

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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December 9, 2015

The Honorable Jeh C. Johnson
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Please find enclosed a copy of the Committee's report on the Secret Service (USSS). The Committee adopted the report this morning in a unanimous vote. This report—which is the product of a year-long, bipartisan investigation—identifies vulnerabilities that must be addressed in order for the Secret Service to successfully fulfill its critical mission.

The Secret Service's mission is of primary importance to our national security. Many of the problems identified in this report have plagued the agency for a long time and need to be corrected. The security of the President and other protectees is too important for these problems to persist.

This report includes twenty-six recommendations for USSS. We request that you provide regular updates on the status of implementing those recommendations. For example, the report finds that the Secret Service is experiencing a staffing crisis that threatens to jeopardize its critical mission. The report identifies several recommendations to expedite hiring, improve morale, and decrease attrition. The Committee requests that USSS report to Congress on a quarterly basis on its ongoing efforts to address this staffing crisis. These updates should include the information on attrition and use of non-USSS personnel for protective mission duties that we requested on August 7, 2015.

The Committee is sending similar letters to White House Chief of Staff Denis McDonough and the House and Senate Appropriations Committees.

Our report is intended to be a constructive tool for reform. We look forward to working together with you, the White House, Director Clancy, and the Appropriations Committees to ensure that USSS is able to restore its position as the nation's preeminent law enforcement agency.

Sincerely,



Jason Chaffetz
Chairman



Elijah E. Cummings
Ranking Member

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Enclosure

cc: Denis McDonough
White House Chief of Staff

The Honorable Joseph Clancy, Director
U.S. Secret Service

The Honorable Harold Rogers, Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Nita M. Lowey, Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations