They're gonna see it in their neighborhoods, and they're gonna count on it for years to come. Any of these individual feats as standalone bills would've been considered historic achievements by any Republican Congress, and we got 'em all done. All together in one big beautiful bill, and the more the American people hear about that bill, the more they like it.
26. **Johnson:** There was a, a Harvard, uh, Harris poll that, uh, recently surveyed the individual titles, the individual pieces of the big bill, and they found that 17 of the 21 major proposals polled had a majority of support. Yeah, that's including things like reducing federal spending and imposing common sense work requirements on, uh, public assistance.
27. **Johnson:** But while the American people continue to learn about the bill, they'll also begin to feel its positive effects because we did this on a very aggressive timetable. Uh, as you all know, we put it on an ambitious, uh, timeline to be delivered. Uh, many in this room said it wouldn't succeed. You wrote about it.
28. **Johnson:** I read all that. That's fine. We said we needed six weeks to craft our house budget resolution, and we passed it in February. We said we'd pass our house version of the one big beautiful bill by Memorial Day, and we beat that deadline by four days. We said we'd pass it through both chambers and get it to the President's test for signature by July 4th.
29. **Johnson:** And what happened? We had a big, beautiful signing ceremony at the White House on Independence Day. It was a historic day, and it's a testament to what this House Republican Conference can accomplish when we remain united and working towards a common goal. Last, last thought here on closing note. Uh, this is the last leadership press conference before we entered the August district work period around here. People call it. The August recess. It is not that. Okay? So I, I know that, uh, lots of people in the Press Corps are gonna be able to enjoy some downtime with friends and families and, and, um, we commend you for that. But house Republicans aren't gonna get to participate in all that stuff because this month of August is not a vacation. This is arguably the most important work month on our calendar. Why? Because our members go home. They connect with their constituents in person. They hold host round tables with local businesses and organizations. They meet with community stakeholders and local officials. Uh, really, really important components of the job.
30. **Johnson:** And frankly, they need to cut through the false and misleading claims about the one big, beautiful bill from the media and the Democrats. As I mentioned, the more people know, the more they greatly favor, uh, the bill

that we passed and house Republicans are gonna spend the month highlighting how it will positively impact our districts and our communities.

31. **Johnson:** Uh, with that, I'll take a few questions,
32. **Reporter:** Mr. Speaker. Okay, good morning. You, you say yesterday that you were in lockstep with the administration on the UP team files, but it doesn't seem that you're in lockstep with all of your house Republicans, Thomas Matthew, just saying in the past hour. Is gonna come back and and bite Republicans. What do you say to those cism inside your conferences here?
33. **Johnson:** I say Thomas Massey is the one trying to bite Republicans. Okay. I'm not quite certain what his strategy is,
34. **Reporter:** but it's just not him. It's, it's, I mean, otherwise you guys wouldn't be calling off the week tomorrow. You'd be able to put your rules on the floor. I understand the issue with the Democrats.
35. **Johnson:** Yeah. No, I just explained why we're not gonna play political games with this. We've all been very, uh, clear and transparent. Uh, the, the, the, uh, house rules resolution sets a good standard and, uh, requires all credible evidence to be, uh, released. And that's exactly where the White House is.
36. **Johnson:** There's no, as I've said many times over the last floor, what the, as I've said many times, there's no daylight between the White House and the house. You have to allow the legislation to ripen and you also have to allow the administration, the space to do what it is doing. The president has said clearly and he has now ordered his DOJ to do what it is we've all needed DOJ to do for years now. And that is to get everything released. So they're in the process of that. There's, there's no purpose for Congress to push an administration to do something that they're already doing. And so this is for political games. Um, I, uh, I, I, I'm, I'm very, um, I'm very resolute on this. We, we, we can both call for full transparency and also protect victims. And if you run rough shot or you do it too quickly, that's not what happens. Uh, but I, I'm convinced that the DOJ is gonna do, uh, their job, the administration's gonna do their job and, uh, and we'll do our job. And so we'll, we'll see to it. Yes, ma'am. Have a good
37. **Reporter:** thank you, Mr. Speaker. Um, just to follow up on that, I know before when you were asked whether or not you would back Mr. Massey for reelection, you did, didn't give a direct answer. He has some harsh things to say about your leadership yesterday related to the Epstein files, have you made in your mind whether or not you support him or back him against your [unintelligible]?
38. **Johnson:** So. So, so here's the, so as the leader of my party, I lead the Incumbent protection program. Okay. Uh, that's my job. I go all around the country. I travel endlessly, incessantly. I have to raise over 300 million to do that. Um, and, and we want everybody to come back. And, and, and some people, um, I try to protect them from themselves. You know, um, they, they kick and scream and bite, uh, their own colleagues. Some people seem to enjoy, uh, uh, in trying to inflict political pain on their own teammates. Um, uh. I, I'm not gonna address anybody individually, but I'll tell you that, that some here are much more frustrating than others. There's a small, it's a small, tiny handful, uh, but one in particular who's given me lots of consternation.
39. **Johnson:** I don't understand, I don't, I don't understand, uh, Thomas Massey's motivation. I really don't. I don't know how his mind works. I don't know what he's, what he's thinking. Thomas Massey could have brought his discharge petition anytime over the last four and a half years, over the last four years of Biden administration. He could have done that at any time, and now he's clamoring as if there's some sort of timeline on it. It's interesting to me that he chose the election of, of President Trump to bring this to team up with the Democrats and bring this discharge petition. So do I have some concern about that? I do, but you know, in me, in my way, I try to fo, I try to follow Ronald Reagan's 11th commandment, never speak evil of another Republican. Gosh, it's hard to do sometimes around here. I also try to follow the scripture. You know, it says, bless those who persecute you. So let me just say about Thomas Massey. Could you just accept my southern? Bless his heart. Okay. I don't know what else to say about it. We're, we are for maximum transparency, we're engaging in that right now and we don't need political games.
40. **Johnson::** Yes, ma'am. Over here. Yes. Wait, I was pointing to her. Go ahead, sorry. Um, so.

41. **Reporter:** Insurance companies are, um, requesting 15% premium increases for next year, and they're the expiration care subsidies. Are Republicans thinking about this? Is there any, um, possibility that they would look at extending those subsidies or any other things to insurance?
42. **Johnson:** Uh, I, I think that goes to the end of the calendar year, so we'll have discussion about the issue later, but it hasn't come up yet. I mean, but it's on the radar back row.
43. **Johnson:** Yes.
44. **Reporter:** Um. Two questions. First is, did the president or anyone in the administration ask you to delay the resolution until after recess?
45. **Johnson:** No. No, but I, I, as you all know, I speak to the president multiple times a day on, on a typical day. Um, often al always, uh, and what I know about the president's heart on this is that he, he agrees with everything I've said here today. He wants maximum transparency, but he's also. Very insistent that we do not subject people who have been already been victims of unspeakable crimes, uh, to further public scrutiny. And it would be a, a very dangerous thing to put those people's names out or to do a release of information in a way that is haphazard where they could be easily unmasked. And so you have to be very careful about how you do that. I think we have a moral responsibility to do that. I think we have a moral responsibility to expose the evil of Epstein and everybody was involved in that. Absolutely. We're resolved to do it, but we also have an equal moral responsibility to protect the innocent, and that is, that is a, a fine needle to thread. And we could all give ourselves easy political cover and come out and do something in a haphazard fashion, but I would not be able to sleep at night because I know, I know our legal responsibility. I understand what the legal standard is, but more than that, the moral standard. Okay, so we're gonna do this and we're gonna do it expeditiously. We're gonna do, we do do it the right way. What is popular isn't always right. And what is right isn't always popular. And an eighth grade teacher told me that one time I carried it with him my whole life. We're gonna do the right thing here, and the American people at the end will see that we did that, uh, in the right way and in the right timetable.
46. **Johnson:** Yes, sir. Wait, right now, wait. Hold on one sec. What'd you say last time? Wait, did she say it? She did earlier. Wait, come up here. I didn't, I didn't hear you. Gotta say it loud.
47. **Johnson:** Stand right here. And tell them. Tell them hey.
48. **Charming Little Lady:** Last question.
49. **Johnson:** Yes. Yes. Thank you. Wait, over here under the clock? Yes, sir. Yes sir. Yes sir. So just wondering, no, behind you right here. Sorry. Go ahead.
50. **Reporter:** Thank you so much Mr. Speaker. Uh, Russia is still bombing Ukraine and a lot of Ukrainians civilian people are still dying. Uh, do you consider sanctions on ship before the 50 day?
51. **Johnson:** We, we are, we were talking about sanctioning Russia, but I think the House and the Senate agree that the White House, having given that deadline of 50 days, uh, we, we need to allow the commander in chief and the administration and the Secretary of Defense, uh, and the Pentagon to do what they're going to do and, um and, and we'll see how that plays out. But I can tell you the appetite here is that we've, we've gotta bring accountability to Vladimir Putin and, and make this war cease. We need peace over there. It's gone on too long. Too many innocent people are dying, and we don't want further American involvement at this at all in this, at all. But I, I, I do think what NATO is doing and, and, and, um, our allies around the world, uh. May be effective. I think we've all had enough of it and we hope it comes to an end soon, but we trust the commander in chief. He's restoring peace through strength. This is a big part of that. Thank you. Thank y'all so much.

[Transcript End]

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