



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

July 10, 2026

The Honorable Markwayne Mullin
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Mullin:

As Members of the Committee on Homeland Security with jurisdiction over the Department of Homeland Security (DHS),¹ we are investigating the fatal shooting of Mr. Lorenzo Salgado Araujo, as well as the Trump administration's response to his killing.

On July 7, 2026, an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officer in Houston, Texas shot and killed Mr. Salgado Araujo, a father of three American children who had lived in the United States for nearly 35 years, as he drove his crew of construction workers to a job site.² Mr. Salgado Araujo had no criminal history³ and, according to news reports, was not the target of ICE's enforcement operation.⁴

DHS has claimed Mr. Salgado Araujo "attempted to evade arrest" and "rammed an ICE law enforcement vehicle, refused to follow multiple verbal commands, and weaponized his vehicle in an attempt to run over an ICE law enforcement officer resulting in our officer firing his weapon in self-defense."⁵ However, the Trump administration and DHS have used excessive and deadly force in the recent past, to include the tragic, unlawful shootings of American citizens Renee Good, Alex Pretti, and Marimar Martinez, and issued false and misleading statements in an attempt to justify those shootings.⁶

¹ Section 3(g) of Rule X of the U.S. House of Representatives (119th Cong., 2025).

² Lekan Oyekanmi, Jack Brook, and Jeffrey Collins, *What to know about the fatal shooting of a Houston man by an ICE officer*, AP NEWS (Jul. 09, 2026), <https://apnews.com/article/ice-shooting-salgado-araujo-houston-7f8b3218b97c63388fc016b3da9718ee>.

³ *Id.*

⁴ Dalia Faheid, Chris Boyette, Priscilla Alvarez, and Caroll Alvarado, *Mexican man fatally shot by ICE was not the target of Houston immigration operation, source says*, CNN (Jul. 09, 2026), <https://www.cnn.com/2026/07/09/us/lorenzo-salgado-araujo-houston-ice-shooting>.

⁵ Homeland Security (@DHSgov), X (Jul. 07, 2026, at 10:47 PM), <https://x.com/DHSgov/status/2074626271716216846>.

⁶ See Adam Serwer, *First the Shooting. Then the Lies.*, THE ATLANTIC (Jan. 8, 2026), <https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/2026/01/ice-defense-minnesota-killing/685549/>; Allison Detzel, *'Flat-Out Lie': Former FBI Agent Says Videos Contradict DHS' Narrative of Pretti Shooting*, MS NOW (Jan. 26, 2026),

Indeed, witnesses to the shooting of Mr. Salgado Araujo paint a different picture than DHS's claims. Passengers in the vehicle assert that Mr. Salgado Araujo never attempted to ram officers with his vehicle and that "[ICE] came in and started shooting from the sides".⁷ ICE has allegedly encouraged these witnesses, Mr. Salgado Araujo's brother and two of their co-workers, to sign paperwork for self-deportation from the United States.⁸ This is incredibly concerning, as these men would be critical to any investigation into the fatal shooting.

We demand that you immediately turn over to the Committee the following information:

1. All video footage that is in DHS's possession, including any body-worn camera footage, from the scene where an ICE officer fatally shot Mr. Salgado Araujo.
2. If there is no body-worn camera footage, an explanation of why such footage was not recorded.
3. A list of all Federal law enforcement agencies present at the scene of the shooting, including the number of agents or officers present from each agency.
4. A description of the identification the Federal law enforcement officers were wearing at the scene of the shooting.
5. A description of any law enforcement markings or identification on the vehicles engaged in the pursuit of Mr. Salgado Araujo.
6. A description of how the Federal law enforcement officers on scene identified themselves to the occupants of the vehicle prior to the shooting.
7. Information on the current employment status and years of service of the ICE officer who shot Mr. Salgado Araujo, to include whether he or she is on administrative duty.
8. A list and description of any previous complaints against or use of force incidents involving the ICE officer who shot Mr. Salgado Araujo.
9. Evidence of injuries, if any, to the ICE officer who shot Mr. Salgado Araujo.
10. Evidence of damage to the vehicles, if any, involved in the pursuit and arrest of Mr. Salgado Araujo.
11. Evidence of damage to Mr. Salgado Araujo's vehicle, to include all damage from weapons.
12. Information regarding whether Mr. Araujo was an initial target of the ICE enforcement operation in Houston on July 7, to include an explanation, if relevant, for why he was an initial target of the operation.
13. If Mr. Salgado was not an initial target of the operation, a description of when and why he became a target during the operation.

<https://www.ms.now/news/alex-pretti-shooting-evidence-minneapolis-indictment-video-trump>; Hannah Schoenbaum, *Minnesota shooting of Venezuelan man is the latest where video evidence contradicts ICE accounts*, AP NEWS (Feb. 13, 2026), <https://apnews.com/article/immigration-agent-shootings-minneapolis-chicago-c062100e0432bff06a6f7b7b26a831e8>.

⁷ Arelis Hernandez, *Migrants who saw man killed by ICE in Houston say he did not ram officers*, THE WASHINGTON POST, (Jul. 10, 2026), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/immigration/2026/07/10/migrants-who-saw-man-killed-by-ice-houston-say-he-did-not-ram-officers/>.

⁸ Alex Woodward, *ICE 'pressuring' Lorenzo Salgado Araujo shooting witnesses to self-deport. It's a tactic the Trump team has used before*, INDEPENDENT (Jul. 09, 2026), <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/lorenzo-salgado-araujo-ice-shooting-witnesses-self-deport-b3012316.html>.

14. Information regarding if the fatal shooting is being investigated both criminally and administratively, to include, if relevant, the agency that is conducting each type of investigation.
15. If the fatal shooting is being not investigated criminally or administratively, an explanation for why an investigation is not being conducted.
16. Information regarding whether any ICE employee has discussed voluntary departure or self-deportation with any witness to the shooting, to include any paperwork that was provided to the witnesses regarding this possibility.
17. Information regarding whether any of the witnesses to the shooting have been removed from the United States or signed paperwork for their removal.

In addition to our demand for immediate records production, this letter serves as notice of an ongoing congressional investigation and that you are to preserve, in accordance with all applicable Federal laws, all records relating to the use of deadly force by DHS law enforcement during any immigration enforcement operation, as well as any future incidents in which deadly force is used.

As you are aware, the Federal Records Act (FRA) requires that all departments and agencies in the Executive Branch collect, retain, and preserve records that document “the transaction of public business” or contain “informational value.”⁹ The Committee writes to remind you and the entire Department of your obligations under the FRA.

Under 44 U.S.C. § 3101, the head of each Federal agency is required to “make and preserve records containing adequate and proper documentation of the organization, functions, policies, decisions, procedures, and essential transactions of the agency.” Pursuant to 44 U.S.C. § 3301(a)(2), these protections extend to all types of information, whether stored physically, digitally, or electronically. As such, this requirement encompasses such items as tweets and all other forms of social media posts as well as press releases, among other records.

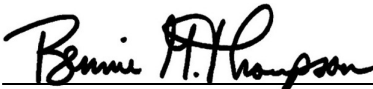
Federal officials and employees who violate the FRA are subject to criminal penalties. Under 18 U.S.C. § 2071(b), any agency employee who “willfully and unlawfully” conceals, removes, mutilates, obliterates, destroys, or attempts any such action against a Federal record, is subject to fine and/or imprisonment for up to three years. In addition, any Federal office holder convicted of violating the FRA can lose his or her position and can be disqualified from holding future Federal office. Moreover, under 44 U.S.C. § 3106(b), you have a responsibility to notify the Archivist of any actual, impending, or threatened unlawful action against records at your agency.

The Committee intends to closely observe the compliance of the Department—and all its component agencies—with these requirements. As part of the Committee’s oversight, the Committee expects to receive, by July 17, 2026, assurances, in writing, that DHS records, documents, data, and information have not been and will not be destroyed, modified, removed, transferred, or otherwise rendered inaccessible.

Thank you for your attention to and compliance with these matters.

⁹ 44 U.S.C. § 3301(a)(1)(A).

Sincerely,



Bennie G. Thompson
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security



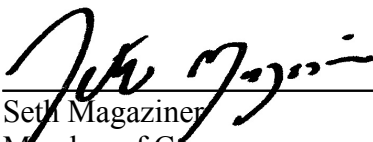
Al Green
Member of Congress



J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress



Shri Thanedar
Member of Congress



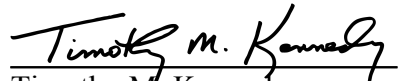
Seth Magaziner
Member of Congress



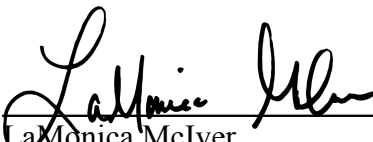
Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



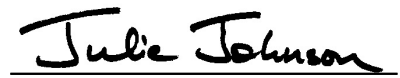
Delia C. Ramirez
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Timothy M. Kennedy
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LaMonica McIver
Member of Congress



Julie Johnson
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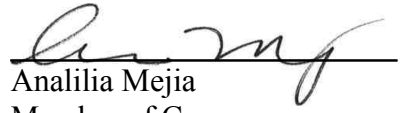
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Froy A. Carter, Sr.
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