

# **EXHIBIT 1**

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress as Amended

## **Transcript of Interview of Representative Bowman**

Review No. 23-3357

November 3, 2023

1 -----x

2 IN RE: :

3 OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS :

4 REVIEW (23-3357) :

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10 INTERVIEW OF REPRESENTATIVE JAMAAL BOWMAN

11 Conducted Virtually

12 Friday, November 3, 2023

13 9:01 a.m. EST

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20 Job No.: 514126

21 Pages: 1 - 35

22 Recorded By: Jordan Collins, AAERT CER

1 Interview of REPRESENTATIVE JAMAAL BOWMAN,  
2 conducted virtually  
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12 Pursuant to Agreement, before Jordan Collins,  
13 AAERT CER, Notary Public in and for the  
14 Commonwealth of Virginia.  
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A P P E A R A N C E S

ON BEHALF OF THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS  
(OCE) OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

DOCKTREL CROMARTIE, ESQUIRE

INDHIRA BENITEZ, ESQUIRE

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS (OCE)

OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

425 3rd Street, S.W., Suite 1110

Washington, DC 20024

202.225.9739

(Present via videoconference)

ON BEHALF OF THE REPRESENTATIVE JAMAAL BOWMAN:

DAVE MITRANI, ESQUIRE

CHRISTINA BUSTOS, ESQUIRE

SANDLER, REIFF, LAMB, ROSENSTEIN

& BIRKENSTOCK, P.C.

1090 Vermont Avenue NW, Suite 750

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(Present via videoconference)

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A P P E A R A N C E S (CONT'D)

ALSO PRESENT:

DAVE SULLIVAN (PD Court Reporter Trainee)

PAUL KAMINSKI (Remote Technician)

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 Whereupon,

3 REPRESENTATIVE JAMAAL BOWMAN,

4 being first duly sworn or affirmed to testify to  
5 the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the  
6 truth, was examined and testified as follows:

7 EXAMINATION BY COUNSEL FOR THE OCE

8 BY MR. CROMARTIE:

9 Q Okay. Representative Bowman, I would  
10 like to start off with a bit of background  
11 questions for you. Could you please explain, you  
12 know, the length of time you've been a member of  
13 Congress and a brief description of duties and  
14 responsibilities you have currently?

15 A Sworn in January 3rd, 2021. Brief  
16 description: Constituent services regarding  
17 immigration, passport issues, anything that  
18 constituents need help and support around; writing  
19 legislation, whether it's a -- a proposed bill or a  
20 resolution; co-sponsoring legislation;  
21 participating in hearings and -- and proceedings as  
22 part of my committee assignments on education and



1 workforce and science base and technology; debate  
2 in those committees, debate on the floor, and, you  
3 know, voting for, you know, proposed resolutions or  
4 bills. Yeah, that's pretty much it.

5 Q Thank you for that, Representative  
6 Bowman. I'd like to transition to talk a bit about  
7 your past employment. I understand you are a  
8 former principal, I believe, at the Cornerstone  
9 Academy for Social Action. If you can please give  
10 a brief background on that past employment as well?

11 A Yep. Principal for 10 and a half years  
12 at the Cornerstone Academy for Social Action Middle  
13 School, a school that I founded and ran as  
14 principal in the northeast Bronx. Prior to that, I  
15 was the dean of students at the High School for  
16 Arts and Technology; did that for about three years  
17 or so. And then prior to that, I was an elementary  
18 school teacher in the South Bronx; taught fourth  
19 grade, taught math and taught crisis intervention.  
20 So, overall, 20 years in education.

21 Q Thank you for that, Representative  
22 Bowman. And I believe we posed this question in a

1 request for information, but could you please  
2 explain a little bit about any experience that you  
3 may have with respect to fire safety training,  
4 whether that be certifications, consultations with  
5 third party fire safety experts, any participation  
6 in regular fire drills?

7 A As an educator, yes, consistent  
8 participation in regular fire drills. We -- we  
9 always did a handful a year. And in terms of fire  
10 safety, yeah, there were some trainings in there.  
11 I don't remember exactly how many.

12 Q Thank you for that. Were you at all  
13 familiar with any procedures concerning the use of  
14 emergency exit doors at this school?

15 A Yes, but I wouldn't -- they weren't -- I  
16 wouldn't constitute them as, like, emergency exit  
17 doors at the school. They were just doors that we  
18 used at different periods of the day for different  
19 things.

20 Q Okay. Would the doors somehow trigger  
21 alarm if they were pushed or opened at various  
22 times throughout the day at the school? Did you

1 have any of these egress setups?

2 A What -- what word was that, what kind of  
3 setup?

4 Q Set up as an emergency exit in the event  
5 of a fire -- an actual fire.

6 A Yeah. So the doors would maybe trigger  
7 a, like, temporary alarm, like a -- you know, when  
8 you open the door and it's like -- makes a sound,  
9 and then when it closes, it goes off, like that  
10 kind of thing.

11 Q But it wouldn't --

12 A Trigger the building? No.

13 Q Audible alarm, yes, throughout the  
14 building?

15 A No. No.

16 Q Okay. Were there signs or warnings  
17 detailing, you know, the -- the temporary nature of  
18 a semi-audible alarm? If those doors were  
19 triggered, were there any signs that said emergency  
20 exit, to speak plainly?

21 A No, not -- not in the schools that I've  
22 been in, but I've seen those kind of signs other

1 places.

2 Q Thank you for that.

3 A Not that I remember in the schools.

4 Q Okay. Let's talk a little bit about,  
5 you know, when you -- when you arrived on September  
6 30th. Let's go to September 30th, 2023. About  
7 what time did you arrive at the Cannon House  
8 Building?

9 A I don't remember. I feel -- feel like  
10 maybe 30 minutes or so before the vote. Maybe less  
11 than that, but I don't actually remember.

12 Q Okay. Would you say that was around,  
13 perhaps, 11:30 a.m.? Would that be around the time  
14 you might have entered the Cannon House Building?

15 A Maybe. I don't remember, but I -- I  
16 feel like it was. I feel like I walked in -- there  
17 was -- I was watching debate on the floor around  
18 this bill they were trying to pass quickly. And  
19 then a motion to table happened pretty quickly, and  
20 then I had to get changed and get over there. So I  
21 -- I -- I believe so. I'm not exactly sure what  
22 time.

1           Q     While you were preparing to head over to  
2     the Capitol House Building, presumably to cast your  
3     vote, did -- were you aware of any effort on the --  
4     on the part of House Democrats to -- to essentially  
5     stall the House vote on the 45-day funding bill, HR  
6     5860?

7           A     No.

8           Q     Okay. When did you first learn that the  
9     45-day funding bill would be brought up for a vote,  
10    about the approximate time.

11          A     That morning, maybe shortly before I  
12    arrived to the Capitol. So there were -- there  
13    were a lot of, like, communications, consistent and  
14    inconsistent, between leadership and our office and  
15    all the offices. So it was a pretty -- pretty  
16    unstable or -- or chaotic environment at the -- at  
17    the Capitol.

18                As a matter of fact, that was my first  
19    time having to stay on a Saturday to vote; it was  
20    the first time I've had to do that. So it was just  
21    -- there was a lot of back and forth. But I  
22    believe it was that morning. At some point that

1 morning, I was told to leave my residence where I  
2 was staying and head to the Capitol because there  
3 may be a vote soon.

4 Q Okay. And do -- do you remember who  
5 advised you that a vote could potentially take  
6 place on the 45-day funding bill?

7 A Yeah. It was probably my LD that -- I  
8 think he was the one who was monitoring what was  
9 coming from the -- coming from leadership, and he  
10 was messaging me in the chat to get over to the  
11 Capitol.

12 Q Okay. And could you explain what an LD  
13 is?

14 A Legislative director --

15 Q Okay.

16 A -- staffer.

17 Q Okay. And -- and this individual's name?

18 A Rajiv Sicora.

19 MR. MITRANI: Could you spell that, by  
20 chance?

21 THE WITNESS: R-A-J-I-V, S-I-C-O-R-A.

22 MR. MITRANI: And I've put that in the

1 chat as well.

2 THE WITNESS: Yeah.

3 MR. CROMARTIE: Okay. Thank you for  
4 that, Mr. Mitrani.

5 BY MR. CROMARTIE:

6 A And -- and it's possible that I got the  
7 message from a different staffer, just to be clear.  
8 Again, it was a lot of messages and a lot of things  
9 being passed back and forth.

10 Q No; that's understandable. You -- but  
11 you do -- you do believe that it was a staffer that  
12 notified you of this, correct?

13 A I believe so. Yep.

14 Q Okay. Could you explain a little bit  
15 about where your office is located? I believe it  
16 is in the Cannon House building. You can correct  
17 me if I'm wrong.

18 A Yeah, 345 -- office number 345.

19 Q Okay. And where is that located in  
20 relation to the exit near Independence Avenue?

21 A So if I -- if I -- I don't know how to  
22 best describe it. So from that exit, if -- if I'm

1 facing the exit and I turn around and I start  
2 walking back towards the hallway, you walk past  
3 that first set of elevators. There's a second set  
4 of elevators at the end of the hall. You get on  
5 the elevator, you get on those elevators, go up to  
6 three. When you get out of the elevator, you make  
7 a right and go down that other hall. So I guess  
8 it's like a L, like boom, boom, at the end of the  
9 second L, or almost near the end of the -- the  
10 second part of the L and on the third floor.

11 Q Okay. Do you typically utilize the exit  
12 near Independence Avenue when -- when you're en  
13 route to the Capitol?

14 A Yeah. Whenever there's votes and  
15 whenever there's not -- it's not freezing outside.

16 Q So I would assume whenever it's freezing  
17 outside, you would then take the tunnel; is that  
18 correct?

19 A Yes, sir. Yep.

20 MR. CROMARTIE: Okay. If we can, I  
21 would like to show you Exhibit 1, just to sort of  
22 get your response to this.



1 (Exhibit 1 was marked.)

2 MR. CROMARTIE: Paul, if you can place  
3 Exhibit 1 on the screen for us, please?

4 Q Representative Bowman, do you -- you  
5 recognize this setup up at all?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Okay. It -- now this is sort of a  
8 recreation of how this display looked on the day of  
9 September 30th. There may have been an additional  
10 sign that would essentially read this -- the exact  
11 same thing. In your words, what did you interpret  
12 this sign to mean?

13 MR. MITRONI: Can I actually jump in  
14 here? I apologize. The Congressman entered into a  
15 proffer of facts as a part of DCV Bowman. You  
16 know, I -- I think this and the circumstances  
17 between 12:04 and, you know, an hour or so later  
18 are -- are all dealt with in the Congressman's  
19 sworn proffer. Just to make -- can we ensure that  
20 that proffer is read into the record, that we can  
21 refer back to it? I -- I think that's really  
22 important here, just to make sure that -- I mean,

1 the -- the proffer that we agreed to in -- in the  
2 matter with the Superior Court of DC is -- is what  
3 happened.

4 MR. CROMARTIE: No -- And -- and if I  
5 will -- Mr. Mitroni, we -- we -- we understand  
6 that, and we do have the proffer. We appreciate  
7 you turning that over to the office. We would just  
8 like to understand for the record, in Rep Bowman's  
9 words, essentially what, you know, he thought of  
10 these signs when he approached it.

11 BY MR. CROMARTIE:

12 Q If -- if -- if that's possible,  
13 Representative Bowman, if you wanted to comment on  
14 that.

15 A Yeah, sure. But I just want to reiterate  
16 what Counsel just mentioned. Everything that was  
17 said and stated in the proffer -- proffer is  
18 accurate. When I saw these signs -- and again,  
19 mind you, I'm -- I'm -- I'm rushing. I'm trying to  
20 get to a vote. I don't want to be late. You know,  
21 it's pretty frantic. I'm thinking, if I push on  
22 the door, the door would open and then make like a

1 -- a brief sound and then close. And then the  
2 sound goes away. That was in my head at the time.  
3 So, yeah.

4 Q And -- and I appreciate that,  
5 Representative Bowman. Again, I've read through  
6 the proffer of facts and I simply wanted you to  
7 provide a -- a bit more context to it. Can you  
8 sort of explain essentially, you know, why you  
9 removed the signs from the door? There has been a  
10 video that's been circulating in the public space.

11 MR. CROMARTIE: And if you will, Paul,  
12 can you just go ahead and show Exhibit 2 for us,  
13 please? Oh, I apologize. Exhibit 3.

14 (Exhibit 3 was marked.)

15 MR. CROMARTIE: Paul, you can pause this  
16 video for a second.

17 MR. MITRONI: Can I clarify one thing?  
18 The -- the Congressman pushed each of the doors,  
19 but he didn't grab the signs. I -- I think -- can  
20 you rephrase your question, if that's possible?

21 MR. CROMARTIE: Paul, if we can start  
22 this video again?

1           Mr. Mitroni, I do believe -- so  
2           there were two signs here. Representative Bowman  
3           appears in the video to remove the sign on the  
4           right door. He maybe held onto it for a second or  
5           two. You can pause the video there. I believe he  
6           discarded it. It -- it could be just simply the --  
7           the chaos at the time. Maybe -- in fact, the --  
8           the audible alarms were blaring in the background.  
9           I'm just sort of trying to understand exactly what  
10          took place here.

11           MR. MITRONI: If -- if -- if I may?  
12          That's dealt with word for word in the proffer. He  
13          pushed the right side exit door's push bar, while  
14          grabbing the sign on it. When the right side door  
15          did not open, the defendant then pushed the left  
16          side door push bar, but that door did not open  
17          either.

18           MR. CROMARTIE: Okay. Okay. Well --

19           MS. BENITEZ: I'm sorry, Docktrel, I  
20          have a -- a -- a question, a quick follow-up for  
21          the Congressman.

22           Congressman, are those signs typically

1       there in the past when you've used the door on  
2       other occasions?

3               THE WITNESS:   Sometimes they are;  
4       sometimes they aren't.

5               MS. BENITEZ:   Have the signs been there  
6       when you have used the door, and, if so, what have  
7       you done with the signs?

8               THE WITNESS:   I -- I don't recall when  
9       they were there when I used it versus when they  
10      were there when I didn't use it. I can't recall  
11      any specific instance.

12              MS. BENITEZ:   Thank you.

13      BY MR. CROMARTIE:

14              Q       So on the times that the signs were  
15      there, did the doors push open when you tried to  
16      exit, or did you just simply walk away at that  
17      point?

18              A       So, again, when there are votes, these  
19      doors are open. So when there are not votes, I  
20      know to, like exit, the building somewhere  
21      separate. So anytime there's votes, I go through.  
22      When it's warm and there are votes, I go through

1     this door, and it's usually opened. I think I may  
2     have recalled seeing the signs there at times when  
3     there were votes, but I'm not sure about that.

4           Q     Do you know approximately how much time  
5     elapsed between the time you -- you pulled the  
6     lever on the wall here in this video and when an  
7     audible alarm could be heard?

8           A     I don't. I feel like it was immediate  
9     and -- yeah, I feel like it was immediate.

10          Q     But when -- when you triggered the alarm  
11     and heard the audible alarm sound, did you believe  
12     in -- in triggering that alarm that it would  
13     essentially open the door?

14          A     Again, in my -- in my panicked rush,  
15     yes, I did. I believe the proffer speaks to that a  
16     bit.

17          Q     Okay. And just going back a little bit  
18     earlier, you sort of explained, you know, that  
19     exiting through this Independence Avenue door, that  
20     it would, you know, sort of provide the most  
21     expedient route to the Capitol outside of -- you  
22     know, it's freezing outside. So when the -- the

1 alarm sounded, why didn't you attempt to exit out  
2 of the doors at that point?

3 A I think it's because the alarm -- like,  
4 realizing I triggered the whole building alarm  
5 that, you know, that wasn't going to open the door,  
6 that I just triggered the whole damn building and,  
7 that's not what I wanted to do.

8 Q Okay. So during the time immediately  
9 following the triggering of the fire alarm, did  
10 you, at any point, seek to proactively reach out to  
11 Capitol Police or the sergeant-at-arms to inform  
12 them of your actions or the circumstance  
13 surrounding the decision for the fire alarm?

14 A No. No. As it was mentioned in the  
15 proffer, I just made a beeline to get to votes.  
16 That was my single-minded hurried focus at that  
17 time.

18 Q Okay. And as I understand from the  
19 proffer facts that you were in close proximity to a  
20 number of Capitol Police officers while en route to  
21 the Capitol, you -- it didn't -- and -- and I mean  
22 this respectfully -- it didn't cross your mind to

1 simply explain to them that you were in a hurry to  
2 cast a vote, but that you would eventually speak  
3 with investigators at the conclusion of the house  
4 vote?

5 A No. I was just trying to get to the  
6 vote.

7 Q Okay. In hindsight now, do you believe  
8 had you done so, it would have sort of mitigated  
9 the need to evacuate the entire building?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Okay. At approximately what time did  
12 you learn of the Capitol Police's desire to speak  
13 with you concerning the alarm incident?

14 A I don't know what time it was. We had a  
15 democratic caucus meeting, and then we were told to  
16 go vote for the motion to table. And we were  
17 online waiting to cast that vote, and when I got  
18 near the front of the line -- I don't know how long  
19 I was online, and when we got near the front of the  
20 line, that's when Capitol Police approached me.

21 Q Okay. I -- would you say about 1:00 --  
22 between 1:00 and 1:15, roughly?



1           A     I have no -- I -- I have -- I have -- I  
2     couldn't tell you. I have no idea.

3           MR. CROMARTIE: Okay. Can we -- Paul,  
4     can you pull up for a second Exhibit 4?

5           (Exhibit 4 was marked.)

6           Q     Representative Bowman, these are -- this  
7     is pretty much a screenshot that was provided to  
8     our office in response to the RFI. Could you  
9     explain who these individuals are in this, and  
10    explain exactly which type of exchanges this text  
11    message is? Is this via conversation and signal?

12          A     It's probably signal. Yeah, it's  
13    definitely signal, I think. And -- yeah. And  
14    we're talking about the -- the CR and what's in the  
15    CR.

16          Q     Okay.

17          A     Yeah.

18          Q     Can you state for the record who's  
19    participating in these communications?

20          A     Well, I see me, and I see Raj, Rajiv  
21    Sicora.

22          Q     Okay. And -- and there's a -- I -- I

1     it's a -- in blue, would this individual that --  
2     who was likely messaging here, would that be your  
3     chief of staff?

4           A     So the way you have the screen, I only  
5     see the blue; I don't see the gray, so can you move  
6     it over a little bit? Okay. Can we -- hold on.  
7     I'm sorry, it's probably my screen. Yeah, that's  
8     my screen. I mean, I don't know. I don't usually  
9     read messages in this format, so I have no idea  
10    what I'm looking at here. So there's one --

11          Q     Yeah.

12          A     -- person, and there's me. I don't know  
13    who the third person is, probably my chief; I'm not  
14    sure.

15               MR. MITRANI: Yeah.

16               MR. CROMARTIE: And I will just --

17               MR. MITRANI: Oh, I apologize. The --  
18    the documents we had provided were separated by  
19    individual custodian. I'm -- I'm trying to find  
20    the precise one here as well, but I -- I -- this is  
21    from the chief of staff, is -- is that correct? I  
22    know that you were queuing up that question, but

1 I'd like to find it on my end, too.

2 MR. CROMARTIE: Yeah, I believe so.

3 BY MR. CROMARTIE:

4 Q And I would just note, Representative  
5 Bowman, this is the format that our office received  
6 and the production materials. So if it's a little  
7 chaotic, then we certainly didn't have anything to  
8 do with it.

9 A No; that's fine. I just mean I don't --  
10 I'm not used to -- usually, I'm on my phone with  
11 these things and it's based on me and someone  
12 else's correspondence. To read it as, like, a  
13 third party, it's just a little confusing, but I  
14 think I've got it. I mean, I know it's me, I know  
15 it's Raj, and I think --

16 Q Okay.

17 A -- it was Sarah (phonetic). I think the  
18 -- the three of us were pretty much in  
19 communication that morning in preparation for the  
20 vote and the bill and all of that.

21 Q Okay. If you can just notice the -- the  
22 time stamp of these communications? According to

1 the proffer of facts, do you trigger the alarm at  
2 approximately 12:04 p.m.? This communication is  
3 between 12:20 and 12:31. The -- the question I  
4 have for you is, during this time of these  
5 communications or any time after 12:04 p.m., did  
6 you inform anyone of your actions as it relates to  
7 triggering the fire alarm?

8 A No.

9 Q Okay. And -- and I guess the -- the  
10 only follow-up question would be, you know, given  
11 the fact that -- so at this time, were you actually  
12 on the house floor and there was a debate over the  
13 continued resolution?

14 A No. I think during this time, we were  
15 in our democratic caucus meeting.

16 Q Okay. And -- and at that time, you  
17 didn't, I guess, feel it necessary to explain to  
18 your staff or to reach out to Capitol Police and  
19 explain sort of the circumstances surrounding the  
20 triggering of the fire alarm?

21 A I mean, no. I was, again, just, you  
22 know, trying to understand the context of the

1 situation. You have -- you have a bill to keep the  
2 government open or not, and then you have a motion  
3 to table that bill. If the government shuts down,  
4 a million people don't get paychecks. It disrupts  
5 the whole economy. So that's going on in addition  
6 to the motion to -- to table, in addition to what  
7 the hell is in the bill, and are we going to vote  
8 yes or no on it -- it, and me just trying to get  
9 there. And then when I'm there, I'm trying to pay  
10 attention to what leadership is saying, so that I  
11 can inform my staff of like, what we're going to do  
12 or not do, or what's going on in the meeting, et  
13 cetera, et cetera.

14 So my whole mind was focused on that, you  
15 know, and I thought -- I don't know -- you know,  
16 similar to what I said about, you know, tripping  
17 the door alarm and it makes a sound and it -- and  
18 it stops and everybody checks and it's all good,  
19 you know, I guess maybe I thought that would happen  
20 here; I don't know. But I was just thinking, you  
21 know, about what was happening on the Capitol -- or  
22 in the Capitol at the time.

1           Q     Thank you for that, Representative  
2 Bowman. And again, we're -- we're simply  
3 presenting these questions because, as you can see,  
4 that you were communicating with your staff, albeit  
5 concerning the actual bill, but we're sort of  
6 trying to understand, you know -- you know, your  
7 state of mind at the time, and just try to get a --  
8 a bit more context for why you neglected, in -- in  
9 a sense, to contact Capitol Hill Police for the  
10 reasons you just outlined. You know, is it fair to  
11 assume that at the time, given how important this  
12 bill is, that you sort of consider your actions in  
13 triggering the fire alarm to be a minor issue at  
14 the time?

15           MR. MITRANI: I -- I'm not sure that's a  
16 fair characterization. Also, it -- it -- I -- I'd  
17 very much appreciate if we didn't lead the  
18 Congressman toward an answer and -- and just let  
19 him speak. I -- I -- I'll let the Congressman jump  
20 in, but I think that's a mischaracterization. The  
21 congressman has pled guilty to a misdemeanor in DC.  
22 I -- I -- I don't think anyone could characterize

1       that as a minor issue.

2                   MR. CROMARTIE: And I would just restate  
3       I -- I wasn't characterizing it as that.

4       BY MR. CROMARTIE:

5           Q       I'm asking you in comparison to how you  
6       view how important the discussions pertaining to  
7       the CR in relation to the triggering a fire alarm.

8           A       I mean, you're -- you're asking me to  
9       infer my thoughts in hindsight after the fact,  
10      after everything that's happened over the last  
11      several weeks, me pleading guilty to a misdemeanor  
12      and there being a proffer or this thing being  
13      adjudicated. Like, I -- I don't I don't know. You  
14      know, I -- I didn't -- no. I don't think it was a  
15      minor issue. I just know my full brain was focused  
16      on getting to the vote -- the votes, what's in the  
17      bill, what leadership was communicating to me, and  
18      that was it. It was single-mindedness, and it was  
19      frantic, and it was rushed, and it was  
20      embarrassing, as I've said. And so, you know, I  
21      don't really, you know -- yeah.

22                   What's in the proffer is what it

1 is. And, you know, I want to cooperate with you,  
2 but, you know, I don't -- you know, I can't infer  
3 aspects of my state of mind on that day after the  
4 fact in hindsight. Like, as we're talking now,  
5 yeah, I could probably give you 10 things that  
6 might've been in my subconscious mind at the time  
7 of that day and that event. But at that time, I  
8 was super panicked, super rushed, super hurried,  
9 very frustrated for a variety of reasons, and I  
10 just wanted to get to the Capitol and do my job.

11 Q Thank you for that, Representative  
12 Bowman. And again, I would note that we reviewed  
13 the proffer of facts, so we do understand your  
14 response at the time to Capitol Police  
15 investigators. So again, as I explained to Mr.  
16 Mitrani, this interview would be rather short, so I  
17 -- as a final question, was it your intention to  
18 obstruct or otherwise interfere with an official  
19 House proceeding when you triggered the fire alarm?

20 A No.

21 MR. CROMARTIE: Indhira, do you have any  
22 questions for Representative Bowman?



1 MS. BENITEZ: Yes.

2 EXAMINATION BY COUNSEL FOR THE OCE

3 BY MS. BENITEZ:

4 Q Just one or two follow-up questions,  
5 Representative Bowman. I'm sure you have heard  
6 these questions a million times; I just want to get  
7 some clarity for our record. What did you think  
8 would happen when you pulled the lever on that day?

9 A The door would open, it would be a  
10 sound, a short sound or a small sound, not a whole  
11 building trigger.

12 MS. BENITEZ: All right. And, yep,  
13 that's -- that's my -- that's my only question.  
14 Thank you, again, Representative Bowman. We really  
15 do appreciate your cooperation and -- and  
16 understand you may have been answering a lot of  
17 redundant questions with us, but we do -- we really  
18 do appreciate you cooperating with our review.

19 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

20 MR. CROMARTIE: Thank you again,  
21 Representative Bowman.

22 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

1 MR. MITRANI: Thanks, everyone, for  
2 their time.

3 THE REPORTER: All right. And I do have  
4 a few questions. It looks like Mr. Mitrani had  
5 left. Sir, did you want to order at this time?

6 MR. CROMARTIE: Sorry. Can you say it  
7 one more time, Jordan? I couldn't understand.

8 THE REPORTER: I'm sorry. Did you want  
9 to order at this time?

10 MS. BENITEZ: No. There's no order  
11 because it's not -- excuse me -- it's not a -- a  
12 deposition, so --

13 THE REPORTER: I understand.

14 MS. BENITEZ: But, yeah.

15 THE REPORTER: My apologies. Thank you.

16 MS. BENITEZ: No -- no -- no -- no  
17 worries. No worries. It's -- it makes sense. You  
18 guys are --

19 MR. CROMARTIE: Put a rush on this  
20 process, getting the transcription together.

21 THE REPORTER: Okay. And how soon?  
22 Like, do you have a certain amount of days or,

1     like, a certain date in mind?

2                 MR. CROMARTIE: I would say probably as  
3     soon as possible.

4                 THE REPORTER: All right. Thank you.

5                 (Off the record at 9:37 a.m.)  
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1 CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER - NOTARY PUBLIC

2 I, Jordan Collins, AAERT CER, the officer  
3 before whom the foregoing proceedings were taken, do  
4 hereby certify that any witness(es) in the foregoing  
5 proceedings were fully sworn; that the proceedings  
6 were recorded by me and thereafter reduced to  
7 typewriting by a qualified transcriptionist; that  
8 said digital audio recording of said proceedings  
9 are a true and accurate record to the best of my  
10 knowledge, skills, and ability; and that I am  
11 neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by  
12 any of the parties to this case and have no  
13 interest, financial or otherwise, in its outcome.

14  
15 Notary Registration No.: 7758481

16 My Commission Expires: 4/30/2025

17  
18   
19 \_\_\_\_\_

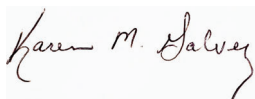
20 JORDAN COLLINS, AAERT CER, NOTARY PUBLIC

21 FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

22 November 6, 2023

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

I, Karen M. Galvez, do hereby certify  
that this transcript was prepared from the digital  
audio recording of the foregoing proceeding; that  
said proceedings were reduced to typewriting under  
my supervision; that said transcript is a true and  
accurate record of the proceedings to the best of  
my knowledge, skills, and ability; and that I am  
neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by  
any of the parties to the case and have no  
interest, financial or otherwise, in its outcome.



---

Karen M. Galvez  
PLANET DEPOS, LLC  
November 6, 2023

# **EXHIBIT 2**



# **EXHIBIT 3**



EMERGENCY  
EXIT ONLY  
PUSH UNTIL  
ALARM SOUNDS  
(3 SECONDS)  
DOOR WILL  
UNLOCK IN  
30 SECONDS

EMERGENCY  
EXIT ONLY  
PUSH UNTIL  
ALARM SOUNDS  
(3 SECONDS)  
DOOR WILL  
UNLOCK IN  
30 SECONDS

# **EXHIBIT 4**

**This Exhibit is held by the Office of  
Congressional Ethics and was provided  
to the House Committee on Ethics**

# **EXHIBIT 5**



# **EXHIBIT 6**



**Congressman Jamaal Bowman**

@RepBowman

...

Statement from Congressman Jamaal Bowman.



## STATEMENT FROM CONGRESSMAN JAMAAL BOWMAN

**For Immediate Release**

**September 30, 2023**

**Congressman Jamaal Bowman released the following statement:**

I want to personally clear up confusion surrounding today's events. Today, as I was rushing to make a vote, I came to a door that is usually open for votes but today would not open. I am embarrassed to admit that I activated the fire alarm, mistakenly thinking it would open the door. I regret this and sincerely apologize for any confusion this caused.

But I want to be very clear, this was not me, in any way, trying to delay any vote. It was the exact opposite -- I was trying urgently to get to a vote, which I ultimately did and joined my colleagues in a bipartisan effort to keep our government open. I also met after the vote with the Sergeant at Arms and the Capitol Police, at their request, and explained what had happened. My hope is that no one will make more of this than it was. I am working hard every day, including today, to do my job, to do it well, and deliver for my constituents.

Peace and Love.

ALT

9:55 PM · Sep 30, 2023 · **9.7M** Views

**3,945** Reposts   **3,250** Quotes   **23.9K** Likes   **498** Bookmarks

23-3357\_0047

# **EXHIBIT 7**



Rajiv Sicora  
Caucus mtg will be informative tho for where other ppl are at

RS  
I don't know if Rosa is alone 11:56 AM

Jamaal Bowman <new #>  
She keeps reserving. 11:56 AM

Jamaal Bowman <new #>  
No one is stepping up to speak. 11:56 AM

RS  
I know I just mean there might be other ds considering no 11:57 AM

Jamaal Bowman <new #>  
Leadership is on the floor

JN  
Going to vote 11:59 AM

RS  
Voting on motion to adjourn 11:59 AM

RS  
AOC is no until we can understand cuts better fyi 12:01 PM

JN  
Do we have the bill? 12:02 PM

RS  
Other Squad offices leaning no too 12:02 PM

RS  
Yes we do have it 12:03 PM

Jamaal Bowman <new #>  
What are the cuts?

JN  
Anyone talking to Schumer? 12:03 PM

RS  
They will talk about all that at mtg 12:03 PM

Rajiv Sicora  
Let us know what you hear

RS  
At HVC215 12:17 PM

Rajiv Sicora  
Caucus mtg will be informative tho for where other ppl are at  
Yeah it is 11:56 AM

Helpful to know caucus message 11:57 AM

And what the heck we plan to do 11:57 AM

Pls go @Jamaal Bowman <new #>

Whip team has no official rec at this time

It's an emergency meeting 11:58 AM

Phew 11:59 AM

[https://x.com/jakesherman/status/1708149436382064942?s=46&t=pm2R\\_-\\_jnorapKjFcLrnwA](https://x.com/jakesherman/status/1708149436382064942?s=46&t=pm2R_-_jnorapKjFcLrnwA) 12:01 PM

Yeah

Members are being instructed to go to HVC215 12:02 PM

23-3357\_0049

Why are we voting no on substance

Is there something we want? 12:19 PM