



CITIZENS FOR
RESPONSIBILITY &
ETHICS IN WASHINGTON

January 15, 2026

The Honorable Andrew Garbarino
Chairman
U.S. House Committee on
Homeland Security
H2-176 Ford House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rand Paul
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland
Security & Governmental Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bennie Thompson
Ranking Member
U.S. House Committee on
Homeland Security
H2-117 Ford House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Gary Peters
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland
Security & Governmental Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairmen Garbarino and Paul and Ranking Members Thompson and Peters,

I write to implore you to use the authority of your committees to conduct robust oversight of the unprecedented deployment of more than 2,000 federal agents to Minnesota by the Trump administration to support Department of Homeland Security (DHS) operations,¹ to review the immigration-related activities and tactics by DHS agents in other states and to specifically and immediately investigate any policy or procedural failures surrounding the fatal shooting of Renee Nicole Good by an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agent, including the response and subsequent actions of federal authorities, as well as other reported shootings of civilians by DHS agents in other cities this year.²

¹ Nicole Sganga, *Minnesotans speak out about fatal ICE shooting of Renee Good: "This is not a time for us to be silent,"* CBS News (Jan. 11, 2026), <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/minnesotans-speak-out-about-fatal-ice-shooting-of-renee-good-this-is-not-a-time-for-us-to-be-silent/>.

² Jonathan Baran, Aaron C. Davis and Jarrett Ley, *The ICE agent's cellphone video: Five key moments*, Washington Post, (Jan. 9 2026), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/investigations/2026/01/09/moments-before-ice-shooting-minneapolis/>; Chantelle Lee, *What We Know About the People Shot by Federal Agents in Minneapolis and Portland*, Time (Jan. 9, 2026),

The key facts and circumstances related to the killing of Ms. Good, which have been widely reported, are more than enough to merit congressional attention. First and foremost, an American citizen—a 37 year old mother of three—was killed by an agent of the United States government who works for an executive branch department that your committees oversee.³ Second, the killing of Ms. Good took place in the context of heightened tensions between state residents and federal authorities amidst what is being described as the biggest ever immigration enforcement deployment by DHS, and public unrest over this deployment and the shooting is continuing to grow.⁴ Third, on the day of the Minnesota shooting, speaking as if the case was already closed, Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem seemed to unequivocally conclude that the killing was justified and told the public that Ms. Good was engaged in an act of “domestic terrorism,”⁵ despite apparent evidence to the contrary.⁶

The details of recent incidents involving federal law enforcement officers shooting American citizens, as well as DHS leadership’s quick and unequivocal defense without a complete and closed investigation, is alarming and demands thorough oversight. As Republican Senator Thom Tillis (N.C.) observed, “[i]t was very unusual to have a senior law enforcement official to draw a conclusion about an event where the scene was still being processed.”⁷ Lastly, in an extraordinary maneuver, the state of Minnesota is being denied access to independently investigate the killing of one of its residents within its borders.⁸ Video footage of Ms. Good’s shooting raises numerous questions that need to be answered and your committee is in a prime position to get much needed answers to them.⁹ For

<https://time.com/7345200/ice-shooting-border-patrol-minneapolis-portland-renee-good-luis-moncada-yorlenys-zambrano-contreras/>.

³ Tim Stelloh, Minyvonne Burke and Selina Guevara, *Woman fatally shot by ICE officer remembered as ‘one of the kindest people’*, NBC News (Jan. 7, 2026),

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/renee-nicole-good-minneapolis-ice-shooting-victim-caring-neighbor-rcna252901>.

⁴ Rebecca Santana, *Protests against ICE spread across U.S. after shootings in Minneapolis and Portland*, PBS News (Jan. 10,

2026), <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/protests-against-ice-spread-across-u-s-after-shootings-in-minneapolis-and-portland>

⁵ Associated Press, *WATCH: Noem defends fatal ICE shooting of Minneapolis woman in remarks to reporters*, PBS News (Jan. 7, 2026),

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/watch-live-noem-holds-news-conference-in-minneapolis-after-fatal-ice-shooting-of-woman>.

⁶ Curt Devine, Thomas Bordeaux, Allison Gordon and Kyung Lah, *Cell phone footage raises new questions about ICE agent’s tactics before fatal shooting*, CNN (Jan. 9, 2026),

<https://www.cnn.com/2026/01/09/us/ice-shooting-minneapolis-renee-good-cell-phone-invs>.

⁷ Sarah Fortinsky, *Noem defends ‘domestic terrorism’ assessment in Minneapolis ICE shooting*, The Hill (Jan. 11, 2026), <https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/5683488-noem-defends-ice-shooting/>

⁸ Associated Press, *Minnesota officials say they can’t access evidence after fatal ICE shooting and FBI won’t work jointly on investigation*, PBS News (Jan. 8, 2026),

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/minnesota-officials-say-they-cant-access-evidence-after-fatal-ice-shooting-and-fbi-wont-work-jointly-on-investigation>.

⁹ Curt Devine, Thomas Bordeaux, Allison Gordon and Kyung Lah, *Cell phone footage raises new questions about ICE agent’s tactics before fatal shooting*, CNN (Jan. 9, 2026),

<https://www.cnn.com/2026/01/09/us/ice-shooting-minneapolis-renee-good-cell-phone-invs>.

example: How are these agents selected and hired? What is their training and qualification before being deployed into tense situations? What discipline are the agents involved in this incident facing as a consequence for Ms. Good's death? These are all questions the public must have answered. At this critical moment for the nation and for DHS, the agency needs robust oversight from Congress, especially since the DHS inspector general has himself been cited for official misconduct.¹⁰

Indeed, Congress—and your committees—would be abdicating their responsibility to the American people, and to the American citizen who lost her life and others injured by law enforcement, if it did not seek a full understanding of DHS's operations in Minnesota and other states.

Congress has the legal authority and indeed responsibility to conduct oversight of the executive branch and its agencies, as implied in the U.S. Constitution and confirmed on several occasions by the Supreme Court.¹¹ It is imperative that your committees exercise that solemn responsibility here and, in the wake of this tragedy, ensure accountability to the Constitution and the laws of the United States.

Sincerely,



Donald K. Sherman
Executive Director and Chief Counsel
Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington

¹⁰ Sean Michael Newhouse, *DHS IG committed 'substantial misconduct,' governmental watchdog finds*, Government Executive (Oct. 4, 2024), <https://www.govexec.com/oversight/2024/10/dhs-ig-committed-substantial-misconduct-governmental-watchdog-finds/400068/>.

¹¹ Cong. Rsch. Serv., *Congressional Oversight Manual* (2022), <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/RL/RL30240>; *McGrain v. Daugherty*, 273 U.S. 135 (1927).