Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 26, 2026

The Honorable Todd W. Blanche
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

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

Dear Attorney General Blanche and Secretary Mullin:

We write to express our unequivocal opposition to your raid of Congresswoman Ilhan Omar's home. We are profoundly alarmed by your weaponization of federal law enforcement against her and demand you refrain from taking any further actions that could affect the outcome of any upcoming election.

Around dawn on Monday, October 12, agents from Homeland Security Investigations at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) executed a search warrant on Congresswoman Omar's home in Washington, D.C. Investigators were seen carrying out boxes of documents from the home, and they obtained her DNA, personal phone, and passport. Both the White House and the Department of Justice (DOJ) acknowledged that DOJ secured the search warrant as part of an ongoing criminal investigation.

This weaponization of law enforcement to harass a sitting Member of Congress 22 days before an election is unprecedented and unacceptable. DOJ has long followed a policy not to take investigative steps relating to a candidate this close to an election if delaying the action will not jeopardize a criminal investigation,[1] a policy which Attorney General Blanche has previously invoked as far back as *nine* months before an election.[2] Congresswoman Omar is seeking reelection in Minnesota's 5th congressional district in just one week. News of the search warrant, whether properly predicated or not, could affect voters' decisions which is exactly why federal law enforcement should not engage in such conduct when voters are casting their ballots. This type of interference strips Minnesotans of their right to a free and fair election guaranteed to them under the Constitution.

Your actions are clearly driven by a pre-determined political outcome rather than an objective pursuit of justice. Your probe into the Congresswoman reportedly concerns her late father's filing of immigration paperwork after she fled Somalia's civil war at age eight, making her a U.S. citizen at age seventeen. This does not justify a pre-dawn raid on her home for paperwork her father filed when she was a minor. Indeed, reports indicate that the first Trump Administration conducted a probe into this exact matter in 2019 and "ultimately determined

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[1] U.S. Dep't of Just., Justice Manual § 9-85.500: Actions That May Have an Impact on an Election (2022), https://www.justice.gov/jm/jm-9-85000-protection-government-integrity#9-85.500.

[2] Luc Cohen & Jack Queen, *Trump to Stand Trial on March 25 in NY Criminal Hush Money Case*, REUTERS (Feb. 15, 2024, at 16:09 ET), https://www.reuters.com/world/us/judge-trumps-ny-criminal-case-rule-bid-toss-charges-2024-02-15/.

there was insufficient evidence of wrongdoing."[3] That, however, has not stopped a group of Trump Administration officials from baselessly asserting criminal activity has occurred. In March of this year, Vice President J.D. Vance pre-emptively concluded that she "definitely committed immigration fraud" and asked White House advisor Stephen Miller to "go after her" well before DOJ or DHS completed its investigation.[4] Secretary Mullin also hinted at this raid last month when he said, "something's going to happen" with Congresswoman Omar.[5] Shortly after the raid, Miller's wife gloated in a since-deleted social media post, "Promise made, promise kept."[6] Political attacks should play no role in federal law enforcement, but they have here.

This would not be the first time that your Administration has prioritized retribution over its responsibility to apply the laws without fear or favor: your investigation into Congresswoman Omar follows a long line of flimsy criminal cases against the President's perceived political enemies. Thankfully thus far, your attempts to retaliate against government officials for simply doing their job have fallen short: federal judges have dismissed indictments filed against former Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation James Comey and current New York State Attorney General Letitia James,[7] while a grand jury refused to indict six sitting Members of Congress for reminding servicemembers of their duty to object to illegal orders.[8] Pending charges against Congresswoman LaMonica McIver for exercising her constitutionally protected right to oversee an immigration detention facility in her congressional district are similarly baseless. Your unprecedented attempt to influence an election through federal law enforcement will also fail but the attempt itself is incompatible with our democracy.

Your search warrant marks a dramatic escalation of an almost decade-long campaign of attacks on Congresswoman Omar. Since entering Congress in 2019, she has been the target of baseless lies and smear campaigns from President Trump, who has told her to go back to her country of origin, called her "garbage," and incited chants on the campaign trail to deport her.[9] He also has sent armed federal agents to her district to target Somali immigrants, leading to the deaths of two Americans in broad daylight.[10] And while claiming to have "nothing to do" with

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[3] Ted Hesson et al., *Trump Officials Scrutinized Omar in 2019. They Didn't Find Citizenship Issues.*, WASH. POST (Oct. 15, 2026), https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2026/10/15/trump-officials-scrutinized-omar-2019-they-didnt-find-citizenship-issues/.

[4] BENNY JOHNSON, *JD Vance | Saving Western Civilization by Fighting Demons, Will We Survive?*, at 6:16 (YouTube, Mar. 28, 2026), https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0HsJk-wQAQI.

[5] Sarah Nelson, *Omar's Home Search Breaks from DOJ Norms, Former Federal Prosecutors Say*, MINN. STAR TRIB. (Oct. 13, 2026, at 7:00 ET), https://www.startribune.com/ilhan-omar-home-raid-doj/601900281.

[6] Vic Verbalaitis, *Katie Miller Quickly Deletes Post Exposing Truth Behind Shock Raid*, DAILY BEAST (Oct. 12, 2026, at 12:00 EDT), https://www.thedailybeast.com/katie-miller-quickly-deletes-post-exposing-truth-behind-shock-ilhan-omar-ice-raid.

[7] Alan Feuer & Devlin Barrett, *Judge Dismisses Cases Against Comey and James, Finding Trump Prosecutor Was Unlawfully Appointed*, N.Y. TIMES (Nov. 24, 2025), https://www.nytimes.com/2025/11/24/nyregion/james-comey-case-dismissed.html.

[8] Scott MacFarlane et al., *Grand Jury Declines Criminal Charges Against 6 Democrats Who Urged Military to Reject Illegal Orders*, CBS NEWS (Feb. 11, 2026, at 9:50 ET), https://www.cbsnews.com/news/grand-jury-declines-charges-against-6-democrats/.

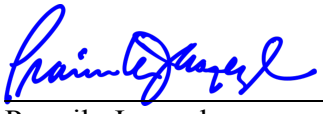
[9] Marianna Sotomayor, *Trump Called Her 'Garbage.' Rep. Ilhan Omar Says She Remains Unfazed.*, WASH. POST (Dec. 13, 2025), https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2025/12/13/illhan-omar-donald-trump/.

[10] Joseph Pisani et al., *Border Patrol Agent Fatally Shoots Man in Minneapolis, Escalating State-Federal Standoff*, WALL ST. J. (Jan. 24, 2026, at 19:36 ET), https://www.wsj.com/us-news/federal-agents-shoot-another-person-in-minneapolis-gov-walz-says-469e5862.

the search warrant, he repeated his attacks on her when asked about the raid, calling her "totally crooked" and a "terrible person."[11] Political disagreements never justify intimidation, and no president should use the power of the federal government to threaten, silence, or intimidate political opponents.

We stand with Congresswoman Omar and condemn the weaponization of law enforcement against her. You have already disgraced the offices you hold, and we demand you refrain from taking any further actions that could affect the outcome of the upcoming election.

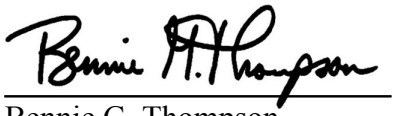
Sincerely,



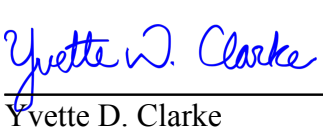
Pramila Jayapal
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on
Immigration Integrity,
Security, and Enforcement

Jamie Raskin
Ranking Member
House Committee on the
Judiciary

Robert Garcia
Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and
Government Reform



Bennie G. Thompson
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland
Security



Yvette D. Clarke
Chair
Congressional Black Caucus

Greg Casar
Chair
Congressional Progressive
Caucus

[11] Mallory Wilson, *Trump Calls Omar 'Totally Crooked' in First Remarks on Raid*, THE HILL (Oct. 12, 2026, at 17:45 ET), https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/6144098-trump-calls-omar-totally-crooked-in-first-remarks-on-raid/.

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Democratic Whip

Pete Aguilar
Member of Congress

Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress

Joe Neguse
Member of Congress

Dave Min
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Member of Congress

Becca Balint
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Sara Jacobs
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Analilia Mejia
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George Whitesides
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Everton Blair Jr.
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Salud Carbajal
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Laura Friedman
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Sydney Kamlager-Dove
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Doris Matsui
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Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
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Member of Congress

Ritchie Torres
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Diana DeGette
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Lois Frankel
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Shri Thanedar
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Jim Himes
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Nellie Pou
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Emilia Strong Sykes
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