

## **2020 Presidential election**

**A Washington Post investigation found that more than a year would pass before prosecutors and FBI agents jointly embarked on a formal probe of actions directed from the White House to try to steal the election. Even then, the FBI stopped short of identifying the former president as a focus of that investigation.**

**...**

**The Justice Department's painstaking approach to investigating Trump can be traced to [Attorney General Merrick] Garland's desire to turn the page from missteps, bruising attacks and allegations of partisanship in the department's recent investigations of both Russia's interference in the 2016 presidential election and Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server.**

**Carol D. Leonnig and Aaron C. Davis,  
Washington Post, June 20, 2023**