

From: "Osete, Jesus (CRT)" <(b) (6)>
To: "Mehr, Benjamin (ODAG)" <(b) (6)>, "McCommas, Stuart (OAG)" <(b) (6)>, "Neff, Eric (CRT)" <(b) (6)>, "Braniff, Andrew (CRT)" <(b) (6)>, "Bishop, Dan (USANCM)" <(b) (6)>, "McCotter, Trent (ODAG)" <(b) (6)>
Cc: "Johnson, Grace (CRT)" <(b) (6)>
Subject: FW: Implementation Huddle - THURSDAY, 7 MAY
Date: Wed, 06 May 2026 11:40:46 -0400
Importance: Normal
Attachments: DOJ_Election_Integrity_Report_Mar._27.pdf
Inline-Images: image001.jpg

As discussed, division of labor below. + Grace to help book the CRT conference room for us. I've also re-upped the memo. we sent WH about Q3 and Q4 efforts.

Jesus A. Osete
Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20579

(b) (6)
(b) (6)



From: Aldmon, Emily C. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>
Sent: Tuesday, May 5, 2026 2:04 PM
To: Dhillon, Harmeet K. (CRT) <(b) (6)>; Whitaker, Henry (OAG) <(b) (6)>; McCotter, Trent (ODAG) <(b) (6)>; Osete, Jesus (CRT) <(b) (6)>; Singh, Aakash (ODAG) <(b) (6)>; Law, Rob <(b)(6). (b)(7)(C) per DHS>; Percival, James <(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) per DHS>; Cooper Godfrey <(b)(6) per DOC@doc.gov>; Steiner, David - Washington, DC <(b)(3), (b)(6) per USPS>; Bresso, Gineen M. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Cline, Kevin EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Bunting, Luke EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Sikma, James B. Jr. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Salisbury, Anthony EOP/NSC <(b) (6)>; Santos, Dina M. EOP/NSC <(b) (6)>
Cc: Bulazel, Alina A. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Milner, Clark EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Wasserman, Daniel F. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Underwood, Emily A. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Implementation Huddle - THURSDAY, 7 MAY

Good afternoon,

The Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy will be hosting a huddle focused on election integrity on **Thursday, May 7 at 3:00pm** to ensure implementation of the President's EOs and policies. **This will be via conference call.**

A calendar invite will be sent out shortly with conference call details becoming available the day of the call.

This invite is non-transferrable without prior approval.

Agenda:

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Thank you,

Emily Aldmon

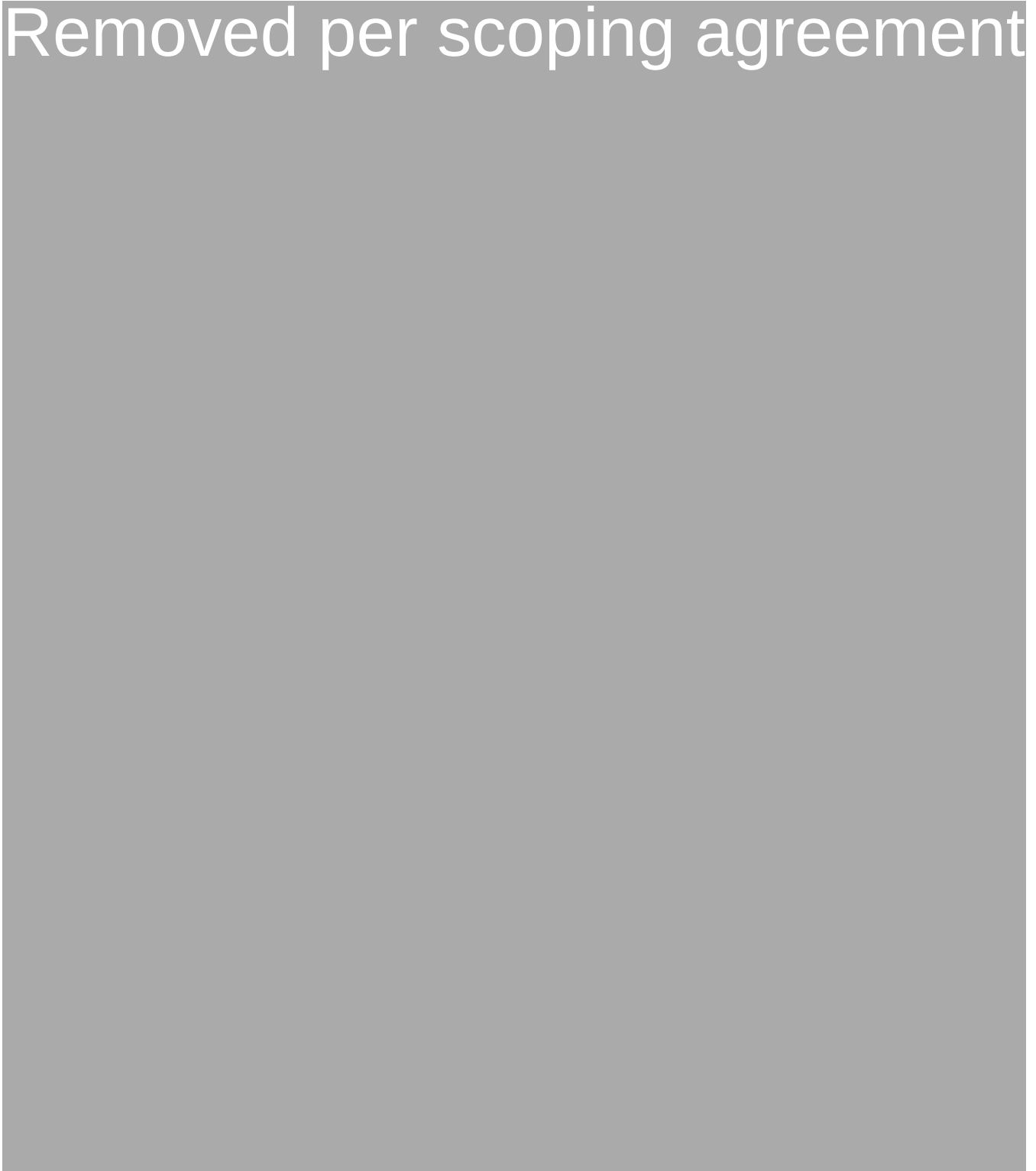
Executive Assistant

Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy

(b) (6) (calls only)

**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ELECTION INTEGRITY EFFORTS AND
OBJECTIVES**

Removed per scoping agreement



Removed per scoping agreement

- **Election Monitoring**

- CRT is seeking to (b) (5) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. CRT expects to (b) (5) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Removed per scoping agreement

(b) (5) [REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] In the latter, CRT expects to
be able to (b) (5) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: "McCotter, Trent (ODAG)" <(b) (6)>

To: "Osete, Jesus (CRT)" <(b) (6)>, "McCommas, Stuart (OAG)" <(b) (6)>, "Mehr, Benjamin (OASG)" <(b) (6)>

Subject: RE: Election Integrity Meeting #3

Date: Fri, 27 Mar 2026 15:32:22 -0400

Importance: Normal

Attachments: DOJ_Election_Integrity_Report_Mar._27.pdf

Inline-Images: image001.jpg

Attached is what I propose sending back re DOJ election integrity. Any final thoughts?

From: Osete, Jesus (CRT) <(b) (6)>

Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 3:13 PM

To: McCotter, Trent (ODAG) <(b) (6)>; Messian, Brandon (OAG) <(b) (6)>

Cc: Dhillon, Harmeet K. (CRT) <(b) (6)>; McCommas, Stuart (OAG) <(b) (6)>; Molthen, Haley (ODAG) <(b) (6)>

Subject: RE: Election Integrity Meeting #3

Correct, we've connected. CRT will provide an insert that can be weaved into the larger memo.

Jesus A. Osete

Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General

Civil Rights Division

U.S. Department of Justice

950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW

Washington, DC 20579

(b) (6)

(b) (6)



From: McCotter, Trent (ODAG) <(b) (6)>

Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 3:07 PM

To: Messian, Brandon (OAG) <(b) (6)>

Cc: Dhillon, Harmeet K. (CRT) <(b) (6)>; Osete, Jesus (CRT) <(b) (6)>; McCommas, Stuart (OAG) <(b) (6)>; Molthen, Haley (ODAG) <(b) (6)>

Subject: RE: Election Integrity Meeting #3

Thanks. Yes, I looped in CRT yesterday.

From: Messian, Brandon (OAG) <(b) (6)>

Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 2:55 PM

To: McCotter, Trent (ODAG) <(b) (6)>

Cc: Dhillon, Harmeet K. (CRT) <(b) (6)>; Osete, Jesus (CRT) <(b) (6)>; McCommas, Stuart (OAG) <(b) (6)>; Molthen, Haley (ODAG) <(b) (6)>
Subject: FW: Election Integrity Meeting #3

Hi Trent,

Haley mentioned you are working on this for Susie. If you could also please work with Harmeet, that would be great.

Thank you,
Brandon

From: Schuringa, Sarah V. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2026 10:50 AM
To: Mona Martinez <mona.martinez@ed.gov>; Pidluzny, Jonathan <Jonathan.Pidluzny@ed.gov>; (b)(3), (b)(6) per ODNI <(b) (6)>; Messian, Brandon (OAG) <(b) (6)>; Molthen, Haley (ODAG) <(b) (6)>; Malanga, Jessica D. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Scharf, William O. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Pettit, Kristen J. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Meyer, Alexander E. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Varughese, Finley EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Barrett, Walker B. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Albus, Thomas (USAMOE) <(b) (6)>; Olsen, Kurt B. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Bresso, Gineen M. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Cumbee, Deborah (CRT) <(b) (6)>; Hemenway, Troup <(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) per DHS>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Election Integrity Meeting #3

Good morning,

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

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Best,
Sarah

From: "Schuringa, Sarah V. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>
Date: Wednesday, February 4, 2026 at 5:26 PM
To: Mona Martinez <mona.martinez@ed.gov>; (b)(3), (b)(6) per ODNI <(b) (6)>; "Messian, Brandon (OAG)" <(b) (6)>; (b)(6) Haley Molthen <(b) (6)>

Jessica Malanga <(b) (6)>, William Scharf <(b) (6)>, "Pettit, Kristen J. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>, "Meyer, Alexander E. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>, "Varughese, Finley EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>, Walker Barrett <(b) (6)>, (b)(6) Thomas Albus, "Olsen, Kurt B. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>, "Bresso, Gineen M. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>, "Cumbee, Deborah (CRT)" <(b) (6)>
Subject: Re: Election Integrity Meeting #3

Good evening,

I am so sorry to do this to everyone, but we have to move the meeting forward an hour. It will now be at 3:30pm (b) (5). I apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Best,
Sarah

From: "Schuringa, Sarah V. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>
Date: Wednesday, February 4, 2026 at 9:55 AM
To: Mona Martinez <mona.martinez@ed.gov>, (b)(3), (b)(6) per ODNI, "Messian, Brandon (OAG)" <(b) (6)>, (b)(6) Haley Molthen, Jessica Malanga <(b) (6)>, William Scharf <(b) (6)>, "Pettit, Kristen J. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>, "Meyer, Alexander E. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>, "Varughese, Finley EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>, "Barrett, Walker B. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>, (b)(6) Thomas Albus, "Olsen, Kurt B. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>, "Bresso, Gineen M. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>, "Cumbee, Deborah (CRT)" <(b) (6)>
Subject: Re: Election Integrity Meeting #3

Good morning!

Please find the WAVES link below for those who may need it for entry.

<https://events.whitehouse.gov/> (b) (6)

I have received an RSVP from most attendees. Please continue to let me know if your principal will be able to make it tomorrow.

Best,
Sarah

From: "Schuringa, Sarah V. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>
Date: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 9:10 PM
To: Mona Martinez <mona.martinez@ed.gov>, (b)(3), (b)(6) per ODNI, "Messian, Brandon (OAG)" <(b) (6)>, (b)(6) Haley Molthen, Jessica Malanga <(b) (6)>, William Scharf <(b) (6)>, "Pettit, Kristen J. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>, "Meyer, Alexander E. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>, "Varughese, Finley EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>, "Barrett, Walker B. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>, (b)(6) Thomas Albus

<(b)(6) Thomas Albus>, "Olsen, Kurt B. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>, "Bresso, Gineen M. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>, "Cumbee, Deborah (CRT)" <(b) (6)>

Subject: Election Integrity Meeting #3

Good evening,

A third election integrity meeting will be convened on Thursday, February 5th at 4:30pm. The following attendees are requested to participate. This is a principals only meeting.

(b) (5)

At your earliest convenience, please confirm your principal's attendance. The meeting will be held (b) (5) unless otherwise instructed. I will send a WAVES link tomorrow for those who need it (the page is currently down).

If you have any additional questions, Walker or I would be happy to answer them.

Best,

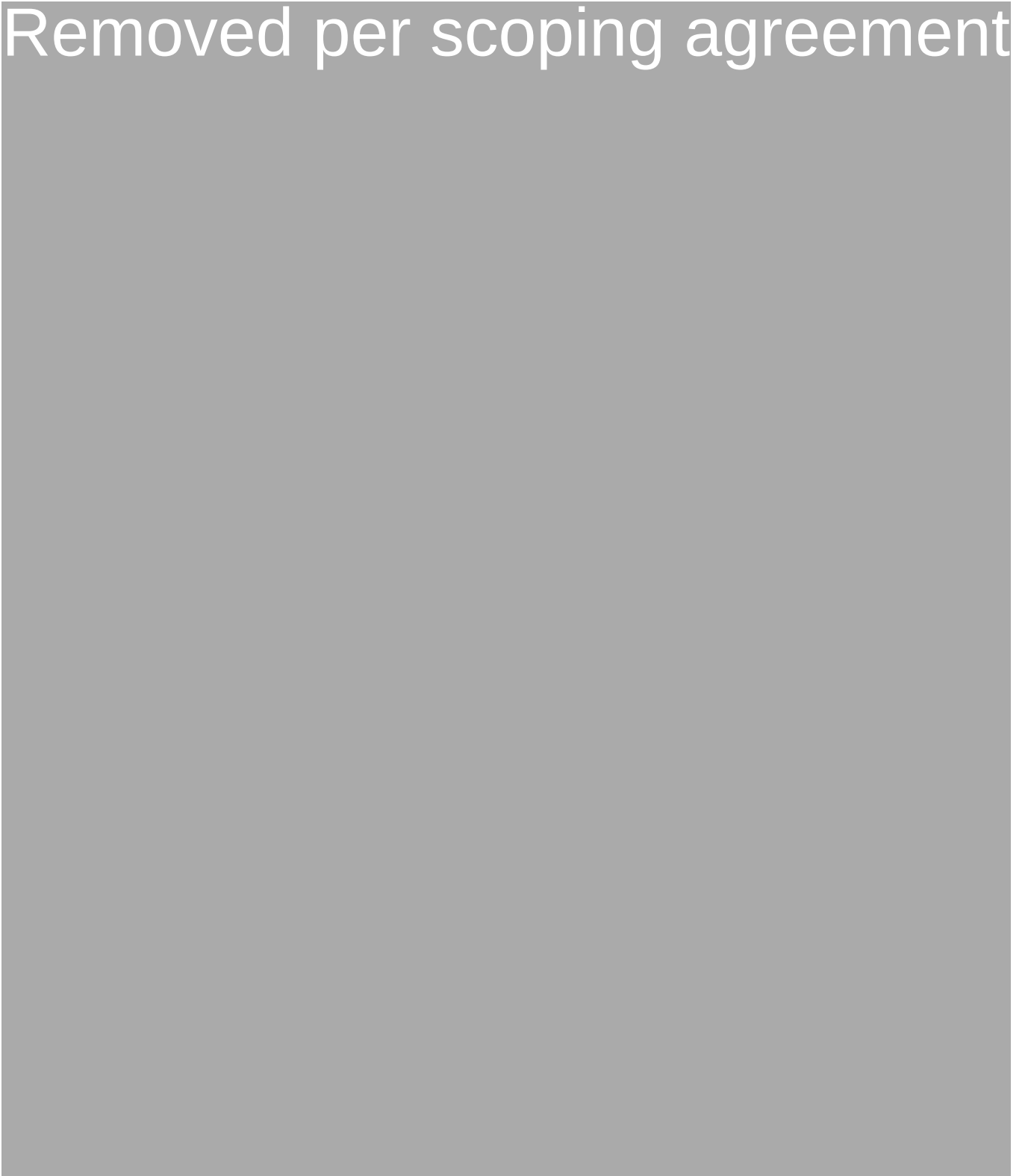
Sarah Schuringa

Special Assistant to the President

Executive Assistant to the Chief of Staff, Office of the Chief of Staff

**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ELECTION INTEGRITY EFFORTS AND
OBJECTIVES**

Removed per scoping agreement



Removed per scoping agreement

- **Election Monitoring**

- CRT is seeking to (b) (5) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] CRT expects to (b) (5) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]

Removed per scoping agreement

(b) (5) [REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] In the latter, CRT expects to
be able to (b) (5) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: "Baldassarre, Natalie (PAO)" <(b) (6)>

To: "Baldassarre, Natalie (PAO)" <(b) (6)>

Subject: Outstanding Media Requests: Thursday, March 12

Date: Thu, 12 Mar 2026 17:01:17 -0400

Importance: Normal

Removed per scoping agreement

Removed per scoping agreement

Responded to:

Removed per scoping agreement

Removed per scoping agreement

CBS News – Sarah Lynch | (b) (6)

I am seeking comment for another story in the works on the federal observer election program. Based on our reporting, we understand that the White House is weighing whether to defund the federal observer program, which was created in 1966 under the Voter Rights Act. This program entails OPM recruiting and training people who travel to polling places to monitor elections for compliance with the VRA to ensure people are not facing discrimination. One of the most common forms of discrimination at the polls often involves language barriers, so many times they look for observers with foreign language skills. DOJ is involved in working w/OPM on sending people out and the DOJ gets reports back from the observers on what they witnessed, etc.

My understanding is that the WH is looking specifically at the federal observer program which is *NOT* the same as the DOJ election monitoring program, which involves sending DOJ LAWYERS to polling places.

Historically, federal observers were seen as more neutral (ie they don't work at DOJ and don't work in litigating components that sue states and counties over voting rights) and by law it is clear cut they can enter the polls (less clear with DOJ and some states have prohibited DOJ lawyers from entering in recent years, but DOJ declined to litigate the issue). Moreover, with DOJ facing a mass exodus at the Civil Rights Division since last year, there are now very few people left to participate in the DOJ election monitoring program.

It only costs several million a year for the federal observer program, per my understanding, and I believe OPM bills it to DOJ. (please advise if this is correct?)

Although the use of the program is less frequent than it was before the Shelby V. Holder decision of 2013, they are still used, with several hundred observers (ie more than 300) sent out in 2016 and some 250 in 2024 (note none were sent in 2020 due to COVID so that is an anomaly).

What is DOJ's position on whether to defund the program? Does the DOJ support defunding it? If so, what would take its place? What prompted the White House to scrutinize this program?

Response: Attributable to a DOJ Spox: "The Department of Justice is committed to ensuring our elections remain free, fair, and transparent, and has no plans to end its monitorship program which is integral to assessing compliance with federal voting rights laws across the country."

Removed per scoping agreement

MS NOW – Carol Leonnig | (b) (6)

But I just want to be precise about the effort to defund the OPM program which appears integral to DOJ conducting monitoring. Per DOJ memos, the OPM recruitment is essential to the program's running because there are not sufficient staff at DOJ Civil Rights available to act as observers.

This is the language from a DOJ explainer on the program, explaining why DOJ relies on OPM to recruit observers when DOJ "determines whether federal observers are needed in an eligible jurisdiction."

<https://www.justice.gov/crt/about-federal-observers-and-election-monitoring>

"The Division determines whether federal observers are needed in an eligible jurisdiction. If so, the Division notifies the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) that federal observers are needed, which OPM recruits, and then, in cooperation with Division attorneys, supervises federal observers. Federal observers write reports of the activities they witness in polling places and provide those reports to the Division."

Let me know what DOJ thinks will happen given the push to defund OPM support for this.

Response: Attributable to a DOJ Spox: "The Department of Justice is committed to ensuring our elections remain free, fair, and transparent, and has no plans to end its monitorship program which is integral to assessing compliance with federal voting rights laws across the country."

Removed per scoping agreement

From: "Baldassarre, Natalie (PAO)" <(b) (6)>
To: "Gilmartin, Chad (PAO)" <(b) (6)>, "McGavick, Gates (PAO)" <(b) (6)>, "Hornbuckle, Wyn (PAO)" <(b) (6)>, "Furnish, Pierson (PAO)" <(b) (6)>, "Kenlein, Katie (PAO)" <(b) (6)>
Cc: "McCommas, Stuart (OAG)" <(b) (6)>, "Woodward, Stanley (OASG)" <(b) (6)>, "Bondoc, Ashleigh (OASG)" <(b) (6)>, "Fielden, Micah (OASG)" <(b) (6)>, "Cypher, Catharine (OAG)" <(b) (6)>, "Covington, Emily (ODAG)" <(b) (6)>, "Hayek, Ashley (OAG)" <(b) (6)>

Subject: Outstanding Media Requests: Monday, February 23

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2026 17:04:53 -0500

Importance: Normal

Removed per scoping agreement

Removed per scoping agreement



Responded to:

Removed per scoping agreement

Democracy Docket – Jim Saska | (b) (6)

I am writing about this for a story we hope to run this evening (or perhaps tomorrow morning). I am hoping you can answer Prof. Bauer's questions:

Has the *Federal Prosecution of Election Offenses* been withdrawn?

If withdrawn for revisions, what revisions are contemplated?

When will these revisions be completed and the manual as revised be republished?

If Public Integrity will not have a role in reviewing any potential deployment of FBI or U.S. marshals to polling locations, what sort of review is being completed—by whom and under what standards?

If you get us comment after we publish, we will update the story. If you need more time to get us a comment, please let me know and we can discuss delaying publication.

Response: On background: This document has not been updated since 2017. It is currently under review to ensure all information is accurate.

Removed per scoping agreement

From: "(b) (6)" (OLA)" <(b) (6)>

To: Undisclosed recipients;;

Subject: OLA Correspondence 1/29/2026

Date: Thu, 29 Jan 2026 17:00:40 -0500

Importance: Normal

Attachments: Letter on FBI Raid of Fulton County Election Office - Congresswoman Williams.pdf;
Removed per scoping agreement

Good evening:

Please find today's congressional correspondence attached and summarized below.

Incoming:

1. **Letter from Representative Nikema Williams to Attorney General Bondi and FBI Director Kash Patel** regarding reports that the FBI executed a search warrant and raided the Fulton County Election Hub and Operation Center in Fulton County, Georgia, with the intent of investigating possible election interference in Georgia in the 2020 election, requesting the FBI and DOJ cease its investigation and intrusive raid into the Fulton County, Georgia election office and answers to questions no later than Friday, February 13. *(January 28, 2026)*

Removed per scoping agreement

Best,

-

#2428.1

(b) (6)

Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

January 28, 2026

The Hon. Pamela Bondi
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

The Hon. Kash Patel
FBI Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Attorney General Bondi and Director Patel:

Today, it was reported that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) executed a search warrant and raided the Fulton County Election Hub and Operation Center in Fulton County, Georgia, with the intent of investigating possible election interference in Georgia in the 2020 election.¹ This raid, under the pretext of the false and repeatedly debunked assertion of President Trump that he won the 2020 election, is yet another tactic designed to intimidate voters and undermine our democracy.

The 2020 election has been litigated. By continuing to raid election locations in Georgia, the Department of Justice (DOJ), this raid serves to intimidate Fulton County voters and election officials, rather than to further any legitimate law enforcement aim. Therefore, I call on you to recall FBI agents from Fulton County election sites, cease any future unjustified raid on election sites in Fulton County, and respond to questions about the origin, intent, and impact of this raid by Friday, February 13, 2026.

To be clear, the results of the 2020 election are not in question. Court after court has declared that there was no evidentiary basis to find that Donald Trump won the 2020 election or that election fraud occurred. In Wood v. Raffensperger (N.D. Ga. Nov. 20, 2020), a district court dismissed plaintiff's Equal Protection claim because there was no disparate treatment among Georgia voters. Next, the district court dismissed the plaintiff's Elections and Electors Clauses claim because Secretary Brad Raffensperger had not overridden or rewritten any state law.² This ruling undermined President Trump's claim that Georgia's Republican Secretary of State altered the process established by the Georgia legislature for handling defective absentee ballots.

In Trump v. Wis. Elecs. Comm'n (E.D. Wis. Dec. 12, 2020), the district court dismissed Trump's claim that Wisconsin officials violated his rights under the Electors Clause because said officials allegedly issued guidance on state election statutes that deviated significantly from the requirements of Wisconsin's election statutes.³ This ruling undermined President Trump's claim that the state of Wisconsin unlawfully departed from the state legislative scheme for appointing Presidential electors. In King v. Whitmer (E.D. Mich. Dec. 7, 2020), a district court stated that the claims of plaintiffs, Republican presidential electors, could be dismissed for lack of standing and was unpersuaded by the plaintiffs' claim that defendants violated the Elections and Electors Clauses.⁴ This ruling undermined President Trump's claims that the state of Michigan violated various state and federal laws by denying meaningful access for party representatives to observe the counting of votes, treating one class of Michigan voters (in person voters) differently than another class of Michigan voters (absentee/mail-in voters), and permitting widespread voter fraud due to the use of Dominion voting machines and software.

In Ward v. Jackson (Ariz. Sup. Ct., Maricopa Cnty. Dec. 4, 2020), a superior court denied relief requested by the plaintiff in an election contest because the plaintiff failed to provide sufficient evidence, failing to show fraud or misconduct.⁵ This ruling undermined President Trump's claim that Arizona election officials failed to allow observation of signature

¹ [FBI searches Atlanta election office related to 2020 US presidential vote](#)

² [Results of Lawsuits Regarding the 2020 Elections | Campaign Legal Center](#)

³ [Results of Lawsuits Regarding the 2020 Elections | Campaign Legal Center](#)

⁴ [Results of Lawsuits Regarding the 2020 Elections | Campaign Legal Center](#)

⁵ [Results of Lawsuits Regarding the 2020 Elections | Campaign Legal Center](#)

verification as required by Arizona law. And in Bower v. Ducey (D. Ariz. Dec. 9, 2020), the district court largely dismissed the plaintiffs' complaint on the grounds of lack of standing, ruling that the plaintiffs' claims were largely based on, "anonymous witnesses, hearsay, and irrelevant analysis of unrelated elections."⁶ This ruling undermined Trump's claim that the state of Arizona allowed fraud in the counting and fabrication of hundreds of thousands of illegal ballots, including fraud related to the use of Dominion Election Systems' hardware and software in Maricopa County. These cases, reflecting rulings by judges across the political spectrum and in multiple states, ruled on two unequivocal facts: President Trump lost the 2020 election and there were no clear signs of election fraud. Because these facts have been established, new raids and investigations seeking to undermine them do nothing but cause fear, chaos, and undermine the integrity of our elections.

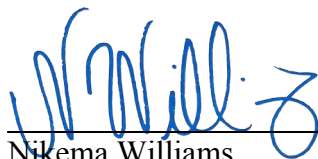
Therefore, I demand that the FBI and DOJ cease its investigation and intrusive raid into the Fulton County, Georgia election office. The raid was sudden and unjustified based on the facts of law. In addition to ceasing its baseless investigation and removing the FBI from the election office, we also demand an answer to the following question by February 13, 2026:

1. What new facts led the FBI to seek a warrant to raid this Fulton County election office on January 29, 2026.
2. Who was the authorizing judge for the warrant justifying the raid?
3. Did the FBI or DOJ consult with or coordinate with local election officials ahead of the raid? If so, which election officials were consulted?
4. Was President Trump aware of this raid before it was conducted? What role, if any, did the President have in directing or suggesting this raid?
5. What evidence are you seeking to gather that is specified in the search warrant?
6. Once this evidence has been gathered, what is the plan to release and discuss the obtained evidence with Congress?

The 2020 election was not stolen and was won by President Biden. Raids and renewed investigations based on the lie that President Trump won the election lack a factual basis and only serve to intimidate voters and undermine the integrity of our upcoming elections.

I look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,



Nikema Williams
Member of Congress

From: "Clearance_OASG1 (OASG)" <(b) (6)>

To: "Mehr, Benjamin (OASG)" <(b) (6)>

Cc: "Bondoc, Ashleigh (OASG)" <(b) (6)>, "Fielden, Micah (OASG)" <(b) (6)>

Subject: Clearance Request - FW: Clearance: CRT Correspondence to the CA Delegation re: Election Oversight

Date: Fri, 19 Dec 2025 14:29:45 -0500

Importance: Normal

Attachments: Draft_Response_for_CA_Delegation_Re_Election_Oversight_for_Leadership_Review.docx;
California_Delegation_Letter_to_DOJ_re_Sending_Election_Monitors_to_CA_-_2025-10-30.pdf

Embedded: Clearance:_CRT_Correspondence_to_the_CA_Delegation_re:_Election_Oversight

Hi Ben,

You have been assigned the request below for OASG Clearance. Please review the original request along and please advise of whether the comments are cleared or if you have any additional input. Thanks.

Deadline: Monday, December 22, 2025, by COB.

Top-Line Summary: Letter addressed to CRT from California's Democratic delegation regarding the election monitors in California this past election and a response from CRT.

The original request is attached with the relevant supporting materials for your review. Thank you.

Best,
(b) (6)

From: (b) (6) (OLA) <(b) (6)>

Sent: Friday, December 19, 2025 2:14 PM

To: ODAG OLA Clearance <(b) (6)>; Bhirud, Ketan (ODAG) <(b) (6)>; Day, Vance (ODAG) <(b) (6)>; Henricks, Aaron (ODAG) <(b) (6)>; Jag, Rachel (ODAG) <(b) (6)>; Clearance_OASG1 (OASG) <(b) (6)>

Cc: Lampard, Ronald (OLA) <(b) (6)>

Subject: Clearance: CRT Correspondence to the CA Delegation re: Election Oversight

Hello (again!) ODAG/OASG,

Attached here, please find another letter addressed to CRT from California's Democratic delegation regard the election monitors in California this past election and a response from CRT. Can you please review and let us know if there are any edits or questions or if this is cleared to tee up for signature by COB Monday, December 22nd?

Thank you!
(b) (6)

(b) (6)
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Legislative Affairs
(b) (6)

#3093.1

(b) (6)



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, DC 20530

The Honorable Kevin Mullin
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Mullin:

This responds to your letter to the Department of Justice (Department), dated October 30, 2025, regarding the monitoring of California's November 4, 2025, general election. We appreciate having your views on this matter.

The Department, through the Civil Rights Division, enforces federal voting rights laws and monitors compliance with federal civil rights laws.¹ As such, the Department monitored the election in the following California counties: Kern, Riverside, Fresno, Orange, and Los Angeles.² Monitoring does not equate to election interference. As with any concern over fraud or voter intimidation, the Department will take action to ensure no such instances arise. Furthermore, assertions of clean, fraud-free elections in the past do not ensure that fraud has not occurred in a current election or will not occur in a future election. The Department simply wishes to ensure election integrity and prevent individuals who are not permitted to vote from voting.

Importantly, the Department can investigate and prosecute federal election crimes. It will use its authority to do so when necessary. The Civil Rights Division Voting Section "enforces the civil provisions of the federal laws that protect the right to vote, including the Voting Rights Act, the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, the National Voter Registration Act, the Help America Vote Act and the Civil Rights Acts."³ As evidenced from several California counties, they simply do not possess enforcement authority of federal laws.⁴

Additionally, in your letter, claiming California as the "model of free and fair elections not only in the United States but around the world" is not considered evidence that voter fraud does not exist. Oversight and fraud prevention will only have a positive impact on your state.

¹ Press Release, Dep't of Just., Justice Department to Monitor Polling Sites in California, New Jersey (Oct. 24, 2025) available at <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-monitor-polling-sites-california-new-jersey>.

² *Id.*

³ Press Release, Dep't of Just., Voting Section, available at <https://www.justice.gov/crt/voting-section>.

⁴ See, e.g., Sacramento County, Voter Registration and Elections: How to Report Election Fraud, <https://elections.sacounty.net/ElectionInformation/Pages/How-to-Report-Election-Fraud.aspx>; Santa Cruz County, Elections Department: Who to call for Election Violations or Fraud, <https://votescount.santacruzcountyca.gov/Default.aspx?TabID=4528>.

The Department does not seek to intimidate immigrant communities, as suggested by your letter, but rather seeks to “commit the resources necessary to ensure the American people get the fair, free, and transparent elections they deserve.”⁵ Doing so includes monitoring and observing elections, and supporting cooperation from our state and local partners to remove non-citizens from voter registration lists and other individuals who are not entitled to vote.⁶

We value your embrace of the Department’s observation and monitoring of the election. We also value your willingness to uphold transparency in our nation’s elections.

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

Sincerely,

Ronald J. Lampard
Deputy Assistant Attorney General

cc:

The Honorable Zoe Lofgren
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ted W. Lieu
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Thompson
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable George Whitesides
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jared Huffman
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Norma J. Torres
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Doris Matsui
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Brad Sherman
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ro Khanna
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Dave Min

⁵ Press Release, Dep’t of Just., Justice Department to Monitor Polling Sites in California, (Oct. 24, 2025), available at <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-monitors-polling-sites-california-new-jersey>

⁶ *Id.*

The Honorable Lateefah Simon
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sydney Kamlager-Dove
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Derek T. Tran
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nanette Diaz Barragán
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Maxine Waters
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Julia Brownley
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Juan Vargas
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ami Bera
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable J. Luis Correa
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Gilbert Ray Cisneros
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Judy Chu
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Raul Ruiz
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mark Takano
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Salud Carbajal
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sara Jacobs
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jimmy Panetta
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Linda T. Sánchez
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Eric Swalwell
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Pete Aguilar
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Luz M. Rivas
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mark DeSaulnier
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin Mullin
Page 3

The Honorable Jim Costa
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Scott H. Peters
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Laura Friedman
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sam T. Liccardo
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Robert Garcia

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Garamendi
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Levin
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jimmy Gomez
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 30, 2025

The Honorable Pamela J. Bondi
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20530

The Honorable Harmeet K. Dhillon
Assistant Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Bondi and Assistant Attorney General Dhillon:

We write to you in response to the announcement made by the Department of Justice (DOJ) on October 24, 2025, that it will monitor polling sites in five California counties ahead of the upcoming November 4, 2025, general election.¹ While we believe this decision is unnecessary and unjustified, California's election administration represents the gold standard for the nation, and we welcome fair and impartial DOJ observation and monitoring. However, let us be crystal clear: We will not tolerate federal interference in Californians' right to vote, including by the Department engaging in any form of intimidation of immigrant communities.

California routinely administers the largest statewide elections in the United States. In the last such election in November 2024, more than 16.1 million Californians voted without incident, representing more than 71 percent of registered voters,² well above the national average.³ We are proud that the state continues to be a model of free and fair elections not only in the United States but around the world.

In addition to being the largest, California elections are also highly transparent and secure. First, every voter in the state receives a ballot that they may return in lieu of voting in person. Each returned ballot has a voter-verifiable paper audit trail,⁴ which means voters know that their ballot has arrived and has been counted. Ballots are carefully checked in an open, audited process that ensures the integrity of every vote.⁵ Second, voting machines used for in-person voting are

¹ Department of Justice, "Justice Department to Monitor Polling Sites in California, New Jersey," Oct. 24, 2025, <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-monitor-polling-sites-california-new-jersey>.

² California Secretary of State, "Secretary of State Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D., has certified the results of the California November 5, 2024, General Election," Dec. 13, 2024, <https://www.sos.ca.gov/administration/news-releases-and-advisories/2024-news-releases-and-advisories/secretary-state-shirley-n-weber-phd-has-certified-results-california-november-5-2024-general-election>.

³ Hannah Hartig, Scott Keeter, Andrew Daniller, and Ted Van Green, "Voter turnout, 2020-2024," June 26, 2025, <https://www.pewresearch.org/politics/2025/06/26/voter-turnout-2020-2024/>.

⁴ California Secretary of State, "Election Security is our number one priority," last accessed Oct. 27, 2025, <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/election-cybersecurity>.

⁵ *Id.*; California Secretary of State, "How California Ensures Safe and Secure Voting," last accessed Oct. 27, 2025, <https://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/pdfs/election-integrity-fact-sheet.pdf>.

carefully tested – also in an open process – including by validating source code, reviewing hardware and software security, and conducting penetration testing.⁶

While we support transparency, any interference in California’s state election – absent a violation of federal law – is unacceptable. Thus far, the DOJ has provided neither evidence nor a credible allegation of a violation of federal law with respect to elections in California. Federal monitoring of elections is not new.⁷ However, what is new is the way this Department is using its power: Shortly after taking office, Assistant Attorney General Dhillon announced the Civil Rights Division would move away from enforcing civil rights laws and instead focus on “voter fraud” particularly among undocumented immigrants.⁸ This is despite the fact that even *allegations* of such incidents are exceedingly rare across the country.⁹

In at least 40 states – including California – the Department has already taken steps to undermine elections by seeking to obtain sensitive personal information of voters.¹⁰ These are inappropriate and blatant attempts to suppress voter turnout. Such moves are unacceptable and have no place in the United States. Now that the Department has decided to send election monitors to California without any credible foundation, we remind you that the Department’s role is to observe and, where appropriate, enforce federal law; the United States DOJ has no other role to play at this stage in California’s state election.

We welcome the DOJ’s impartial observation of California’s exemplary elections process and stand ready to work with our federal partners in good faith to address any issues should they arise. However, we urge you to respect the free and fair election already underway and refrain from further engaging in conduct that seeks to lower voter participation, intimidate voters, or undermine voters’ trust in the outcome.

Sincerely,

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ United States Department of Justice, “About Federal Observers And Election Monitoring,” last updated Oct. 16, 2024, <https://www.justice.gov/crt/about-federal-observers-and-election-monitoring>.

⁸ Glenn Thrush, “Justice Dept.’s Civil Rights Division Pushes Trump’s Culture War Agenda,” Apr. 18, 2025, <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/04/18/us/politics/trump-doj-civil-rights.html>.

⁹ Allison Anderman, “The Damage from Conspiracy Theories About Noncitizen Voting,” Brennan Center for Justice, Oct. 10, 2024, <https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/damage-conspiracy-theories-about-noncitizen-voting>; Center for Election Innovation & Research, “Review of Allegations of Noncitizen Registrants and Voters,” July 2025, <https://electioninnovation.org/research/noncitizen-analysis/>.

¹⁰ Kaylie Martinez-Ochoa, Eileen O'Connor, and Patrick Berry, “Tracker of Justice Department Requests for Voter Information,” Brennan Center for Justice, last updated Oct. 23, 2025, <https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/tracker-justice-department-requests-voter-information>.



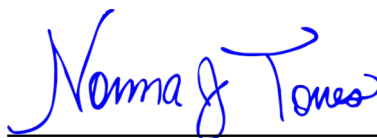
Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress
Chair, California Democratic
Congressional Delegation



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



George Whitesides
Member of Congress



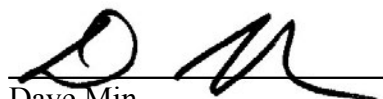
Brad Sherman
Member of Congress



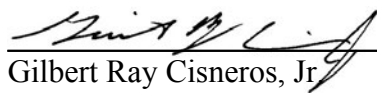
Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



Ro Khanna
Member of Congress



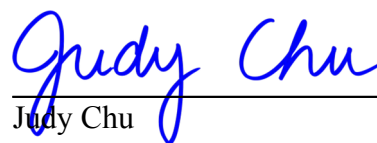
Dave Min
Member of Congress



Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress



Lateefah Simon
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Nancy Pelosi
Member of Congress



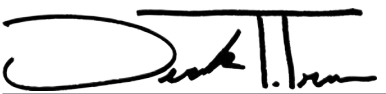
Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress



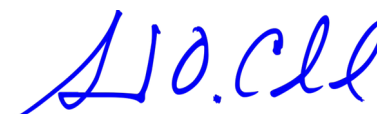
Sydney Kamlager-Dove
Member of Congress



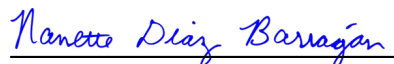
MARK TAKANO
Member of Congress



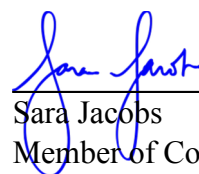
Derek T. Tran
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress



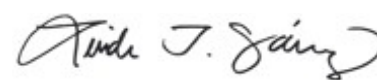
Maxine Waters
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress



Pete Aguilar
Member of Congress



J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress



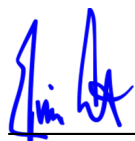
Luz M. Rivas
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Robert Garcia
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



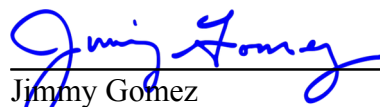
Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



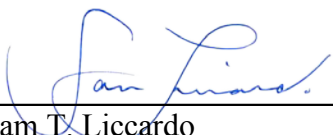
Mike Levin
Member of Congress



Laura Friedman
Member of Congress



Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress



Sam T. Liccardo
Member of Congress

From: "Davis, Nick (ODAG)" <(b) (6)>

To: "Bhirud, Ketan (ODAG)" <(b) (6)>, "Mehr, Benjamin (OASG)" <(b) (6)>

Subject: FW: ECATS-2025-4357005, Incoming from Michigan Legislature Aric Nesbitt, dtd 11/13/2025

Date: Tue, 02 Dec 2025 13:17:55 -0500

Importance: Normal

Attachments: ECATS-2025-435705-Aric-Nesbitt-.pdf; ES_Summary_Sheet_11-26-2025_10-50-52_AM.docx

Thoughts?

From: ODAG INFO COPIES <(b) (6)>

Sent: Wednesday, November 26, 2025 1:21 PM

To: Bhirud, Ketan (ODAG) <(b) (6)>; Day, Vance (ODAG) <(b) (6)>; Henricks, Aaron (ODAG) <(b) (6)>; Jag, Rachel (ODAG) <(b) (6)>; Nieves, Brian (ODAG) <(b) (6)>; Fox, Jordan (ODAG) <(b) (6)>; DePetro, Jacqueline (ODAG) <(b) (6)>; Brown, Angela M. (ODAG) <(b) (6)>; Gamble, Nathaniel (ODAG) <(b) (6)>; Simms, Donna Y. (ODAG) <(b) (6)>

Cc: Kapoor, Vetan (ODAG) <(b) (6)>; Davis, Nick (ODAG) <(b) (6)>

Subject: FW: ECATS-2025-4357005, Incoming from Michigan Legislature Aric Nesbitt, dtd 11/13/2025

From: Webb, Steven (OES) <(b) (6)>

Sent: Wednesday, November 26, 2025 10:53 AM

To: InfoCopies <(b) (6)>; ODAG INFO COPIES <(b) (6)>; Harwood, Stacy (OASG) <(b) (6)>; Fielden, Micah (OASG) <(b) (6)>; Bondoc, Ashleigh (OASG) <(b) (6)>

Cc: Bodger, Pricillia (OES) <(b) (6)>; Richardson Hamilton, Jamie E. (OES) <(b) (6)>

Subject: ECATS-2025-4357005, Incoming from Michigan Legislature Aric Nesbitt, dtd 11/13/2025

The Republican members of the Michigan Senate and House of Representatives are writing to formally request that the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) deploy official election monitors and provide comprehensive oversight for Michigan's 2026 primary and general elections. They are ready to provide any additional information or documentation to support this request and appreciate your prompt attention to this matter of national importance.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Webb
Correspondence Analyst
Office of the Executive Secretariat
U.S. Department of Justice

(b) (6)
Desk: (b) (6)
Mobile: (b) (6)

#3106.1



ARIC NESBITT

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER, 20TH DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 30036
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7536

LANSING MI 489 11/17/25

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NOV 26 2025

READER #1

The Honorable Pam Bondi
Attorney General of the United States
Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20530

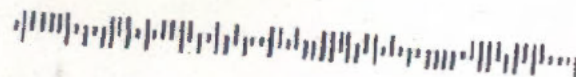
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X-RAYED #2

NOV 25 2025

DOJ MAIL ROOM

003 JTE-656 20530





Nov. 13, 2025

The Honorable Pam Bondi
Attorney General of the United States
Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20530

Re: Urgent request for federal monitoring and oversight of Michigan's 2026 statewide elections

Dear Attorney General Bondi,

We, the undersigned Republican members of the Michigan Senate and House of Representatives, are writing to formally request that the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) deploy official election monitors and provide comprehensive oversight for Michigan's 2026 primary and general elections. This request is made in light of the DOJ's recent precedent of monitoring elections in other states to ensure compliance with federal voting rights laws and to protect the integrity of the electoral process.

Our concerns center on Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson, who, as the state's chief election official, will oversee the 2026 elections while simultaneously appearing on the ballot as a candidate for governor. This creates an inherent and unavoidable conflict of interest, as Secretary Benson will be administering an election in which she has a direct personal stake in the outcome. Such a situation risks compromising the impartiality required for fair election oversight and demands external federal scrutiny to maintain public trust.

Compounding this conflict are Secretary Benson's repeated violations of election laws, beginning on the very first day of her gubernatorial campaign. On Jan. 22, 2025, she announced her candidacy in the lobby of the Richard H. Austin Building, a state-owned facility housing her own department, in clear violation of Michigan's Campaign Finance Act, as confirmed by an investigation from the Michigan attorney general's office. Although the attorney general issued only a warning without further penalties, this incident exemplifies a pattern of disregard for the laws she is sworn to uphold.

Secretary Benson has also demonstrated a troubling refusal to cooperate with federal authorities on election-related matters. On Sept. 25, 2025, the DOJ filed a lawsuit against her and the state of Michigan for failing to provide unredacted voter registration records, in violation of the Civil Rights Act, the National Voter Registration Act and the Help America Vote Act. This refusal to hand over critical election materials hinders federal efforts to verify compliance with voting rights laws and raises serious questions about transparency in Michigan's election administration.

Further eroding confidence is Secretary Benson's persistent failure to maintain accurate voter rolls, including her refusal to remove deceased registrants as required by federal law. Audits and investigations have revealed more than 25,000 deceased individuals remaining on Michigan's voter rolls, prompting ongoing litigation that has escalated to the U.S. Supreme Court. Despite clear obligations under the National Voter Registration Act, her office has resisted these cleanup efforts, allowing ineligible entries to persist and potentially enabling fraud.

In the 2024 general election, under Secretary Benson's oversight, at least 16 noncitizens were confirmed to have cast ballots, despite Michigan law prohibiting noncitizen voting. While her office downplayed this as "rare," it underscores systemic failures in citizenship verification processes during voter registration and ballot issuance, failures that could recur without intervention.

Secretary Benson's track record extends back to the 2020 election, where nonpartisan audits exposed her failure to administer elections in accordance with state law, including the unauthorized mass mailing of absentee ballot applications to all registered voters without legislative approval. This action, among others, contributed to widespread concerns about election integrity and led to Michigan receiving a "D" grade from election integrity watchdogs for overall administration.

Moreover, Secretary Benson has been involved in over 69 election-related lawsuits, more than the combined total of Michigan's previous four secretaries of state, and has lost several key cases challenging her handling of elections. Notable defeats include a court ruling that she unlawfully restricted poll challengers by banning electronic devices and imposing other unauthorized rules, as well as a successful Republican National Committee lawsuit over her improper guidance on signature verification for mail ballots, which the court found violated state law. These judicial rebukes highlight a pattern of overreach and noncompliance that cannot be ignored.

Given this extensive history of violations, conflicts and failures, we believe federal monitoring is essential to safeguard the 2026 elections. We urge the DOJ to deploy personnel to observe polling places, absentee ballot processing, voter registration activities and central count facilities across Michigan. Such oversight will help ensure adherence to federal laws, prevent irregularities and restore faith in our democratic processes.

We stand ready to provide any additional information or documentation to support this request and appreciate your prompt attention to this matter of national importance.

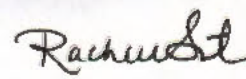
Sincerely,



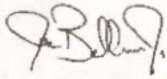
Aric Nesbitt
Senate Republican Leader
District 20



Ruth Johnson
State Senator
District 24



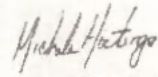
Rachelle Smit
State Representative
District 43



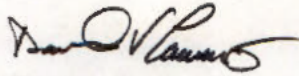
Joe Bellino
State Senator
District 16



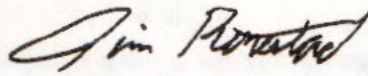
Kevin Daley
State Senator
District 26



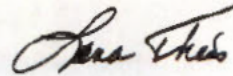
Michele Hoytenga
State Senator
District 36



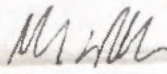
Dan Lauwers
State Senator
District 25



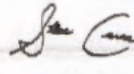
Jim Runestad
State Senator
District 23



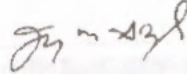
Lana Theis
State Senator
District 22



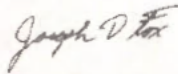
Michael Webber
State Senator
District 9



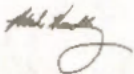
Steve Carra
State Representative
District 36



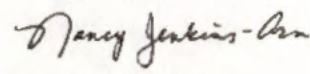
Jay DeBoyer
State Representative
District 63



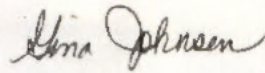
Joseph Fox
State Representative
District 101



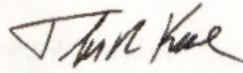
Mike Hoadley
State Representative
District 99



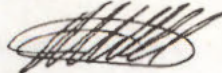
Nancy Jenkins-Arno
State Representative
District 34



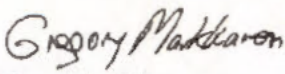
Gina Johnsen
State Representative
District 78



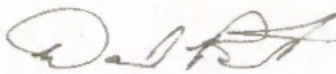
Tom Kunse
State Representative
District 100



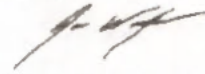
Matt Maddock
State Representative
District 51



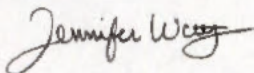
Greg Markkanen
State Representative
District 110



Dave Prestin
State Representative
District 108



Jason Woolford
State Representative
District 50



Jennifer Wortz
State Representative
District 35

From: "Warner, Andrew (OJP)" <(b) (6)>
To: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" <(b) (6)>
Cc: "McCabe, Neil (PARDON)" <(b) (6)>

Subject: MI election oversight

Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2025 10:57:26 -0500

Importance: Normal

Ed,

Reference the call this morning, see the article below. If/when you hear from the MI POC who asked for your/DOJ oversight, know that CRT (Harmeet and Voting Rights Section leader Maureen Riordan) have the ability/responsibility for election oversight. They can send DOJ personnel and/or arrange to hire people to conduct election oversight duties. The former DOJ/"progressives" did election oversight for years to advance their causes. I recommend you direct MI to the CRT Division.

Michigan Republicans Ask AG Pam Bondi For Oversight Of 2026 Elections

The [Detroit News](#) reported that a group of 22 Michigan Republican lawmakers has asked President Donald Trump's U.S. Department of Justice to deploy monitors to vote-counting facilities and to provide general oversight for the state's upcoming elections in 2026. In a letter sent Thursday to U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi, the GOP legislators said their concerns centered on the fact that Democratic Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson, the state's chief election official, will help manage the August and November 2026 elections while "simultaneously appearing on the ballot as a candidate for governor." "This creates an inherent and unavoidable conflict of interest, as Secretary Benson will be administering an election in which she has a direct personal stake in the outcome," the Republican lawmakers wrote. "Such a situation risks compromising the impartiality required for fair election oversight and demands external federal scrutiny to maintain public trust." Senate Minority Leader Aric Nesbitt, R-Porter Township, who's also a candidate for governor, led the letter to Bondi on Thursday. The letter noted the U.S. Department of Justice sued Benson in September, saying her office had failed to fulfill a demand for information on the state's registered voter list. "We urge the DOJ to deploy personnel to observe polling places, absentee ballot processing, voter registration activities and central count facilities across Michigan," the GOP lawmakers wrote. "Such oversight will help ensure adherence to federal laws, prevent irregularities and restore faith in our democratic processes." A spokeswoman for the Department of Justice declined to comment on the lawmakers' request. However, the department said it was going to monitor polling sites in New Jersey and California for the Nov. 4, 2025, general election. The [Detroit Free Press](#) quoted Nesbitt as saying in a statement, "We're blessed to have President Trump and Attorney General Bondi in office, and I'm confident that they can safeguard our elections from any outside or inside interference." The letter asks the DOJ to "deploy official election monitors and provide comprehensive oversight for Michigan's 2026 primary and general elections." DOJ personnel would be stationed at polling places, absentee ballot processing locations and voter registration sites under the request. [MLive](#) added that in response, Michigan Department of State Chief Communications Officer Angela Benander described the letter as "pouring gasoline on our democracy and asking the DOJ to light a match."

From: "Washington, Tracy T. (OASG)" <(b) (6)>

To: "Manion, Jason (OASG)" <(b) (6)>, "Lea, Brian (OASG)" <(b) (6)>, "Kambli, Abhishek (OASG)" <(b) (6)>, "Lawson, Richard (OASG)" <(b) (6)>

Subject: Weekly Component Reports

Date: Thu, 20 Feb 2025 17:22:36 -0500

Importance: Normal

Attachments: Removed per scoping agreement Civ Weekly Report Final - 2.20.25.docx;
Removed per scoping agreement

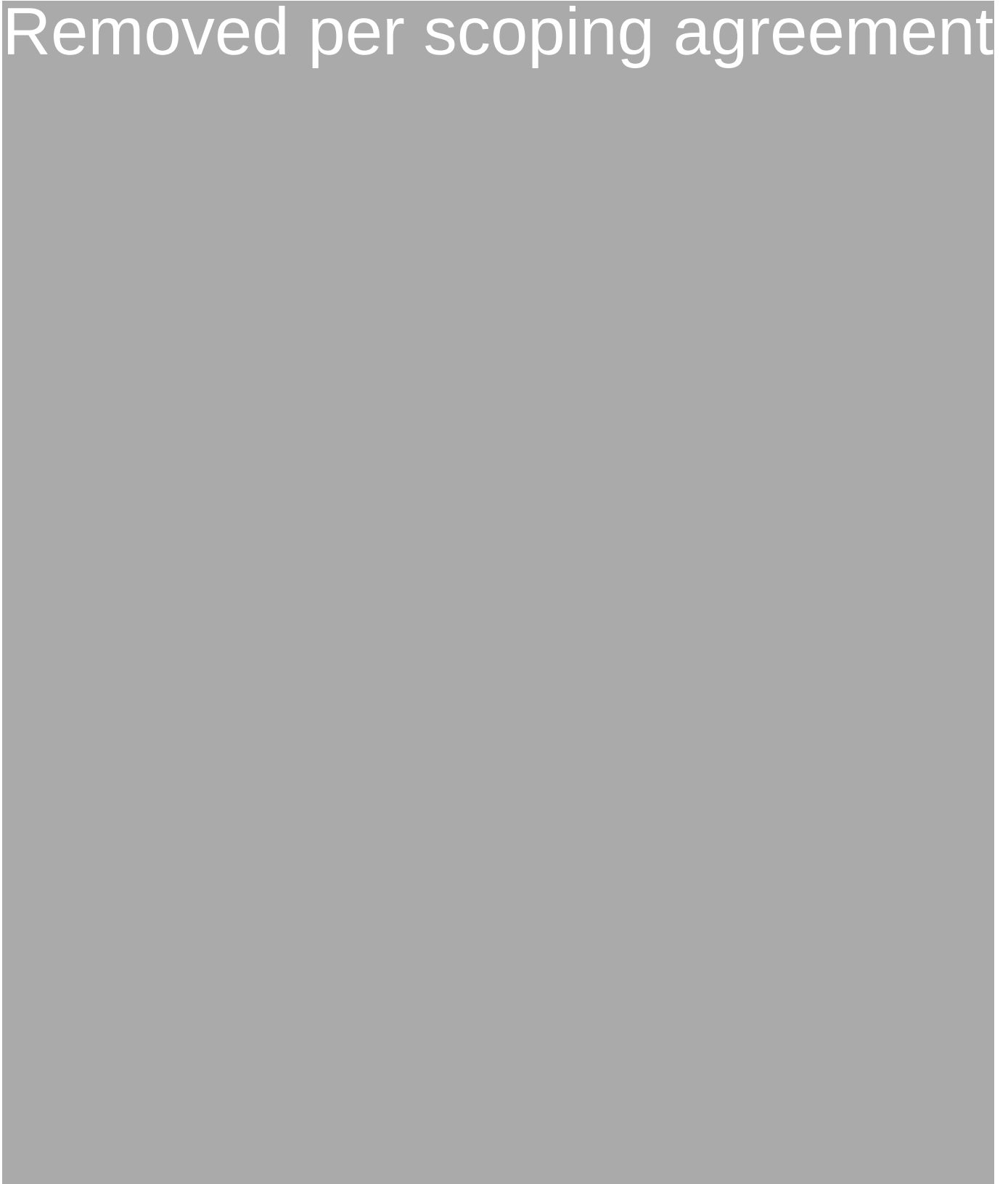
Attached are the weekly component reports.

Note: ATR forthcoming

Tracy T. Washington
Office Manager
Office of the Associate Attorney General
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 5706
Washington, DC 20530
Cell: (b) (6)

Upcoming

Removed per scoping agreement



Federal Programs

CIV Federal Programs (Upcoming) 2/20/25	Weekly Component Chart <i>Internal / FOUO</i>
Date Occurred or Expected	Items to Report

Removed per scoping agreement

Removed per scoping agreement

3/4/25

Government to File Motion to Dismiss in Challenge to Missouri Election Monitoring by the Department of Justice: Missouri et al. v. Garland et al., 24-cv-01473-SEP (E.D. Mo.). Missouri brought this case to challenge the Department of Justice's plan to send election monitors to polling places in St. Louis, Missouri during the 2024 General Election. The Court previously denied a TRO seeking to bar the Department's monitors and Missouri seeks to continue the case under an exception to mootness. Our motion to dismiss, due March 4th, will (b) (5)

Removed per scoping agreement

From: "Washington, Tracy T. (OASG)" <(b) (6)>

To: "Manion, Jason (OASG)" <(b) (6)>, "Lea, Brian (OASG)" <(b) (6)>, "Kambli, Abhishek (OASG)" <(b) (6)>

Subject: Component Weekly Reports

Date: Thu, 13 Feb 2025 18:05:58 -0500

Importance: Normal

Attachments: Removed per scoping agreement
Civ Weekly Report Final - 2.13.25.docx;
Removed per scoping agreement

Embedded: Removed per scoping agreement

Missing CRT and OJP. I will forward reports as soon as I receive them.

Tracy T. Washington
Office Manager
Office of the Associate Attorney General
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 5706
Washington, DC 20530
Cell: (b) (6)

Upcoming

Removed per scoping agreement



Federal Programs

CIV Federal Programs (Upcoming) 2/13/25	Weekly Component Chart <i>Internal / FOUO</i>
Date Occurred or Expected	Items to Report

Removed per scoping agreement

3/4/25

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[REDACTED]

Removed per scoping agreement

From: "Manion, Jason (OASG)" <(b) (6)>

To: "Kambli, Abhishek (OASG)" <(b) (6)>

Subject: FW: Component Weekly Reports

Date: Thu, 13 Feb 2025 16:11:14 -0500

Importance: Normal

Attachments: Removed per scoping agreement
Civ Weekly Report Final - 2.6.25.docx; Removed per scoping agreement

I guess that's right. Last week's only had six or eight cases.

From: Washington, Tracy T. (OASG) <(b) (6)>

Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 4:37 PM

To: Manion, Jason (OASG) <(b) (6)>; Lea, Brian (OASG) <(b) (6)>

Subject: Component Weekly Reports

Jason and Brian,

Attached are the component weekly reports.

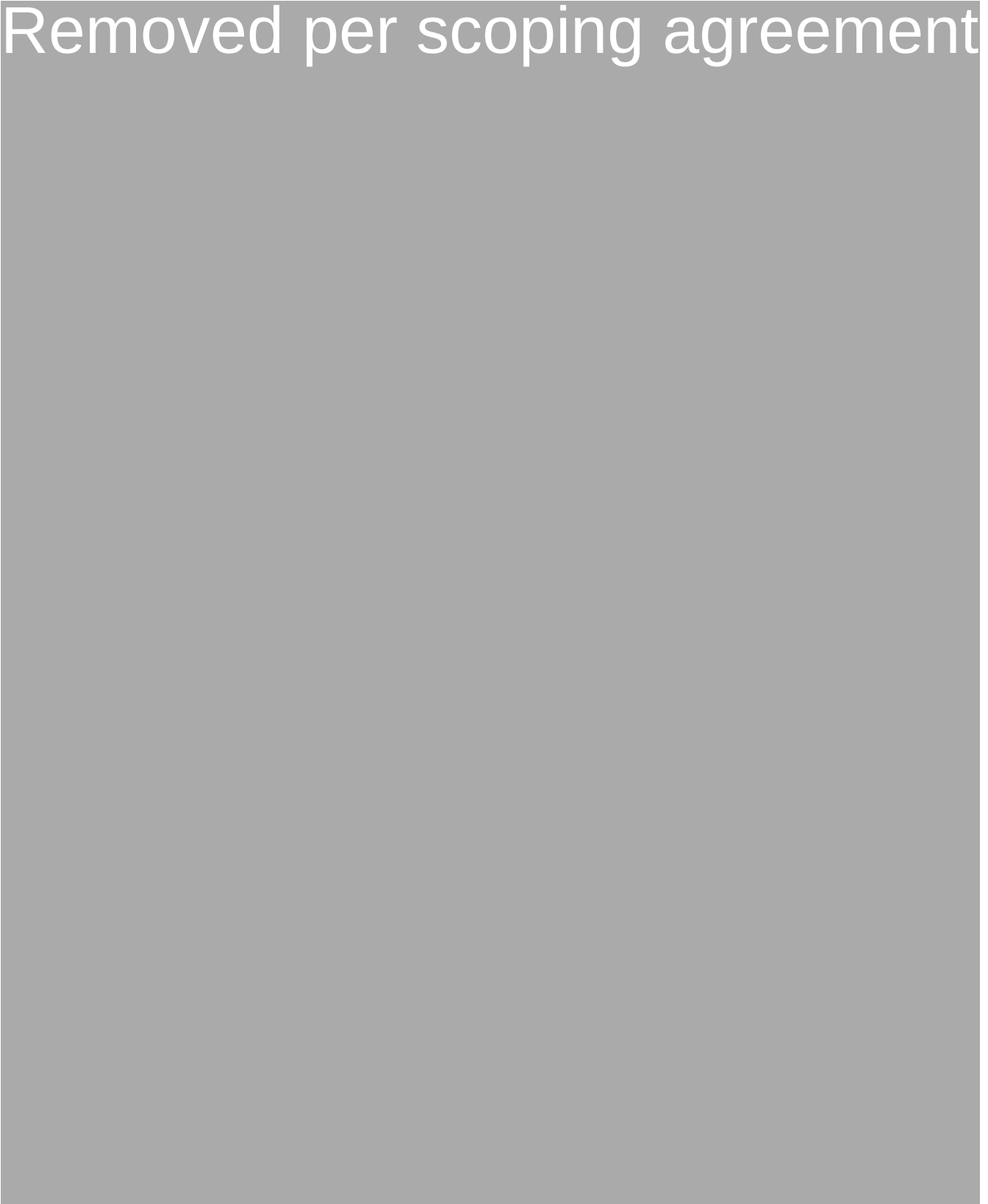
OJP and Tax – No report for this week.

--Tracy

Tracy T. Washington
Office Manager
Office of the Associate Attorney General
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 5706
Washington, DC 20530
Cell: (b) (6)

Upcoming

Removed per scoping agreement



Federal Programs

CIV Federal Programs (Upcoming) 2/6/25	Weekly Component Chart <i>Internal / FOUO</i>
Date Occurred or Expected	Items to Report

Removed per scoping agreement

Removed per scoping agreement

3/4/25

Government to File Motion to Dismiss in Challenge to Missouri Election Monitoring by the Department of Justice: *Missouri et al. v. Garland et al.*, 24-cv-01473-SEP (E.D. Mo.). Missouri brought this case to challenge the Department of Justice's plan to send election monitors to polling places in St. Louis, Missouri during the 2024 General Election. The Court previously denied a TRO seeking to bar the Department's monitors and Missouri seeks to continue the case under an exception to mootness. Our motion to dismiss, due March 4th, will (b) (5)

Removed per scoping agreement



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, DC 20530

The Honorable Kevin Mullin
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Mullin:

This responds to your letter to the Department of Justice (Department), dated October 30, 2025, regarding the monitoring of California's November 4, 2025, general election. We appreciate having your views on this matter.

The Department, through the Civil Rights Division, enforces federal voting rights laws and monitors compliance with federal civil rights laws.¹ As such, the Department monitored the election in the following California counties: Kern, Riverside, Fresno, Orange, and Los Angeles.² Monitoring does not equate to election interference. As with any concern over fraud or voter intimidation, the Department will take action to ensure no such instances arise. Furthermore, assertions of clean, fraud-free elections in the past do not ensure that fraud has not occurred in a current election or will not occur in a future election. The Department simply wishes to ensure election integrity and prevent individuals who are not permitted to vote from voting.

Importantly, the Department can investigate and prosecute federal election crimes. It will use its authority to do so when necessary. The Civil Rights Division Voting Section "enforces the civil provisions of the federal laws that protect the right to vote, including the Voting Rights Act, the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, the National Voter Registration Act, the Help America Vote Act and the Civil Rights Acts."³ As evidenced from several California counties, they simply do not possess enforcement authority of federal laws.⁴

Additionally, in your letter, claiming California as the "model of free and fair elections not only in the United States but around the world" is not considered evidence that voter fraud does not exist. Oversight and fraud prevention will only have a positive impact on your state.

¹ Press Release, Dep't of Just., Justice Department to Monitor Polling Sites in California, New Jersey (Oct. 24, 2025) available at <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-monitor-polling-sites-california-new-jersey>.

² *Id.*

³ Press Release, Dep't of Just., Voting Section, available at <https://www.justice.gov/crt/voting-section>.

⁴ See, e.g., Sacramento County, Voter Registration and Elections: How to Report Election Fraud, <https://elections.sacounty.net/ElectionInformation/Pages/How-to-Report-Election-Fraud.aspx>; Santa Cruz County, Elections Department: Who to call for Election Violations or Fraud, <https://votescount.santacruzcountycal.gov/Default.aspx?TabID=4528>.

The Department does not seek to intimidate immigrant communities, as suggested by your letter, but rather seeks to “commit the resources necessary to ensure the American people get the fair, free, and transparent elections they deserve.”⁵ Doing so includes monitoring and observing elections, and supporting cooperation from our state and local partners to remove non-citizens from voter registration lists and other individuals who are not entitled to vote.⁶

We value your embrace of the Department’s observation and monitoring of the election. We also value your willingness to uphold transparency in our nation’s elections.

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

Sincerely,

**Ronald J.
Lampard**

Digitally signed by
Ronald J. Lampard
Date: 2026.01.20
13:28:18 -05'00'

Ronald J. Lampard
Deputy Assistant Attorney General

cc:

The Honorable Zoe Lofgren
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ted W. Lieu
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Thompson
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable George Whitesides
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jared Huffman
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Norma J. Torres
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Doris Matsui
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Brad Sherman
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ro Khanna
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

⁵ Press Release, Dep’t of Just., Justice Department to Monitor Polling Sites in California, New Jersey, (Oct. 24, 2025), available at <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-monitor-polling-sites-california-new-jersey>

⁶ *Id.*

The Honorable Kevin Mullin
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The Honorable Dave Min
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lateefah Simon
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sydney Kamlager-Dove
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Derek T. Tran
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nanette Diaz Barragán
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Maxine Waters
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Julia Brownley
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Juan Vargas
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ami Bera
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable J. Luis Correa
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Gilbert Ray Cisneros
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Judy Chu
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Raul Ruiz
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mark Takano
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Salud Carbajal
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sara Jacobs
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jimmy Panetta
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Linda T. Sánchez
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Eric Swalwell
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Pete Aguilar
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Luz M. Rivas
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin Mullin
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The Honorable Mark DeSaulnier
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jim Costa
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Scott H. Peters
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Laura Friedman
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sam T. Liccardo
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Robert Garcia
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Garamendi
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Levin
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jimmy Gomez
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515