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Hillary Clinton's Email: the Definitive Timeline

- by [sattkisson](#)
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- in [Benghazi](#), [News](#), [Other Investigations](#)
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2008

December: President Obama nominates Hillary Clinton for secretary of state.

2009

Jan. 13: Reports say the clintonemail.com domain was established.

Jan. 21: Senate confirms Clinton as secretary of state.

March 18: Clinton will later name this as the date she began using a private server for government business.

2012

Sept. 11: Islamic extremists launch the terrorist attacks on U.S. compounds in Benghazi, Libya, killing Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans.

October: Clinton convenes Accountability Review Board (ARB) to investigate State Dept. actions surrounding Benghazi.

After the ARB and Congress call for Benghazi-related documents, top Clinton aides Cheryl Mills and Jake Sullivan are allegedly present at a document sorting session in the basement of the State Dept., according to Deputy Assistant Secretary Raymond Maxwell, who later told me he [witnessed the operation](#). No law enforcement body contacted or interviewed Maxwell.



Former Clinton Deputy Asst Secretary of State says he witnessed Benghazi document-sorting session

Nov. 7: Judicial Watch files Freedom of Information (FOI) Act request with State Dept. for Benghazi-related emails and other information.

December: I (then at CBS News) file a Freedom of Information Act request with the State Dept. for Benghazi-related emails and other information.

Dec. 10, 2012: Clinton cancels a trip due North Africa and the mideast to "illness" and a "bug." State Dept. does not disclose she has fallen and received a head injury.

Dec. 13, 2012: State Dept. discloses that Clinton had "fallen" while suffering from a stomach virus sometime the previous week and gotten a "concussion" that was "not severe." Bill Clinton would later say that her injury "required six months of very serious work to get over."

Clinton postpones imminent Congressional testimony which had been scheduled.

Dec. 18-19: Clinton writes Congress promising to [implement](#) ARB recommendations and ARB officials provide [briefing](#) on their findings.

Judicial Watch files another FOI request with State Dept.

Dec. 30: State Dept. discloses discovery of "blood clot" in her head from the concussion.

2013

Jan. 7: Clinton returns to work after her concussion.

Jan. 23: Clinton [testifies](#) to [Senate Foreign Relations Committee](#) and [House Foreign Affairs Committee](#) where she utters her infamous "What difference, at this point, does it make?" comment.

Feb. 1: Clinton leaves State Dept.

Feb. 25: Judicial Watch files [two lawsuits against State Dept.](#) for failing to lawfully respond to FOI requests.

August: Congress [subpoenas](#) Benghazi documents.

Nov. 26: State Dept. tells me (then at CBS News) that it has posted all documents responsive to my Benghazi FOI request from Dec. 2012.

2014

May 5: Rep. Trey Gowdy, R-S.C., is named head of the House Benghazi Committee to investigate the 2012 terrorist attacks.

May 8: House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, formally announces formation of House Benghazi Committee.

June 13: Judicial Watch files a FOI request with State Dept. seeking Benghazi information and Clinton notes.

August: State Dept. provides House Benghazi Committee with eight emails to or from Clinton that, for the first time, show her use of a private email account.

Sept. 4: Judicial Watch sues State Dept. for failure to respond to a June 13, 2014 FOI request seeking Benghazi records and Clinton notes.

Sept. 17: House Benghazi Committee holds its first public hearing. Topic: implementation of ARB recommendations.

October: State Dept. sends letters to Clinton and her three successors as secretary of state seeking work emails related to personal accounts.

Nov. 18: House Benghazi Committee makes additional request for Clinton emails from State Dept.

Nov. 26: President Obama signs into law an updated Federal Records Act requiring public officials to forward all work-related email to their government address.

December: House Benghazi Committee sends request to the White House for documents and communications pertaining to Benghazi.

Dec. 5: Clinton privately turns over copies of 30,490 “work-related” emails to the State Dept. totaling 55,000 printed pages. No date has been provided as to when she deleted her “private” emails, but it is presumed to be around this time frame.

Dec. 10: House Benghazi Committee holds second public hearing. Topic: implementation of ARB recommendations.

2015

Jan. 27: House Benghazi Committee holds third public hearing. Topic: federal agencies’ poor response to document requests and subpoenas.

February: White House and House Benghazi Committee meet to discuss Dec. 2014 document request. White House eventually produces 266 pages.

Feb. 13: State Dept. produces 300 emails to and from Clinton, but no other documents responsive to the House Benghazi Committee’s broader Nov. 18, 2014 request for all emails to and from Clinton and her senior staff.

Late Feb.: In discussions, the State Dept. informs the House Benghazi Committee that Clinton did not have a government email address, and that it had never had possession of her emails until her attorney first turned them over—in paper form—to the State Dept. in Dec. 2014.

March 2: New York Times reports Clinton may have violated federal regulations by using personal email account hdr22@clintonemail.com for public business as secretary of state.

March 4: Associated Press reports that Clinton’s personal email address traces to private email server at her Chappaqua, New York home registered under pseudonym.

House Benghazi Committee [privately issues](#) two subpoena: one for emails from Clinton’s personal account, the other for documents it requested in Nov. 2014 (but did not receive) relating to 10 senior State Dept. officials.

Clinton does not disclose the subpoena but [tweets](#), “I want the public to see my email. I asked State to release them. They said they will review them for release as soon as possible.”

March 10: Clinton answers questions about her email practices for the first time. She tells reporters:

It was more convenient to use the private server.

“I wanted to use just one device for both personal and work emails instead of two.”

Last year, she deleted nearly 31,000+ emails that were “private.”

She will not turn over her personal email server.

She “fully complied” with the law.

She has turned over to the State Dept. 55,000 pages of work-related emails.

There were 62,320 emails in her account: 30,490 were public business; 31,830 were private.

March 11: Associated Press sues State Dept. for Clinton emails and documents not provided under FOI request.

April 12: Clinton announces she’s running for president.

April 15: Nearly two years after Congress first issues subpoena for ARB documents, the State Dept. produces 1,700+ pages.

April 23: State Dept. produces an additional 2,500 pages of ARB documents.

House Benghazi Committee writes Clinton’s personal attorney to reiterate its “request for her to turn over the server to a neutral, third party, such as an inspector general.”

April: White House produces 266 pages of documents including emails to and from National Security Staff. House Benghazi Committee sends White House another letter reiterating and refining its Dec. 2014 request for additional documents.

April 30: House Benghazi Committee [announces](#) the State Dept. has provided 4,000 more pages of documents, for the first time related to the ARB’s work.

Judicial Watch announces [a lawsuit](#) to release documents regarding Clinton’s use of iPhone or iPad for official business.

May 5-6, 2015: Judicial Watch files [seven new FOI lawsuits](#) related to Clinton's use of private email server, seeking emails of her top aide Huma Abedin and records about Benghazi and the Clinton Foundation.



May 8: House Benghazi Committee releases [interim report](#):

It has received 20,000+ pages of new emails and documents from State Dept. for the first time including emails to or from Clinton. It has held 24+ classified and unclassified briefings with the Administration and Executive Branch agencies.

May 22: State Dept. releases 296 [Benghazi-related emails](#) from Clinton's private email account.

Week of June 16: House Benghazi Committee deposes Clinton confidant Sidney Blumenthal behind closed doors in a deposition nearly nine hours long.

June 22: House Benghazi Committee releases [60 emails](#) sent to Clinton by [Blumenthal](#), including some regarding Libya.

June 25: State Dept. provides House Benghazi Committee with some subpoenaed Benghazi-related emails that that Clinton had not turned over previously.

July 7: House Benghazi Committee releases news of Clinton subpoena (from last March) for the first time.

July 23: The New York Times reports that two Inspectors General have asked the Department of Justice to investigate whether Clinton mishandled sensitive government information.

July 28: Clinton revises her statement regarding classified email to say she is confident she never sent or received emails that were *classified at the time*

July 31: The federal judge in a Judicial Watch FOI suit, Emmet Sullivan, [orders State Dept.](#) to request that Clinton and top aides Cheryl Mills and Human Abedin confirm, under penalty of perjury, that they have produced all government records in their possession, return any other government records immediately, and describe their use of Hillary Clinton's email server to conduct government business.

Aug. 5: State Dept. sends letter to Clinton including Judge Sullivan's order.

Aug. 6: Cheryl Mills' attorney tells Judicial Watch it has instructed Mills to "delete any and all electronic copies [of potential federal records] in her possession" after her anticipated production of records on Aug. 10. Judicial Watch files an emergency request to block the destruction.

Aug. 11: Inspector General report to the Senate [contradicts Clinton claims](#); some Clinton emails, says the IG, contained information that was classified at the time.

FBI takes custody of Clinton server and thumb drives.

Aug. 12: Clinton campaign strikes back as her poll numbers falter, including using the [Media Matters](#) blog to print her talking points attacking news reports on NBC and Fox. The blog uses other left-wing [Astroturf](#) outlets such as "Vox" as supposed support for its claims.

Aug. 15: In a campaign appearance at the [Iowa State Fair](#), Clinton revises her statement about classified email a second time, stating that she never sent or received any that were "marked" classified.



Aug. 19: Clinton's personal lawyer tells a Senate committee that all data, including emails, was erased from her server prior to it being turned over to the FBI.

Clinton tells [reporters](#) the investigation surrounding her server "has nothing to do with me." She contradicts the Inspector General by reiterating that she never sent or received classified material.

Aug. 20: State Dept. tells Judge Sullivan Clinton did not use State Dept. issued or secure Blackberry device; Blackberries used by Clinton aides Cheryl Mills and Human Abedin were likely destroyed.

Oct. 22: Clinton is scheduled to testify before House Benghazi Committee on this date.

[benghazi committee](#), [email](#), [Hillary Clinton](#), [server](#), [subpoena](#), [trey gowdy](#)

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