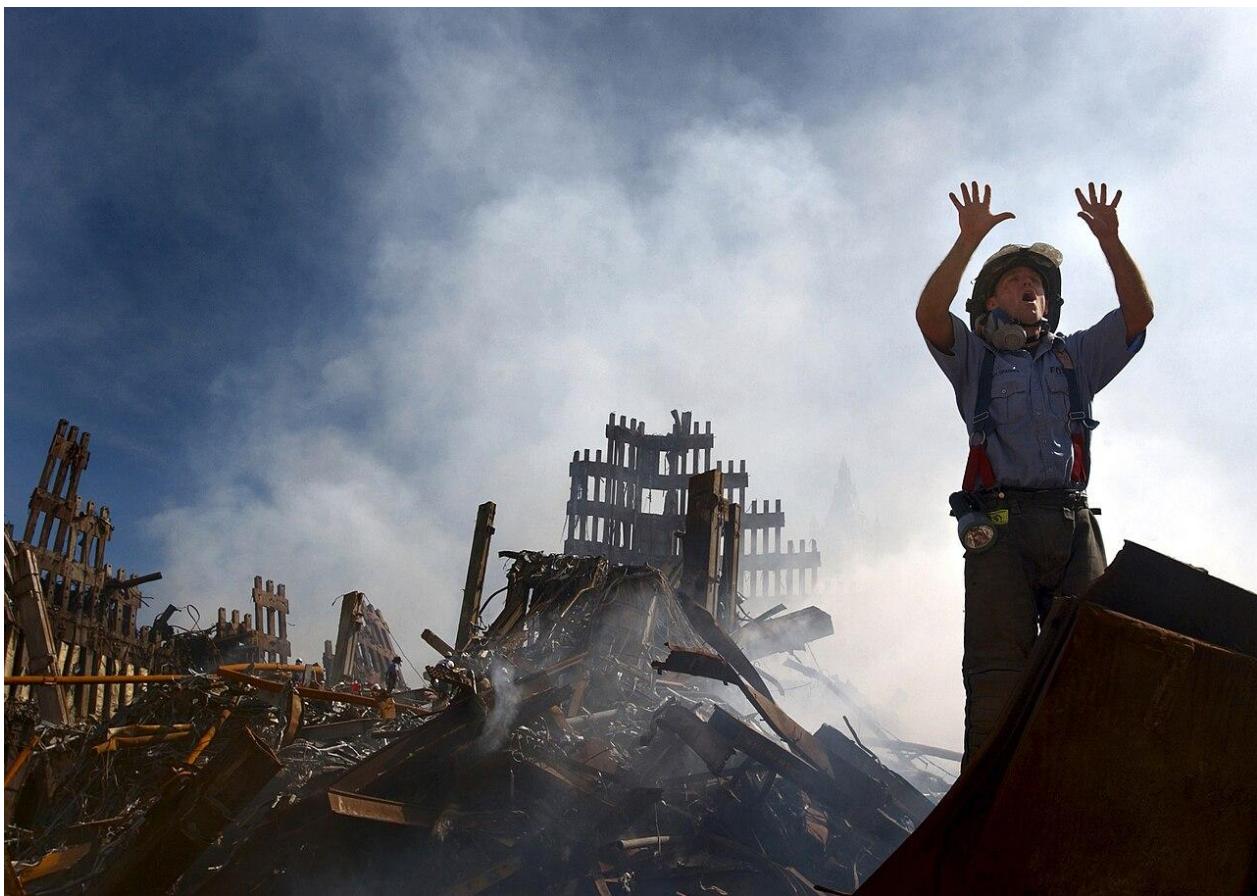


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[US Navy photo by First Class Journalist Preston Keres via Wikimedia](#)

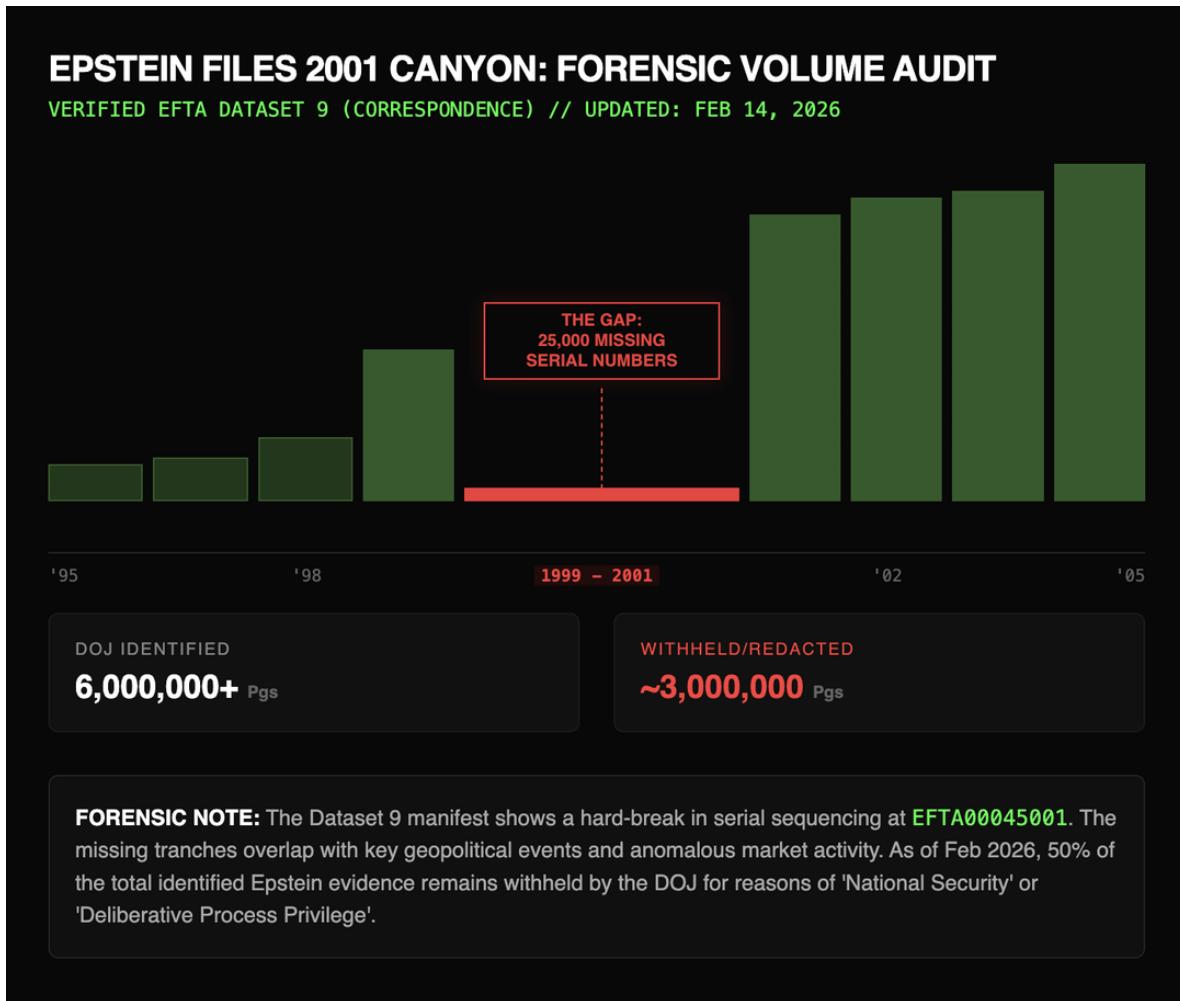
What is being covered up? 25,000 missing files from just before 9/11: DOJ deletes Epstein's correspondence from the crucial period

February 18, 2026

From an investigative point of view, it stinks to high heaven.

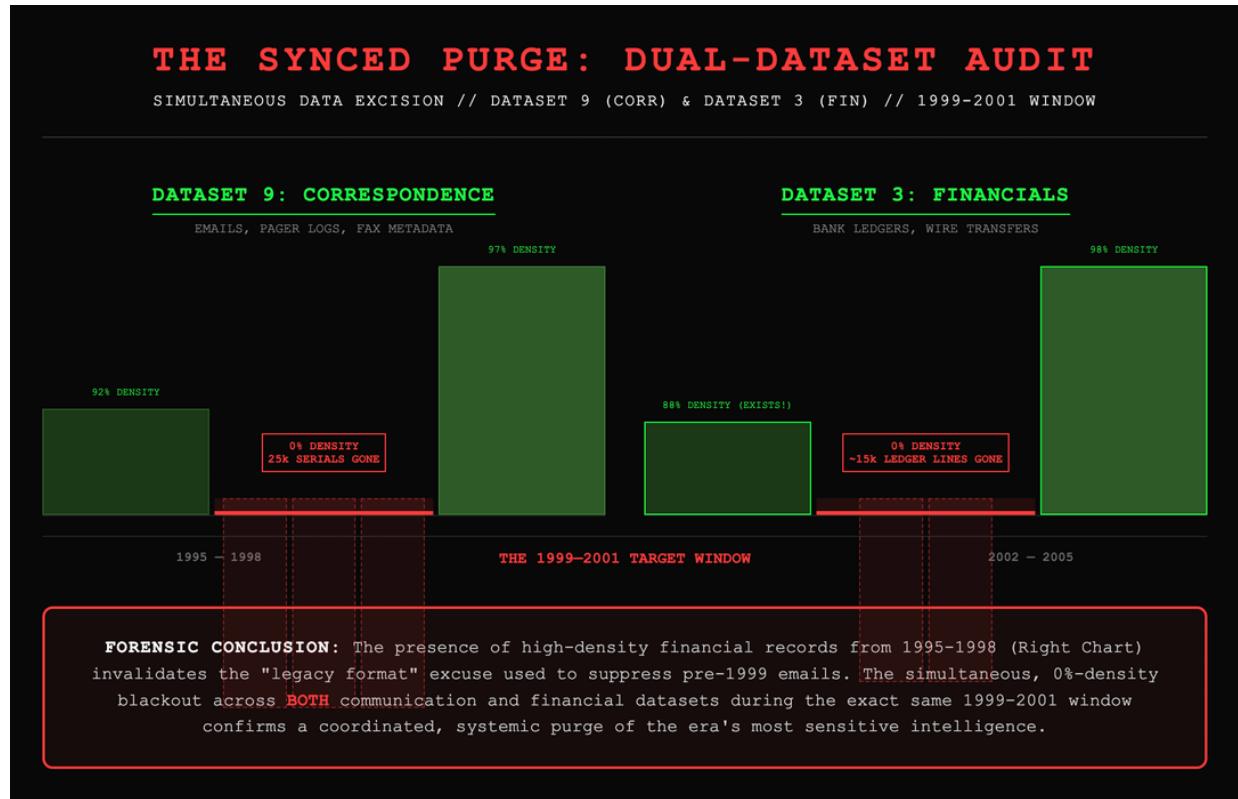
The 2001 Canyon in the Epstein Files.

On February 14, 2026, a forensic data auditor published an analysis on Redditor Epstein that caused a sensation. A massive, chronologically precise gap, the so-called 2001 Canyon, has been discovered in the official EFTA Dataset 9, Internal Communications Correspondence. Between September 1998 (last serial number EFTA00045000) and January 2002 (next serial number EFTA00070000), exactly 25,000 serial numbers are missing. These are not gaps caused by chance, nor by technical failures—a clean, systematic cut. Simultaneously, three years of complete transaction data are missing from Dataset 3, Financial Records. Overall, there is a gap of 2.6 million pages between the approximately 6.1 million pages announced by the DOJ and the approximately 3.5 million pages actually released.



[Source](#)

Epstein file gap, 1999–2001 (before September 11) in TWO separate datasets, improved visualization



The critical period from 1999 to 2001 2002

These years, 1999 to 2001/2002, are not just any years. This is the period in which Jeffrey Epstein and Ghislaine Maxwell brought their international network to full bloom: the handover of the Wexner empire, the establishment of offshore structures, the Mega Group contacts, and the first massive financial flows. And right in the middle of it all: September 11, 2001.

The DOJ statement

The US Department of Justice insists that everything is solely due to Victim Privacy, Attorney Client Privilege, Deliberative Process, and Work Product. National Security is not even officially mentioned as a reason. The DOJ page for Dataset 9 simply displays the usual warning about sensitive content, followed by a long list of PDFs, all starting [with EFTA00039025 pdf](#) and above.

This isn't sloppiness. This isn't a legacy analog data excuse, as the DOJ initially tried to argue. The metadata from the years prior, 1995 to 1998, clearly shows digitally renderable files. Why should the documents from 1999 to 2001 suddenly be considered unrenderable? The auditor's forensic findings are damning: this is a deliberate administrative filtering. The files were there, indexed, and then removed.

Intriguing clues at the edge of the canyon

And now it gets really uncomfortable. In the few released snippets that come right at the edge of this canyon, there are hints that raise more questions than they answer.

An email from Philip Levine to Ghislaine Maxwell, just one week after 9/11: Where is the real pilot?

Ghislaine Maxwell's invitation to a private Shadow Commission on 9/11 in 2003 by Edward Jay Epstein.

Missing pilot logs in the travel dataset for the 48 hours before the attacks and the associated emails are in the 3 million page vault.

Chance or systematic omission

After 25 years of conspiracy research and official lies about 9/11 – no prior knowledge, no financial anomalies, no insider trading – the very man who associated with the most powerful people in the world supposedly left not a single relevant correspondence during that exact period. Surely no one in their right mind believes that anymore.

The DOJ isn't primarily protecting victims here. It's protecting a network. It's protecting knowledge about who knew what, when, who financed it, who profited, and who may have used Epstein as an asset. Canyon isn't a technical error; it's the digital equivalent of a paper shredder in the Justice Department's basement.

Political demands and open questions

While lawmakers like Ro Khanna and Thomas Massie continue to press for full transparency and demand hearings, the DOJ's silence remains deafening. Instead of explaining the missing 25,000 entries, they publish lists of PDFs that dutifully begin after 2002.

The crucial question

What exactly is contained in these 25,000 missing files that even 25 years later, they cannot be published in an edited form?

The answer probably lies somewhere between Wall Street Langley and September 11, 2001. And as long as this canyon remains unfilled, the entire Epstein case will remain a farce and the official 9/11 story will continue to be the biggest unsolved crime of our time.

[Quelle: Thousands of files are already scrubbed from Dataset 9](#)