

COVID Criminals in the Wild Wild West

Analysis by Dr. Joseph Mercola



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STORY AT-A-GLANCE

- In May 2022, the New Civil Liberties Alliance and the attorneys general of Missouri and Louisiana (Eric Schmitt and Jeff Landry) sued President Biden for illegally colluding with social media companies to suppress Americans' First Amendment rights to free speech
- October 21, 2022, the court authorized expedited depositions of eight key federal officials. Dr. Anthony Fauci's deposition took place November 23, 2022, and the full transcript was released December 5
- > Fauci, who last year claimed to be the personification of science and whose statements could not be challenged or questioned, suddenly did not know much about anything and even claimed he's unqualified to speak on certain scientific issues. According to the transcript, Fauci answered questions with "I don't recall" 174 times
- > In his deposition, Fauci definitively stated that it is "impossible" that the research he funded in Wuhan could have sparked the pandemic. Yet at the same time, he claimed to be only "vaguely familiar" with the research he funded there
- > Fauci also denied knowing key researchers whose work he's been funding with millions of dollars for years, including Shi Zhengli at the Wuhan Institute of Virology, EcoHealth Alliance president Peter Daszak and Ralph Baric at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

In May 2022, the New Civil Liberties Alliance and the attorneys general of Missouri and Louisiana (Eric Schmitt and Jeff Landry) sued¹ President Biden for illegally colluding with social media companies to suppress Americans' First Amendment rights to free

speech, and to ban or deplatform those who shared unauthorized views about COVID and vaccines.

In early October 2022, after the discovery process revealed the names of federal officials actively engaged in behind-the-scenes censoring of Americans, dozens of defendants were added to the lawsuit, bringing the total number of named defendants to 67.2,3 As reported by the New Civil Liberties Alliance September 1, 2022:4

"... scores of federal officials ... have secretly communicated with social-media platforms to censor and suppress private speech federal officials disfavor. This unlawful enterprise has been wildly successful.

Under the First Amendment, the federal government may not police private speech nor pick winners and losers in the marketplace of ideas. But that is precisely what the government has done — and is still doing — on a massive scale not previously divulged."

Background on the Case

Not surprisingly, the White House fought to keep communications secret — especially with regard to Dr. Anthony Fauci's correspondence — claiming all White House communications as "privileged."

However, executive privilege does not apply to external communications, so in early September 2022, Judge Terry Doughty rejected the Biden administration's claim of executive privilege and ordered the White House to hand over any and all relevant records, 5,6 including correspondence to and from Fauci.

October 21, 2022, the court also authorized⁷ expedited depositions of eight key federal officials named in the 'case,' Fauci included.^{8,9} The DOJ then asked the judge for a protective order to keep videotaped depositions under seal,¹⁰ effectively demonstrating that it's onboard with these unconstitutional activities.

In the end, the depositions were not kept secret. Fauci's deposition took place

November 23, 2022,¹¹ and the full transcript¹² was released December 5.¹³ In a December 5, 2022, press release, Schmitt stated:¹⁴

"Missouri and Louisiana are leading the way in exposing how the federal government and the Biden Administration worked with social media to censor speech. In our deposition with Dr. Fauci, it became clear that when Dr. Fauci speaks, social media censors.

I encourage everyone to read the deposition transcript and see exactly how Dr. Fauci operates, and exactly how the COVID tyranny that ruined lives and destroyed businesses was born."

AG Landry added:15

"Fauci's recent deposition only confirmed what we already knew: federal bureaucrats in collusion with social media companies want to control not only what you think, but especially what you say.

During no time in human history was this more obvious than during the COVID-19 crisis where social engineering tactics were used against the American public, not to limit your exposure to a virus, but to limit your exposure to information that did not fit within a government sanctioned narrative."

Fauci Suffers Acute Memory Loss

Ironically, Fauci, who last year claimed¹⁶ to be the personification of science itself and whose statements could not be challenged or questioned, suddenly could not recall much of anything and even claimed he's unqualified to speak on certain issues related to the virus, as seen in the extract below.

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BY MR. SAUER:
9
10
             Under overview, do you see the third
         0.
11
    sentence that's bolded beginning "Analysis of the
12
    virus"?
13
         A.
14
             That bolded sentence says, "Analysis of
15
   the virus genome sequences clearly demonstrates that
16
    the virus is not a laboratory construct or
17
    experimentally manipulated virus"; correct?
18
               Correct.
19
               Was that a conclusion that you and
20
    Jeremy and Francis Collins discussed in this time
21
    frame?
22
             As I mentioned before, I don't find -- I
23 am not qualified since I am not an evolutionary
   virologist to make any kind of definitive
    determination about whether a genome could or could
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1	not be a laboratory construct or experimentally
2	manipulative.
3	I have relied, as anyone would, with
4	highly qualified, respected evolutionary virologists

According to the transcript, Fauci answered questions with "I don't recall" 174 times. He also claimed he didn't know key collaborators and was only vaguely familiar with projects he funded at the WIV, the lab in or from which the COVID-19 pandemic appears to have originated. As noted by Justin Goodman with the White Coat Waste Project:¹⁷

"What really jumped out at me ... is that in the deposition Fauci definitively states at numerous points that it is 'impossible' that the animal experiments that he funded in Wuhan could have sparked the pandemic.

At the same time, he claims he's only 'vaguely familiar' with the project he was funding there and that he barely knows the key players, including Shi Zhengli, Peter Daszak, Ralph Baric and EcoHealth Alliance. He can't have it both ways."

Indeed, how can Fauci have almost no insight into the research he funded over the years yet be "certain" that none of it resulted in the creation of SARS-CoV-2?

Since February 2020, I've been keeping my readers abreast on the ever-mounting evidence showing SARS-CoV-2 was manmade, and possibly the result of intentional bioweapons development. A number of those articles are shown in the video below, posted on Twitter by a user named NOBODY AF.

Wild West in Wuhan

In a February 4, 2020, email (below), Fauci emailed then-director of the NIH, Dr. Francis Collins and Wellcome Trust director Jeremy Farrar: "?? Serial passage in ACE2-transgenic mice."

The possibility that SARS-CoV-2 might have been created using a process known as serial passaging through mice with human ACE2 receptors has been raised several times since then. 18 It's one way in which you can give a virus new abilities without resorting to gene editing.

"Exactly!" Farrar replied. Fauci was obviously surprised that such experiments had taken place in a biosafety 2 lab (BSL-2) in Wuhan, to which Farrar replied "Wild West," an indication that the research industry, which wants to regulate itself, is out of control, conducting risky experiments in labs that aren't set up to handle dangerous pathogens.

From:	Jeremy Farrar			
Sent:	Tue, 4 Feb 2020 20:26:23 +	0000		
To:	collins, Francis (NIH/OD) [E];Fauci, Anthony (NIH/NIAID) [E]			
Subject:	Re: Prevalence of infection	and stage of the epidemic in W	uhan	
Wild West				
From: Francis Collin	(b) (6)			
Date: Tuesday, 4 Fe	bruary 2020 at 20:23			
To: Jeremy Farrar	(b) (6) ₁	"Fauci, Anthony (NIH/NIAID)	[E]"	
	b) (6)			
Subject: RE: Prevale	ence of infection and stage	of the epidemic in Wuhan		
- 24				
Surely that wouldn'	t be done in a BSL-2 lab?			
From: Jeremy Farrar	(b) (6)			
Sent: Tuesday, Februa	ary 4, 2020 9:03 AM			
To: Fauci, Anthony (N		(b) (6) Collins, Francis (NIH/OI	D) [E]	
< (b) (6	1			
Subject: Re: Prevalen	ce of infection and stage of th	e epidemic in Wuhan		
Exactlyl				
From: "Fauci, Antho	ony (NIH/NIAID) [E]"	(b) (6) >		
Date: Tuesday, 4 Fe	bruary 2020 at 13:18			
To: Francis Collins (b) (6), Jeremy Farrar (c)				
Subject: RE: Prevale	ence of infection and stage	of the epidemic in Wuhan		
?? Serial passage	in ACE2-transgenic mid	e		
Anthony S. Fauci, M	D			
Director	44			
National Institute of	Allergy and Infectious Disea	1565		

The implication here is that doing gain of function research in a level 2 lab massively increases the risk of that pathogen escaping, as BSL-2s do not have the proper containment measures. Yet, mere days later, in an interview with Newt Gingrich, Fauci flatly rejected claims that there were concerns about the safety practiced at the Wuhan lab, calling it "a conspiracy theory." 19

In January 2021, the U.S. State Department released a fact sheet²⁰ on the Wuhan lab, based on classified materials, which again raised questions about safety at the Wuhan lab.

According to this report, "Scientists in China have researched animal-derived coronaviruses under conditions that increased the risk for accidental and potentially unwitting exposure." The report also noted that the WIV was engaged in classified

research on behalf of the Chinese military, and that the lab had "not been transparent or consistent about its record of studying viruses most similar to the COVID-19 virus."

Fauci's Suppression of The Great Barrington Declaration

Fauci was also deposed about his suppression of The Great Barrington Declaration, which called for focused protection of the vulnerable and isolation of those infected rather than nationwide lockdowns. Focused protection has been a longstanding basic principle of public health that we've followed for decades.

Emails reveal Fauci and Collins colluded behind the scenes to quash the declaration from Day 1, and since they couldn't defend lockdowns based on science, they resorted to propaganda, PR and smear tactics instead. In an October 8, 2020, email to Fauci, Collins wrote:^{21,22,23,24}

"The proposal from the three fringe epidemiologists ... seems to be getting a lot of attention ... There needs to be a quick and devastating published take down of its premises ..."

"Don't worry, I got this," Fauci replied. Later, Fauci sent Collins links to newly published articles refuting the focused protection solution, including an op-ed in Wired magazine, and an article in The Nation titled "Focused Protection, Herd Immunity and Other Deadly Delusions."

In his deposition, however, Fauci suddenly could not recall how or when he became aware of the Declaration.

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16
               You said earlier, I think, that you don't
17
     recall how you first became aware of the Great
    Barrington Declaration?
19
                I can't say the moment I became aware of
20
     it. I don't recall. I became aware of it. I don't
21
     know precisely when I became aware of it.
22
               Do you remember the context in which you
23
    became aware of it? Was it raised to you by a
    colleague or surfing the internet or something like
25
     that?
1
               I don't recall how that -- how that
    occurred.
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When confronted with Collins' October 8 email, Fauci could only "vaguely" remember getting the email, and could not recall whether he'd actually read the Declaration, which Collins linked to.

Either way, Fauci claimed the Declaration had been of little interest to him. "I wouldn't imagine that I would be overwhelmingly interested," Fauci said. He also couldn't remember if he'd ever responded to Collins' email, even though he'd promised Collins to take care of the problem, and later sent links to propaganda articles that tried to debunk focused protection.

When asked, "Do you know what he's referring to when he talks about a quick and devastating takedown?" Fauci replied "I do not know what he's referring to. I would imagine I was thinking that someone would take the counterargument of what the premise was ... I don't know specifically what he meant ... He's likely talking about writing a scholarly article to contest some of the premises ... That would be his style."

Collins, however, never composed a scholarly article to counter the focused protection argument. Instead, mainstream media suddenly published articles that were critical of it — after Fauci told Collins, "I got this."

When the American Institute for Economic Research (AIER) recently filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request with the NIH for Fauci's correspondence about The Great Barrington Declaration with British counterparts, they received 61 pages of emails, 58 of which were completely redacted.²⁵ Clearly, the NIH does not want to admit to whatever was said in those emails.

Emails Reveal Daszak's Role in Shaping Public Messaging

In a December 8, 2022, article,²⁶ U.S. Right to Know (USRTK) reviewed emails showing EcoHealth Alliance president Peter Daszak played a central role in the creation of the public messaging about COVID-19's origin and "helped steer the media and scientific community away from questions about whether COVID-19 could have originated in a lab."

This is notable, considering Daszak was the middleman who funneled funding for gain of function research on coronaviruses from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) through the EcoHealth Alliance to the WIV. USRTK writes:²⁷

"Emails between Daszak and University of North Carolina virologist Ralph Baric, another collaborator of the laboratory at the pandemic's epicenter, offer new behind-the-scenes insights into Daszak's influence.

Baric's experiments with the Wuhan lab included gain-of-function experiments to make viruses more transmissible or virulent. The White House was dissuaded from investigating the possibility of a lab origin of COVID-19 in part by discussions that included both Daszak and Baric, according to a March 2020 email²⁸ written by Daszak.

And in a separate May 2020 email,²⁹ Daszak told Baric that he used talking points intended to discourage reporters from asking questions about potential gain-of-function work on coronaviruses ...

These new revelations add to the evidence of Daszak's central role in shaping public perceptions about COVID-19's origins. He secretly³⁰ organized a statement³¹ in the prestigious medical journal The Lancet deeming a lab origin a 'conspiracy theory.'

He served as the U.S. representative on the 2021 World Health Organization origins investigation in China, which dismissed a lab origin as 'extremely unlikely.' He also formerly chaired a Lancet Commission probe into the origins of COVID-19 which was disbanded after Daszak declined to share his grant reports ...

Daszak and Baric both participated in the task force convened by the National Academies to inform the White House's science office about information required to determine the origin of the pandemic ...

'I don't think this committee will be getting into the lab release or bioengineering hypothesis again any time soon — White House seems to be satisfied with the earlier meeting, paper in Nature and general comments within [the] scientific community,' Daszak told³² Baric."

In a May 6, 2020, email,³³ Daszak also coached Baric on how to deflect and steer questions about gain of function research that might have contributed to the creation of SARS-CoV-2. Daszak said he would "practice lines" to deflect and change the topic to natural spillover.

Proposed Legislation Aims to Penalize Government Censorship

While the U.S. Constitution guarantees certain rights, including the right to free speech, this inviolable law of the land has not been able to prevent encroaching tyranny, thanks to the fact that those charged with adhering to it and upholding it aren't doing their jobs. They're blatantly snubbing their noses at it, pretending as though it doesn't exist.

In response, three Republican House Representatives on the House Oversight and Reform, Judiciary, and Commerce committees — Reps. James Comer of Kentucky, Jim

Jordan of Ohio, and Cathy McMorris Rodgers of Washington — have introduced the Protecting Speech from Government Interference Act³⁴ (HR.8752), specifically aimed at preventing federal employees from using their positions to influence censorship decisions by tech platforms.

While the U.S. Constitution clearly forbids government censoring and restricting free speech, HR. 8752 could be a helpful enforcement tool, as people might tend to think twice when they know there's a real price to pay. 99

The bill would create restrictions to prevent federal employees from asking or encouraging private entities to censor private speech or otherwise discourage free speech, and impose penalties, including civil fines and disciplinary actions for government employees who facilitate social media censorship.

While the U.S. Constitution clearly forbids government censoring and restricting free speech, HR. 8752 could be a helpful enforcement tool — and we clearly need enforcement — as people might tend to think twice when they know there's a price to pay, both personally and financially. If you agree, call on your representatives to back HR. 8752.

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