Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM 2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

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June 13, 2025

The Honorable Pam Bondi Attorney General Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20530 The Honorable Kash Patel Director Federal Bureau of Investigation 935 Pennsylvania Ave N.W. Washington, DC 20535

Dear Attorney General Bondi and Director Patel:

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is investigating the recent actions of rioters in Los Angeles, and the responses of the State of California and City of Los Angeles.¹ On June 6, 2025, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) began executing federal search warrants in downtown Los Angeles, near a federal immigration detention center. In response, hundreds of protesters gathered to interfere with the execution of a lawful search warrant.² U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and ICE officers were forced to fire pepper spray to disperse crowds and made dozens of arrests.³ Continued federal law enforcement activity the next day throughout other parts of Los Angeles County was met with more violent clashes as protests turned into violent riots against law enforcement officers executing their duties.⁴

The rioters in Los Angeles committed vicious acts of violence and fearmongering directed at law enforcement and others. They set fire to vehicles and property around the city and assaulted officers with deadly weapons such as rocks and Molotov cocktails.⁵ Assaults on law enforcement officers legally executing their orders are reprehensible and those responsible must be held accountable.

In response to this violence, on June 8, 2025, President Donald Trump deployed the National Guard. Governor Gavin Newsom and Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass protested President Trump's action to quell the violence in Los Angeles, even resorting to falsely blaming

¹ Bora Erden et al., *Maps and Timeline of L.A. Immigration Protests and the Federal Response*, THE NEW YORK TIMES (last updated June 10, 2025).

² *Id*.

 $^{^3}$ Id.

⁴ *Id*.

⁵ See Gavin Newsom Sues Trump Over National Guard Mobilization, Says President 'Manufactured' Crisis in California, TIME (Jun. 9, 2025).

⁶ 10 U.S.C § 12406; see also Shawn Hubler & Lauren Rosenhall, Trump Is Calling Up National Guard Troops Under a Rarely Used Law, N.Y. TIMES (June 7, 2025).

The Honorable Pam Bondi The Honorable Kash Patel June 13, 2025 Page 2 of 3

him for the actions of violent rioters. ⁷ Governor Newsom falsely claimed that state and local law enforcement had protests under control; ⁸ however, police were clearly unable to quell the violence in Los Angeles prior to the arrival of the National Guardsmen. ⁹

Governor Newsom champions California's sanctuary policies, which prevent local law enforcement's cooperation with federal immigration authorities. ¹⁰ Governor Newsom also made it clear that he intends to block the objectives of the federal government, and defend all aliens, regardless of their immigration status, criminal activity, anti-American views, or incitement to riot. ¹¹

To assist the Committee's oversight of this matter, we request a staff-level briefing as soon as possible but no later than June 20, 2025, and the following documents and communications as soon as possible but no later than June 27, 2025:

- 1) All documents related to violence against law enforcement officers in California from June 6, 2025 to the present;
- 2) All records and communications regarding the source of weapons (including rocks and cinderblocks) used by rioters; and
- 3) All documents and communications related to the response of state and local law enforcement to the riots that began on June 6, 2025.

The Committee on Oversight and Government 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. To arrange for delivery of documents or to ask any related follow up questions, please contact the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform Majority staff at (202) 225-5074. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

⁷ Ana Faguy, Newsom says Trump 'deranged' as thousands more troops sent to LA, BBC (Jun. 10, 2025) https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cyvmz3egr7do; see also Los Angeles mayor Karen Bass reacts to federalized National Guard troops in her city, NPR (Jun. 8, 2025).

⁸ Annabelle Timsit et al., When have presidents called in the National Guard to quell domestic unrest?, THE WASHINGTON POST (Jun. 9, 2025).

⁹ Jared Downing et al., LA anti-ICE rioters enrage locals with revolting anti-American displays and contempt for law and order: 'Everything that is happening is very bad', NEW YORK POST (Jun. 9, 2025); see also supra note 10. ¹⁰ Cal Gov't Code § 7284.6; See also Yue Stella Yu, California Democrats grow quieter on 'sanctuary' for immigrants as Trump promises mass deportation, CAL MATTERS (Feb. 26, 2025). ¹¹ Id.

The Honorable Pam Bondi The Honorable Kash Patel June 13, 2025 Page 3 of 3

Sincerely,

James Comer

Chairman

Clay Higgins Chairman

Subcommittee on Federal Law Enforcement

ce: The Honorable Stephen Lynch, Ranking Member Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

The Honorable Summer Lee, Ranking Member Subcommittee on Federal Law Enforcement