

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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June 13, 2025

Mayor Karen Bass
City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mayor Bass:

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is investigating the actions of rioters in Los Angeles, and the response of the City of Los Angeles and State of California.¹ On June 6, 2025, ICE began executing immigration enforcement actions in Downtown Los Angeles, near a federal immigration detention center, and in response hundreds of protesters gathered to interfere with the execution of a lawful search warrant.² 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 have 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 dealt with in accordance with the severity of their actions.

In response to this violence, President Trump deployed the National Guard on June 8, 2025.⁶ Governor Gavin Newsom and yourself have protested President Trump's action to quell the violence caused by the rioters in Los Angeles, even resorting to falsely blaming him for the actions of violent rioters.⁷ Claims were made that state and local law enforcement had protests

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).

⁷ Ana Faguy, *Newsom says Trump 'deranged' as thousands more troops sent to LA*, BBC (Jun. 10, 2025).

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under control,⁸ however, police were clearly unable to quell the violence in Los Angeles prior to the arrival of the National Guardsmen.⁹

You have championed California's sanctuary policies, which prevent local law enforcement's cooperation with federal immigration authorities.¹⁰ You have also made it clear that you intend to block the objectives of the federal government, and defend 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 documents and communications from June 1, 2025 to present, as soon as possible but no later than June 27, 2025:

- 1) All documents and communications between your office and the office of Governor Gavin Newsom related to the riots;
- 2) All documents and communications between your office and state law enforcement related to the riots;
- 3) All documents and communications between your office and local law enforcement agencies related to the riots; and
- 4) All documents and communications between your office and federal entities related to the riots.
- 5) All records and communications, including video and dispatch logs, regarding the source of weapons (including rocks and cinderblocks) used by rioters.

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.

⁸ Annabelle Timsit et al., *When have presidents called in the National Guard to quell domestic unrest?*, THE WASH. 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'*, N.Y. POST (Jun. 9, 2025); *see also* Hubler & Rosenhall, *supra* note 8; *see also* Los Angeles mayor Karen Bass reacts to federalized National Guard troops in her city, NPR (Jun. 8, 2025).

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 Nancy Loo, *LA rushes to become sanctuary city prior to Trump presidency*, NEWSNATION (Nov. 19, 2024).

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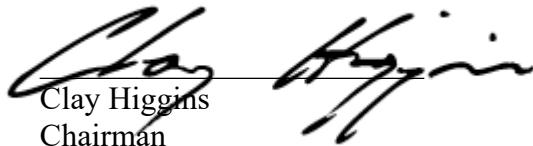
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Sincerely,



James Comer
Chairman



Clay Higgins
Chairman
Subcommittee on Federal Law Enforcement

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

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