



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

November 12, 2025

The Honorable Kristi Noem
Secretary
Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

The Honorable Kash Patel
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Secretary Noem and Director Patel:

We write to demand a briefing on the reported Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) memo¹ urging U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents and other law enforcement officials to “adequately identify themselves” when engaging with the public. This reported memo was issued following a series of disturbing incidents involving criminals impersonating ICE agents. According to the memo, criminals have capitalized on ICE’s dangerous deployment of masked agents across the country by masquerading as immigration agents while engaging in violent crimes such as robberies, kidnappings, and sexual assault. This is deeply disturbing. The FBI and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) must brief us immediately on the threats posed by ICE’s failure to identify themselves and how DHS will implement the FBI’s recommendations.

As you are aware, Democrats have been sounding the alarm on the dangers of agents wearing masks and otherwise not identifying themselves for months.² In May, during Secretary Noem’s only appearance before the Committee on Homeland Security, Democratic members raised concerns about the risks of ICE agents concealing their identities and the ease with which imposters can buy ICE-branded apparel online.³ The Democratic Women’s Caucus sent a letter to Secretary Noem in August demanding that ICE agents “visibly and clearly identify themselves

¹ Dell Cameron and Caroline Haskins, *FBI Warns of Criminals Posing as ICE, Urges Agents to ID Themselves*, WIRED (Nov. 4, 2025), <https://www.wired.com/story/fbi-warns-of-criminals-posing-as-ice-urges-agents-to-id-themselves/>.

² Letter from the Democratic Women’s Caucus to Kristi Noem, Secretary of Homeland Security; Todd Lyons, Acting Director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; Jennifer M. Fenton, Associate Director, Office of Professional Responsibility, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; and Thomas Homan, Executive Associate Director of Enforcement and Removal Operations, The White House (Aug. 11, 2025), <https://democraticwomenscaucus.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/democraticwomenscaucus.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/dwc-letter-to-dhs-on-ice-impersonators-and-women-s-safety.pdf>.

³ See Hearing on “A Review of the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Request for the Department of Homeland Security,” before the House Committee on Homeland Security (May 14, 2025), <https://democrats-homeland.house.gov/activities/hearings/a-review-of-the-fiscal-year-2026-budget-request-for-the-department-of-homeland-security>.

when conducting immigration enforcement activities to stop enabling impersonators who leverage women's uncertainty and fear of immigration consequences to rape, harass, and abuse them." Furthermore, over 100 Democratic members of the House of Representatives have cosponsored H.R. 4176, the *No Secret Police Act of 2025*, led by Rep. Daniel Goldman, which would prohibit DHS officers from wearing face coverings or any item that conceals their face during border security or immigration detentions or arrest.

Rather than working with us to end an authoritarian tactic that endangers both the public and law enforcement, DHS's response was to go on X (formerly Twitter) and attack Members of Congress who spoke out about their concerns.⁴

The FBI is now echoing the very concerns that Democratic members have been warning about for months. In the FBI's memo urging law enforcement to identify themselves, the Bureau cited several frightening cases in multiple States. The instances include:

- In New York, three men in black vests entered a restaurant claiming to be ICE agents. Inside, they tied a worker's hands and pulled a garbage bag over the person's head. Another, believing the burglars' story, surrendered themselves, only to be kicked to the ground and tied up as the intruders robbed an ATM.⁵
- In Florida, a woman "unzipped [her] jacket and revealed a shirt that said ICE" and told her ex-boyfriend's wife she was there to "pick her up," before driving her to an apartment complex. The woman later escaped.⁶
- In New York, a man told a woman he was an immigration officer and "directed [her] to a nearby stairwell," where he punched her, tried to rape her, and stole her phone before police caught him.⁷
- In North Carolina, a man "entered [a] motel room and threatened to deport the woman if she did not have sex with him," telling her he was a sworn officer. He showed her a business card with a badge, police said.

These are just a few instances – there are surely many others that have gone unreported.

ICE's lack of transparency is eroding public trust and creating opportunities for imposters to exploit vulnerable communities and conduct criminal activity. It is time to end the dangerous practices of ICE agents, to prevent imposters and more violent crimes.

We look forward to the FBI and DHS briefing us jointly on the concerns raised in the FBI memo to law enforcement agencies and DHS's plan to address those concerns.

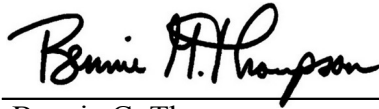
⁴ @DHSgov, X Post (May 30, 2025), <https://x.com/DHSgov/status/1928468561884049513>.

⁵ Cameron and Haskins, *supra* note 1.

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ *Id.*

Sincerely,



Bennie G. Thompson
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland
Security



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress



Shri Thanedar
Member of Congress



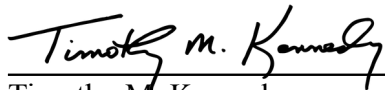
Seth Magaziner
Member of Congress



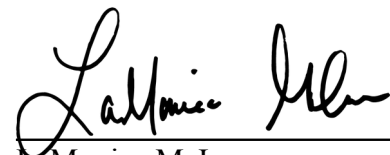
Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress



Timothy M. Kennedy
Member of Congress



LaMonica McIver
Member of Congress



Julie Johnson
Member of Congress



Pablo José Hernández
Member of Congress



Nellie Pou
Member of Congress



Al Green
Member of Congress



Troy A. Carter, Sr.
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Andrew Garbarino, Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security