

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 14, 2026

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

Dear Secretary Mullin:

We write to urgently request the release of Mohammad Nazeer Paktiawal's autopsy completed by the Dallas Office Medical Examiner's Office, and for an explanation of why he was prioritized for deportation.

In 2005, Mr. Paktiawal faithfully worked alongside the U.S. Army Special Forces for more than a decade. After the fall of the Afghan government, due to his long-term work and alliance with the U.S. Special Forces, he and his family were evacuated out of Afghanistan in 2021 and legally brought to the United States. He was a father of six, and had no criminal convictions. Despite these facts, he was targeted by your Department for deportation and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) [detained him](#) while he was getting his kids ready for school on March 13, 2026.¹ He died just hours later, a preventable tragedy.

It is unacceptable that someone who fought bravely beside our troops was so easily discarded by the very government he fought for. His family deserves answers regarding his death, and the American people deserve transparency regarding the treatment of individuals in ICE's care.

However, the Dallas County Medical Examiner's Office refuses to release the complete autopsy report at ICE's request. Mr. Paktiawal's death is listed as an accident and the death certificate states that his cause of death is anaphylaxis complicating acute asthma exacerbation, a severe allergic reaction that was exacerbated by his asthma.

We urge you to immediately release Mr. Paktiawal's autopsy report and provide his family with much needed closure. Additionally, please provide answers to the following questions no later than July 24, 2026.

1. Why was Mr. Paktiawal prioritized for detention and removal despite having no criminal convictions and having served alongside U.S. forces in Afghanistan?
2. On March 16, the Department of Homeland Security's [X account posted](#) that they had no evidence of Mr. Paktiawal's military service.² Since then, many news organizations have

¹ *FACT SHEET: Death of Mohammad Nazeer Paktiawal in ICE Custody. Afghan Evac.*
<https://afghanevac.org/nazeer-death>

² Homeland Security Department (@DHSgov). (March 16, 2026). *Mohammad Nazeer Paktiawal, a criminal illegal alien, entered the U.S. under the Biden administration's Operation Allies Refuge in August 2021 and provided NO*

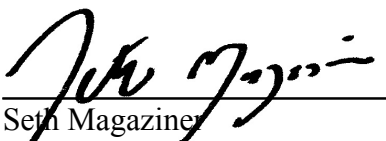
provided evidence of his military service. Has the Department of Homeland Security reversed its position regarding Mr. Paktiawal's military service?

3. How many other Afghan Allies who supported U.S. troops has ICE detained and deported since March 2025? How many individuals is ICE targeting for detention and deportation?
4. What criminal investigation is currently being conducted related to Mr. Paktiawal's death?

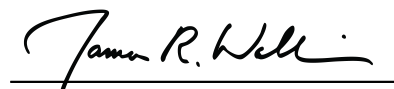
Thank you for your time and attention to this urgent request.

CC: David J. Venturella, ICE Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Director

Sincerely,

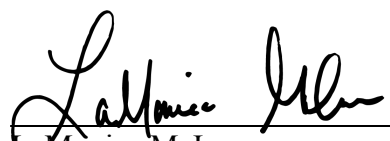

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