

January 29, 2026

The Honorable Kristi Noem
Secretary of Homeland Security
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20528

The Honorable Pam Bondi
U.S. Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Secretary Noem and Attorney General Bondi:

This month, we held an accountability hearing as part of our congressional fact-finding duties to hear from Minnesotans who are being subjected to the lawlessness and violence of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agents. Since that hearing, the situation has deteriorated further with a second killing of a U.S. citizen. We write to demand that the Trump administration end its surge of immigration enforcement agents in Minnesota and allow for open and transparent investigations into the killing of Renee Good and Alex Pretti by Department of Homeland Security (DHS) personnel.

At our hearing, we heard from incredibly powerful witnesses — members of the community who are standing up for their neighbors, and even those who have been detained and had their rights violated for no reason. We heard from a U.S. citizen, who along with her friend and fellow citizen, were conducting a legal observation of ICE activities when ICE agents deployed pepper spray into their vehicle vents, smashed their car windows, dragged them out of their car, and arrested them. ICE detained them for eight hours before releasing them without charges. During the hearing we learned that despite not having the legal authority to detain U.S. citizens when conducting civil immigration enforcement, ICE had designated cells for detaining U.S. citizens. According to a witness, ICE agents offered bribes to a detained U.S. citizen in exchange for giving names of other undocumented individuals or names of protest organizers. We heard from another U.S. citizen, who was arrested on his lunch break, despite showing agents a copy of his U.S. passport card. He was detained for several hours before ICE agents told him to walk miles home in the snow.

We heard from Mayor Frey of Minneapolis and Mayor Her of St. Paul how their cities are under siege, and how U.S. citizens and immigrant communities alike fear going to work, sending their children to school, or even simply leaving their homes. We heard how these actions are having a negative impact on local businesses and the ability of local law enforcement to do its job.

During our visit to the Twin Cities, Attorney General Ellison described how the Department of Justice and DHS are actively blocking cooperation into the fatal shooting of Renee Good. Since then, a Border Patrol agent shot and killed Alex Pretti at point blank range. The Trump administration is once again actively blocking the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal

Apprehension from investigating the shooting.¹ As a result, the Minnesota Attorney General and Hennepin County announced they will conduct their own investigations.²

Throughout the hearing, it became clear to all of us that the increase in DHS personnel is making the Twin Cities less safe. Unfortunately, it appears the President and your Departments are deliberately escalating tensions in Minnesota with a pattern of reckless, unlawful, and inhumane conduct against the people living in the Twin Cities.

Sadly, in the days after our hearing, more horrific stories about DHS's unconscionable conduct have come to light. Federal agents arrested five-year-old asylum seeker Liam Conejo Ramos in his driveway, after he returned home from school with his father.³ Agents reportedly then used the child as "bait" to lure others out of his home.⁴ Liam and his father are currently being detained in Texas.⁵

Additionally, two brave whistleblowers have provided Congress with a memo signed by Acting ICE Director Todd Lyons which purports to overturn decades of Supreme Court precedent and the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution by claiming that an ICE administrative warrant (Form I-205) authorizes agents to forcibly enter private homes.⁶ This lawless assertion goes against our foundational principles, longstanding legal precedent, and ICE's own training materials.⁷ Administrative warrants are neither reviewed nor issued by a judge, and can therefore not provide the authority to enter private homes.⁸ The Fourth Amendment, and decades of Supreme Court interpretations of the amendment, are clear, a warrant, issued by a "neutral and detached magistrate," is required to allow officers to enter a private home.⁹

We demand you put an end to these lawless actions by your agencies and remove this surge of ICE and CBP from the Twin Cities. The people of Minnesota deserve better.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter.

¹ Sarah Davis, *Minnesota Official Says Feds 'Blocked' State Bureau From Investigating Scene of Latest Shooting*, THE HILL (Jan. 24, 2026), <https://thehill.com/homenews/state-watch/5705051-alex-pretti-federal-shooting-investigation/>.

² Caroline Cummings, *Minnesota AG, Hennepin Co. View to Still Collect Evidence in ICE Shooting After State Authorities Shut Out of Federal Investigation*, CBS NEWS (Jan. 9, 2026), <https://www.cbsnews.com/minnesota/news/minnesota-ice-shooting-hennepin-county-collects-evidence-investigation/>; *id.*

³ Elizabeth Shockman, *ICE detains 5-year-old Minnesota boy; school leader says agents used him as 'bait'*, MPR NEWS (Jan. 21, 2026), <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2026/01/21/ice-detains-5year-old-minnesota-boy-lawyer-says-agents-used-him-as-bait>.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ Rebecca Santana, *Immigration officers assert sweeping power to enter homes without a judge's warrant, memo says*, ASSOC. PRESS (Jan. 21, 2025), <https://apnews.com/article/ice-arrests-warrants-minneapolis-trump-00d0ab0338e82341fd91b160758aeb2d>.

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ Hillel Smith, Cong. Rsch. Serv., LSB10362, *Immigration Arrests in the Interior of the United States: A Primer* (Jun. 13, 2025), <https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/LSB10362>.

⁹ Johnson v. United States, 333 U.S. 10 (1948).

Sincerely,



Pramila Jayapal
Ranking Member
Immigration Integrity,
Security, and Enforcement
House Judiciary Committee



Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress



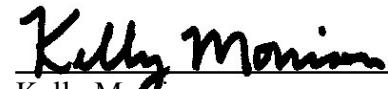
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Member of Congress



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Member of Congress



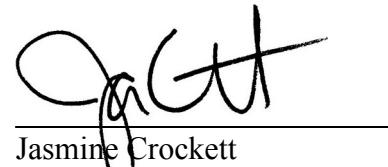
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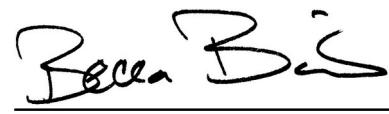
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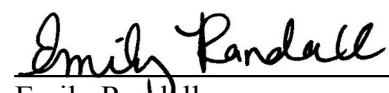
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