**Subject:** Fox News story on FACE Act prosecutions

Date: Thu, 20 Oct 2022 20:45:58 +0000

**Importance:** Normal

### Good afternoon, all -

Flagging that Fox News is working on story slated for tomorrow about how the department has zero prosecutions of people who have attacked pro-life centers, but multiple prosecutions for people who have attacked abortion clinics. I connected the reporter with the FBI to ensure he received their statement regarding the ongoing investigations into these attacks. (See below.)

Fox News also did a <u>similar story</u> in the past 24 hours tracking how many prosecutions we have had during this administration compared to others.

Attributable to the FBI: "The FBI is investigating a series of attacks and threats targeting pregnancy resource centers, faith-based organizations, and reproductive health clinics across the country, as well as to judicial buildings, including the US Supreme Court. The incidents are being investigated as potential acts of domestic violent extremism, FACE Act violations, or violent crime matters, depending on the facts of each case. The FBI takes all violence and threats of violence very seriously and we are working closely with our law enforcement partners at the national, state, and local levels to investigate these incidents. We would like to remind members of the public that if they observe anything suspicious or have information about potential threats to report it to law enforcement immediately, call their local FBI field office, or submit a tip to tips.fbi.gov."

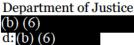
Please let me know if you have questions.

Thanks, Aryele

c:(b)(6)

Aryele N. Bradford

Spokeswoman | Office of Public Affairs



October 12, 2022

Director Christopher Wray Federal Bureau of Investigation U.S. Department of Justice 935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20530-001

Director Wray,

We write to you today deeply concerned with the continued politicization of The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The recent rise in high-profile FBI investigations into pro-life Americans raises well-founded concerns that the FBI has amassed too much power and has become a partisan cudgel wielded by the Biden Administration at the behest of progressive activists against political opponents and dissenters.

Just this last Wednesday, the Middle District of Tennessee reported the indictments of eleven prolife activists under the FACE Act for engaging in non-violent civil disobedience at a Tennessee abortion center. On September 23, 2022, pro-life activist Mark Houck was arrested by the FBI at his home for allegedly pushing an abortion clinic volunteer, who had harassed his son. His arrest occurred despite the fact the charges had been dismissed by local authorities. On September 27, 2022, the Daily Signal reports that FBI agents questioned pro-life activists outside a Planned Parenthood in Minnesota regarding an incident, where it is alleged that a Planned Parenthood client attempted to cut up a pro-life sign and an activist pushed her away, after charges were dismissed in Minnesota state court. On September 29, 2022, the Eastern District of New York announced FACE Act charges against Father Fidelis Moscinski, a pro-life activist and Franciscan monk, for padlocking an entrance to an abortion facility and engaging in non-violent civil disobedience, for which local authorities previously sentenced him.

These are not federal law enforcement matters and represent an abuse of the FACE Act. During floor debate on the legislation, Representative Schroeder of Colorado, a co-sponsor of the FACE Act, argued that empowering the federal government through the FACE Act was necessary only "if the states cannot help, then we have a duty to move in. But we do not do it unless it appears the states cannot handle it" and that "The Federal Government does not move in until it appears that in some parts of the country there is a breakdown."

Overzealous prosecutions under the FACE Act weaponize the power of federal law enforcement against American citizens in what should firmly be state and local matters. Further, these abuses of federal power against pro-life Americans based solely on their beliefs undermine the American people's trust in the FBI. This is particularly true since there have been no reports of FBI investigations or DOJ prosecutions in relation to the more than 72 pregnancy resource centers and 80 Catholic churches that have been attacked or vandalized since the Dobbs leak – heinous, violent, and organized crimes across state lines that are also subject to prosecution under the FACE Act.

It is clear that congressional scrutiny of the FBI's use of the FACE Act is needed to ensure the FBI is applying it as Congress intended and, if not, to determine whether the FBI can continue to be trusted with this authority. Therefore, we request a briefing by October 20, 2022, on the FBI's use of the FACE Act, and specifically request answers to the following questions:

- 1. How many FACE Act investigations has the FBI opened in 2022, 2021, 2020, and 2019 respectively?
- 2. Of the FACE Act investigations opened in 2022, 2021, 2020, and 2019, how many of these cases involve:
  - a. Abortion facilities?
  - b. Pregnancy centers?
  - c. Churches or houses of worship?
- 3. How many of these cases involve subjects with charges previously dismissed or sentenced by state courts?
- 4. What criteria does the FBI use when determining whether to open a case under the FACE Act that was previously dismissed by state courts?
- 5. What resources are the FBI currently committing to FACE Act investigations?
- 6. Has the Department of Justice issued any new guidance, memos, or internal correspondence regarding FACE Act investigations since the Dobbs decision was handed down by the Supreme Court? If yes, please provide such documents.

Sincerely,

Chip Roy

Member of Congress

Christopher H. Smith Member of Congress Michael S. Lee U.S. Senator

Steve Daines U.S. Senator

ZW. Mall

Rogers Marshall, M.D.

U.S. Senator

Tom Tillis U.S. Senator

James E. Risch U.S. Senator

Mike Crapo U.S. Senator

James Lankford U.S. Senator

Bob Good Member of Congress

and K. Waln

Randy K. Weber Member of Congress 148

Ted Cruz U.S. Senator

Tom Cotton U.S. Senator

Mike Braun U.S. Senator

Marco Rubio U.S. Senator

Wan Bishop

Dan Bishop Member of Congress

Andy Biggs Member of Congress

Mary Miller Member of Congress



Jeff Duncan Member of Congress

Andrew 5. Clyde

Andrew Clyde Member of Congress

Louie Gohmert Member of Congress

Andy Harris, M.D. Member of Congress

Ralph Norman Member of Congress

Ronny L. Jackson, M.D. Member of Congress

Jody Hice Member of Congress (30)

Michael Cloud Member of Congress

Paniel Webster

Daniel Webster Member of Congress

Salsko

Debbie Lesko Member of Congress

Birty

Bill Posey Member of Congress

Doug Faml

Doug Lamborn Member of Congress

Lauren Boebert Member of Congress

Ken Buck Member of Congress

Her Buck

Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S. Member of Congress

Brian Babin, D.D.S. Member of Congress

Randy Feenstra Member of Congress

Warren Davidson Member of Congress

Em Grothmun Glenn Grothman

Claudia Tennen

Member of Congress

Jim Banks Member of Congress

Claudia Tenney Member of Congress

Jason Smith Member of Congress

# Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-1009

October 4, 2022

The Honorable Merrick Garland U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001

Attorney General Garland,

We write to express our sincere concern at your Department's apparent inequitable application of the law. Further, we remind you that the DOJ is responsible for prosecuting criminals based on the laws of the land – not based on the political agenda expressed by the White House.

On September 23, 2022, dozens of armed FBI agents raided the home of Catholic pro-life speaker Mark Houck, unnecessarily terrifying his wife and seven children. Houck is now facing federal charges under the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances (FACE) Act. In the DOJ's press release following the arrest, U.S. Attorney Romero is quoted saying, "Our Office and the Department of Justice are committed to prosecuting crimes which threaten the safety and rights of all individuals."

Where was this fervor to protect the safety and rights of all individuals when pro-abortion radicals were torching, vandalizing, and threatening crisis pregnancy centers across the country? As you remember, following a series of attacks, more than 100 Members of Congress sent you a letter dated June 15, 2022, requesting that your Department immediately investigate and prosecute the attacks against pro-life organizations.<sup>3</sup> Additionally, on June 28, 2022, many Members urged the DOJ to prosecute these criminals for violating the FACE Act.<sup>4</sup>

https://budd.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=1493

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Delaney, P. (2022, September 27). FBI raids home of Catholic pro-life speaker, author with guns drawn as his terrified kids watch. LifeSite. Retrieved September 30, 2022, from <a href="https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/fbi-raids-home-of-catholic-pro-life-speaker-author-with-guns-drawn-as-his-terrified-kids-watch/">https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/fbi-raids-home-of-catholic-pro-life-speaker-author-with-guns-drawn-as-his-terrified-kids-watch/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Bucks County Man Indicted on Federal Charges for Assaulting a Reproductive Healthcare Clinic Escort. (2022, September 23). Retrieved September 30, 2022, from <a href="https://www.justice.gov/usao-edpa/pr/bucks-county-man-indicted-federal-charges-assaulting-reproductive-healthcare-clinic">https://www.justice.gov/usao-edpa/pr/bucks-county-man-indicted-federal-charges-assaulting-reproductive-healthcare-clinic</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Franklin and Colleagues Demand Justice Department Investigation into Domestic Terrorist Attacks Against Pro-Life Organizations. (2022b, June 15). Representative Scott Franklin. Retrieved September 30, 2022, from

https://franklin.house.gov/media/press-releases/franklin-and-colleagues-demand-justice-department-investigation-domestic

<sup>4</sup> Rep. Ted Budd Leads 20 House Members to Demand AG Garland Protect Pro-Life Pregnancy Centers. (2022, June 28). U.S. Congressman Ted Budd. Retrieved September 30, 2022, from

While the DOJ has stated it is investigating the attacks, it is concerning that, to date, no arrests or charges have been made in connection with the extremists' actions against life-affirming pregnancy centers. Further, your statement that "The Department of Justice will continue to use every tool at its disposal to defend the reproductive rights protected by federal law," which you apparently believe includes abortion, as to your Department's objectivity concerning the prosecution of pro-abortion advocates who have committed crimes.

This is not an isolated incident, however, as we have witnessed the radical Left's political narrative erode the freedom to express conservative values across the nation. To be sure, the American people will not tolerate this perversion of justice, which sows further division and disunity in our country.

The DOJ's obvious double standard is unethical, and it is in direct opposition to both your Department's purpose and this nation's values. Therefore, you must realign your Department's pursuit of justice with the laws enacted by Congress, irrespective of political agendas.

We request that you provide a response in answer to the following questions no later than October 18, 2022:

- Did Mark Houck attempt to communicate compliance with the investigation prior to the day of his arrest?
- Did evidence indicate Mark Houck was a flight risk?
- Why did the DOJ deem it necessary to send the FBI to Mark Houck's home rather than sending local law enforcement?
- How many armed FBI agents were dispatched to arrest Mark Houck?
- How does the FBI justify this show of force to arrest a man who has no criminal record?<sup>6</sup>
- How many FBI raids have been similarly conducted on suspects involved in the attacks on crisis pregnancy centers and religious organizations since the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* ruling?

We request that you also provide an update by October 18, 2022 on both the number and status of the investigations into the dozens of cases of firebombings, vandalism, and threats against prolife organizations following the *Dobbs* decision.

Sincerely,

Andrew S. Clyde
Member of Congress

<sup>5</sup> Statement from Attorney General Merrick B. Garland Regarding Reproductive Rights. (2022, August 25). Retrieved September 30, 2022, from <a href="https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/statement-attorney-general-merrick-b-garland-regarding-reproductive-rights">https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/statement-attorney-general-merrick-b-garland-regarding-reproductive-rights</a>

<sup>6</sup> Colton, E. (2022, September 27). FBI arrest of Pennsylvania pro-life activist "stinks to high heaven," former prosecutor says: "Loser case." Fox News. Retrieved September 30, 2022, from <a href="https://www.foxnews.com/us/fbi-arrest-pennsylvania-pro-life-activist-stinks-high-heaven-former-prosecutor-says-loser-case">https://www.foxnews.com/us/fbi-arrest-pennsylvania-pro-life-activist-stinks-high-heaven-former-prosecutor-says-loser-case</a>

September 27, 2022

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland Attorney General U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20530-001

Dear Attorney General Garland,

As you know, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is once again in the national headlines following another raid of an American citizen. This time, of Mark Houck, a father of seven, a noted Catholic, and a pro-life activist.

According to Ryan-Marie Houck, Mark Houck's wife, roughly 25 FBI agents and around 15 vehicles arrived at the Houck residence in the early morning of September 23<sup>rd</sup> and began pounding on the front door.<sup>1</sup> The agents allegedly stated that they were going to break into the home if the door was not opened while pointing approximately five weapons at the husband, wife, and potentially children.

Reportedly, this raid occurred in relation to an incident in which Mr. Houck allegedly pushed an abortion-rights patient escort at a Planned Parenthood clinic in Philadelphia after the patient escort harassed and invaded the personal space of Mr. Houck's 12-year-old son. There is much to learn about the extent of the FBI's operations in this case, especially since state-level assault charges were apparently dismissed by local authorities in Philadelphia.<sup>2</sup> Surely, the FBI must have an extraordinary reason for showing up at the home of an American family, allegedly with roughly 25 heavily armed federal agents, and arresting a father in front of his seven children. At the moment, it appears to be an extraordinary overreach for political ends.

We request an explanation for the excessive level of force used by the FBI in this case, and why the power of federal law enforcement was once again used against an American citizen in what should be a state and local matter. Please issue a written letter in response by Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Sincerely,

Chip Roy

Member of Congress

Steve Daines U.S. Senator

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/252385/mark-houck-fbi-arrest-abortion-clinic

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.foxnews.com/us/pennsylvania-pro-life-activist-arrested-fbi-charged-assaulting-clinic-escort

J Z Kinh

James E. Risch U.S. Senator

Mile Fram
Mike Braun

Mike Braun U.S. Senator

Wike Crypo

Mike Crapo U.S. Senator

Thomas Massie

Thomas Massie Member of Congress

Mattern RS, A.

and K. Wiln

Matt Rosendale, Sr. Member of Congress

Mary & Miller

Mary E. Miller Member of Congress

Randy K. Weber Member of Congress ZW. Mall

Roger Marshall, M.D. U.S. Senator

Jan Jarges

James Lankford U.S. Senator

U.S. Senator

W. Gregory Steube Member of Congress

Tome Sohner

Louie Gohmert Member of Congress

Bill Posey

Member of Congress

Andy Biggs Member of Congress

Ronny L. Jackson, M.D. Member of Congress

Ralph Norman Member of Congress

Dan Bishop Member of Congress

Wan Bishop

Jody Hice Member of Congress

Jeff Duncan Member of Congress Bob Good Member of Congress

Paul Gosar, D.D.S. Member of Congress

### JOSH HAWLEY

115 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING TELEPHONE: (202) 224–6154 FAX: (202) 228–0526 WWW.HAWLEY.SENATE.GOV

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2509

COMMITTEES
JUDICIARY
ARMED SERVICES
HOMELAND SECURITY
AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
SMALL BUSINESS
AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

September 26, 2022

The Honorable Merrick Garland Attorney General United States Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20530

### Dear Attorney General Garland:

If the shocking reports about the FBI arresting a man Friday in rural Pennsylvania are true, then you have a lot to answer for. These reports state that federal authorities obtained a warrant under the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances (FACE) Act to arrest Mark Houck for allegedly committing a single count of simple assault by pushing a man near an abortion clinic. Houck contends that he only did so to defend his child against the man, and local authorities have already dismissed a separate criminal complaint against Houck for the same conduct.

Not only did your office turn a local dispute into a national case, but the FBI reportedly executed the search warrant in as extreme a manner as one can imagine. Reports state that the FBI sent as many as 20 to 25 agents to conduct the arrest. And the FBI allegedly arrested Houck at gunpoint early in the morning in front of his seven children. The FBI admitted, in a statement, that as many as 20 agents were present with their guns drawn. As Houck's wife said, when they saw 20 or more agents arrest their father at gunpoint, "the kids were all just screaming." To say the least, using this kind of force to make an arrest for a single charge of simple assault is unprecedented.

The reports are especially shocking given that your office has so far turned a blind eye to the epidemic of violence across the country by pro-abortion extremists against pregnancy resource centers, houses of worship, and pro-life Americans—violent acts that are prohibited by the very same law under which you are charging Mark Houck.

One group reports 104 incidents of extremist violence against pregnancy resource centers, churches, and pro-life Americans since the leak of the Supreme Court draft opinion on May 3.<sup>1</sup> Those attacks include fire-bombings and arsons. Just last week, an 83-year-old woman was shot while engaging in pro-life activism.<sup>2</sup> Despite my repeated requests, you still have not identified a single prosecution the Department of Justice has taken in response to this epidemic of violence against pro-life Americans.

All of this comes after more than a year of your office repeatedly weaponizing the FBI and other arms of the federal government against political opponents. If you are trying to inspire confidence in your department, you are failing magnificently.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://downloads.frc.org/EF/EF22F17.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.foxnews.com/us/elderly-pro-life-volunteer-michigan-shot-heated-conversation-pro-life-group-says

I believe you must testify, under oath, before the Senate Judiciary Committee about your selective use and apparent political weaponization of the FACE Act.

In addition, within 10 days, please provide answers to the following questions:

- 1. Why were 20-25 armed FBI agents sent to Mark Houck's home to execute an arrest for alleged simple assault?
- 2. Why did those agents have their guns drawn?
- 3. Since May 3, 2022, how many charges has your department brought against pro-abortion extremists who have attacked pregnancy resource centers, churches, and pro-life Americans?

Sincerely,

Josh Hawley

United States Senator

CC:

Dick Durbin, Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee Chuck Grassley, Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

# Congress of the United States House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

(202) 225–3951 judiciary.house.gov

October 7, 2022

The Honorable Jacqueline C. Romero U.S. Attorney
Eastern District of Pennsylvania
615 Chestnut Street, Suite 1250
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Dear Ms. Romero:

We continue to investigate politicization at the Biden-Garland Department of Justice and Federal Bureau of Investigation. Several recent actions by the Department reinforce the conclusion that the Justice Department is using its federal law-enforcement authority as a weapon against the Administration's political opponents. Since the unprecedented leak of a draft Supreme Court opinion in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, the Justice Department has politicized enforcement of the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances (FACE) Act. We write to conduct oversight of your authorization of a dawn raid of the home of a pro-life leader, in front of his wife and seven children, when he had offered to voluntarily cooperate with authorities.

The FACE Act "prohibits threats of force, obstruction and property damage intended to interfere with reproductive health care services." According to the Justice Department, the Act also protects "pro-life pregnancy counseling services and any other pregnancy support facility providing reproductive health care." Since the leak of the *Dobbs* opinion, however, the Department has almost exclusively enforced the FACE Act to protect anti-life activists while failing to prosecute harassment and intimidation of pro-life supporters.

On September 23, 2022, the FBI raided the home of Mark Houck, a pro-life leader residing within your judicial district, to execute an arrest warrant for allegedly violating the FACE Act. You alleged in a press release that Houck had shoved a Planned Parenthood volunteer outside a clinic almost a year earlier, on October 13, 2021. Houck's wife, Ryan-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Pub. L. 103-259 (1994); U.S. Dep't of Justice, Nat'l Task Force on Violence Against Reproductive Health Care Providers, Protecting Patients and Health Care Providers, https://www.justice.gov/crt/protecting-patients-and-health-care-providers (last visited Sept. 27, 2022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Hans A. von Spakovsky & Charles Stimson, *FBI, Justice Department twist federal law to arrest, charge pro-life activist,* HERITAGE FOUND. (Sept. 28, 2022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Press Release, U.S. Dep't of Justice, U.S. Atty's Office E.D. of Penn., Bucks County Man Indicated on Federal Charges for Assaulting a Reproductive Healthcare Clinic Escort (Sept. 23, 2022).

The Honorable Jacqueline C. Romero October 7, 2022 Page 2

Marie, however, explained that the Planned Parenthood activist had repeatedly made "crude . . . inappropriate and disgusting" comments about Houck in the presence of their 12-year-old son and "had gotten into the personal space" of the child.<sup>5</sup> She said that a local court in Philadelphia had already thrown out a civil suit against Houck filed by the activist.<sup>6</sup>

The Department's decision to arrest Houck, as well as the tactics used to effectuate the arrest, are troubling. Ryan-Marie Houck recounted how an FBI "SWAT team of about 25 came to my house with about 15 vehicles" and "they had about five guns pointed at my husband, myself and basically at my kids." An anonymous FBI source denied to the media that the 25 agents were present, but did admit that authorities sent up to 20 agents to effectuate the arrest. Houck's attorney subsequently disclosed that the dawn raid was unnecessary because Houck had offered to appear voluntarily and the FBI targeted Houck "solely to intimidate people of faith and prolife Americans."

The Department's treatment of Houck stands in stark contrast to its treatment of "potential acts of domestic violent extremism" against pro-life facilities. <sup>10</sup> For example, on June 10, 2022, vandals smashed the windows and graffitied the walls of HOPE Pregnancy Center, a pro-life pregnancy center in your judicial district. <sup>11</sup> There was no press release from your office regarding an investigation or charges in that case. Just last week, an 83-year-old pro-life volunteer in Lake Odessa, Michigan was shot while canvassing a local neighborhood about an abortion ballot proposal. <sup>12</sup> There has been no outcry or press conference from the Justice Department in response to this crime. Since the leak of the draft *Dobbs* opinion, Jane's Revenge, a radical anti-life group, "has claimed responsibility for at least 18 arson and vandalism attacks" on pro-life clinics and organizations. <sup>13</sup> While the FBI says that it is investigating a "series of attacks and threats targeting pregnancy resource centers, faith-based organizations, and reproductive health clinics," to our knowledge, the Department and FBI have not executed any SWAT team dawn raids to make arrests of anti-life activists. <sup>14</sup>

Pro-life pregnancy centers nationwide play a critical and important role in supporting and assisting pregnant women. In 2019, 2,700 such centers served nearly two million people, and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Patrick Delaney, FBI raids home of Catholic pro-life speaker, author with guns drawn as his terrified kids watch, LIFESITE (Sept. 23, 2022); see also Diana Glebova, Lawyer for pro-life protester arrested by FBI says client offered to surrender, claims DOJ trying to 'intimidate people of faith,' NAT'L REV. (Sept. 26, 2022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Bradford Betz, Jon Brown, & Jake Gibson, *Pennsylvania pro-life activist arrested by FBI, charged with assaulting clinic escort*, FOX NEWS (Sept. 26, 2022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Diana Glebova, Lawyer for pro-life protester arrested by FBI says client offered to surrender, claims DOJ trying to 'intimidate people of faith,' NAT'L REV. (Sept. 26, 2022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Jessica Chasmar, *Zero arrests in at least 17 Jane's Revenge attacks on pro-life organizations*, Fox News (Sept. 14, 2022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Jenice Armstrong, *Angry about Roe? Then vote, don't vandalize*, THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER (Jun. 29, 2022). <sup>12</sup> Emma Colton, *Elderly pro-life volunteer in Michigan shot after 'heated conversation,' pro-life group says*, FOX NEWS (Sept. 24, 2022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Jessica Chasmar, *Zero arrests in at least 17 Jane's Revenge attacks on pro-life organizations*, Fox News (Sept. 14, 2022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> *Id*.

The Honorable Jacqueline C. Romero October 7, 2022 Page 3

continue to serve millions of women annually. <sup>15</sup> Pro-life pregnancy centers "exist to serve and support mothers in the courageous decision to give their children life, even under the most difficult circumstance." <sup>16</sup> Services and resources provided virtually free of charge include, but are not limited to: ultrasounds, pregnancy testing, STI/STD testing, parenting and prenatal education programs, diapers, and baby outfits. <sup>17</sup> Pro-life pregnancy centers deserve the same protections that the Department aggressively provides abortion clinics.

The Department's lackluster response to the attacks against pro-life facilities demonstrates that the Biden Administration would rather cater to the radical anti-life movement than help facilities that protect pregnant women in need. So that we can better understand why you have declined to evenly enforce federal law in your judicial district, please provide the following documents and information:

- 1. All documents and communications between the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and other components of the Department of Justice referring or relating to enforcement of the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act between May 2, 2022, and present;
- 2. All documents and communications between the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, the Department of Justice, or the Executive Office of the President referring or relating to the Department's Reproductive Rights Task Force;
- 3. All documents and communications between the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and the Department of Justice referring or relating to investigations of attacks on pregnancy resource centers between May 2, 2022, and the present;
- 4. All documents and communications referring or relating to the attack on the HOPE Pregnancy Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, that occurred on June 10, 2022; and
- 5. All documents and communications between the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and the Federal Bureau of Investigation referring or relating to the arrest of Mark Houck.

Please provide this information as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 21, 2022. Furthermore, this letter serves as a formal request to preserve all existing and future records and materials in your possession relating to the topics addressed in this letter. You should construe this preservation notice as an instruction to take all reasonable steps to prevent the destruction or alteration, whether intentionally or negligently, of all documents, communications, and other information, including electronic information and metadata, that are or may be responsive to this congressional inquiry. This instruction includes all electronic messages sent

<sup>17</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Pro-life Pregnancy Centers Served 2 Million People with Essential Medical, Education and Support Services in 2019, Charlotte Lozier Institute (Oct. 21, 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Id

The Honorable Jacqueline C. Romero October 7, 2022 Page 4

using your official and personal accounts or devices, including records created using text messages, phone-based message applications, or encryption software.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Jim Jordan Ranking Member

Mike Johnson Ranking Member

Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

cc: The Honorable Merrick Garland, U.S. Attorney General The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler, Chairman

### **BRIEFING MEMO**

September 22, 2022

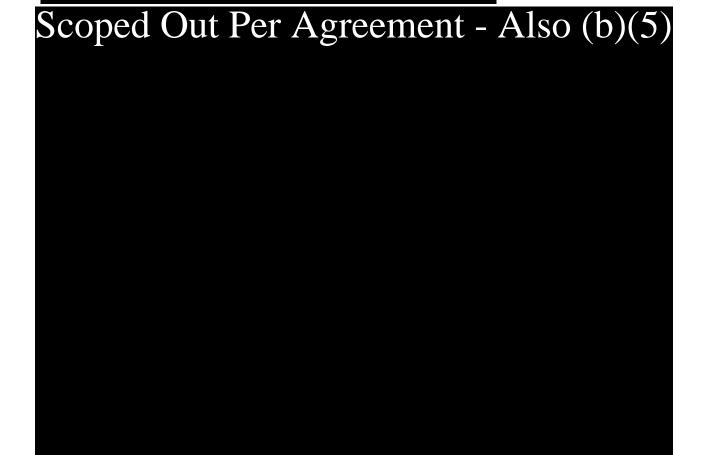
TO: THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

FROM: OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: LUNCH WITH SENATOR MIKE LEE (R-UT)

On Thursday, **September 22, 2022**, at **12:00 PM** you will have lunch with Senator Mike Lee (R-

UT). Scoped Out Per Agreement - Also (b)(5)



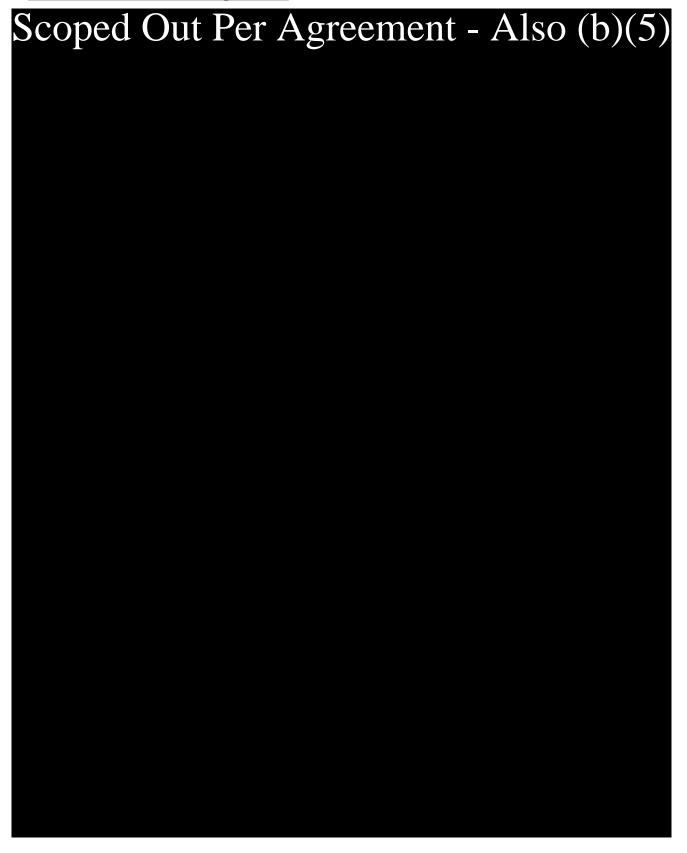
**Dobbs** Decision: Senator Lee joined a letter on May 6, 2022, asking that the Department act against efforts to disrupt church proceedings after a draft of the *Dobbs* opinion was leaked. On June 24, 2022, following the *Dobbs* decision, Senator Lee issued a press release stating that, "The national nightmare of *Roe* has ended." On July 28, 2022, Senator Lee introduced a resolution to recognize the week of November 7 as "National Pregnancy Center Week." Senator Lee stated that such recognition is warranted considering recent attacks on pregnancy centers.

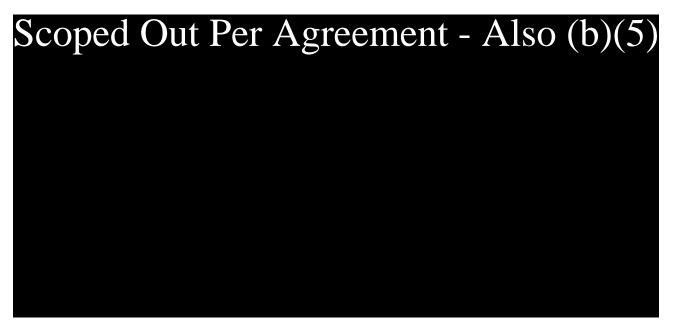
**Potential Talking Points** 



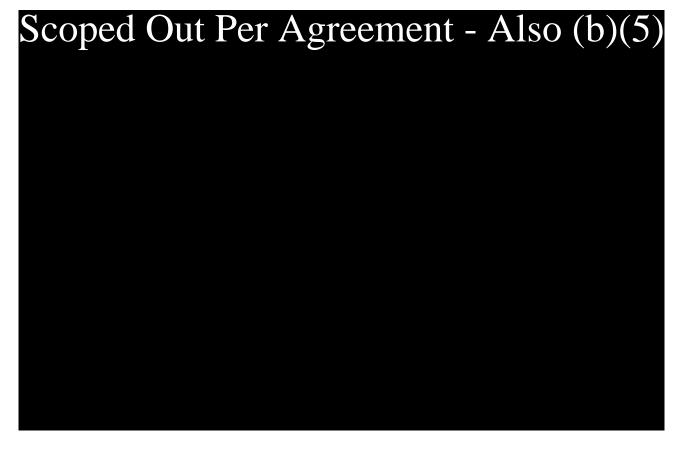
Scoped Out Per Agreement - Also (b)(5)

### **Senator Lee's Recent Correspondence**





- **Dobbs** Leak: On May 6, 2022, Senator Lee sent a letter joined by Senator Roy to the Department. The letter asks the Department to respond to reports of protests to disrupt church services following the leak of the draft *Dobbs* opinion.
  - The Department responded to this letter on July 28, 2022. The letter states that the FBI is investigating attacks and threats targeting pregnancy centers, faith-based organizations, and reproductive health clinics, as well as judicial buildings.



### **CONFIDENTIAL**

### **BRIEFING MEMO**

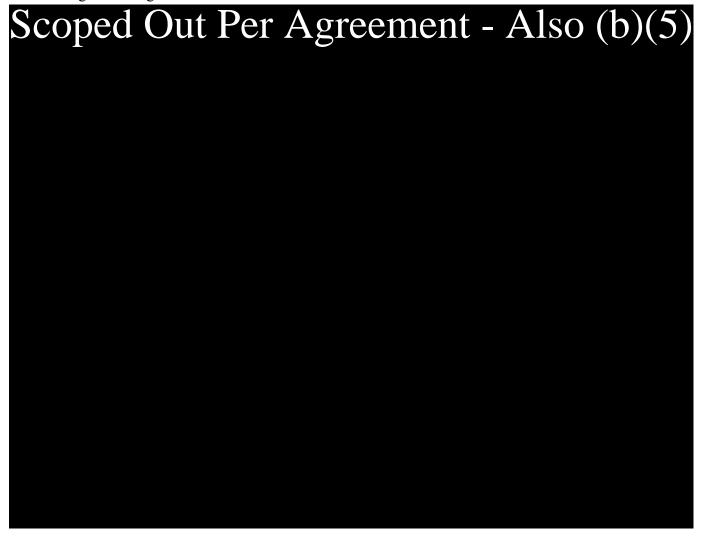
September 20, 2022

TO: THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

FROM: OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

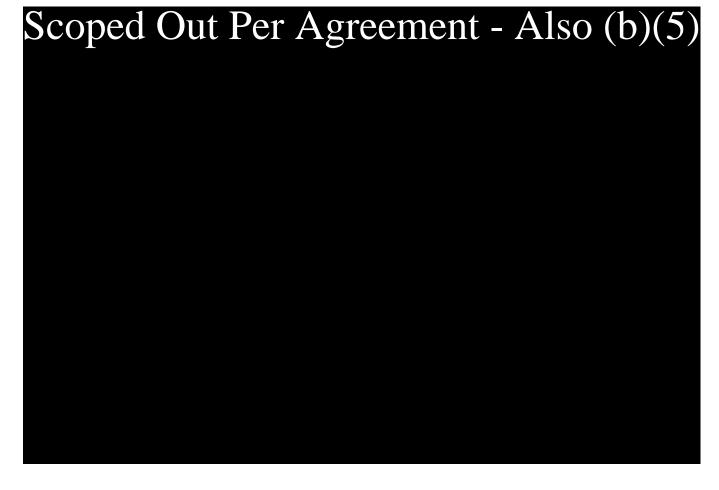
SUBJECT: LUNCH WITH SENATOR MIKE LEE (R-UT)

On Thursday, September 22, 2022, you will have lunch with Senator Mike Lee (R-UT). You last interacted with Senator Lee on October 27, 2021, during the Senate Judiciary Committee Oversight Hearing.





Senator Lee's Recent Correspondence

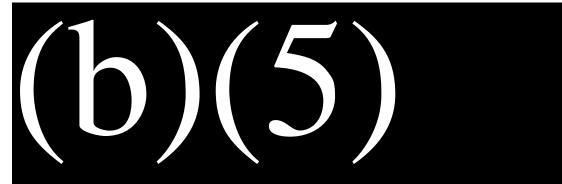


- **Dobbs** Leak: On May 6, 2022, Senator Lee sent a letter joined by Senator Roy to the Department. The letter asks the Department to respond to reports of protests to disrupt church services following the leak of the draft *Dobbs* opinion.
  - The Department responded to this letter on July 28, 2022. The letter states that the FBI is investigating attacks and threats targeting pregnancy centers, faith-based organizations, and reproductive health clinics, as well as judicial buildings.

**Talking Points for Issues Senator Lee May Raise** 

Scoped	Out Per	Agree Agree	ement -	- Also	(b)(5

**Dobbs** Decision: Senator Lee joined a letter on May 6, 2022, asking that the Department act against efforts to disrupt church proceedings after a draft of the *Dobbs* opinion was leaked. On June 24, 2022, following the *Dobbs* decision, Senator Lee issued a press release stating that, "The national nightmare of *Roe* has ended." On July 28, 2022, Senator Lee introduced a resolution to recognize the week of November 7 as "National Pregnancy Center Week." Senator Lee stated that such recognition is warranted considering recent attacks on pregnancy centers.



Scoped Out Per Agreement - Also (b)(5)

May 6, 2022

The Honorable Merrick Garland Attorney General United States Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Garland,

We write to you today extremely concerned by multiple reports surfacing that left-wing activists intend to protest, and possibly disrupt, church services this weekend in direct response to the leaked opinion authored by Justice Alito that would overturn *Roe* v. *Wade*. <sup>1,2,3</sup> We believe these rumors should be taken seriously as protests have already begun occurring across the country this week, with the Sacred Heart of Mary Church in Boulder, Colorado vandalized. <sup>4</sup>

Regardless of one's position on abortion, the free exercise of religion is a core tenet of our Constitution. We condemn behaviors that infringe upon the freedom to exercise one's religious beliefs and respectfully ask that you swiftly alert and coordinate resources with state and local law enforcement to ensure that any organized effort across the country is properly addressed and the rights of Americans are protected.

Sincerely,

Michael S. Lee

**United States Senator** 

Chip Roy

Member of Congress

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> O'Neil, Tyler, Pro-Abortion Groups Target Churches for Mother's Day Protests, Fox News (May 6, 2022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Lovelace, Ryan, <u>"Ruth Sent Us" Activists Plan Abortion Protests at Churches, Supreme Court Justices' Homes,</u> The Washington Times (May 5, 2022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Mary Margaret Olohon (@MaryMargOlohan), Twitter (May 6, 2022), https://twitter.com/MaryMargOlohan/status/1522621941676494860?s=20&t=R-DPuETUs1mmaKJ8euvI3Q.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Thomas, Dillon, Catholic Church in Boulder Vandalized with Abortion-Rights Graffiti, CBS News Denver (May 4, 2022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> U.S. Const. Amend. I.



### U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

JUL 28 2022

The Honorable Mike Lee United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Lee:

This responds to your letter, dated May 6, 2022, to the Department of Justice (Department), regarding threats against pregnancy resource centers. We are sending identical responses to the other Members who joined in your letter.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is investigating a series of attacks and threats targeting pregnancy resource centers, faith-based organizations, and reproductive health clinics across the country, as well as judicial buildings, including the U.S. Supreme Court, including investigating certain incidents as potential acts of domestic terrorism. The FBI takes all violence and threats of violence very seriously and we are working closely with our law enforcement partners at the national, state, and local levels to investigate these incidents.

We would like to remind members of the public that if they observe anything suspicious or have information about potential threats to report it to law enforcement immediately, call their local FBI field office, or submit a tip to tips.fbi.gov.

We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Legislative Affairs if we may provide additional assistance regarding this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

Peter S. Hyun

Acting Assistant Attorney General

MARCO RUBIO FLORIDA

# United States Senate WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0908

June 10, 2022

COMMITTEES:

APPROPRIATIONS

FOREIGN RELATIONS

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Honorable Merrick Garland Attorney General U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, D.C. 20530

### Dear Attorney General Garland:

I write to follow up on my original letter dated May 11, 2022. In that letter, I asked the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) to publicly condemn and investigate the ongoing and unlawful efforts designed to intimidate Supreme Court Justices, including by "protestors" who made threats outside their homes following the leak of a draft opinion from the U.S. Supreme Court in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. I conveniently received a response to my letter from the DOJ on the same day that an attempted assassination of Justice Kavanaugh was made on June 8, 2022.

According to the federal complaint, a man carrying a Glock 17, tactical knife, zip ties, and other burglary tools, was arrested while approaching Justice Brett Kavanaugh's home. He told officers that he was angry and wanted to kill Justice Kavanaugh because the Court may overturn *Roe v. Wade*. Violent acts like this should come as no surprise, given that the threats made outside of Justices' homes were precisely the cause for alarm that we referenced in asking the DOJ to hold these bad actors accountable. In the Senate, we responded to those threats by passing S. 4160, the *Supreme Court Policy Parity Act*, which would enhance federal protection for the Justices and their families. As you are no doubt aware, this bipartisan legislation has been stonewalled by House Democrats, who continue to block its passage. Even in light of these disturbing facts, on June 9, 2022, Speaker Pelosi went so far as asserting that "no one is in danger." This kind of partisan politicking by House leadership has hamstrung critical judicial security measures and made the DOJ's responsibility of enforcing federal law even greater. The DOJ can no longer afford to remain on the sidelines and must instead commit to investigating and prosecuting criminal actors who have answered the call to violence.

These criminals are not only targeting Supreme Court Justices. As you know, radical proabortion activists have targeted pro-life centers, groups, and churches across the United States with arson, vandalism, and threats of violence simply because of their pro-life views. Catholic bishops and priests across the nation have reported credible threats to churches and members of the clergy. For instance, the Archdiocese of Miami Respect Life was vandalized with the threatening message, "if abortion isn't safe, neither are you." Similarly, pro-life crisis pregnancy centers, which provide critical resources for pregnant mothers and babies have been attacked, including one in Buffalo, New York, that was fire bombed on June 7, 2022. The violence is just what a leaked U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) memo correctly predicted:

"Grievances related to restricting abortion access could fuel violence by pro-choice abortionrelated violent extremists."

The DOJ must protect the integrity of the Court and protect the rights and freedoms of pro-life organizations. I therefore request answers to the following questions:

- 1. Explain why the DOJ has failed to investigate acts of violence against pro-life groups, including crisis pregnancy centers?
  - a. Does the DOJ plan to classify these crimes as acts of domestic terrorism?
- 2. Does the DOJ believe that "no one is in danger," as stated by Speaker Pelosi?
- 3. As confirmed at the time by then-White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki, is it still President Biden's position to "encourage" protests "outside of judges' homes"?
- 4. Does the DOJ support swift passage of the Supreme Court Policy Parity Act?
- 5. Is the DOJ coordinating with DHS and other U.S. Attorney's offices across the nation to investigate and prosecute criminal acts against pro-life groups?

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

M.h.

Marco Rubio U.S. Senator

MARCO RUBIO FLORIDA

United States Senate WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0908

June 15, 2022

COMMITTEES:

APPROPRIATIONS

FOREIGN RELATIONS

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Honorable Merrick Garland Attorney General U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, D.C. 20530

### Dear Attorney General Garland:

I write again to express my concern for the safety of pro-life organizations. As you know, Jane's Revenge is a left-wing extremist group that has claimed responsibility for several violent attacks on pro-life organizations across the United States. Alarmingly, in the group's most recent public statement, Jane's Revenge has now doubled-down on its commitment to violence, threats and intimidation, writing that the "leash is off" and it is now "open season" on any pro-life group that refuses to close their doors.

In my previous letter dated June 10, 2022, I directed your attention to radical pro-abortion groups, like Jane's Revenge, that have relentlessly targeted pro-life centers, groups, and churches with acts of arson, vandalism, and violence due to their pro-life views. In the United States, we cannot tolerate groups that openly choose and advocate violent means in order to achieve a desired political end. The most recent statement by Jane's Revenge makes unmistakably clear that violence will soon follow if the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) does not act accordingly. "[W]e are not merely pushing words," the group wrote. They further state, "[w]e promised to take increasingly drastic measures against oppressive infrastructures . . . and those measures may not come in the form of something so easily cleaned up as fire and graffiti."

Despite the damage that has already been done and even though these groups have kept their promise to raise the violent stakes, the DOJ has not been faithful to its promise of ensuring the public's safety against these violent, radical activists. To date, there has not been a single charge brought against any individual or group despite the countless pro-life centers in America that have been firebombed and vandalized in recent months.

Since my last letter asking that DOJ prosecute and publicly condemn the criminals picketing outside of Justices' homes, a man traveled from California with the intent to murder of Justice Kavanaugh. In now writing this letter, I fear that if the threats posed by groups like Jane's Revenge are not taken seriously, I once again will be proven right – only this time the outcome may not be the same. With the U.S. Supreme Court poised to issue its final decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health* at any time, the DOJ and the Biden Administration can no longer remain silent.

The DOJ must condemn these groups and prosecute the criminal actors who are conspiring and coordinating a violent campaign against pro-life organizations that refuse to be intimidated into submission. I therefore request answers to the following questions:

- 1. Is the DOJ investigating groups, including Jane's Revenge, and the criminal acts they commit?
- 2. Has the DOJ charged any individual or group in connection with the recent attacks on pro-life organizations? If not, why?
- 3. As confirmed at the time by then-White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki, is it still President Biden's position to "encourage" protests "outside of judges' homes"?
- 4. Will DOJ create a partnership among federal, state, and local law enforcement to address the violence against pro-life organizations as it did when addressing the alleged threats of violence against school-board administrators?

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Marco Rubio U.S. Senator



June 24, 2022

### **VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION**

The Honorable Merrick Garland Attorney General of the United States 950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC, 20530

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas Secretary U.S. Department of Homeland Security 3801 Nebraska Ave NW Washington, DC 20016

Dear Attorney General Garland and Secretary Mayorkas:

This morning, the Supreme Court released its decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, which overturns *Roe v. Wade*. Over the past few weeks, in the wake of the unprecedented leak of a draft Supreme Court opinion, there has been a disturbing rise in threats against Supreme Court Justices and the Court itself. Justices have had their addresses published online, have been subjected to illegal pressure campaigns at their family homes, and one Justice was even the victim of an attempted assassination.

These violent extremists are only trying to make this volatile situation worse. This past week throughout Washington, D.C., the nationwide extremist group, Jane's Revenge, has promised a "NIGHT OF RAGE" in the event the Supreme Court should overturn *Roe v. Wade*. Now that the Court has decided to overturn *Roe*, we must take their words seriously. They assert, "To our oppressors: if abortions aren't safe, you're not either." They urge their followers to "hit the streets" because "you said you'd riot." Their threatening statement from June 14, 2022, called for "open season" against pro-life facilities.

This group has already claimed responsibility for a series of attacks on pro-life organizations throughout the country including at least one fire bombing. While we recognize the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) issued a public awareness report detailing the threat of Jane's Revenge and other abortion-related violent extremists, we remain concerned that the impending violent riots could likely overwhelm law enforcement and create a dangerous environment.

We therefore write to urge you to take all necessary steps to protect the Supreme Court and other likely targets in the event Jane's Revenge or other pro-abortion violent extremists successfully

execute a "NIGHT OF RAGE" with widespread rioting. As you know, the Supreme Court is protected by a dedicated—but small—police force. Given their proximity to the Capitol they frequently coordinate with the Capitol Police. However, the capacity of these specialized law enforcement organizations is limited.

Federal law enforcement from the Justice and Homeland Security Departments must be prepared to protect our judicial branch. As when riots threatened the Hatfield Courthouse in Portland, Oregon, tactical assets from the FBI, the Marshals Service, the Federal Protective Service, and the Border Patrol should be on standby to assist the Supreme Court Police and the Capitol Police in defending the Court from any attack from any organization, including Jane's Revenge, in the wake of the Supreme Court's ruling on *Dobbs v. Jackson*.

Please provide us with answers to the following questions as soon as possible.

- 1. What actions have your departments taken to position tactical assets in such a way that they may be readily deployed in the wake of abortion-related violent extremism expected in the wake of the Supreme Court's ruling on *Dobbs v. Jackson*?
- 2. What steps are your departments taking to coordinate with the Supreme Court Police and the Capitol Police in order to respond effectively to abortion-related violent extremism expected in the wake of the Supreme Court's ruling on *Dobbs v. Jackson*?
- 3. What analysis has been conducted by your departments to determine whether or not the Supreme Court can be secured following these overt threats of rioting and violent attacks?
- 4. What analysis has been conducted by your departments to determine whether or not the homes of Supreme Court Justices can be secured?
- 5. What steps are the FBI and the Office of Intelligence and Analysis taking to monitor and investigate terrorist activity by pro-abortion violent extremists like Jane's Revenge?

Sincerely,

Chuck Grassley Ranking Member

Committee on the Judiciary

Church Grandey

Rob Portman

Ranking Member

Committee on Homeland Security

and Governmental Affairs

Trob Dontonar

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 7, 2022

The Honorable Merrick Garland Attorney General U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Garland:

We write to request information about how the Department of Justice is addressing the disturbing trend of harassment, intimidation, and violence against religious and other pro-life organizations and individuals in the aftermath of the leaked draft opinion in the Supreme Court case *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. While churches and crisis pregnancy centers have been vandalized, pro-life offices in Oregon and Wisconsin have been targeted by arsonists. We are deeply concerned that this trend will continue should the Supreme Court overturn *Roe v. Wade* in the coming weeks unless the Department of Justice, the FBI, and U.S. Attorneys' Offices take a firm public stance and proactive response against these violent threats.

Last October, the Department of Justice wasted no time in publicly responding to threats of violence against educators and school administrators related to COVID-19 policies. You issued a memo in which you stated, "While spirited debate about policy matters is protected under our Constitution, that protection does not extend to threats of violence or efforts to intimidate individuals based on their views." At the same time, the Department created specialized training and guidance for local school boards and school administrators to help "potential victims understand the type of behavior that constitutes threats, how to report threatening conduct to the appropriate law enforcement agencies, and how to capture and preserve evidence of threatening conduct to aid in the investigation and prosecution of these crimes." The Department also took steps to improve coordination between the FBI, the U.S. Attorneys' Offices, and local law enforcement to "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment, and response."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Ryan Foley, "Spate of churches, pro-life offices torched, vandalized nationwide since Supreme Court leak: list", The Christian Post, <a href="https://www.christianpost.com/news/churches-pro-life-offices-burned-vandalized-since-supreme-court-leak-list.html">https://www.christianpost.com/news/churches-pro-life-offices-burned-vandalized-since-supreme-court-leak-list.html</a>, 26 May 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Merrick Garland, "Partnership Among Federal, State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Law Enforcement to Address Threats Against School Administrators, Board Members, Teachers, and Staff," https://www.justice.gov/ag/page/file/1438986/download, 4 October 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Office of the Attorney General, "Justice Department Addresses Violent Threats Against School Officials and Teachers," <a href="https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-addresses-violent-threats-against-school-officials-and-teachers">https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-addresses-violent-threats-against-school-officials-and-teachers</a>, 4 October 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Garland, 4 October 2021.

Yet in comparison to the current climate, in which multiple acts—not just threats—of violence have been documented, we have not seen the commensurate public response from the Department of Justice that the moment demands. The criminal acts perpetrated against those who oppose legalized abortion are a clear effort to intimidate or coerce individuals who hold pro-life values. We call on the Department of Justice to take these actions seriously and work to prevent violence and, when such acts are perpetrated, investigate and prosecute them as appropriate.

We are dismayed that the open and public urgency with which the Department of Justice undertook efforts in the name of public safety last year is not being replicated currently to protect religious and other pro-life organizations and individuals. We seek answers to the following questions:

- 1. What is the Department of Justice's strategy to prevent violence and threats of violence against private organizations and individuals who oppose legalized abortion?
- 2. What resources does the Department of Justice need to publicize and implement this strategy successfully?
- 3. What role has the Department of Justice played in investigating and prosecuting individuals committing violence against pro-life organizations and individuals?

The Supreme Court's ruling in *Dobbs* is imminent, and thus we ask for a response to these questions by June 10, 2022. Thank you for your service to our country and your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Jerry Moran

United States Senator

Steve Daines

United States Senator

Ron Johnson

United States Senator

Roger F. Wicker

United States Senator

Roger Marshall, M.D.
United States Senator

John Boozman
United States Senator

Joni K. Ernst United States Senator

James M. Inhofe United States Senator

John Thune United States Senator

Mike Braun United States Senator Mike Crapo United States Senator

Deb Fischer United States Senator

James E. Risch United States Senator

Ted Cruz United States Senator

Cindy Hyde-Smith United States Senator

James Lankford United States Senator



# U.S. Department of Justice

# Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

JUL 2 7 2022

The Honorable Cliff Bentz U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Bentz:

This responds to your letter, dated June 15, 2022, to the Department of Justice (Department), regarding threats against pregnancy resource centers. We are sending identical responses to the other Members who joined in your letter.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is investigating a series of attacks and threats targeting pregnancy resource centers, faith-based organizations, and reproductive health clinics across the country, as well as judicial buildings, including the U.S. Supreme Court, including investigating certain incidents as potential acts of domestic terrorism. The FBI takes all violence and threats of violence very seriously and we are working closely with our law enforcement partners at the national, state, and local levels to investigate these incidents.

We would like to remind members of the public that if they observe anything suspicious or have information about potential threats to report it to law enforcement immediately, call their local FBI field office, or submit a tip to tips.fbi.gov.

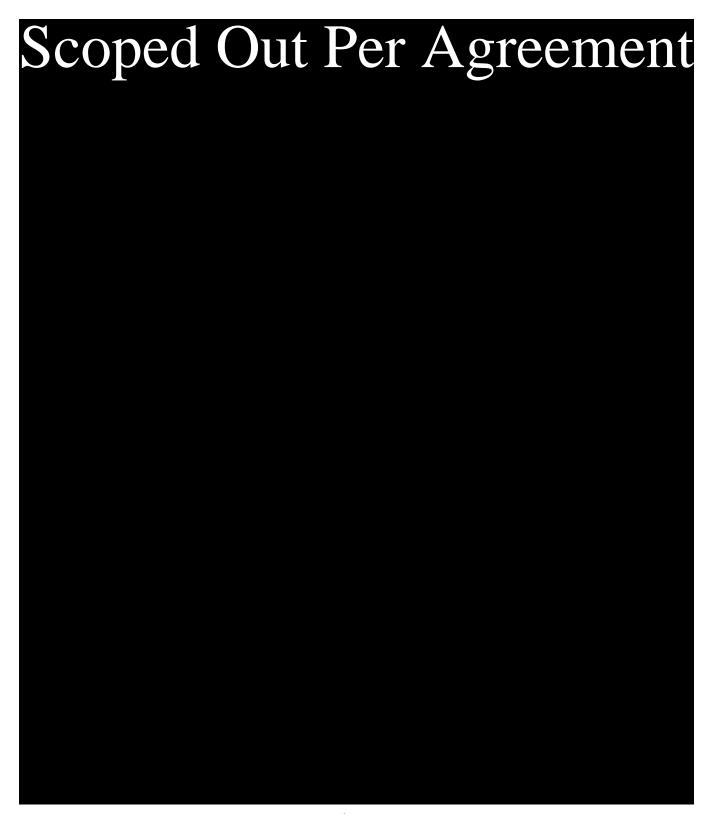
We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Legislative Affairs if we may provide additional assistance regarding this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

Peter S. Hyun

Acting Assistant Attorney General

# SELECTED REMARKS FROM AAG OLSEN: HJC TESTIMONY ON JULY 28, 2022



# Scoped Out Per Agreement

# THREATS TO SCOTUS JUSTICES/DOBBS DECISION

- This is not a partisan issue. Everyone who serves in a position of public trust, certainly, the members of our Supreme Court, deserve to be safe, and we have taken very seriously the threats of violence and violence. We are prosecuting an individual with attempted assassination of Justice Kavanaugh. We've provided support and protection through the Marshal Service to the Supreme Court. We have supported legislation to increase that support.
- The attacks on pregnancy resource centers and pro-life centers and groups are not a partisan issue. Violence and threats of violence are absolutely not acceptable. The FBI has opened a series of cases involving those attacks or threats against those resource centers, some of them opened as domestic violent extremist cases.

# • Use of 18 U.S.C. § 1507 to Bring Charges

- o That law will be enforced, like all federal laws, based on the evidence that we are able to obtain.
- Our goal is to investigate and prosecute crimes, including threats of violence and violence. It is one of our cherished protections that people can speak out and, under the First Amendment, do so in ways that, obviously, many people, if not most, don't agree with. That's part of what it means to be an American.

Subject: RE: FBI Dobbs letter

Date: Fri, 22 Jul 2022 19:50:02 +0000

**Importance:** Normal

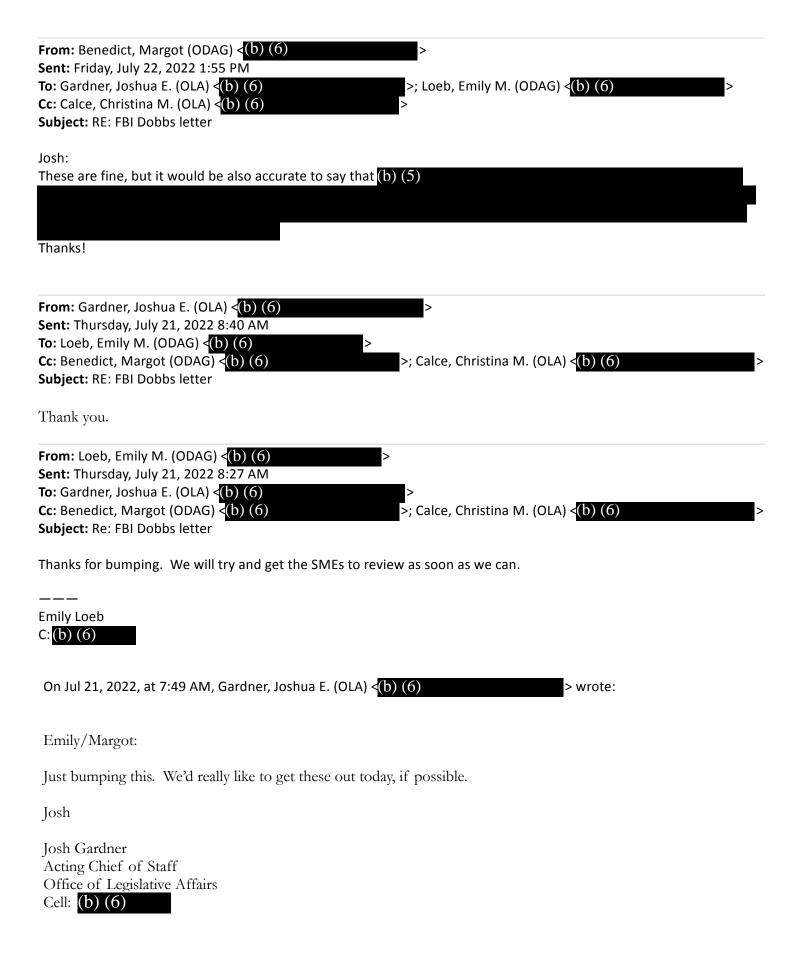
Attachments: 2022-091151 FBI Draft Response - Grassley Portman CRM Comments (vz 2).docx

Christina – cleared per Margot/David on the short House MOC one. Please take a look at my proposed re-organization for the Senator Grassley one. I'm not sure this gets it right though; interested in your thoughts. Then we would take any eidts through to the other one.

### **Emily**

```
From: Calce, Christina M. (OLA) <(b) (6)
Sent: Friday, July 22, 2022 2:59 PM
                                                       >; Benedict, Margot (ODAG) <(b) (6)
To: Loeb, Emily M. (ODAG) \triangleleft (b) (6)
Gardner, Joshua E. (OLA) < (b) (6)
Subject: RE: FBI Dobbs letter
FBI cleared adding in (b)(5)
From: Loeb, Emily M. (ODAG) \lt(b) (6)
Sent: Friday, July 22, 2022 2:56 PM
To: Calce, Christina M. (OLA) <(b) (6)
                                                             >; Benedict, Margot (ODAG)
                              >; Gardner, Joshua E. (OLA) <(b) (6)
Subject: RE: FBI Dobbs letter
Reach out to Chris in the meantime to dual track.
From: Calce, Christina M. (OLA) <(b) (6)
Sent: Friday, July 22, 2022 2:38 PM
To: Loeb, Emily M. (ODAG) \triangleleft (b)
                                                       >; Benedict, Margot (ODAG) <(b) (6)
Gardner, Joshua E. (OLA) <(b) (6)
Subject: RE: FBI Dobbs letter
Got it. We will hold on prepping for signature. LMK when you're good.
From: Loeb, Emily M. (ODAG) \lt (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, July 22, 2022 2:38 PM
To: Benedict, Margot (ODAG) <(b) (6)
                                                             >; Gardner, Joshua E. (OLA)
Cc: Calce, Christina M. (OLA) <(b) (6)
Subject: RE: FBI Dobbs letter
```

I might have a couple of small things. Sorry for the disconnect.



# Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

# **VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION**

June 27, 2022

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland Attorney General U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Garland:

We write to you today regarding extreme risk of targeted attacks, intimidation, and threats following release of the opinion in the Supreme Court case *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. Since the leak of the draft opinion earlier this year, pro-life pregnancy centers, religious institutions, and Supreme Court Justices have become targets for violence. Now that the official opinion has been released, it is critical that the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) prevent future attacks and hold those committing threatening and violent acts responsible for their actions, and prosecute them to the full extent of the law.

On June 7, radical pro-abortion activists targeted Mountain Area Pregnancy Services (MAPS) in Asheville, North Carolina. These violent criminals shattered windows at the organization, vandalized the building with red paint, and threatened agency staff with the following message in red spray paint: "[i]f abortions aren't safe, neither are you!" On June 15, a radical organization called "Jane's Revenge" claimed responsibility for this violent attack and 15 others nationwide, and promised to take "increasingly drastic measures" before declaring "open season" on pro-life pregnancy centers.

This admission of guilt and threat of further violence is chilling. According to a June 16 report, there have been more 40 nationwide incidents of political violence against pro-life individuals and organizations including pro-life pregnancy centers and religious institutions since the *Dobbs* leak.<sup>2</sup> Further, pro-abortion activists have targeted the homes of Supreme Court Justices for aggressive protests. The heated rhetoric from activists and their advocates in the liberal, mainstream media have fostered an environment of violence that resulted in the foiled plot to assassinate Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Ryan Oehrli, *Asheville police: Mountain Area Pregnancy Services vandalized, threatened*, ASHEVILLE CITIZEN TIMES (last updated June 8, 2022, 10:51 AM) https://www.citizen-times.com/story/news/2022/06/07/asheville-police-mountain-area-pregnancy-services-vandalized-threatened/7544848001/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Press Release, Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America, Biden Must Unequivocally Condemn Attacks on Pro-Life Pregnancy Centers & Peaceful Advocates (June 16, 2022) https://sbaprolife.org/newsroom/press-releases/bidenmust-unequivocally-condemn-attacks-on-pro-life-pregnancy-centers-peaceful-advocates.

We are deeply disturbed about past and future violence committed by radical, proabortion activists. Jane's Revenge has already signaled that increased violence is warranted in service of its pro-abortion agenda.<sup>3</sup> For example, the group recently posted the name of Justice Amy Coney Barrett's church, identified the school that her children attend, and encouraged followers to "voice your anger" by demonstrating there.<sup>4</sup> This kind of provocation invites potential violence against not only government officials, but their families as well.

It is essential that DOJ and the Federal Bureau of Investigation commit themselves to investigating these acts of violence and threats of violence. Your Department must clearly communicate that these actions are not only wrong, but that you will take every action to prosecute those who use violence to push their radical agenda. Failure to act, despite clear threats of violence by organizations such as Jane's Revenge, will only lead to more threats and more violence against pro-life pregnancy centers and religious institutions.

We ask that DOJ forcefully condemn the ongoing violence against pro-life and religious groups and prosecute the criminals engaging in these attacks to the fullest extent of the law. With the release of the *Dobbs* opinion, it is incumbent on you to take action to show these criminals they will be held responsible for their violent acts, lest there be another wave of violence. The American people need to know and understand your commitments to protecting them from political violence carried out by pro-abortion extremists. We ask that you respond to the following questions no later than July 11, 2022:

- 1. What efforts is DOJ taking to curb the rise in targeted violence against religious organizations, pro-life pregnancy centers, and individuals who are pro-life?
- 2. In how many instances has DOJ opened investigations into these acts of violence and vandalism across the country?
- 3. What steps is DOJ taking to investigate groups, including Jane's Revenge, who are actively inciting violence against religious and pro-life organizations?
- 4. What steps is DOJ taking to inform and to protect organizations at risk of targeted violence from radical pro-abortion activists? What actions has DOJ taken to prevent acts of violence against religious and pro-life organizations?
- 5. Will DOJ clearly communicate to the American people that political violence against religious and pro-life organizations will be vigorously prosecuted?
- 6. To date, how has DOJ contributed to the investigations of the over 40 recorded incidents of political violence since the *Dobbs* opinion leak?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Danielle Wallace, *Letter signed by radical abortion group Jane's Revenge declares 'open season' on pro-life pregnancy centers*, Fox News (June 16, 2022, 12:04 PM) https://www.foxnews.com/politics/letter-abortion-group-janes-revenge-open-season-pro-life-pregnancy-centers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Arjun Singh, *Pro-Abortion Group 'Ruth Sent Us' Suggests Targeting Amy Coney Barrett's Children*, NATIONAL REVIEW (June 10, 2022, 1:44 PM) https://www.nationalreview.com/news/pro-choice-group-ruth-sent-us-suggests-targeting-amy-coney-barretts-children/.

Our First Amendment rights to freedom of religion and freedom of speech are foundational rights under our Constitution. Using violence to target and intimidate those with views one disagrees with is unacceptable and un-American. It is critical that you take all necessary precautions to prevent violence and prosecute those who would use violence to achieve their radical political agenda. We look forward to your swift response on this urgent issue.

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Thom Tillis United States Senator

Dan Bishop Member of Congress

Virginia Foxx Member of Congress

Patrick McHenry Member of Congress

David Rouzer Member of Congress Richard Burr United States Senator

Ted Budd Member of Congress

Richard Hudson Member of Congress

Gregory F. Murphy, M.D. Member of Congress

# Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

June 24, 2022

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland Attorney General U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

# Dear Attorney General Garland:

Since the leak of the draft opinion in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* on May 2, 2022, there have been at least 40 documented attacks against pro-life pregnancy centers and churches.<sup>1</sup> These attacks include incidences of vandalism, destruction of property, and even firebombing. The radical group Jane's Revenge, which took credit for the May 2022 firebombing of a pregnancy center in Madison, Wisconsin, has even declared it "open season" on pro-life organizations and vowed to ramp up its offensive.<sup>2</sup>

This tide of violence is likely to continue in the coming months as an official court opinion is released. It is critical that the Department of Justice take steps now to protect pro-life pregnancy centers and places of worship.<sup>3</sup> The Clinton Administration took such steps to protect abortion clinics, signing the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances (FACE) Act of 1994.<sup>4</sup> The FACE Act makes it a federal crime to use force, threats of force, physical obstruction, intentional injury, or intimidation against clinics providing "reproductive health services" or places of worship, with

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Josh Gerstein and Alexander Ward, "Supreme Court has voted to overturn abortion rights, draft opinion shows," *Politico*, May 5, 2022, https://www.politico.com/news/2022/05/02/supreme-court-abortion-draft-opinion-00029473; Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America, "Pro-Abortion Vandalism, Violence, & Interruptions of Worship," *Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America*, accessed June 21, 2022, https://s27319.pcdn.co/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/6.15.22-Pro-Abortion-Vandalism-Violence-Interruptions-Of-Worship.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ibid; Danielle Wallace, "Letter signed by radical abortion group Jane's Revenge declares 'open season' on pro-life pregnancy centers," *Fox News*, June 16, 2022, https://www.foxnews.com/politics/letter-abortion-group-janes-revenge-open-season-pro-life-pregnancy-centers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Caroline Downey, "DHS Preparing for Wave of Violence ahead of Potential Roe Reversal," *National Review*, May 18, 2022, https://www.nationalreview.com/news/dhs-preparing-for-wave-of-violence-ahead-of-potential-roe-reversal/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Gwen Ifill, "Clinton Signs Bill Banning Blockades and Violent Acts at Abortion Clinics," *The New York Times*, May 27, 1994, https://www.nytimes.com/1994/05/27/us/clinton-signs-bill-banning-blockades-and-violent-acts-at-abortion-clinics.html.

penalties including both fines and imprisonment.<sup>5</sup> It also makes it a federal crime to intentionally damage or destroy the property of such clinics or places of worship.<sup>6</sup> The clinics covered include those offering "services relating to pregnancy."<sup>7</sup>

During the 1990s the DOJ went so far as preemptively dispatching U.S. Marshals under the law to guard abortion clinics across the country.<sup>8</sup> In doing so, Attorney General Janet Reno was responding to pro-abortion activists comparing acts of violence against abortion clinics to violence against civil rights workers and students in the 1960s, saying that the federal government was "using all federal tools" to protect abortion clinics.<sup>9</sup> The U.S. Marshals Service continued to protect abortion providers into the 2000s under both the Bush and Obama Administrations.<sup>10</sup>

The Supreme Court has likewise upheld related speech restrictions on First Amendment rights, ruling a 36-foot protest "buffer zone" from abortion clinic entrances and driveways constitutional in *Madsen v. Women's Health Center, Inc.* (1993) and a similar 15-foot buffer zone constitutional in *Schenck v. Pro-Choice Network of Western New York* (1997). In *Hill v. Colorado* (2000), the Court upheld a floating 8-foot protest buffer zone for passersby, writing that the legislation did not violate the content-neutrality test established under *Ward v. Rock against Racism* (1989) because it did not apply to the "content of the demonstrators' speech" but rather the location of that speech. <sup>12</sup>

The assault on pro-life Americans' constitutional rights to freedom of speech and religion must be stopped. Given efforts from all three branches of government throughout the 1990s to protect abortion, the means to fight back against this lawless behavior are already in place. We urge the Department of Justice to aggressively and immediately take steps to stop the violence and protect the rights of all Americans.

Sincerely,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 18 U.S. Code § 248.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Pierre Thomas, "U.S. Marshals Dispatched to Guard Abortion Clinics," *The Washington Post*, Aug. 2, 1994, https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/politics/1994/08/02/us-marshals-dispatched-to-guard-abortion-clinics/80067334-dd30-4a0a-9a00-bfa438da968a/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Ibid.

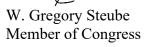
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> David Johnston, "Ashcroft Orders U.S. Marshals To Protect an Abortion Doctor," *The New York Times*, July 13, 2001, https://www.nytimes.com/2001/07/13/us/ashcroft-orders-us-marshals-to-protect-an-abortion-doctor.html; Department of Justice, "Attorney General on Murder of Doctor George Tiller," *Department of Justice*, May 31, 2009, https://www.justice.gov/opa/speech/attorney-general-murder-doctor-george-tiller.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 512 U.S. 753 (1994); 519 US 357 (1997).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> 530 US 703 (2000), 703-704.

Her Buck

Ken Buck Member of Congress



Flin M. Swant

Elise M. Stefanik Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn Member of Congress

Rose Morman

Ralph Norman Member of Congress

Thomas P Tiffon Tom Tiffany

Member of Congress



Thomas Massie Member of Congress

Christopher H. Smith Member of Congress

Brian Babin, D.D.S. Member of Congress Ben Cline Member of Congress

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Burgess Owens Member of Congress Mike Johnson Member of Congress Andy Biggs Member of Congress

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Jeff Duncan Member of Congress Bruce Westerman Member of Congress

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Kandy K. Wiln

Markwayne Mullin Member of Congress

Mary E. Miller Member of Congress

John Rose Member of Congress

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Gus M. Bilirakis Member of Congress

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Tim Walberg

Member of Congress

John Moolenaar Member of Congress

Randy Feenstra Member of Congress

Matt Gaetz Member of Congress

Young Kim Member of Congress Jackie Walorski Member of Congress

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Warren Davidson Member of Congress

Bob Good Member of Congress Tracey Mann Member of Congress Bill Posev

Bill Posey Member of Congress C. Scott Franklin Member of Congress

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Ronny L. Jackson Member of Congress

Bill Huizenga Member of Congress

Ted Budd Member of Congress

Pete Sessions Member of Congress

Vicky Hartzler Member of Congress

Peter Meijer Member of Congress

Robert B. Aderholt Member of Congress Kelly Armstrong Member of Congress

David McKinley Member of Congress Matt Rosendale Member of Congress Glenn Grothman Member of Congress

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# Congress of the United States

# Washington, DC 20510

June 15, 2022

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland Attorney General United States Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Garland,

We write to express serious concerns over recent attacks targeting religious organizations and crisis pregnancy centers and request the Department of Justice respond with how its National Security Division plans to investigate these acts of domestic terrorism.

Since the draft *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health* U.S. Supreme Court opinion was leaked on May 2, 2022, U.S. Supreme Court Justices and pro-life advocates have experienced heightened threats and violence. In the past month, terrorists have targeted numerous pro-life crisis pregnancy centers — two of which culminated in the firebombing and destruction of property by the terrorist group Jane's Revenge in Buffalo, NY, and Madison, WI.<sup>1</sup> During the Madison attack, the group directly threatened life and spray painted "if abortions aren't safe, then you aren't either" on the building's façade.

In addition, the list below, which is not entirely comprehensive, illustrates some recent incidents:

- June 7, 2022: CompassCare Pregnancy Services firebombed (Buffalo, NY)<sup>2</sup>
- June 6, 2022: Mountain Area Pregnancy Services vandalized (Asheville, NC)<sup>3</sup>
- June 3, 2022: Capitol Hill Pregnancy Center vandalized (Washington, DC)<sup>4</sup>
- May 25, 2022: Four Step Pregnancy Center vandalized (Lynwood, WA)<sup>5</sup>
- May 22, 2022: Four churches vandalized (Olympia, WA)<sup>6</sup>
- May 14, 2022: Alpha Pregnancy Center vandalized (Reisterstown, MD)<sup>7</sup>
- May 10, 2022: Concerned Women for America's office damaged (Alexandria, VA)<sup>8</sup>
- May 8 or 9, 2022: First Care Women's Health is vandalized (Manassas, VA)<sup>9</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> NBC15, "Group claims credit for Madison anti-abortion office attack, warns of more," May 10, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> National Review, "Pro-Abortion Terrorists Firebomb Buffalo Pro-Life Pregnancy Center," June 7, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Citizen Times, "Asheville police: Mountain Area Pregnancy Services vandalized, threatened," June 6, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Spectator World, "Pro-abortion vandals attack the Capitol Hill Pregnancy Center," June 3, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> My Northwest, "Pregnancy clinic in Lynwood vandalized with pro-abortion rights messages," May 25, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Washington Free Beacon, "<u>Anarchists Take Credit for Vandalizing Four Pro-Life Churches in Washington State</u>," May 22, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> WBAL, "Vandals spray-painted threatening messages onto pregnancy center in Reisterstown," May 14, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Townhall, "Women's Pro-Life Group's Office Damaged and Urinated On By Crazed 'Leftist'," May 10, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> WUSA9, "Women's clinic in Northern Virginia vandalized, police say," May 10, 2022

- May 8, 2022: Oregon Right to Life office set on fire (Keizer, OR) 10
- May 8, 2022: Wisconsin Family Action office set on fire (Madison, WI)<sup>11</sup>
- May 7, 2022: The Loreto House Pregnancy Resource Center vandalized (Denton, TX)<sup>12</sup>
- May 3, 2022: Trotter House vandalized (Austin, TX)<sup>13</sup>
- May 3, 2022: Care Net Pregnancy Center vandalized (Frederick, MD)<sup>14</sup>
- May 3, 2022: A Catholic parish is vandalized (Boulder, CO)<sup>15</sup>

The Department has stated that domestic terrorism investigations are a key priority, and subsequently created a new domestic terrorism unit within the National Security Division in January 2022. 16 18 U.S. Code § 2331 defines domestic terrorism as activities that: 17

- "(A) involve acts dangerous to human life that are a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any State;
- (B) appear to be intended—
  - (i) to intimidate or coerce a civilian population;
  - (ii) to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or
  - (iii) to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping; and
- (C) occur primarily within the territorial jurisdiction of the United States."

The department has a clear duty to pursue these recent attacks as instances of domestic terrorism, and it is the responsibility of the National Security Division to protect the United States from threats to our national security by seeking justice through law.

As you know, the Department of Homeland Security is anticipating further violence and unrest in the coming months upon the final release of the *Dobbs* opinion, stating that these threats are "likely to persist and may increase leading up to and following the issuing of the Court's official ruling". With this warning made clear, the Department of Justice must act swiftly to investigate and prosecute recent domestic terrorist attacks against pro-life organizations and dissuade future perpetrators of such violence. These attacks have the intended effect of chilling the free exercise of religion and speech, undermining the constitutional rights of Americans.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> KGW8, "Police identify suspect vehicle in Oregon Right to Life break-in," May 9, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Chanel 3000, "Madison police, fire department say fire at Wisconsin Family Action office was arson," May 8, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Denton Record-Chronicle, "Loreto House Vandalized with Spray Paint," May 7, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Pregnancy Help News, "<u>Pregnancy help director says "onward" after pro-abortion attack over Dobbs leak,</u>" May 3, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Live Action, "Maryland pregnancy center latest target of militant abortion supporters," May 3, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> The Denver Post, "<u>Catholic church in Boulder County vandalized with abortion-rights messages following leak of Supreme Court opinion</u>," May 3, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> NPR, "The Justice Department will create domestic terrorism unit to counter rising threats," January 11, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Cornell Law School, "18 U.S. Code § 2331 – Definitions,"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> National Review, "DHS Preparing for Wave of Violence ahead of Potential *Roe* Reversal," May 18, 2022

For these reasons, we request that you respond to the following questions thirty days from the receipt of this letter.

- 1. Is the Department currently investigating the attacks against the aforementioned groups as instances of domestic terrorism? If not, please provide the rationale behind this decision.
- 2. What is the Department's plan to prevent similar attacks from occurring against other pro-life organizations and is the Department currently collaborating with state and local law enforcement to ensure further incidents do not occur?

Sincerely,

C. Scott Franklin Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Gary Palmer

Member of Congress

Christopher H. Smith Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Claudia Tenney

Member of Congress

Claudia (Jennes

Elise Stefanik

Member of Congress

Richard Hudson

Member of Congress

A. Drew Ferguson, IV

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Andy Harris, M.D.

Member of Congress

Mary Mace

Member of Congress

Mario Díaz-Balart Member of Congress

Jeff Duncan

Member of Congress

Mary E. Miller
Member of Congress

Doug LaMalfa Member of Congress

Louie Gohmert Member of Congress

Tim Walberg
Member of Congress

Brian Babin, D.D.S Member of Congress

Ronny L. Jackson Member of Congress Byron Donalds Member of Congress

Jake LaTurner Member of Congress

Michael Cloud Member of Congress

Bob Good Member of Congress

Andrew Clyde ()
Member of Congress

Matthew M. Rosendale, Sr. Member of Congress

Cliff Bentz Member of Congress

Yvette Herrell Member of Congress

Doug Lamborn Member of Congress

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Madison Cawthorn Member of Congress

Ralph Norman Member of Congress

Larry Bucshon, M.D. Member of Congress

Andy Biggs Member of Congress

Bill Huizenga
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Kat Cammack Member of Congress

Steven M. Palazzo Member of Congress

Robert B. Aderholt Member of Congress

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Brian Mast Member of Congress Randy Weber

Member of Congress

Michael Guest Member of Congress

Don Bacon

Member of Congress

Bob Gibbs Member of Congress

W. Gregory Steube Member of Congress

David McKinley Member of Congress

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Diana Harshbarger Member of Congress

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John Moolenaar Member of Congress

Tom Tiffany

Member of Congress



Debbie Lesko Member of Congress

Virginia Foxx Member of Congress

Rodney Davis
Member of Congress

Marjorie Taylor Greene
Member of Congress

Lisa C. McClain
Member of Congress

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Mo Brooks Member of Congress

Russ Fulcher Member of Congress

Trent Kelly Member of Congress

Glenn Grothman Member of Congress Ken Buck

Member of Congress

Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S. Member of Congress

Dan Meuser Member of Congress

Markwayne Mullin Member of Congress

Alex X. Mooney
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Darrell Issa Member of Congress

Steve Chabot
Member of Congress

Vicky Hartzler
Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Barry Moore

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

William R Timmona William R. Timmons, IV Member of Congress

John H. Rutherford Member of Congress

Jake Ellzey Member of Congress

**Austin Scott** Member of Congress

Barry Loudermilk

Member of Congress

Ben Cline Member of Congress

Eric A. "Rick" Crawford Member of Congress

Adrian Smith Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Gus M. Bilirakis Member of Congress

Jody Hice Member of Congress

Ted Budd Member of Congress

Blaine Luetkemeyer Member of Congress

Pat Fallon Member of Congress

Glenn 'GT' Thompson

Member of Congress

Charles J. "Chuck" Fleischmann Member of Congress

Viichael Waltz Member of Congress

Jack Bergman Member of Congress

Kevin Hern Member of Congress

Michelle Fischbach Member of Congress

Billy Long

Member of Congress

Julia Letlow

Member of Congress

Clay Higgins Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Bruce Westerman Member of Congress

Mike Kelly Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Carol D. Miller Member of Congress

David G. Valadao Member of Congress

Scott Fitzgerald Member of Congress

Guy Reschenthaler Member of Congress

Victoria Spartz

Member of Congress



David Kustoff Member of Congress

Burgess Owens Member of Congress

Patrick McHenry Member of Congress

Vern Buchanan Member of Congress

Randy Feenstra Member of Congress

David P. Joyce

Member of Congress

Brett Guthrie
Member of Congress

Tim Burchett
Member of Congress

Michael Burgess, M.D. Member of Congress Ron Estes

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Bill Posey
Member of Congress

Dan Newhouse Member of Congress

Tom McClintock Member of Congress

Neal P. Dunn, M.D. Member of Congress

Daniel Webster Member of Congress

Blake Moore Member of Congress

D. Noore

David Rouzer
Member of Congress

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Steve Womack Member of Congress

Darin LaHood Member of Congress Dan Crenshaw Member of Congress

J. French Hill

Member of Congress

Lauren Boebert

Member of Congress



## **U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

The Honorable Ron Johnson United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

### Dear Senator Johnson:

On behalf of the Department of Justice (the Department), this responds to your letter dated June 7, 2022, regarding threats and attacks against organizations that oppose abortion and threats against Supreme Court Justices.

The Department has been clear that the Constitution protects those who exercise their First Amendment rights—including the right to peacefully protest. However, violent criminal activity is not protected by the First Amendment. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) appreciated the opportunity to participate in an interagency briefing to staff of the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on June 28, 2022, to ensure that those committees were apprised of the preparation and coordination between and among law enforcement partners following the decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*.

As noted during that briefing in May, the Attorney General directed the U.S. Marshals Service to provide around-the-clock security at the homes of all Supreme Court Justices. In addition, the Department has worked to enhance coordination, intelligence sharing, and technical support as it relates to judicial security. As the Attorney General has noted: "While people vote, argue, and debate in a democracy, we must not – we cannot – allow violence or unlawful threats of violence to permeate our national life. The Justice Department will not tolerate violence or threats of violence against judges or any other public servants at work, home, or any other location."

The FBI takes all violence and threats of violence very seriously and is working closely with its law enforcement partners at the national, state, and local levels to investigate attacks and threats targeting pregnancy resource centers, faith-based organizations, and reproductive health clinics across the country, as well as to judicial buildings, including the U.S. Supreme Court. This includes investigating certain incidents as potential incidents of domestic terrorism. Because these investigations are ongoing, we cannot comment further on their status at this time.

The Honorable Ron Johnson Page Two

We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Legislative Affairs if we may provide additional assistance regarding this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

CARLOS Digitally signed by CARLOS URIARTE Date: 2022.09.02 13:44:53 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte Assistant Attorney General



## **U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

The Honorable Marco Rubio United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

### Dear Senator Rubio:

On behalf of the Department of Justice (the Department), this responds to your letter dated June 15, 2022, regarding threats and attacks against organizations that oppose abortion and threats against Supreme Court Justices.

The Department has been clear that the Constitution protects those who exercise their First Amendment rights—including the right to peacefully protest. However, violent criminal activity is not protected by the First Amendment. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) appreciated the opportunity to participate in an interagency briefing to staff of the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on June 28, 2022, to ensure that those committees were apprised of the preparation and coordination between and among law enforcement partners following the decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*.

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The Honorable Marco Rubio Page Two

We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Legislative Affairs if we may provide additional assistance regarding this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

CARLOS Digitally signed by CARLOS URIARTE Date: 2022.09.02 13:50:16 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte Assistant Attorney General