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PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

What did Les Wexner say in his Epstein deposition?

Columbus Dispatch
USA TODAY NETWORK

New Albany billionaire Les Wexner testified to a congressional committee from his New Albany home for nearly five hours on Feb. 18 about his relationship with disgraced and now deceased financier Jeffrey Epstein.



Wexner

Epstein, a convicted sex offender, died in 2019 in what New York City's chief medical examiner ruled a suicide in a New York jail cell awaiting trial on child sex trafficking charges. He was Wexner's former financial adviser, and the two had a close relationship for years.

The House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform released its full deposition video of Wexner on Feb. 19.

A spokesperson for Wexner declined to comment for this story.

Here are key takeaways from the interview with the committee.

Wexner answers questions about Ohio State OB-GYN Mark Landon

Wexner told questioners that he was not aware of payments made to Dr. Mark Landon, an OB-GYN at Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center and who documents show was being paid by Epstein.

Landon has said he did not provide medical care to Epstein but was a consultant on bio-tech investments from 2001 to 2005. Records released by the Justice Department suggest Landon was being paid \$25,000 to \$30,000 at a time.

A memo left for Epstein on April 11, 2005, stated: "Dr. Landon's \$25k quarterly payment is due, please approve." Later that day, the same individual followed up with an additional memo making reference to Wexner and his wife, Abigail.

"FYI: on the Dr. Landon quarterly payments, we (NYSG) billed LHW/Abigail in advance as we have in prior years," the

memo read.

But asked by a member of Congress if he knew about the payments, Wexner responded, "Sadly I don't." He said he had never heard of New York Strategy Group, the Epstein money management firm for which Landon consulted.

Wexner said he did not introduce Landon and Epstein and that Landon had treated his Abigail Wexner.

Wexner calls final email to Epstein a 'middle finger'

Four days before he pleaded guilty in Florida in 2008 to soliciting sex with someone younger than 18, Epstein received an email from Wexner.

"Abigail told me the response," Wexner wrote, referring to his wife. "All I can say is I feel sorry. You violated your own number 1 rule... Always be careful."

Epstein's reply: "no excuse."

When asked in the deposition about

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A FREEZING FOG COVERED FREMONT



Fremont's First Presbyterian Church was barely visible from the Birchard Public Library through the freezing fog that rolled in on Feb. 19. ROGER LAPOINTE/THE NEWS- MESSENGER

Roger LaPointe Fremont News-Messenger | USA TODAY NETWORK

FREMONT – The streetlamps formed halos, barely lighting the roads and the First Presbyterian Church was shrouded in freezing fog that rolled in on Feb. 19. Temperatures dropped in the evening, on the edge of freezing, altering the fog that hit before the sun set.

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Bill aims to protect crossing guards

Jessie Balmert
Enquirer Statehouse Bureau
USA TODAY NETWORK

Becky Evans can't go back to the Franklin City Schools crosswalk where she was struck while helping students get across the road.

"I can't go out there," Evans said. "I just have to pray every day that my kids get across the street and somebody's going to sit there and help them."

Evans was volunteering as a crossing guard on Jan. 31, 2025, when a driver blew through a school zone. Evans saved several children from harm, but wasn't able to escape before she was struck. The driver's penalty was a \$48 fine.

That's not enough to deter bad behavior, said Reps. Tom Young, R-Washington Township, and Andrea White, R-Kettering. They introduced House Bill 690, which would increase penalties and fines for drivers who ignore school crossing guards.

The proposed law would make it a first-degree misdemeanor to harass, threaten, intimidate or interfere with school crossing guards while they are working. The maximum penalty would be six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine.

Drivers could face double the fines if the offense occurs in a school zone while the lower speed limit is in effect. Drivers would also receive points on their driver's license, which can eventually lead to a suspended license.

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