

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

November 18, 2025

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

The Honorable Daniel Driscoll
Acting Director
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
99 New York Avenue NE
Washington, DC 20226

The Honorable Kash Patel
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Attorney General Bondi, Acting Director Driscoll, and Director Patel,

We are writing to you today to share our deep concerns about recent reports on federal law enforcement agent reallocations and personnel attritions across the Department of Justice (DOJ), including the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The actions by the DOJ jeopardize important public safety initiatives, including protecting the American people from gun crime.

Prior to the attrition of oversight investigators, ATF was struggling to meet its goal of inspecting each federal firearms license holder (FFL) at least once every three years with its 857 Industry Operations Investigators (IOIs)¹ – reports indicate that even prior to the COVID-19 pandemic with a similar complement of IOIs, ATF only inspected each gun shop once every 11 years on average, and 58% of dealers were only inspected once from October 2010 to February 2022.² It is virtually impossible to ensure dealers are maintaining compliance with even the most basic statutory requirements with this rate of inspection, yet recent reporting suggests ATF has already lost one in seven IOIs to job reductions and retirements pushed by your Administration, and may lose a total of 550 of its IOIs if President Trump's budget is fully implemented.³ These personnel reductions are exacerbating the difficulties in properly ensuring compliance from license holders, leading to dire consequences for preventing gun trafficking and violence in America. Continuing to push resources away from these directives will only further increase gun crimes.

¹ *Fact Sheet - Facts and Figures for Fiscal Year 2024*, BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES (March 2025), <https://www.atf.gov/resource-center/fact-sheet/fact-sheet-facts-and-figures-fiscal-year-2024>.

² *Audit of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives' Risk-Based Inspection Selection Processes and Administrative Actions Issued to Federal Firearms Licensees*, OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (April 2023). All reports prior to October 1, 2025, have been removed from the website of the Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General as of the time of this writing, however this report is archived here: <https://morelle.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/morelle.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/oig-2023-062-ffl-compliance-inspection-audit-compressed.pdf>.

³ *The President's FY 2026 Discretionary Budget Request*, THE WHITE HOUSE (May 2, 2025), <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Fiscal-Year-2026-Discretionary-Budget-Request.pdf>.

In addition to staffing cuts at ATF for oversight investigations, recent reporting also indicates ATF is no longer holding gun dealers accountable for willfully and egregiously breaking the law. ATF is on track for a 90% reduction in the total number of dealers whose licenses were revoked for serious willful violations over last year, and it appears not one license was revoked in the first four months of this administration.⁴ Failure to hold rogue gun dealers accountable only emboldens reckless, irresponsible, and outright criminal business practices to the detriment of public safety.

Furthermore, reporting suggests that ATF has reassigned 80% of its special agents to immigration enforcement. Likewise, the FBI has had 23% of agents redesignated to focus on immigration enforcement, including 45% of agents in the 25 biggest field offices. About three-fourths of Drug Enforcement Administration agents, a third of U.S. deputy marshals, and nearly all Homeland Security Investigations agents have also been diverted to work on immigration. These agencies have a finite number of resources, and reducing the resources allocated to counterterrorism, counterespionage, gun trafficking, white-collar crime, fraud and public corruption cases, in addition to a slew of other serious criminal investigations, greatly diminishes public safety.

As Members of Congress, it is our responsibility to conduct oversight of how the Department of Justice allocates its federal resources in compliance with the law. We request answers to the following questions by December 5, 2025.

1. Please provide the exact number of federal firearm licenses revoked and the reason for the revocations since January 20, 2025. If there has been a change in Administration policy reducing or ceasing compliance enforcement of FFLs, please provide written materials related to such a directive.
 - a. Please provide the number, as well as the attending compliance inspection reports, of FFLs cited for willful violations that would have resulted in the initiation of license revocation under the now-repealed Enhanced Regulatory Enforcement Policy.
 - b. How many notices of revocation have been issued since January 20, 2025?
 - c. How many hearings have been held since January 20, 2025, as a result of revocation notices?
 - d. How many cases were in de novo review as of January 20, 2025, or were appealed following January 20, 2025, and, of those, how many revocations were rescinded?
2. Dealer inspections often lead to criminal referrals to the Department of Justice, with a third of ATF's criminal firearm trafficking investigations stemming from these investigative leads. Please provide the exact number of criminal referrals that have come from ATF federal firearm license inspections in 2025 and how that number compares to the exact number of criminal referrals that came from ATF federal firearm license inspections in 2024.
 - a. Of the number of referrals, how many resulted in charges being filed?
 - b. If charges were filed, what were the nature of those charges, broken down by federal judicial district? What is the current disposition of those cases?
3. ATF consistently published monthly firearms compliance inspection results data on a public website for the last several years. Please provide the data from these reports from January through October of 2025.

⁴ Ortega, Bob, and Allison Gordon, *Gun Crime Cases Fall as Agents Shift to Immigration Crackdown*, CNN (October 15, 2025), <https://www.cnn.com/2025/10/15/us/trump-immigration-atf-gun-cases-invs>.

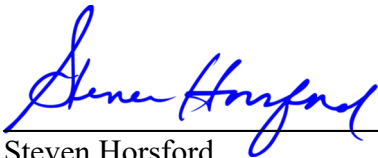
4. Please provide the number of FBI agents that were working on cases unrelated to immigration prior to January 20th, 2025, as well as the current number of agents working on cases unrelated to immigration. Please also provide what directive these agents were reassigned from.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Joseph D. Morelle
Member of Congress



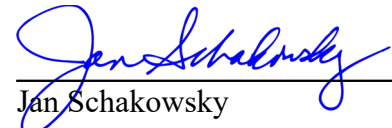
Steven Horsford
Member of Congress
Nevada's Fourth Congressional
District



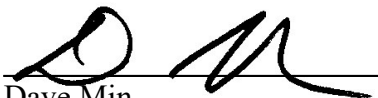
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



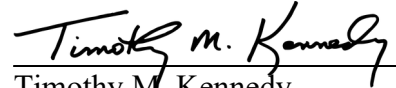
SETH MOULTON
Member of Congress



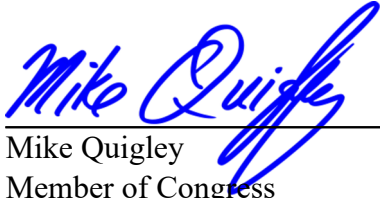
Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



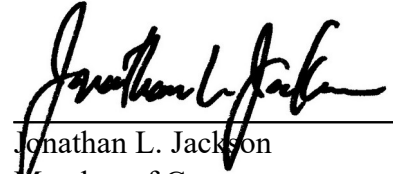
Brittany Pettersen
Member of Congress



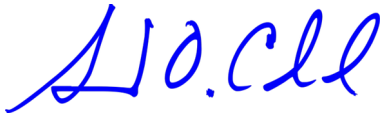
Timothy M. Kennedy
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



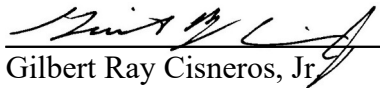
Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



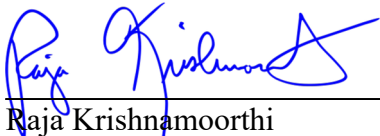
Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress



Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress



Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



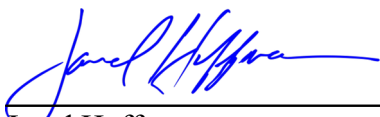
JM Tokuda
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



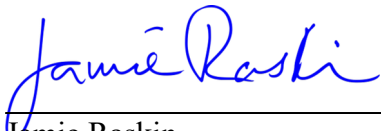
Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



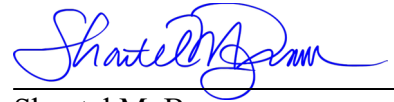
Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



Shontel M. Brown
Member of Congress



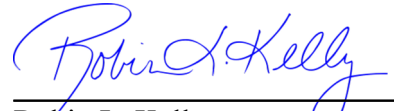
Valerie P. Foushee
Member of Congress



Dina Titus
Member of Congress



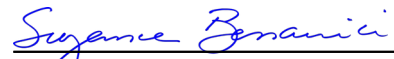
Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



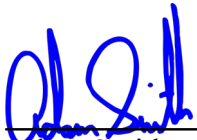
Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Summer L. Lee
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



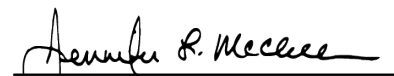
Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Jennifer L. McClellan
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



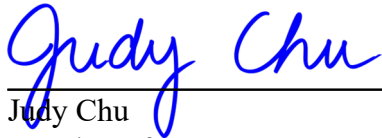
Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



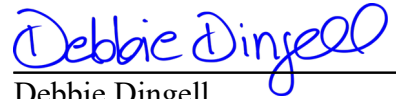
Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



Kelly Morrison
Member of Congress



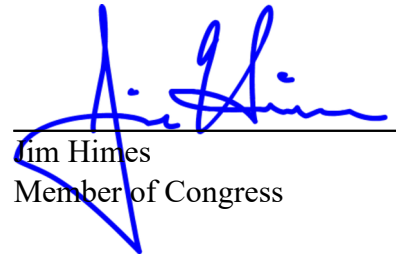
Judy Chu
Member of Congress



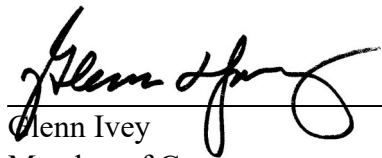
Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Bradley Scott Schneider
Member of Congress



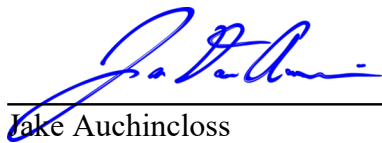
Jim Himes
Member of Congress



Glenn Ivey
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



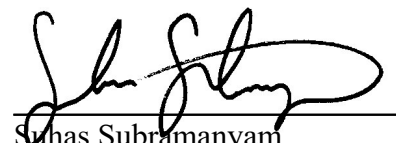
Jake Auchincloss
Member of Congress



Nellie Pou
Member of Congress



Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress



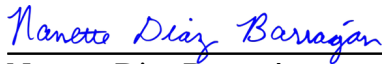
Suhas Subramanyam
Member of Congress



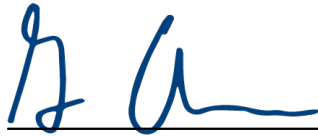
Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



Lucy McBath
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Gabe Amo
Member of Congress



George Latimer
Member of Congress



Maxwell Alejandro Frost
Member of Congress



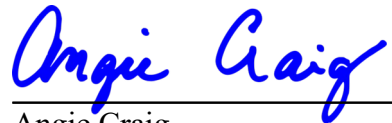
Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



Wesley Bell
Member of Congress



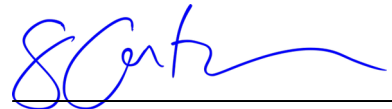
Ed Case
Member of Congress



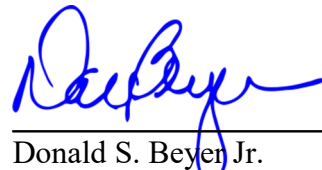
Angie Craig
Member of Congress



Ritchie Torres
Member of Congress



Sean Casten
Member of Congress



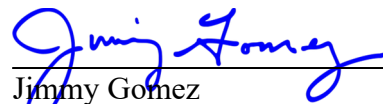
Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



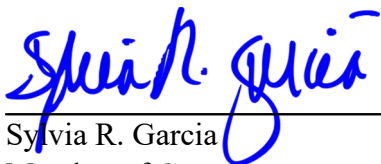
John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Robert J. Menendez
Member of Congress



Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



Jason Crow
Member of Congress



Lois Frankel
Member of Congress



Sarah McBride
Member of Congress