

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

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November 21, 2022

Director Rahul Gupta
Office of National Drug Control Policy
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Director Gupta:

Committee Republicans are continuing to investigate how Biden Administration policies have created the worst border crisis in American history. Recent years have seen record-shattering border trafficking of deadly narcotics like fentanyl and unprecedented levels of fentanyl-related deaths in the U.S. ONDCP's response to our previous letter on January 11, 2022, was only partially responsive to the questions we asked. As we look to the 118th Congress, Committee Republicans intend to continue prioritizing this investigation. It is important that the American people, and their elected lawmakers, understand the role Biden Administration policies have played in fueling the border and fentanyl crises, and what the Administration's plan is, if any, to reverse course and resolve the situation. We therefore reiterate our previous requests for information and additionally request supporting documentation.

On January 11, 2022, we requested information from ONDCP regarding the Biden Administration's policies that have exacerbated the fentanyl crisis.¹ ONDCP provided an incomplete narrative response. Committee Republicans refuse to allow the Biden Administration's lack of border enforcement and the ensuing drug cartels to destroy the lives of hundreds of Americans. Americans have a right to know whether their taxpayer dollars are supporting strong drug interdiction policies and programs that effectively work to prevent drug abuse and deaths in the U.S. The U.S. had made some gains in the opioid crisis, but it appears those have been diminished or wiped out by the fentanyl trafficking. Each day there is a new headline about skyrocketing supply, rainbow fentanyl, and overdose deaths increasing dramatically. The increase in trafficking is a direct result of President Biden's open border policies and the American people deserve transparency and accountability.

ONDCP possesses information critical to this investigation. We look forward to working with your office to deliver the information we requested in our prior letter. Please provide the documents and information requested, and prioritize the following requests for production,

¹ Letter from James Comer, Ranking Member, H. Comm. on Oversight & Reform, et. al. to Rahul Gupta, Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy, (Jan. 21, 2022) available at <https://republicans-oversight.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Letter-to-ONDCP-re-Fentanyl.pdf>.

covering the time period January 20, 2021 to the present, as soon as possible but no later than December 5, 2022:

1. All documents and communications containing any accounting of how much illicit fentanyl and fentanyl related substances are estimated to cross the border without detection or interception by U.S. law enforcement;
2. All documents and communications regarding how the Biden Administration's immigration policies have affected the trafficking of illicit drugs such as fentanyl and fentanyl-related substances crossing the U.S. southern border;
3. All documents and communications containing any analysis of how COVID-19 related lockdowns contributed to the increased use and trafficking of illicit fentanyl, fentanyl-related substances, and other dangerous drugs;
4. All documents and communications regarding how ONDCP has addressed the illegal purchase and distribution of illicit fentanyl and fentanyl-related substances through online marketplaces and dark web marketplaces; and
5. All documents and communications related to ONDCP's current counternarcotic efforts with the People's Republic of China to reduce the manufacture and export of illicit fentanyl, fentanyl-related substances, and precursor chemicals directly from China to the U.S, Canada, and/or Mexico.

To schedule the delivery of responsive documents or ask any related follow-up questions, please contact Committee on Oversight and Reform Republican Staff at (202) 225-5074. The Committee on Oversight and Reform is the principal oversight committee of the U.S. House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate "any matter" at "any time" under House Rule X. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this inquiry.

Sincerely,



James Comer
Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Reform

cc: The Honorable Carolyn Maloney, Chairwoman
Committee on Oversight and Reform