

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

November 1, 2021

Mr. E. Bryan Wilson  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of Alaska  
222 West 7th Avenue, Room 253, #9  
Anchorage, AK 99513

Dear Mr. Wilson:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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<sup>1</sup> Memorandum from Atty Gen. Merrick Garland, U.S. Dep’t of Justice, Partnership Among Federal, State, Local, Tribal, And Territorial Law Enforcement to Address Threats Against School Administrators, Board Members, Teachers, and Staff (Oct. 4, 2021).

<sup>2</sup> Letter from Dr. Viola M. Garcia, President, Nat’l School Board Assoc. & Mr. Chip Slaven, Chief Exec. Officer, Nat’l School Board Assoc., to President Joseph R. Biden, White House (Sept. 29, 2021).

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

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U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

To assist our investigation and determine whether these meetings are ongoing, we request that you provide the following documents and information:

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



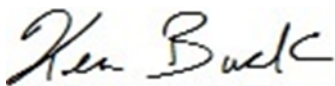
Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
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Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
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Ken Buck  
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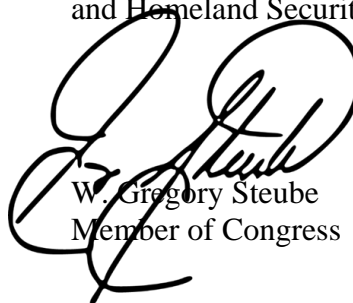
Mike Johnson  
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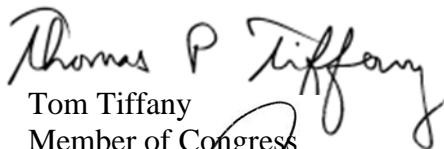
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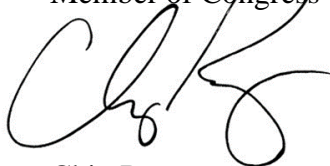
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Burgess Owens  
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

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November 1, 2021

Mr. Sean P. Costello  
U.S. Attorney  
Southern District of Alabama  
63 South Royal Street, Suite 600  
Mobile, AL 36602

Dear Mr. Costello:

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November 1, 2021

Ms. Prim F. Escalona  
U.S. Attorney  
Northern District of Alabama  
1801 4th Avenue North  
Birmingham, AL 35203

Dear Ms. Escalona:

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U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

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November 1, 2021

Ms. Sandra Stewart  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Middle District of Alabama  
131 Clayton Street  
Montgomery, AL 36104

Dear Ms. Stewart:

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Ms. Sandra Stewart

November 1, 2021

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
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Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
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November 1, 2021

Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
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Burgess Owens  
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

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

November 1, 2021

Mr. David Clay Fowlkes  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Western District of Arkansas  
414 Parker Avenue  
Fort Smith, AR 72901

Dear Mr. Fowlkes:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

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A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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Mr. David Clay Fowlkes

November 1, 2021

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If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



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Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
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November 1, 2021

Mr. Jonathan D. Ross  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Eastern District of Arkansas  
425 West Capitol Avenue, Suite 500  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Mr. Ross:

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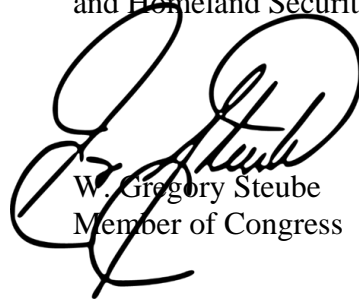
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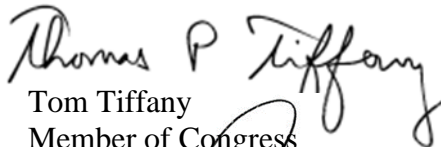
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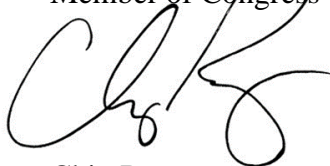
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November 1, 2021


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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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November 1, 2021

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Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of Arizona  
Two Renaissance Square 40 N. Central Avenue, Suite 1800  
Phoenix, AZ 85004

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet



Ken Buck  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial  
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Matt Gaetz  
Member of Congress



Mike Johnson  
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Andy Biggs  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism  
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Tom McClintock  
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W. Gregory Steube  
Member of Congress



Tom Tiffany  
Member of Congress



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Chip Roy  
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Dan Bishop  
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Michelle Fischbach  
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Victoria Spartz  
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Mr. Glenn B. McCormick

November 1, 2021

Page 5

  
Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress

  
Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress

  
Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

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

November 1, 2021

Mr. Randy S. Grossman  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Southern District of California  
880 Front Street, Room 6293  
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Mr. Grossman:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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Mr. Randy S. Grossman

November 1, 2021

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U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

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Mr. Randy S. Grossman

November 1, 2021

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Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet



Ken Buck  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial  
and Administrative Law



Matt Gaetz  
Member of Congress



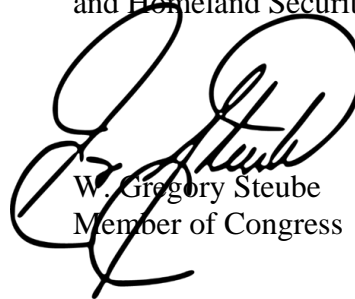
Mike Johnson  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on the Constitution,  
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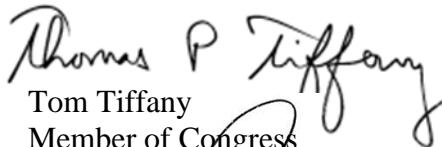
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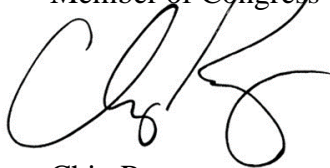
W. Gregory Steube  
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Victoria Spartz  
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Mr. Randy S. Grossman

November 1, 2021

Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
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November 1, 2021

Ms. Stephanie Hinds  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Northern District of California  
450 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Ms. Hinds:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

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Ms. Stephanie Hinds

November 1, 2021

Page 2

U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

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Ms. Stephanie Hinds

November 1, 2021

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Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet





Ken Buck  
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Ms. Stephanie Hinds

November 1, 2021

Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



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Member of Congress



Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
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2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

Mr. Phillip A. Talbert  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Eastern District of California  
501 I Street, Suite 10-100  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Talbert:

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Mr. Phillip A. Talbert

November 1, 2021

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Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
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Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet



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Mr. Phillip A. Talbert

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Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys



ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
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2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

Ms. Tracy Wilkison  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Central District of California  
312 North Spring Street, Suite 1200  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Ms. Tracy Wilkison:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

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Ms. Tracy Wilkison

November 1, 2021

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Ms. Tracy Wilkison

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



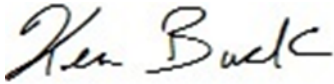
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Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
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Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
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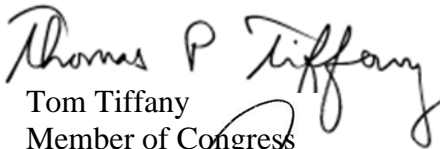
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Ms. Tracy Wilkison

November 1, 2021

Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens  
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

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

November 1, 2021

Mr. Matthew T. Kirsch  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of Colorado  
1801 California Street, Suite 1600  
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Mr. Kirsch:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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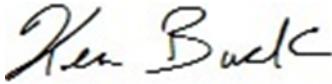
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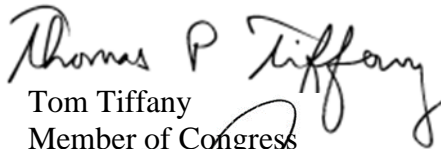
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Acting U.S. Attorney  
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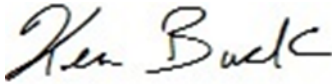
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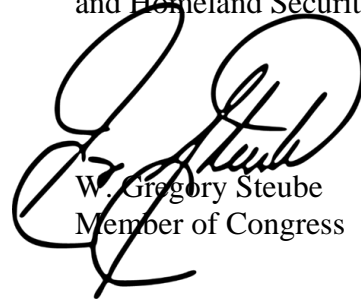
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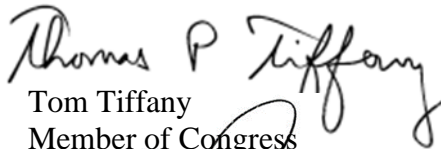
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November 1, 2021

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Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of Columbia  
555 4th Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20001

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Mr. Channing D. Phillips

November 1, 2021

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
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Victoria Spartz  
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Mr. Channing D. Phillips

November 1, 2021

Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

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

November 1, 2021

The Honorable David C. Weiss  
U.S. Attorney  
District of Delaware  
1313 North Market Street  
Wilmington, DE 19801

Dear Mr. Weiss:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

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A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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November 1, 2021

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If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



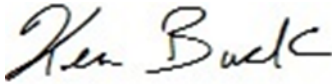
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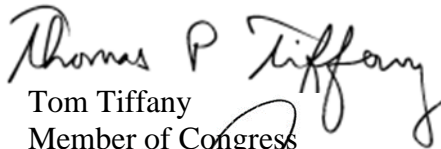
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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
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November 1, 2021

Mr. Jason R. Coody  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Northern District of Florida  
111 North Adams Street, 4th Floor U.S. Courthouse  
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Dear Mr. Coody:

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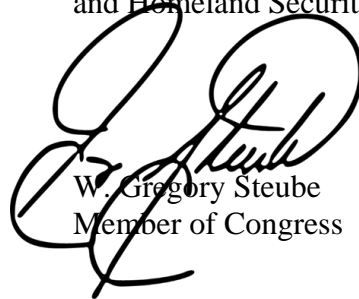
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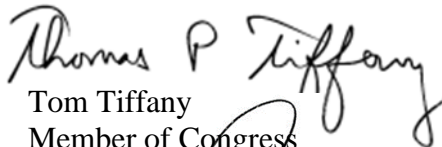
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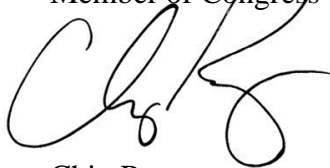
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

# 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

November 1, 2021

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U.S. Attorney  
Southern District of Florida  
99 N.E. 4th Street  
Miami, FL 33132

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet



Ken Buck  
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Matt Gaetz  
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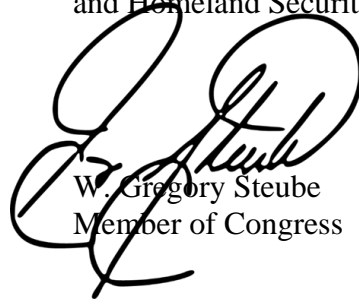
Mike Johnson  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on the Constitution,  
Civil Rights and Civil Liberties



Andy Biggs  
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Tom McClintock  
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W. Gregory Steube  
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Victoria Spartz  
Member of Congress

Mr. Juan A. Gonzalez

November 1, 2021


Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys



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

November 1, 2021

Ms. Karin Hoppmann  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Middle District of Florida  
400 North Tampa Street, Suite 3200  
Tampa, FL 33602

Dear Ms. Hoppmann:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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Ms. Karin Hoppmann

November 1, 2021

Page 2

U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

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Ms. Karin Hoppmann

November 1, 2021

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Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet



Ken Buck  
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Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial  
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Matt Gaetz  
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Andy Biggs  
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Dan Bishop  
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Victoria Spartz  
Member of Congress

Ms. Karin Hoppmann

November 1, 2021

Page 5

  
Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress

  
Cliff Bentz  
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Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
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November 1, 2021

Mr. Kurt R. Erskine  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Northern District of Georgia  
75 Ted Turner Drive SW, Suite 600  
Atlanta, GA 30303

Dear Mr. Erskine:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

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Mr. Kurt R. Erskine

November 1, 2021

Page 2

U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

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Mr. Kurt R. Erskine

November 1, 2021

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Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet



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Mr. Kurt R. Erskine

November 1, 2021


Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

Mr. David H. Estes  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Southern District of Georgia  
600 James Brown Blvd, Suite 200  
Augusta, Georgia 30901

Dear Mr. Estes:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

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U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

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Mr. David H. Estes

November 1, 2021

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Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



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Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
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Mr. David H. Estes

November 1, 2021


Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

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2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
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judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

Mr. Peter D. Leary  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Middle District of Georgia  
P.O. Box 2568  
Columbus, GA 31902

Dear Mr. Leary:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

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U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

To assist our investigation and determine whether these meetings are ongoing, we request that you provide the following documents and information:

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet



Ken Buck  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial  
and Administrative Law



Matt Gaetz  
Member of Congress



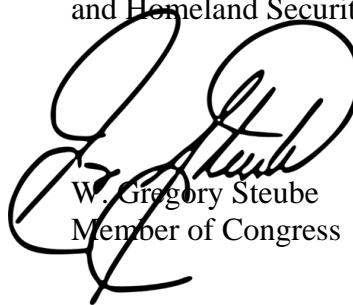
Mike Johnson  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on the Constitution,  
Civil Rights and Civil Liberties



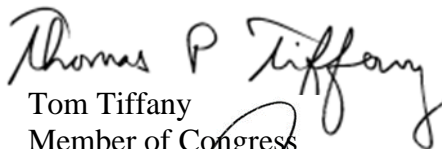
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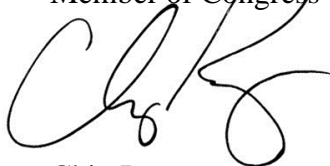
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Victoria Spartz  
Member of Congress

Mr. Peter D. Leary  
November 1, 2021  
Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

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

November 1, 2021

Mr. Shawn N. Anderson  
U.S. Attorney  
Districts of Guam & Northern Mariana Islands  
108 Hernan Cortez, Suite 500  
Hagåtña, GU 96910

Dear Mr. Anderson:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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Mr. Shawn N. Anderson

November 1, 2021

Page 2

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Mr. Shawn N. Anderson

November 1, 2021

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If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
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Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
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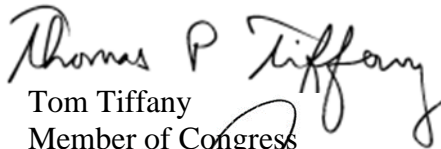
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November 1, 2021

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Burgess Owens  
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
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**House of Representatives**  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

Ms. Judith A. Philips  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of Hawaii  
300 Ala Moana Blvd., #6-100  
Honolulu, HI 96850

Dear Ms. Philips:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

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U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

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November 1, 2021

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Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
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Louie Gohmert  
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Darrell Issa  
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Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
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November 1, 2021

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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

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

November 1, 2021

Mr. Sean R. Berry  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Northern District of Iowa  
111 7th Avenue, SE, Box #1  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401

Dear Mr. Berry:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet



Ken Buck  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial  
and Administrative Law



Matt Gaetz  
Member of Congress



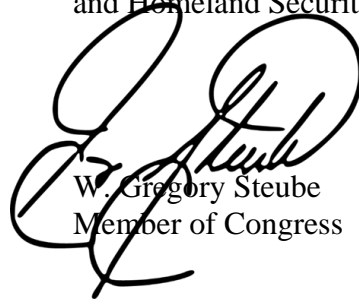
Mike Johnson  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on the Constitution,  
Civil Rights and Civil Liberties



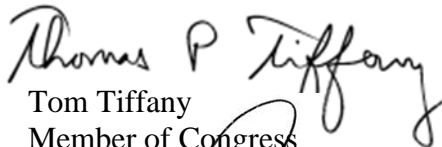
Andy Biggs  
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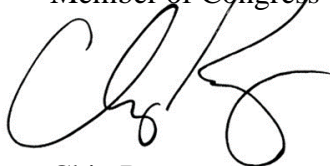
W. Gregory Steube  
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Victoria Spartz  
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Mr. Sean R. Berry  
November 1, 2021  
Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys



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

November 1, 2021

Mr. Richard D. Westphal  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Southern District of Iowa  
110 East Court Avenue, Suite 286  
Des Moines, IA 50309

Dear Mr. Westphal:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

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Mr. Richard D. Westphal

November 1, 2021

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During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

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Mr. Richard D. Westphal

November 1, 2021

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Ranking Member



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Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
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Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet



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Mr. Richard D. Westphal

November 1, 2021

Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
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Cliff Bentz  
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Burgess Owens  
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
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ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

Mr. Rafael M. Gonzalez Jr.  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of Idaho  
1290 West Myrtle Street, Suite 500  
Boise, ID 83702

Dear Mr. Gonzalez:

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Mr. Rafael M. Gonzalez Jr.

November 1, 2021

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Sincerely,



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Ranking Member



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Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
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Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
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Mr. Rafael M. Gonzalez Jr.

November 1, 2021


Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



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Burgess Owens  
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
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(202) 225-3951  
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November 1, 2021

The Honorable John R. Lausch, Jr.  
U.S. Attorney  
Northern District of Illinois  
219 South Dearborn Street, 5th Floor  
Chicago, IL 60604

Dear Mr. Lausch:

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The Honorable John R. Lausch, Jr.

November 1, 2021

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Ranking Member



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The Honorable John R. Lausch, Jr.

November 1, 2021


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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
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2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
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November 1, 2021

Mr. Douglas J. Quivey  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Central District of Illinois  
318 South Sixth Street  
Springfield, IL 62701

Dear Mr. Quivey:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

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Mr. Douglas J. Quivey

November 1, 2021

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If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
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Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet



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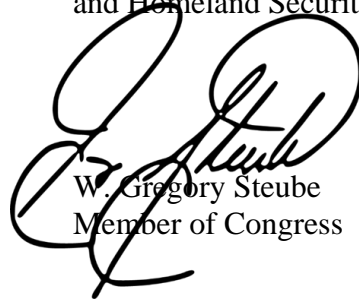
Mike Johnson  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on the Constitution,  
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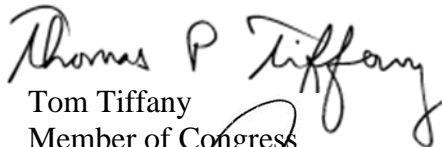
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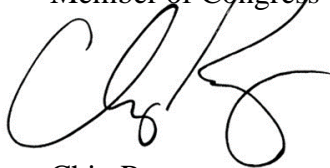
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November 1, 2021

Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
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Burgess Owens  
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
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**House of Representatives**  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

Mr. Steven D. Weinhoeft  
U.S. Attorney  
Southern District of Illinois  
9 Executive Drive  
Fairview Heights, IL 62208

Dear Mr. Weinhoeft:

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Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



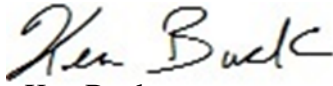
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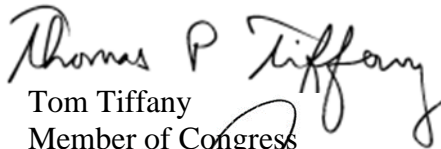
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November 1, 2021

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Acting U.S. Attorney  
Southern District of Indiana  
10 West Market Street, Suite 2100  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

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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  
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November 1, 2021

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U.S. Attorney  
Northern District of Indiana  
5400 Federal Plaza, Suite 1500  
Hammond, IN 46320

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Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

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The Honorable Clifford D. Johnson

November 1, 2021

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
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Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
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The Honorable Clifford D. Johnson

November 1, 2021

Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys



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

November 1, 2021

Mr. Duston J. Slinkard  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of Kansas  
444 SE Quincy Street, Suite 290  
Topeka, KS

Dear Mr. Slinkard:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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Mr. Duston J. Slinkard

November 1, 2021

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Mr. Duston J. Slinkard

November 1, 2021

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If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
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Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
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Mr. Duston J. Slinkard

November 1, 2021

Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
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2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
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November 1, 2021

Mr. Michael A. Bennett  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Western District of Kentucky  
717 West Broadway  
Louisville, KY 40202

Dear Mr. Bennett:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

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Mr. Michael A. Bennett

November 1, 2021

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Mr. Michael A. Bennett

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Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet



Ken Buck  
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Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial  
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Mr. Michael A. Bennett

November 1, 2021


Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

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COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

Mr. Carlton S. Shier, IV  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Eastern District of Kentucky  
260 West Vine Street, Suite 300  
Lexington, KY 40507

Dear Mr. Shier:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

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Mr. Carlton S. Shier, IV

November 1, 2021

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Sincerely,



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Member of Congress



Dan Bishop  
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Michelle Fischbach  
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Victoria Spartz  
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Mr. Carlton S. Shier, IV

November 1, 2021


Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz  
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Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

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

November 1, 2021

Mr. Duane A. Evans  
U.S. Attorney  
Eastern District of Louisiana  
650 Poydras Street, Suite 1600  
New Orleans, LA 70130

Dear Mr. Evans:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



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Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet



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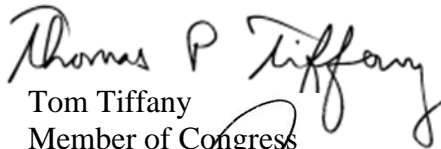
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November 1, 2021

Mr. Ellison C. Travis  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Middle District of Louisiana  
777 Florida Street, Suite 208  
Baton Rouge, LA 70801

Dear Mr. Travis:

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U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

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Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



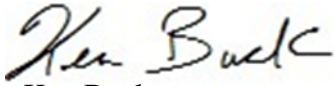
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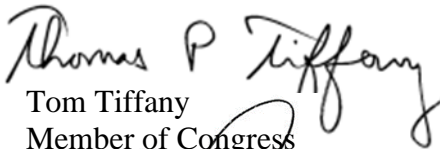
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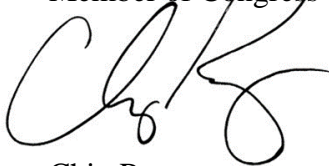
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November 1, 2021

Mr. Alexander C. Van Hook  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Western District of Louisiana  
300 Fannin Street, Suite 3201  
Shreveport, LA 71101

Dear Mr. Van Hook:

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November 1, 2021

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Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of Massachusetts  
1 Courthouse Way, Suite 9200  
Boston, MA 02210

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During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

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Mr. Nathaniel R. Mendell

November 1, 2021

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet



Ken Buck  
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Mr. Nathaniel R. Mendell

November 1, 2021

Page 5

  
Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress

  
Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress

  
Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys



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

November 1, 2021

The Honorable Erik L. Barron  
U.S. Attorney  
District of Maryland  
36 South Charles Street, 4th Floor  
Baltimore, MD 21201

Dear Mr. Barron:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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The Honorable Erek L. Barron

November 1, 2021

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During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

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If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



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Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
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The Honorable Erik L. Barron

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ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
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November 1, 2021

The Honorable Darcie N. McElwee  
U.S. Attorney  
District of Maine  
100 Middle Street, East Tower, 6th Floor  
Portland, ME 04101

Dear Ms. McElwee:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

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Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



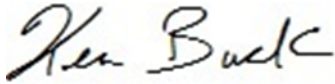
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November 1, 2021


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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
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2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

Mr. Andrew B. Birge  
U.S. Attorney  
Western District of Michigan  
315 West Allegan, Room 209  
Lansing, MI 48933

Dear Mr. Birge:

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Mr. Andrew B. Birge

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Ranking Member  
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Mr. Andrew B. Birge

November 1, 2021


Page 5



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Cliff Bentz  
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Burgess Owens  
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

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

November 1, 2021

Ms. Saima S. Mohsin  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Eastern District of Michigan  
211 West Fort Street, Suite 2001  
Detroit, MI 48226

Dear Ms. Mohsin:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

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Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

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Ms. Saima S. Mohsin

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If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



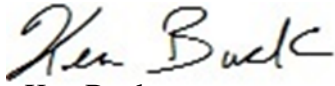
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November 1, 2021

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Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of Minnesota  
300 South 4th Street, Suite 600  
Minneapolis, MN 55415

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Mr. W. Anders Folk

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Sincerely,



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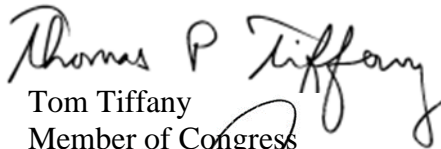
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November 1, 2021

Ms. Saylor A. Fleming  
U.S. Attorney  
Eastern District of Missouri  
111 South 10th Street, 20th Floor  
St. Louis, MO 63102

Dear Ms. Fleming:

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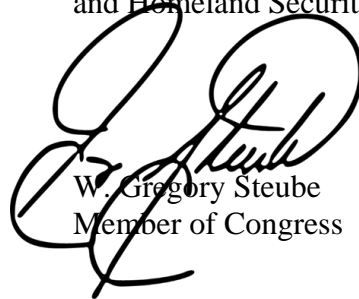
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November 1, 2021

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Acting U.S. Attorney  
Western District of Missouri  
400 East 9th Street, Room 5510  
Kansas City, MO 64106

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During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

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Ms. Teresa A. Moore

November 1, 2021

Page 3

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet



Ken Buck  
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Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial  
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Ms. Teresa A. Moore

November 1, 2021


Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
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Cliff Bentz  
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Burgess Owens  
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys



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

November 1, 2021

Mr. James C. “Clay” Joyner  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Northern District of Mississippi  
900 Jefferson Avenue  
Oxford, MS 38655

Dear Mr. Joyner:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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Mr. James C. “Clay” Joyner

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Following the Attorney General’s testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: “On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter.”<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

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If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



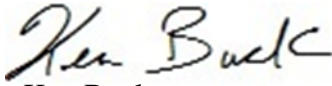
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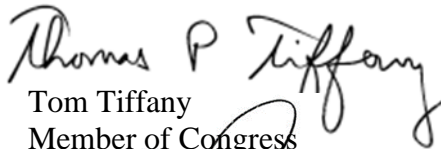
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November 1, 2021

Mr. Darren J. LaMarca  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Southern District of Mississippi  
501 East Court Street, Suite 4.430  
Jackson, MS 39201

Dear Mr. LaMarca:

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November 1, 2021

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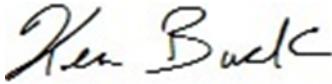
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November 1, 2021


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November 1, 2021

Mr. Leif M. Johnson  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of Montana  
2601 2nd Ave N., Suite 3200  
Billings, MT 59101

Dear Mr. Johnson:

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet



Ken Buck  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial  
and Administrative Law



Matt Gaetz  
Member of Congress



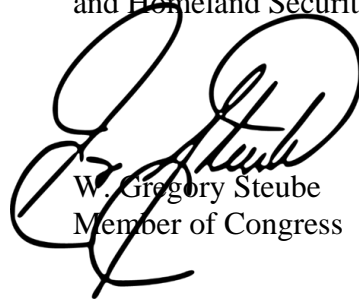
Mike Johnson  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on the Constitution,  
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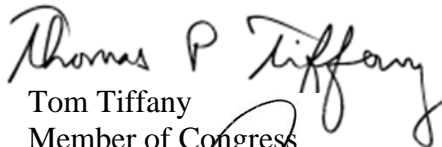
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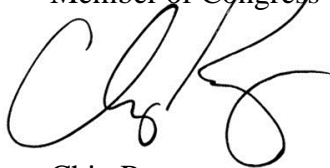
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Michelle Fischbach  
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Victoria Spartz  
Member of Congress



Mr. Leif M. Johnson

November 1, 2021

Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

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

November 1, 2021

Mr. G. Norman Acker, III  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Eastern District of North Carolina  
150 Fayetteville Street, Suite 2100  
Raleigh, NC 27601

Dear Mr. Acker:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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Mr. G. Norman Acker, III

November 1, 2021

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U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

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Mr. G. Norman Acker, III

November 1, 2021

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Sincerely,



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Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
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Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
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Mr. G. Norman Acker, III

November 1, 2021

Page 5

  
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
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November 1, 2021

Ms. Sandra J. Hairston  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Middle District of North Carolina  
101 South Edgeworth Street, 4th Floor  
Greensboro, NC 27401

Dear Ms. Hairston:

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Ms. Sandra J. Hairston

November 1, 2021

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November 1, 2021

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Sincerely,



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Ranking Member



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Louie Gohmert  
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Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet



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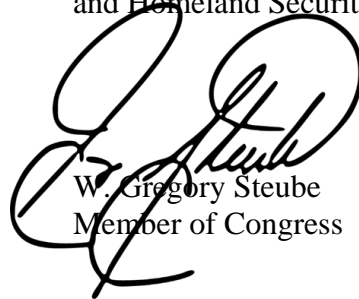
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November 1, 2021

Page 5



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Member of Congress



Burgess Owens  
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
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November 1, 2021

Mr. William T. Stetzer  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Western District of North Carolina  
227 West Trade St., Suite 1650  
Charlotte, NC 28202

Dear Mr. Stetzer:

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Sincerely,



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Louie Gohmert  
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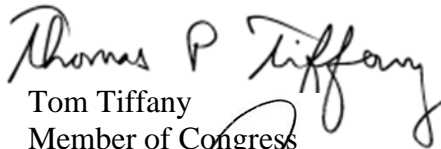
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November 1, 2021

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Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of North Dakota  
655 First Avenue North, Suite 250  
Fargo, ND 58102

Dear Mr. Chase:

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A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

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Mr. Nicholas W. Chase

November 1, 2021

Page 3

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet



Ken Buck  
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Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial  
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Matt Gaetz  
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Mike Johnson  
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Mr. Nicholas W. Chase

November 1, 2021

Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys



ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
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2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

Mr. Jan W. Sharp  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of Nebraska  
1620 Dodge St, Suite 1400  
Omaha, NE 68102

Dear Mr. Sharp:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



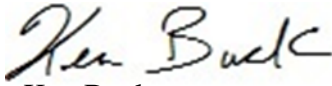
Steve Chabot  
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Darrell Issa  
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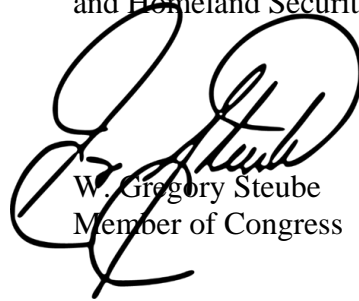
Mike Johnson  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on the Constitution,  
Civil Rights and Civil Liberties



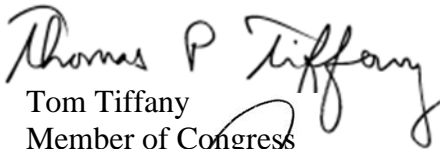
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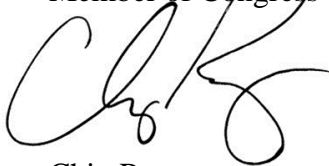
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Mr. Jan W. Sharp  
November 1, 2021  
Page 5



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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
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judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

Mr. John J. Farley  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of New Hampshire  
53 Pleasant Street, 4th Floor  
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Mr. Farley:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

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Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



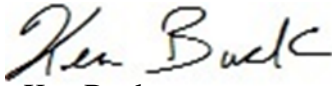
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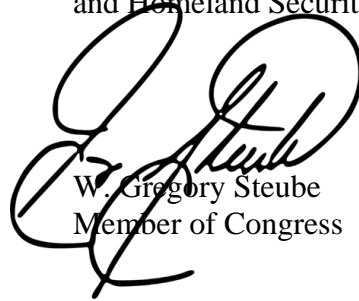
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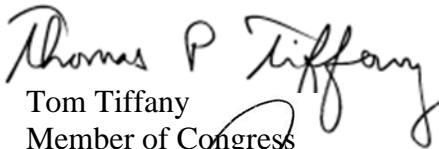
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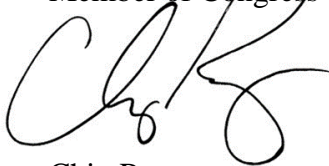
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November 1, 2021

Ms. Rachael A. Honig  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of New Jersey  
970 Broad Street, 7th Floor  
Newark, NJ 07102

Dear Ms. Honig:

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Ms. Rachael A. Honig

November 1, 2021

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Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

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Ms. Rachael A. Honig

November 1, 2021

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



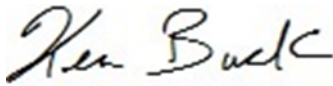
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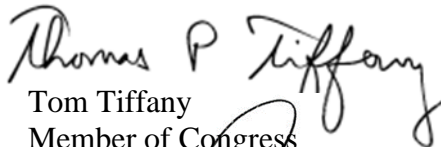
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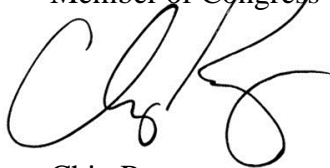
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Ms. Rachael A. Honig

November 1, 2021


Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
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Cliff Bentz  
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Burgess Owens  
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

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

November 1, 2021

Mr. Fred J. Federici  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of New Mexico  
P.O. Box 607  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

Dear Mr. Federici:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

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November 1, 2021


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ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
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2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
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November 1, 2021

Mr. Christopher Chiou  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of Nevada  
501 Las Vegas Boulevard South, Suite 1100  
Las Vegas, NV 89101

Dear Mr. Chiou:

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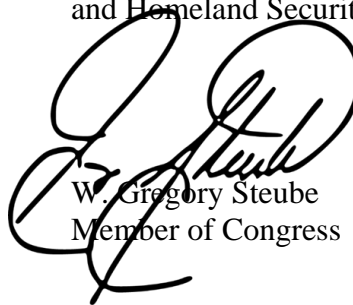
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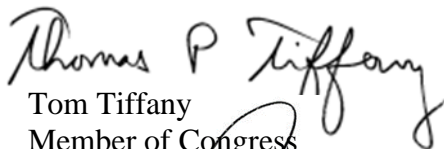
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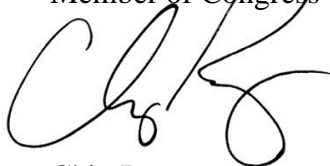
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November 1, 2021

The Honorable Carla B. Freedman  
U.S. Attorney  
Northern District of New York  
100 South Clinton Street, P.O. Box 7198  
Syracuse, NY 13261

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress

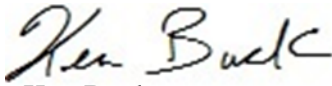


Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress

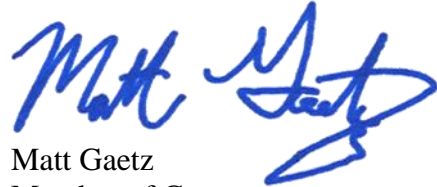


Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet





Ken Buck  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial  
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Matt Gaetz  
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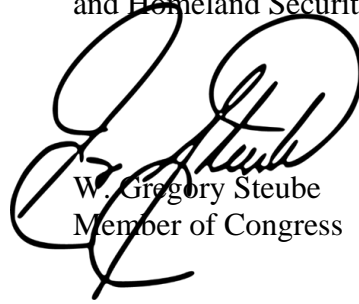
Mike Johnson  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on the Constitution,  
Civil Rights and Civil Liberties



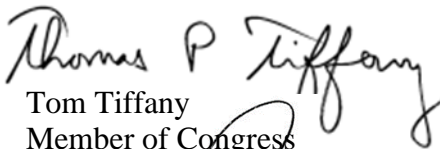
Andy Biggs  
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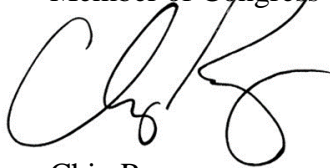
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Thomas Massie  
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Michelle Fischbach  
Member of Congress



Victoria Spartz  
Member of Congress

The Honorable Carla B. Freedman

November 1, 2021

Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
**Congress of the United States**  
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COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

The Honorable Breon Peace  
U.S. Attorney  
Eastern District of New York  
271 Cadman Plaza East  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Dear Mr. Peace:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

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Ranking Member



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Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
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Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
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The Honorable Breon Peace

November 1, 2021


Page 5



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Member of Congress



Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys



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November 1, 2021

The Honorable Trini E. Ross  
U.S. Attorney  
Western District of New York  
138 Delaware Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Ms. Ross:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

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The Honorable Trini E. Ross

November 1, 2021

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U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

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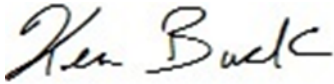
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The Honorable Trini E. Ross

November 1, 2021

Page 5



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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
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ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
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November 1, 2021

The Honorable Damian Williams  
U.S. Attorney  
Southern District of New York  
1 St. Andrew's Plaza  
New York City, NY 10007

Dear Mr. Williams:

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November 1, 2021

Ms. Bridget M. Brennan  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Northern District of Ohio  
801 West Superior Avenue, Suite 400  
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

Dear Ms. Brennan:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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Ms. Bridget M. Brennan

November 1, 2021

Page 2

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During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

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Ms. Bridget M. Brennan

November 1, 2021

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet



Ken Buck  
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Ms. Bridget M. Brennan

November 1, 2021


Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
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Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
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COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

Mr. Vipal J. Patel  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Southern District of Ohio  
303 Marconi Boulevard, Suite 200  
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Mr. Patel:

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U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

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If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



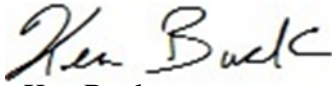
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Louie Gohmert  
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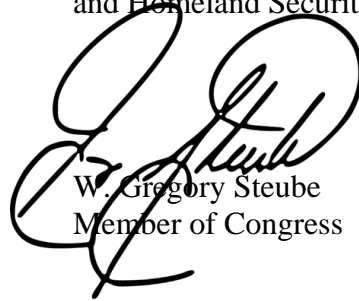
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Subcommittee on the Constitution,  
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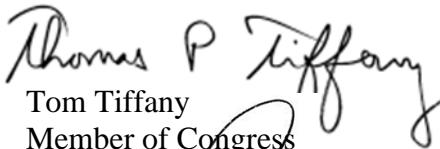
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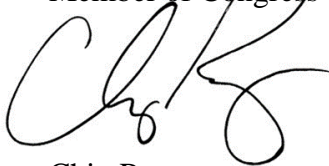
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Mr. Vipal J. Patel  
November 1, 2021  
Page 5



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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

Mr. Clinton J. Johnson  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Northern District of Oklahoma  
110 W. 7th Street, Suite 300  
Tulsa, OK 74119

Dear Mr. Johnson:

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Mr. Clinton J. Johnson

November 1, 2021

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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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November 1, 2021

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Acting U.S. Attorney  
Western District of Oklahoma  
210 West Park Avenue, Suite 400  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102

Dear Mr. Troester:

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Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child’s future.

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Mr. Robert J. "Bob" Troester

November 1, 2021

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress

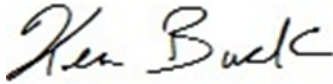


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Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
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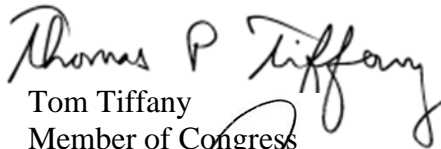
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November 1, 2021

Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
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Cliff Bentz  
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Burgess Owens  
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
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COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

Mr. Christopher J. Wilson  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Eastern District of Oklahoma  
520 Denison Ave  
Muskogee, OK 74401

Dear Mr. Wilson:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

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Mr. Christopher J. Wilson

November 1, 2021

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November 1, 2021

Mr. Scott E. Asphaug  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of Oregon  
1000 SW Third Ave, Suite 600  
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Mr. Asphaug:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

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U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

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Sincerely,



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November 1, 2021

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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

Mr. Bruce D. Brandler  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Middle District of Pennsylvania  
235 N. Washington Ave, Suite 311  
Scranton, PA 18503

Dear Mr. Brandler:

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Subcommittee on the Constitution,  
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Andy Biggs  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism  
and Homeland Security



Tom McClintock  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Immigration  
and Citizenship



W. Gregory Steube  
Member of Congress



Tom Tiffany  
Member of Congress



Thomas Massie  
Member of Congress



Chip Roy  
Member of Congress



Dan Bishop  
Member of Congress



Michelle Fischbach  
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Victoria Spartz  
Member of Congress

Mr. Bruce D. Brandler

November 1, 2021


Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

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

November 1, 2021

Mr. Stephen R. Kaufman  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Western District of Pennsylvania  
700 Grant Street, Suite 400  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Dear Mr. Kaufman:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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Mr. Stephen R. Kaufman

November 1, 2021

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Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
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Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
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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

November 1, 2021

Ms. Jennifer A. Williams  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Eastern District of Pennsylvania  
615 Chestnut Street, Suite 1250  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Dear Ms. Williams:

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Ms. Jennifer A. Williams

November 1, 2021

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Sincerely,



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Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
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Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
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November 1, 2021

The Honorable W. Stephen Muldrow  
U.S. Attorney  
District of Puerto Rico  
350 Carlos Chardón Street  
San Juan, PR 00918

Dear Mr. Muldrow:

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Ranking Member



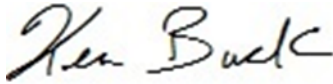
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2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
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judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

Mr. Richard B. Myrus  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of Rhode Island  
50 Kennedy Plaza, 8th Floor  
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Mr. Myrus:

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Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

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Mr. Richard B. Myrus

November 1, 2021

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



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Darrell Issa  
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Mr. Richard B. Myrus

November 1, 2021

Page 5

  
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Member of Congress

  
Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress

  
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
**Congress of the United States**  
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COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

Mr. M. Rhett DeHart  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of South Carolina  
1441 Main Street, Suite 500  
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. DeHart:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

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Mr. M. Rhett DeHart

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If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
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Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
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Mr. M. Rhett DeHart

November 1, 2021

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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
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November 1, 2021

Mr. Dennis R. Holmes  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of South Dakota  
P.O. Box 2638  
Sioux Falls, SD 57101

Dear Mr. Holmes:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

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Mr. Dennis R. Holmes

November 1, 2021

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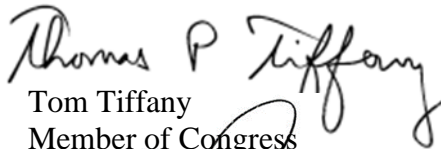
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Mr. Dennis R. Holmes

November 1, 2021

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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
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November 1, 2021

Mr. Francis M. (Trey) Hamilton III  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Eastern District of Tennessee  
800 Market Street, Suite 211  
Knoxville, TN 37902

Dear Mr. Hamilton:

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Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



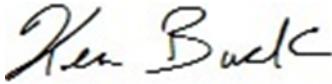
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Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet



Ken Buck  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial  
and Administrative Law



Matt Gaetz  
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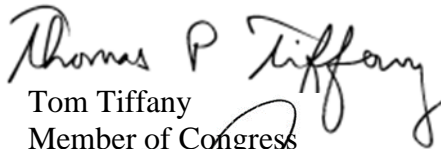
Andy Biggs  
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Victoria Spartz  
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Mr. Francis M. (Trey) Hamilton III

November 1, 2021

Page 5

  
Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress

  
Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress

  
Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

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

November 1, 2021

Mr. Joseph C. Murphy, Jr.  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Western District of Tennessee  
167 North Main Street, Suite 800  
Memphis, TN 38103

Dear Mr. Murphy:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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Mr. Joseph C. Murphy, Jr.

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During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



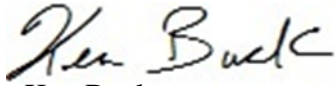
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Mr. Joseph C. Murphy, Jr.

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November 1, 2021

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Acting U.S. Attorney  
Middle District of Tennessee  
110 9th Avenue South, Suite A-961  
Nashville, TN 37203

Dear Ms. Stewart:

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Ms. Mary Jane Stewart

November 1, 2021

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Sincerely,



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November 1, 2021

Mr. Nicholas J. Ganjei  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Eastern District of Texas  
101 E. Park Boulevard, Suite 500  
Plano, TX 75074

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November 1, 2021

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November 1, 2021

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U.S. Attorney  
Western District of Texas  
601 NW Loop 410, Suite 600  
San Antonio, TX 78216

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During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

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Ms. Ashley C. Hoff

November 1, 2021

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
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Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet





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Ms. Ashley C. Hoff

November 1, 2021

Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
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Cliff Bentz  
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Burgess Owens  
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

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

November 1, 2021

Ms. Jennifer Lowery  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Southern District of Texas  
1000 Louisiana, Suite 2300  
Houston, TX 77002

Dear Ms. Lowery:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

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Ms. Jennifer Lowery

November 1, 2021

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Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
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judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

Mr. Chad E. Meacham  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Northern District of Texas  
1100 Commerce Street, Third Floor  
Dallas, TX 75242

Dear Mr. Meacham:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

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November 1, 2021

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Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

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Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



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Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
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November 1, 2021

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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

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COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

Ms. Andrea T. Martinez  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of Utah  
111 South Main Street  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

Dear Ms. Martinez:

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November 1, 2021

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Member of Congress



Michelle Fischbach  
Member of Congress



Victoria Spartz  
Member of Congress

Ms. Andrea T. Martinez

November 1, 2021

Page 5



Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

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

November 1, 2021

The Honorable Jessica D. Aber  
U.S. Attorney  
Eastern District of Virginia  
101 W. Main Street, Suite 8000  
Norfolk, VA 23510

Dear Ms. Aber:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



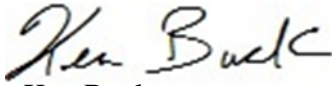
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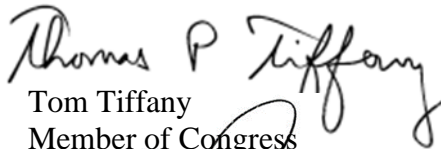
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November 1, 2021

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U.S. Attorney  
Western District of Virginia  
P.O. Box 1709  
Roanoke, VA 24008

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The Honorable Christopher R. Kavanaugh

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Sincerely,



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November 1, 2021

Ms. Gretchen C.F. Shappert  
U.S. Attorney  
District of The Virgin Islands  
5500 Veterans Drive, Room 260  
St. Thomas, VI 00802

Dear Ms. Shappert:

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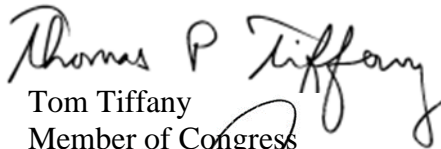
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November 1, 2021

Mr. Jonathan A. Ophardt  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of Vermont  
11 Elmwood Avenue, 3rd Floor, P.O. Box 570  
Burlington, VT 05402

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Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

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Mr. Jonathan A. Ophardt

November 1, 2021

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet





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Mr. Jonathan A. Ophardt

November 1, 2021

Page 5

  
Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress

  
Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress

  
Burgess Owens  
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

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

November 1, 2021

The Honorable Nicholas W. Brown  
U.S. Attorney  
Western District of Washington  
700 Stewart Street, Suite 5220  
Seattle, WA 98101

Dear Mr. Brown:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

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A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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The Honorable Nicholas W. Brown

November 1, 2021

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The Honorable Nicholas W. Brown

November 1, 2021

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Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
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Darrell Issa  
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Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
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The Honorable Nicholas W. Brown

November 1, 2021

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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
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2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
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November 1, 2021

The Honorable Vanessa R. Waldref  
U.S. Attorney  
Eastern District of Washington  
P.O. Box 1494  
Spokane, WA 99210

Dear Ms. Waldref:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that “malice, violence, and threats” against school officials “could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes.”<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

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Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



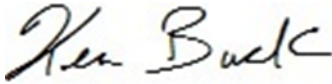
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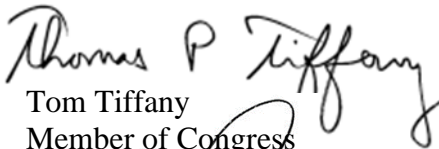
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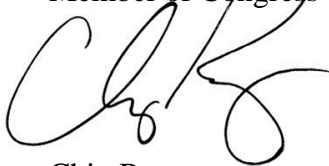
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The Honorable Vanessa R. Waldref

November 1, 2021

Page 5



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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

Mr. Richard G. Frohling  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Eastern District of Wisconsin  
517 E. Wisconsin Ave, Suite 530  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mr. Frohling:

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If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
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Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet



Ken Buck  
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Mr. Richard G. Frohling

November 1, 2021


Page 5



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Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
**Congress of the United States**  
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COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216  
(202) 225-3951  
judiciary.house.gov

November 1, 2021

Mr. Timothy M. O'Shea  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
Western District of Wisconsin  
222 West Washington Avenue, Suite 700  
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Mr. O'Shea:

We are continuing to investigate the troubling attempts by the Department of Justice and the White House to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement to target concerned parents at local school board meetings and chill their protected First Amendment activity. Because the Department directed you, along with all other U.S. Attorneys, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to take action to address parents attending school board meetings,<sup>1</sup> we respectfully request your assistance with our investigation.

On September 29, 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Joe Biden requesting help from the federal government with concerned parents voicing their opinions at school board meetings.<sup>2</sup> The NSBA letter stated that "malice, violence, and threats" against school officials "could be the equivalent of a form of domestic terrorism or hate crimes."<sup>3</sup> The letter cited a number of interactions at school board meetings, none of which rose to the level of domestic terrorism. In fact, the vast majority of incidents cited by the NSBA did not involve threats or violence.<sup>4</sup> Most notably, as an example of domestic terrorism, the NSBA cited an incident in which a father angrily confronted members at a school board meeting in Loudoun County, Virginia about the heinous sexual assault of his daughter.<sup>5</sup>

A mere five days after the NSBA sent its letter to President Biden, on October 4, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland issued a shocking memorandum that directed the FBI and

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Mr. Timothy M. O’Shea

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During Attorney General Garland’s testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: “I don’t know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place.”<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted “there have been meetings in every jurisdiction,” but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General’s directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General’s testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: “On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter.”<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

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Sincerely,



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Ranking Member



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Member of Congress



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Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
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Mr. Timothy M. O'Shea

November 1, 2021

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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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November 1, 2021

The Honorable William J. Ihlenfeld, II  
U.S. Attorney  
Northern District of West Virginia  
1125 Chapline Street, Suite 3000  
Wheeling, WV 26003

Dear Mr. Ihlenfeld:

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U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

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Sincerely,



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Louie Gohmert  
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Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
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The Honorable William J. Ihlenfeld, II

November 1, 2021


Page 5



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cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
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Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
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November 1, 2021

The Honorable William S. Thompson  
U.S. Attorney  
Southern District of West Virginia  
300 Virginia Street, Suite 4000  
Charleston, WV 25301

Dear Mr. Thompson:

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The Honorable William S. Thompson

November 1, 2021

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Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys

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November 1, 2021

Mr. L. Robert Murray  
Acting U.S. Attorney  
District of Wyoming  
2120 Capitol Avenue, Suite 4000  
Cheyenne, WY 82001

Dear Mr. Murray:

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Page 2

U.S. Attorneys' Offices to "convene meetings" in your judicial district "with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial leaders" within 30 days.<sup>6</sup> The Justice Department simultaneously issued a press release indicating that the Attorney General's directive would "open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement"—in other words, create a snitch line for complaints about concerned parents.<sup>7</sup>

During Attorney General Garland's testimony before our Committee on October 21, he appeared to have no idea whether the U.S. Attorney meetings he ordered were actually taking place. He stated: "I don't know whether [the meetings] are ongoing, but I expect and hope that they are going . . . because I did ask that they take place."<sup>8</sup> Attorney General Garland testified that he doubted "there have been meetings in every jurisdiction," but reiterated his belief that it is important for federal law enforcement authorities to conduct these meetings in every judicial district.<sup>9</sup> According to the Attorney General's directives, meetings are to be convened in all 94 judicial districts by November 3, 2021, at the latest.

Following the Attorney General's testimony, the NSBA Board of Directors, apparently recognizing the ill-conceived consequences of its letter and the resulting Justice Department action, issued a new memorandum to its members apologizing for the letter, stating: "On behalf of NSBA, we regret and apologize for the letter."<sup>10</sup> (emphasis in original). Although Attorney General Garland testified that the NSBA letter to President Biden was the basis for his October 4 directive to insert federal law enforcement into local school board matters, the Attorney General has yet to rescind his memorandum. His directives to you and other U.S. Attorneys remain in effect.

Concerned parents voicing their strong opposition to controversial curricula at local schools are not domestic terrorists. Parents have an undisputed right to direct the upbringing and education of their children.<sup>11</sup> When parents, however, cross the line to commit a violent act or issue a criminal threat,<sup>12</sup> state and local authorities are best-equipped to handle these violations of state law. But we must not tolerate the use of the federal law enforcement apparatus to intimidate and silence parents using their Constitutional rights to advocate for their child's future.

To assist our investigation and determine whether these meetings are ongoing, we request that you provide the following documents and information:

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<sup>6</sup> Memorandum from Atty Gen. Merrick Garland, U.S. Dep't of Justice, Partnership Among Federal, State, Local, Tribal, And Territorial Law Enforcement to Address Threats Against School Administrators, Board Members, Teachers, and Staff (Oct. 4, 2021).

<sup>7</sup> Press Release, U.S. Dep't of Justice, Justice Department Addresses Violent Threats Against School Officials and Teachers (Oct. 4, 2021).

<sup>8</sup> *Oversight of the United States Department of Justice: Hearing Before the H. comm. on the Judiciary*, 117th Cong. at 94 (2021) (testimony from Hon. Merrick Garland, Atty Gen., U.S. Dep't of Justice).

<sup>9</sup> *Id.* at 95.

<sup>10</sup> Memorandum from NSBA Board of Directors, Message to NSBA Members (Oct. 22, 2021).

<sup>11</sup> *Troxel v. Granville*, 530 U.S. 57, 65 (2000) (citing *Meyer v. Nebraska*, 262 U.S. 390, 399 (1923)).

<sup>12</sup> *Merrick Garland's federal offense*, WALL ST. J. (Oct. 6, 2021).

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1. All documents and communications referring or relating to convening meeting(s) in your judicial district in accordance with the Attorney General's October 4, 2021 memorandum;
2. All agendas, minutes, and notes created or relied upon by U.S. Attorney's Office employees referring or relating to meeting(s) in your judicial district in accordance with the Attorney General's October 4, 2021 memorandum;
3. Please explain when meeting(s) in your judicial district in accordance with the Attorney General's October 4, 2021 memorandum have occurred or will occur;
4. Please identify by name and title of all U.S. Attorney's Office employees involved in the meeting(s) in your judicial district in accordance with the Attorney General's October 4, 2021 memorandum ;
5. Please identify all federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial organizations invited to or that have attended the meetings convened in your judicial district in accordance with the October 4, 2021 memorandum; and
6. Please provide all recommendations, both formal and informal, and any meeting minutes produced at the meeting(s) in your judicial district in accordance with the Attorney General's October 4, 2021 memorandum.

Please provide this material as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress

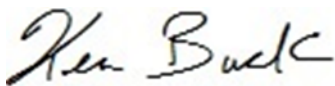


Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual  
Property, and the Internet





Ken Buck  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial  
and Administrative Law



Matt Gaetz  
Member of Congress



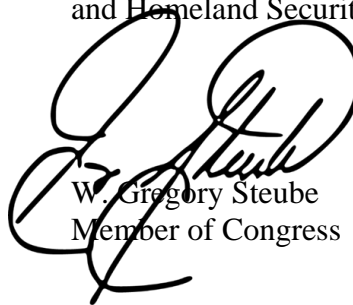
Mike Johnson  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on the Constitution,  
Civil Rights and Civil Liberties



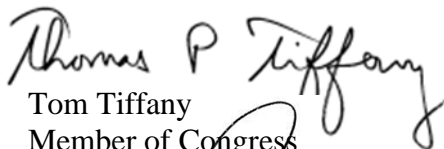
Andy Biggs  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism  
and Homeland Security



Tom McClintock  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Immigration  
and Citizenship



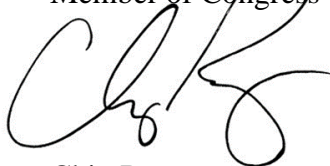
W. Gregory Steube  
Member of Congress



Tom Tiffany  
Member of Congress



Thomas Massie  
Member of Congress



Chip Roy  
Member of Congress



Dan Bishop  
Member of Congress



Michelle Fischbach  
Member of Congress



Victoria Spartz  
Member of Congress

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Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler  
Chairman

Mr. Monty Wilkinson  
Director, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys