

EXCLUSIVEEXCLUSIVE: Democrat insiders say it is now 'PANIC TIME' and party should DUMP Joe Biden, 81, at its summer convention with Gavin Newsom 'waiting in the wings' after Justice Department said president had 'diminished faculties'

By Nick Allen For Dailymail.com 11:11 EST 09 Feb 2024 , updated 12:04 EST 09 Feb 2024



- **A Justice Department report said Biden has 'diminished faculties' after classified documents were found in his garage**
- **Democrat movement to 'change horses mid-race' is growing**
- **READ MORE: [Joe Biden's garage looked like a scene from 'Hoarders'](#)**

[Democrat](#) insiders say it is now 'panic time' after a Justice Department report concluded [Joe Biden](#) has 'diminished faculties' and is an 'elderly man with a poor memory'.

Increasingly, behind the scenes, a plan is being considered to remove the 81-year-old president as the Democrat nominee at the party's convention in [Chicago](#) in August.

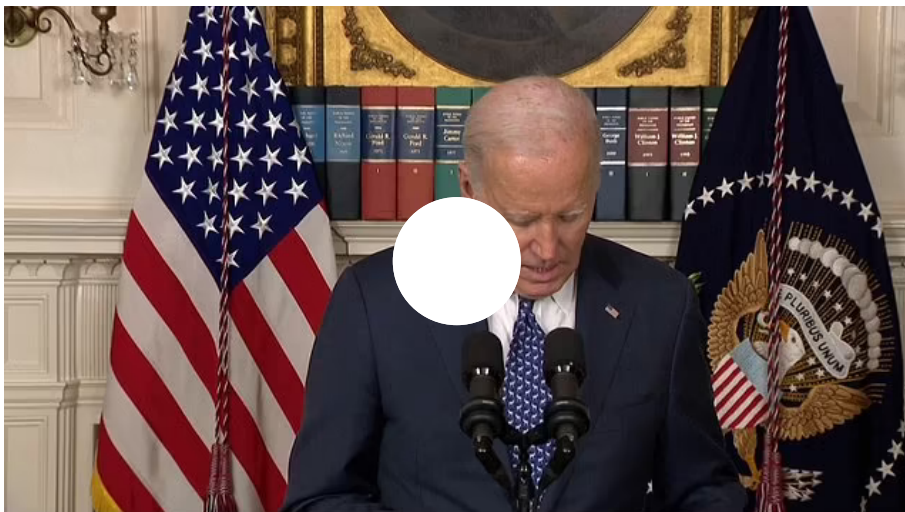
The leading candidates to replace him include [California](#) governor [Gavin Newsom](#) and [Michigan](#) governor Gretchen Whitmer.

'I think it is now panic time. Biden should not be our standard bearer,' a former senior Democrat [White House](#) official, who worked with Biden, told Dailymail.com.

'He looked like a deer stuck in the headlights last night. There isn't enough gas in the tank for another four and-a-half years. Ultimately we're going to see more more prominent Democrats saying the quiet part out loud.

'It's increasingly clear we have a deeply flawed candidate. Democracy is in the balance and this is not a smart path for our party.'

'I know what the hell I'm doing!' Biden angrily addresses the nation





U.S. President Joe Biden reacts angrily as he answers questions about a Justice Department report into his handling of classified documents



This image, contained in the report from special counsel, shows the garage of President Biden where classified documents were found in Wilmington, during a search by the FBI on Dec. 21, 2022

On Thursday night Biden delivered a furious response to a 388-page report by Justice Department special counsel Robert Hur, which found he willfully retained and shared classified documents, some of which were found dumped in his garage.

At one point in a rambling press conference at the White House he misidentified the president of Egypt as the president of Mexico.

'I think there was a lot of aspirin consumed last night at the White House, they're trying to put the toothpaste back in the bottle but once it's out it's out,' the former official said. 'This has brought into public view what was acknowledged privately.'

'It now sits starkly in black and white in a report from the justice

department. This not a partisan hit job.

'We're talking about an extremely dangerous time in the world and he (Biden) is having these memory lapses while events are changing by the second. We've had two instances in the last week where he's brought dead European leaders back to life.'



Governor of U.S. state of California Gavin Newsom is said to be 'waiting in the wings' although he has said he would not run against Joe Biden



Many Democrats want former first lady Michelle Obama to replace Joe Biden as the 2024 Democrat nominee



Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, who Biden considered as a potential running mate, speaks at the SelectUSA

In those instances Biden described recent conversations with the late French and German leaders Francois Mitterrand and Helmut Kohl.

Democrats who think Biden should be the nominee face challenges because some deadlines for registering on state ballots have already passed.

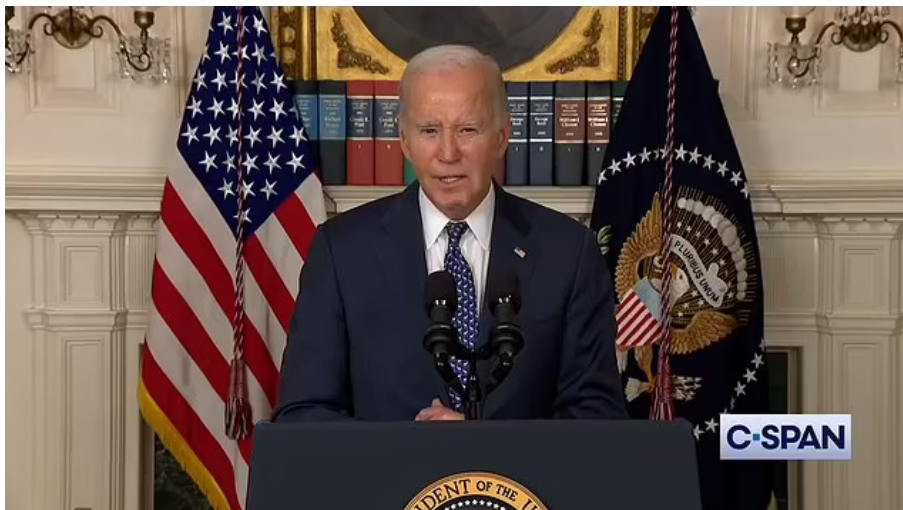
'We're probably going to get to the convention and have to solve this if Biden hasn't stepped aside by then,' the former Democrat official said.

'At this point that is the optimal outcome for how we can change horses mid-race and get on board with someone who doesn't have the fragility.'

The former official said Newsom, Whitmer and Illinois governor J.B. Pritzker had shown strength against Donald Trump's MAGA movement.

'These folks are waiting in the wings. What they need is the the air cover to start showing signs they are able to step in.'

Biden addresses reports of mental confusion over son's death





This image, contained in the report from special counsel Robert Hur, shows notebooks in a file cabinet under a printer that were seized in first-floor home office of President Joe Biden in Wilmington, Del., on Jan. 20, 2023, during a search by FBI agents

Others have floated the idea of a run by an even more well-known figure like Michelle Obama.

A recent Daily Mail poll found 60 percent of Americans think Biden should not run again.

In an alarming sign for Biden it found 44 percent of Democrats thought it

was not too late to replace him a the nominee.

A Democrat member of Congress told NBC the Justice Department report was a 'nightmare' and the party was now in a 'grim situation'.

Meanwhile, an ally of Biden told the network it was "the worst day of his presidency."