

MICHAEL V. LAWLER
17TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK
HOUSE FINANCIAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE
HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE
lawler.house.gov



WASHINGTON DC OFFICE:
324 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3217
(202) 225-6506

DISTRICT OFFICE:
ONE BLUE HILL PLAZA
THIRD FLOOR, P.O. BOX 1645
PEARL RIVER, NY 10965
(845) 201-2060

CARMEL TOWN HALL
60 McALPIN AVENUE
MAHOPAC, NY 10541
(845) 743-7130

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3217

The Honorable Ruben Gallego
United States Senator
302 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

April 14, 2026

Dear Senator Gallego:

In light of your personal and professional relationship with Eric Swalwell, I urge you to release all communications exchanged between yourself and the alleged predator. As a strong advocate for releasing the Epstein files, it is only right that you adhere to the same standard set by you and Congress with respect to those with close ties to serial abusers.

Your friendship with Rep. Swalwell is well-documented. During his 2020 presidential run, you served as his National Campaign Chairman. You traveled the country together and attended events side by side. Further, you went on a trip together to Qatar, posting photographs riding camels shirtless, indicating that the trip was not merely business meetings. And just in the past few months at a campaign event for the Congressman's gubernatorial race, he referred to you as his "[best friend in the world](#)." Furthermore, it is well documented that you were roommates while serving together in the House.

As you know, on April 10, 2026, the San Francisco Chronicle and CNN reported on multiple allegations of sexual assault and sexual harassment against Rep. Eric Swalwell. These reports included well-documented accounts from four brave women who came forward.

This includes a former employee of the Congressman. She alleges that when she was 25 working on his staff, he would send her sexually explicit messages on Snapchat and on one particular occasion, requested oral sex while she was performing her official duties during the work day. While employed in the office, he had nonconsensual sexual contact with her while she was heavily intoxicated. And a similar story transpired after her employment, where she said he got her drunk and raped her in his New York City hotel room.

Another young woman, who had originally reached out to the Congressman for professional advice, also reported nonconsensual sexual contact while she was intoxicated. This woman said she felt "fuzzy" while at a bar with the Congressman and then ended up in his hotel room with no recollection of how she got there. After the incident, Rep. Swalwell continued to contact her, including offering to write her a letter of recommendation for law school.

Two other women claim that Rep. Swalwell sent them sexually explicit messages and photos.

Earlier today, a fifth woman came forward. She said that the Congressman spiked her drink at a public event and then raped her in his hotel room. At one point, he choked her and she lost consciousness.

Following the original report, Rep. Swalwell's staff came out against him. First, his senior staff from his congressional office and his gubernatorial campaign office released a statement standing with these women and contending their job titles do not indicate support for him, as they look for new employment for themselves and their junior staff. In the following days, former members of his staff released a similar letter, expressing disgust with his conduct and urging him to resign.

These allegations are disgusting, and anyone who knew of his seemingly consistent behavior should be held accountable for protecting him as well.

If you truly had no knowledge of his sexual assault allegations and inappropriate conduct towards young women, you should have nothing to hide. In the interest of full transparency, you must release all text messages, emails, group chat messages including over Signal, social media communications, including Facebook, Instagram, X, Snapchat, TikTok, as well as any photos and videos.

I urge you to do the right thing, stand with Rep. Swalwell's accusers, and release the files.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Lawler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael V. Lawler
Member of Congress