



One Hundred Nineteenth Congress
Committee on Homeland Security
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

May 30, 2025

The Honorable Kristi Noem
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Secretary Noem:

We write regarding recent reports that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has requested funding for a new U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Gulfstream V jet, primarily for your use.¹ Reports indicate this jet would cost \$50 million and replace one of the two Gulfstream jets already at your disposal.²

Funding the acquisition of this new jet would come at the cost of other USCG investments, including sorely needed modernization of the USCG's aging aircraft fleet used by service members for search and rescue and other critical missions. According to an April 2024 Government Accountability Office (GAO) report, many USCG aircraft entered service in the 1980s and 1990s³—making them significantly older than the Gulfstream jet you are looking to replace, which entered service in 2002.⁴ Some USCG helicopters are so old that the service has faced difficulty with obtaining spare parts because the manufacturer no longer produces them.⁵ According to GAO, USCG failed to meet its targets for aircraft fleet availability during fiscal years 2018 through 2022, when availability ranged from only 66 to 68 percent.⁶ Simply put, your purchase of a new jet would directly diminish the availability of other USCG aircraft to carry out critical missions.

We know President Trump has set a high bar for wasteful luxury travel by government officials with his unconstitutional attempt to personally acquire a \$400 million jet from a foreign

¹ Marianne LeVine and Dan Lamothe, "Trump wants a new plane. Now, so does Homeland Security Secretary Noem," *The Washington Post*, May 15, 2025, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/immigration/2025/05/14/noem-plane-gulfstream-coast-guard/>.

² *Id.*

³ "Coast Guard: Aircraft Fleet and Aviation Workforce Assessments Needed (GAO-24-106374)," *Government Accountability Office*, April 2024, <https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-24-106374.pdf>.

⁴ LeVine and Lamothe, *supra* note 1.

⁵ GAO, *supra* note 3.

⁶ *Id.*

government.⁷ That does not mean members of his Cabinet must follow suit. Your desire to travel in luxury should not eclipse the need for USCG service members to fly safely and conduct lifesaving missions.

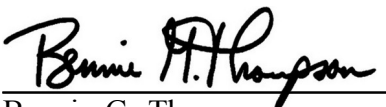
Pursuant to Rule X of the House of Representatives, please provide answers to the following questions not later than June 13, 2025:

1. What is the expected service life of the two Gulfstream jets currently at your disposal?
2. How many USCG aircraft have a service life expiration date prior to the service life expiration of these two Gulfstream jets? Please provide a breakdown by individual aircraft.
3. Please provide a breakdown of the use of these two jets since your time in office to include dates and times of each flight, departure and arrival locations, and the names and titles of all individuals onboard.

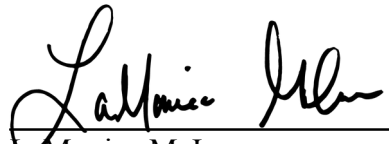
Per Rule X of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security is the principal committee of jurisdiction for overall homeland security policy and has special oversight of “all Government activities relating to homeland security, including the interaction of all departments and agencies within the Department of Homeland Security.”

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Bennie G. Thompson
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland
Security



LaMonica McIver
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on
Transportation and Maritime
Security

⁷ Claudia Grisales and Deirdre Walsh, “Republicans voice concern over Trump’s support for a new Air Force One from Qatar,” *NPR*, May 14, 2025, <https://www.npr.org/2025/05/14/nx-s1-5398099/trump-qatar-air-force-one-republicans-congress>.