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# Solyndra in Grand Jury Crosshairs: Documents



FBI agent carry dozens of boxes of evidence from Solyndra headquarters in Fremont, Calif., Sept. 8, 2011. (Paul Sakuma/AP Photo)



By LEE FERRAN and MATTHEW MOSK  
Dec. 14, 2011

A grand jury has been convened in what appears to be the next significant step of the federal criminal investigation into Solyndra, the politically-connected and now bankrupt solar firm that received a half-billion dollar loan guarantee from the government, according to court documents.

The role of the grand jury was revealed in documents filed in bankruptcy court last week by K&L Gates, a law firm retained by Solyndra reportedly just weeks after the [FBI raided Solyndra's California headquarters](#) in September. The documents give a daily account of K&L Gates' employees activities in reference to Solyndra and often refer to communications concerning a "grand jury subpoena".

The K&L Gates documents, first [reported by The Washington Times](#), also show the attorneys had more than two dozen interactions with the U.S. Attorney's office and the FBI. The first mention of a "grand jury" came on Oct. 9.

The criminal investigation into the failed solar power company has become a [political lightning rod](#) as Republicans in Congress have suggested undue political influence affected the Obama administration's decision to award Solyndra a \$535 million loan guarantee in 2009, despite early warning signs the company could be heading for trouble.

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When called before a Congressional committee in September, former Solyndra executives [invoked their Fifth Amendment rights](#) and declined to answer any questions about the company's sudden collapse. The next month, the company's CEO, Brian Harrison, [resigned](#).

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