

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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January 12, 2026

The Honorable James Comer  
Chairman  
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform  
2157 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Comer:

We write to you with utmost urgency to request that you schedule a hearing with Kristi Noem, Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), where she can provide sworn testimony and answer questions in a public setting. To Democrats and Republicans, it is readily apparent that her gross mismanagement of one of the federal government's most powerful agencies has left communities shattered, Americans dead or injured, citizens unlawfully detained and even deported, and federal agents encouraged to engage in aggressive tactics.

Over the past year, DHS has carried out raids across the country that have detained U.S. citizens, violated court orders, and even deported Americans.<sup>1</sup> These actions have brought violence to communities around our country: most recently, on January 7, 2026, a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officer shot and killed Renee Good, a U.S. citizen and mother, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Firsthand accounts, credible public reports, and judicial scrutiny have all documented the breadth of DHS's abuses.<sup>2</sup> Under Secretary Noem's leadership, the Department has deployed tear gas against our constituents, undermined the legal immigration system by detaining asylum seekers at their own court appointments, and recorded the highest number of immigration detainee deaths in nearly 20 years.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *We Found That More Than 170 U.S. Citizens Have Been Held by Immigration Agents. They've Been Kicked, Dragged and Detained for Days*, ProPublica (Oct. 16, 2025) (online at [www.propublica.org/article/immigration-dhs-american-citizens-arrested-detained-against-will](http://www.propublica.org/article/immigration-dhs-american-citizens-arrested-detained-against-will)); *Federal Judge in Chicago Finds ICE Repeatedly Violated Consent Decree Over "Warrantless Arrests"*, Chicago Tribune (Oct. 8, 2025) (online at [www.chicagotribune.com/2025/10/08/federal-judge-chicago-ice-violated-consent-decree/](http://www.chicagotribune.com/2025/10/08/federal-judge-chicago-ice-violated-consent-decree/)); *What to Know About the 3 U.S. Citizen Children Removed to Honduras*, New York Times (Apr. 28, 2025) (online at [www.nytimes.com/2025/04/28/us/politics/us-citizen-children-deported.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2025/04/28/us/politics/us-citizen-children-deported.html)).

<sup>2</sup> *E.g., Federal Judge Rebukes Administration's Use of Force During "Operation Midway Blitz,"* ABC News (Nov. 21, 2025) (online at <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/federal-judge-rebukes-administrations-force-operation-midway-blitz/story?id=127763694>).

<sup>3</sup> *Chicago's Children Are Getting Caught in The Chaos of Immigration Crackdowns*, ABC 7 (Oct. 28, 2025) (online at <https://abc7chicago.com/post/chicagos-children-are-getting-caught-chaos-immigration-crackdowns-tear-gas-thrown-logan-square-funston/18080141/>); *NPR Analysis Shows Skyrocketing Number of "No-Shows" in Immigration Court*, NPR (Dec. 22, 2025) (online at [www.npr.org/2025/12/22/nx-s1-5583971/trump-ice-immigration-arrests-deportation-no-shows](http://www.npr.org/2025/12/22/nx-s1-5583971/trump-ice-immigration-arrests-deportation-no-shows)); *Four ICE Detainee Deaths in Four Days Spark Alarm as Arrests Grow*, Washington Post (Dec. 20, 2025) (online at [www.washingtonpost.com/immigration/2025/12/20/ice-detainee-deaths-four-days-spark-alarm-as-arrests-grow](http://www.washingtonpost.com/immigration/2025/12/20/ice-detainee-deaths-four-days-spark-alarm-as-arrests-grow)).

In the wake of these shocking abuses, Secretary Noem and the Department have responded to public outrage with blatant lies. For example, hours after the tragic shooting death of Ms. Good, Secretary Noem declared that Ms. Good had attacked ICE officers and attempted to run them over—a conclusory statement that is devoid of the truth and has been debunked by eyewitness accounts and video analysis.<sup>4</sup> Oversight Democrats will not sit by and watch as these abuses ravage communities across the country. Instead, Oversight Democrats demand accountability for every official who has engaged in misconduct, and we have launched an Immigration Enforcement Dashboard to compile a verified public record of possible misconduct incidents after they occur.<sup>5</sup>

Oversight Democrats have repeatedly requested that you have Secretary Noem testify before this committee. On June 13, 2025, Oversight Democrats led by Rep. Maxwell Frost and Acting Ranking Member Lynch urged you to bring Secretary Noem before the Committee to address the violent detention of California Senator Alex Padilla.<sup>6</sup> On September 24, 2025, Rep. Krishnamoorthi wrote to you calling for a hearing with Secretary Noem to answer for the brutal treatment of U.S. citizens across the country, especially during Operation Midway Blitz.<sup>7</sup> And at the Committee’s hearing on January 7, 2026, Oversight Democrats unanimously voted to subpoena DHS regarding the fatal shooting of Ms. Good that same day. It is long past time for Secretary Noem to appear before our committee and account for the damage DHS inflicted on the country and the constitution under her watch.

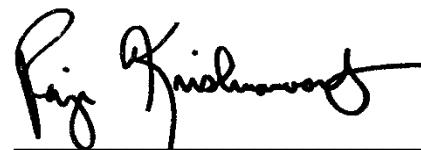
We are willing to work with you to schedule Secretary Noem to appear voluntarily. However, should she choose to continue to treat this committee and the American people with disdain, we will use all options available to compel her testimony before us.

Sincerely,



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Robert Garcia  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Oversight and  
Government Reform



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Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Healthcare and  
Financial Services

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deaths/).

<sup>4</sup> *Videos Contradict Trump Administration Account of ICE Shooting in Minneapolis*, New York Times (Jan. 8, 2026) (online at [www.nytimes.com/video/us/100000010631041/minneapolis-ice-shooting-video.html](https://www.nytimes.com/video/us/100000010631041/minneapolis-ice-shooting-video.html)).

<sup>5</sup> Oversight Democrats, *Immigration Enforcement Dashboard* (online at <https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/immigration-dashboard>).

<sup>6</sup> Letter from Rep. Maxwell Frost et al. to Chairman James Comer, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (June 13, 2025) (online at <https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/imo/media/doc/2025-06-13.frost-lynch-lee-et-al-to-comer-re-noem-subpoena.pdf>).

<sup>7</sup> Letter from Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi to Secretary Kristi Noem, Department of Homeland Security (Sept. 24, 2025) (online at <https://krishnamoorthi.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/krishnamoorthi.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/noem-letter-to-oversight.pdf>).