

February 10, 2026

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
H-232, United States Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
House Minority Leader
2267 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jim Jordan
Chairman, House Committee on the
Judiciary
2138 Rayburn House Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jamie Raskin
Ranking Member, House Committee on the
Judiciary
2142 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

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

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

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Jeffries, Chairman Jordan, Ranking Member Raskin, Chairman Garbarino, and Ranking Member Thompson:

On behalf of Voto Latino and the undersigned coalition of interfaith leaders, business executives, veteran groups, and civil rights advocates, we write to demand the immediate impeachment of Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem. Specifically, we call for Congress to take up [H.Res.996 - Impeaching Kristi Lynn Arnold Noem, Secretary of Homeland Security, for high crimes and misdemeanors](#), introduced on January 14, 2026 by Congresswoman Robin Kelly. Secretary Noem's tenure has been defined by a dangerous violation of public trust, obstruction of Congress and oversight, a blatant disregard for constitutional protections, and state-sanctioned conduct that places U.S. citizens and lawful residents in immediate peril.

Secretary Noem has fundamentally failed to exercise the sound judgment and discretion required of her office. This extends far beyond the recent events in Minneapolis, Minnesota, with the deaths of two U.S. citizens, Renee Good and Alex Pretti, and the arrest of 5-year old Liam Conejo Ramos and three other Minnesota minors. It includes rogue and unchecked use of force against entire communities across the country, such as those in the fall 2025 "Operation Midway Blitz" in which Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents used excessive force, military-style tactics, and unwarranted detentions against Chicago residents.

Under her stewardship, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has dangerously eroded the public trust in federal law enforcement agencies and transitioned from a security agency into an instrument of unchecked enforcement that operates outside the bounds of human dignity and due process. Rather than respecting civil liberties, her leadership has actively incentivized a reckless and violent approach that subverts the rule of law. This systemic mismanagement not only compromises the safety of our communities but constitutes a direct betrayal of the core values upon which this nation was founded.

Examples of Rights Violations Under Secretary Noem's Leadership:

1. Obstruction of Congress and Restricting Congressional Oversight of ICE Facilities:

Under Secretary Noem, DHS issued new guidelines that sought to restrict members of Congress from conducting unannounced oversight visits at ICE detention facilities. This directly interferes with Congress's right and duty to investigate conditions, ensure compliance with the law, and respond to rising reports of abuse and violence inside detention centers. After a federal court preliminarily blocked the policy in December 2025—and following the fatal shooting of a U.S. citizen by a federal agent in Minnesota—Secretary Noem secretly reinstated the requirement through a previously undisclosed memorandum.¹

In addition, under Noem's leadership DHS issued guidelines including a one week notice requirement while granting ICE discretion to deny entry to restrict unannounced visits by lawmakers to ICE field offices. This policy undermines the 2024 Appropriations Act's clear right to oversight. And it has sparked bipartisan condemnation, with lawmakers like Representative Bennie Thompson calling it "unprecedented" and "an affront to the Constitution and Federal law".²

2. Unlawful Use of Deadly Force Against Legal Observers, First Amendment Auditors, Bystanders and Protesters:

Last week, a second U.S. citizen was killed by federal immigration enforcement in Minneapolis. The killing of Alex Pretti, an intensive care nurse, is a devastating example of the violent pattern emerging from the administration's aggressive and unchecked enforcement operations. This killing follows the fatal shooting of Renee Good just two weeks prior.³

These tragedies are part of a systemic escalation. Since July 2025, DHS officers have discharged their firearms during enforcement actions or protests at least 16 times. These shootings have resulted in at least 14 people being struck by bullets—including four U.S. citizens—and three confirmed fatalities.

To date, not a single officer from ICE, U.S. Border Patrol, or Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) has faced criminal charges or public internal disciplinary measures. This total absence of accountability suggests a *de facto* policy of impunity that endangers both citizens and non-citizens alike.

3. Use of Immigration Enforcement Tactics that Target Children and Rescinding Guidance on "Sensitive Locations"

The recent detention of five-year-old Liam Conejo Ramos and his father in Minnesota serves as harrowing evidence of a shift toward aggressive enforcement tactics that specifically target children and destabilize families. Liam, still wearing his Spider-Man backpack, was taken by armed, masked agents—an image that has become a flashpoint for national outcry. This is not an isolated incident; Liam is the fourth student from his school community to be detained in recent weeks.⁴

We are seeing a dangerous new pattern: agents surveilling neighborhoods, following school buses, and conducting apprehensions in school parking lots. These tactics transform spaces meant for learning and safety into sites of terror. By rescinding long-standing guidance on "sensitive locations," DHS leadership is not only allowing these actions but incentivizing them.

Additionally, in June 2025, a Honduran teenager was removed from a foster home in Pensacola, Florida—in handcuffs and shackles—and transferred immediately into ICE custody.⁵ Actions such as these endanger the safety, privacy, and welfare of children and caretakers within the foster care system.

4. Use of Force Against a U.S. Senator:

In June 2025, during a press briefing in Los Angeles, Secretary Noem’s security detail forcefully wrestled California’s Senior United States Senator Alex Padilla to the ground when he attempted to question her. Video footage clearly shows no threat posed by the Senator—just an attempt at congressional inquiry—and many view the action as a blatant misuse of force.⁶

5. Unlawful ICE Raids Impacting U.S. Citizens:

On June 13, 2025, ICE agents—acting under Secretary Noem’s direction—raided the home of Sabrina Medina, an American citizen and pregnant mother, who was accused of harboring a target who was not present. Agents tampered with security cameras and forcibly removed Medina and her children, yet made no arrests.⁷ Similarly, on June 7, 2025, Cary López Alvarado—a U.S. citizen nine months pregnant—was hospitalized after being shoved, handcuffed, and detained by immigration authorities in California just one week before her due date. Unlawful operations like these pose direct threats to the safety of U.S. citizens.

6. Deprivation of Due Process and Flagrant Violation of Court Orders

In March 2025, DHS unlawfully deported Kilmar Armando Abrego Garcia—a Maryland resident and father, legally present in the U.S. under a court-granted withholding of removal order—and sent him to El Salvador’s Terrorism Confinement Center (CECOT) in what the Administration has acknowledged as an “administrative error.”⁸

Rather than correcting this grave injustice, Secretary Noem and DHS leadership reportedly doubled down, resisting court orders and disseminating false information to obscure the violation. While Mr. Garcia has since been returned to the United States, he was immediately met with what appears to be a retaliatory criminal prosecution for human smuggling. The severity of this overreach was underscored last month when a federal judge canceled Mr. Garcia’s trial to hold a hearing on whether the administration is engaging in vindictive prosecution.

This case is a chilling demonstration of the deep disregard for fundamental due process and constitutional protections that has flourished under Secretary Noem’s leadership. Recently, the chief federal judge in Minnesota excoriated ICE, saying it had violated nearly 100 court orders stemming from its aggressive crackdown in the state—disobeying more judicial directives in January alone than “some federal agencies have violated in their entire existence.”⁹

7. Unlawful Detention of Tribal Citizens:

The unlawful detention and interrogation of citizens from federally recognized Tribal nations by ICE is a flagrant violation of Tribal sovereignty. Because Tribal citizens are members of sovereign governments, these actions disregard the fundamental government-to-government

relationship between these nations and the United States. Under policies overseen by DHS, ICE agents have reportedly targeted members of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, Navajo Nation, Mescalero Apache, and Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian communities.¹⁰

These enforcement actions, which frequently rely on intimidation and racial profiling, undermine public trust and place innocent people at risk. The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians has strongly condemned these activities, noting that they have sown "fear, confusion, and anxiety" across Indigenous and minority communities. Such tactics represent a dangerous departure from federal law. Moreover, a Senate letter described this as "outright disrespect" and an "abdication of U.S. trust and treaty responsibility".¹¹

8. Dismantling DHS Civil Rights Oversight:

On March 21, 2025, Secretary Noem shut down the DHS Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, terminating hundreds of active civil rights and liberties investigations.¹² The move left victims of detention abuse—U.S. citizens and immigrants alike—without any federal recourse.

9. Lacks Knowledge of Basic Civil Protections:

On May 20, 2025 during a senate hearing, Secretary Noem falsely mischaracterized the legal principal *habeas corpus* as "a constitutional right that the president has to be able to remove people from this country",¹³ when in reality it is a basic and fundamental right that protects people from being jailed without cause.

Each incident reflects a common theme: executive decisions that disregard due process, shield officials from accountability, and erode fundamental rights.

Secretary Noem has not only demonstrated a profound incapacity to lead the Department of Homeland Security and its 250,000 employees but has willfully subverted the very mission of the agency. When a federal department is permitted to target entire communities, discharge firearms at U.S. citizens, separate families, and remove a U.S. Senator with impunity, it is no longer an agency of the law.

Oversight is no longer a sufficient remedy for this crisis. We urge the House of Representatives to fulfill its constitutional obligation and vote on the Articles of Impeachment against Secretary Kristi Noem filed by Representative Robin Kelly, which has now reached a total of 187 co-sponsors. Secretary Noem's leadership has fostered a culture of lawlessness that prioritizes political intimidation over the rule of law and punishment over human life.

The survival of our system of checks and balances depends on your willingness to act. We demand that you hold Secretary Noem accountable for her systemic violations of constitutional protections and her direct assault on Congressional authority. Congress must act now to remove her from office before more lives are lost

Thank you for treating this plea with the urgency it warrants. We are available to provide further documentation or testify as needed.

Respectfully,

Voto Latino
AFT

Alianza Center, Inc. (Florida)
America's Voice
Aquí: The Accountability Movement
Arizona Students' Association
Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta (Georgia)
Bend the Arc: Jewish Action
Center for Common Ground
Civic Empowerment Coalition
College Democrats of America
Common Cause North Carolina (North Carolina)
Freedom for Immigrants (FFI)
Frontera Federation (Texas)
Hispanic Federation
Human Rights Campaign
Human Rights First
Immigrants Rising (California)
Indivisible
Jolt Action (Texas)
Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA)
La Brega y Fuerza
Latino Victory Project
LatinoJustice PRLDEF (New York)
National Action Network
National Center for LGBTQ Rights
National Domestic Workers Alliance
National Hispanic Media Coalition
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice
National Partnership for New Americans
National Partnership for Women & Families
National Women's Law Center
NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice
New Jersey Alliance for Immigrant Justice (New Jersey)
P Street
People Power United
Presente.org
Public Defender Coalition for Immigrant Justice
Pulso
Service Employees International Union (SEIU)
Services, Immigrant Rights and Education Network (SIREN) (California)
Stop AAPI Hate
Students Engaged in Advancing Texas (SEAT) (Texas)
The Committee of Interns and Residents (SEIU)
The Gathering for Justice
The Movement Cooperative
The Pinta Pride Project/BG Pride (Illinois)
UnidosUS Action Fund
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)
United Farm Workers
UNITED SIKHS
Venezuelan American Caucus
Voters of Tomorrow

Women's March

For more information on this letter, please reach out to Press@votolatino.org

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