

# MEMBER DAY

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## HEARING

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2025

**Serial No. 119–40**

Printed for the use of the Committee on the Judiciary



Available via: <http://judiciary.house.gov>

U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE

WASHINGTON : 2025

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## MEMBER DAY

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Thursday, November 20, 2025

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

*Washington, DC*

The Committee met, pursuant to notice, at 10 a.m., in Room 2141, Rayburn House Office Building, the Hon. Jim Jordan [Chair of the Committee] presiding.

*Members present:* Representatives Jordan, Issa, Biggs, Knott, and Scanlon.

Chair JORDAN. [Presiding.] The Committee will come to order. Without objection, the Chair is authorized to declare a recess at any time. We welcome everyone to today's Member Day hearing.

You know what? Let's do the Pledge first. The gentleman from Arizona will lead us in the Pledge. Could you all stand for the Pledge?

ALL. I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Chair JORDAN. I thank the gentleman. Again, we welcome everyone today.

The Member Day is an opportunity to hear from our colleagues who have bills within the jurisdiction of our Committee. The Judiciary Committee has a number of very important topics in our jurisdiction: The Constitution, civil rights, civil liberties, immigration, crime, and functioning of our court system. These affect Americans' lives every day.

We have several of our colleagues here this morning to testify before our Committee and I look forward to hearing what they have to say.

The Chair now recognizes the gentlelady from Pennsylvania for any opening remarks she may have.

Ms. SCANLON. Thank you, Mr. Chair, for convening this Member Day hearing, and thank you to our colleagues for joining us today. We are looking forward to hearing your testimony and appreciate the opportunity to learn more about the bills you are leading and the priorities you have within the Judiciary Committee's jurisdiction.

As the Chair mentioned, we are responsible for a broad range of issues, including the Federal Judiciary, voting rights, Constitutional Amendments, civil rights and liberties, immigration, intellectual property, antitrust, and more.

We are looking forward to hearing from you, and I know that our Committee's work will only be strengthened by hearing from you today. So, thank you.

Chair JORDAN. The gentelady yields back. Thank you. Without objection, all other opening statements will be included in the record.

Chair JORDAN. I would remind our colleagues to testifying today that your written statements will be included in the record in their entirety, and we ask that you summarize your testimony in five minutes.

Our first witness is from the great State of—what a great way to start. The gentelady from Ohio, Representative Sykes, is recognized. Go right ahead.

#### **STATEMENT OF THE HON. EMILIA SYKES**

Ms. SYKES. Thank you very much, Mr. Chair, and to the Ranking Member, for having this hearing today and allowing us to talk about issues that are important to our communities, as well as this country.

First, let me give you a quick warning to take a sip of coffee because I'm going to discuss a topic that I love, but often bores a lot of people. That is bankruptcy.

I would like to ask for your support on a bill I plan to reintroduce to close a loophole that allows for companies to use the Texas two-step. For far too long, greedy corporations have used shady bankruptcy tactics like the Texas two-step to avoid compensating innocent Americans that they have hurt.

By using this tactic, corporations facing a large number of injury liability lawsuits move their corporate entities to execute a divisive merger. This splits corporation into two companies with the parent company taking all the assets and the new company taking all the liability and responsibility to pay the victims. The new company then files for bankruptcy—forcing plaintiffs to spend years trying to receive the compensation they deserve, while the parent company continues business as usual.

Companies that have attempted this maneuver include Johnson & Johnson, which faced class action lawsuits over claims that its talcum powder caused cancer, and Georgia Pacific, which is facing lawsuits over asbestos exposure.

When I came to Congress, I promised my constituents I would fight for them, not for billionaires or large corporations. That is why last Congress I introduced the Ending Corporate Bankruptcy Abuse Act, alongside my colleague, the gentleman from Texas, Lance Gooden, to address this very issue.

My bill, which has bicameral and bipartisan support, would deter corporations from abusing bankruptcy protections and ensure that injury victims can get their day in court.

I hope to continue to work with your offices to raise awareness of this issue, hold companies accountable, and put an end to this harmful practice.

Mr. Chair, I have worked for two bankruptcy judges as a judicial assistant and as a law clerk. One thing that was quite apparent was virtually every single debtor that was in bankruptcy had med-

ical debt. It was either what led them to bankruptcy or exacerbated their financial situation.

I look forward to working with the members of this community, this Committee, as well as all of Congress, to ensure that the Bankruptcy Code works for the honest, yet unfortunate debtor and not just for large corporations.

Mr. Chair, I would also like to discuss my bill, the Law Enforcement Scenario-Based Training for Safety and De-escalation Act, which I am proud to lead with Representatives Don Bacon, Brian Fitzpatrick, and Glenn Ivey.

This is an important issue for my community. In Akron and Canton, as we mourn the loss of Jayland Walker, who was killed by police three years ago, and Frank Tyson, who died while in police custody a year ago, we must work to improve relationships between law enforcement and the community members that they are sworn to protect to restore trust and safety.

By investing in real-world, scenario-based training, we can give our law enforcement the de-escalation skills they need to keep themselves and our communities safe. This training can help officers develop the situational awareness to handle complex, high-stake situations, such as encountering individuals suffering from mental illness, suicidal crises, or domestic violence, and equips them with greater cultural situational sensitivity. It has been shown that training officers with these skills results in fewer injuries, deaths, and excessive use-of-force incidents for civilians and officers.

Importantly, this bill is budget-neutral and allows smaller communities who may not have the means to pay for such training to do so, but it also has garnered widespread support from stakeholders, like the Fraternal Order of Police and the Akron Branch of the NAACP.

After the shooting deaths of both Jayland and Frank, both communities asked what could be done to de-escalate tense interventions between law enforcement, the officers, and the citizens that they protect and serve. I am proud to deliver this truly appropriate and timely bill, and I urge its passage. Our communities and our law enforcement members are asking for this. It is a commonsense, bipartisan bill.

I look forward to taking any questions you may have.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Sykes follows:]

**Testimony of the Hon. Emilia Strong Sykes**

[The gentlelady from Ohio is recognized.]

Thank you, Chair Jordan and Ranking Member Raskin, for holding this hearing today.

Today, I'd like to ask for your support for a bill I plan to reintroduce to close a loophole that allows companies to use the "Texas Two-Step".

For far too long, greedy corporations have used shady bankruptcy tactics like the Texas Two-Step to avoid compensating innocent Americans they have hurt. By using this tactic, corporations facing a large number of injury liability lawsuits move their corporate entities to execute a "divisive merger." This splits the corporation into two companies, with the parent company taking all of the assets, and the new company taking all of the liability and the responsibility to pay the victims. The new company then files for bankruptcy, forcing plaintiffs to spend years trying to receive

the compensation they deserve, while the parent company continues business as usual.

Companies that have attempted this maneuver include Johnson & Johnson, which is facing class action lawsuits over claims that its talcum powder causes cancer, and Georgia Pacific, which is facing lawsuits over asbestos exposure. When I came to Congress, I promised my constituents I would fight for them, not for billionaires or large corporations.

That is why last Congress, I introduced the *Ending Corporate Bankruptcy Abuse Act* alongside my colleague Rep. Lance Gooden of Texas to address this very issue.

My bill, which has bicameral and bipartisan support, would deter corporations from abusing bankruptcy protections, and ensure that injury victims can get their day in court. I hope to continue to work with your offices to raise awareness of this

issue, hold companies accountable, and put an end to this harmful practice.

Mr. Chairman, I've worked for two bankruptcy judges as a judicial assistant and as a law clerk. And one thing that was quite apparant with virtually every single debtor that was in bankruptcy was in medical debt. It was either what led them to bankruptcy or exacerbated their financial situation and I look forward to working with members of this committee as well as all of congress to ensure that the bankruptcy code works for the honest yet unfortunate debtor and not just for large corporations.

Mr. Chairman, I would also like to discuss my bill, the *Law Enforcement Scenario-Based Training for Safety and De-escalation Act*, which I am proud to lead with Reps. Don Bacon, Brian Fitzpatrick, and Glenn Ivey.

This is an important issue for my community in Akron and Canton as we mourn the loss of Jayland Walker, who was killed by police three years ago, and Frank Tyson, who died while in police custody one year ago. We must work to improve relationships between law enforcement and the community members that they are sworn to protect in order to restore trust and safety. By investing in real-world, scenario-based training, we can give our law enforcement the de-escalation skills they need to keep themselves and our communities safe. This training can help officers develop the situational awareness to handle complex, high-stakes situations such as encountering individuals suffering from mental illness, suicidal crises, or domestic violence, and equips them with greater cultural and situational sensitivity. It has been shown that training officers with these skills results in fewer injuries, deaths, and excessive use of force

incidents for officers and civilians. Importantly, this bill is budget neutral and allows smaller communities who may not have the means to pay for such a training to do so, but it also has garnered widespread support from stakeholders like the Fraternal Order of Police and the Akron Branch of the NAACP. After the shooting deaths of both Jayland and Frank both communities asked what could be done to deescalate tense interventions between law enforcement and citizens that they protect and serve. I am proud to deliver this truly appropriate and timely bill and I urge its passage. Our communities and our law enforcement members are asking for this. It is a common-sense bipartisan bill and I look forward to taking any questions you may have.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chair JORDAN. Thank you, Representative. Thank you so much. My best to your family. Tell your dad we said hello. We appreciate having you.

Ms. SYKES. Thank you.

Chair JORDAN. The Chair now recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina, Mr. Knott, for an introduction of our next Member's testimony.

Mr. KNOTT. Mr. Chair and Ms. Scanlon, good morning.

It is my privilege to introduce my good friend and colleague from North Carolina, Representative Pat Harrigan. Representative Harrigan is a freshman with me. We are fortunate to have him. He is a patriot, a veteran, a father, and a business owner.

He is someone who has immense capabilities, who cares about this country, and he has a very high level of expertise when dealing with foreign adversaries to this country. He has an important piece of legislation that deals with external attacks.

I know he will get your full consideration, and it's my privilege to introduce Representative Pat Harrigan to the Committee. Thank you.

Chair JORDAN. Thank you. The gentleman from North Carolina is recognized.

#### **STATEMENT OF THE HON. PAT HARRIGAN**

Mr. HARRIGAN. Thanks to Representative Knott for that kind introduction. Mr. Chair and the distinguished Members of the Committee, good morning.

I appreciate the opportunity to speak to you about a bill that goes straight to the heart of our national security. We are facing an unprecedented wave of espionage from statutorily designated foreign adversaries, and the response from our legal system has been far too weak.

My bill, H.R. 4081, the Foreign Adversary Federal Offense Act, fixes that. It creates mandatory minimum sentences of 10 years for economic espionage and 15 years for defense espionage. It also doubles the penalties for intellectual property theft committed on behalf of foreign adversaries. If you steal for Beijing or some other hostile power, you should expect to spend a long time in Federal prison.

This scale of this threat is staggering, and I would like to lay it out for you.

In April, former Army Analyst Korbein Schultz sold missile defense data, satellite intelligence, and deployment plans to someone working with the Chinese Government. For betraying his country, Mr. Schultz was paid \$42,000. Despite this blatant violation of his oath, he was sentenced to only 84 months in prison.

In August, two U.S. Navy sailors, Jinchao Wei and Wenheng Zhao, provided Chinese intelligence with ship blueprints, weapon systems, and troop movements. They were trusted with our national security, and they sold it off.

In 2022, Broadcom Engineer Kisang Kim stole more than 500 chip design files for a Chinese tech startup. He openly admitted that he did it to help China compete with the United States, and received only eight months in prison.

Meanwhile, the FBI estimates—and this is corroborated by our work on the Science, Space, and Technology Committee—that up to \$600 billion in American intellectual property is stolen every single year, almost all of it by China.

This is our innovation, our technology, and our military advantage walking right out the door. People who spy for our enemies can cripple our military, damage our economy, and leave our critical infrastructure exposed. Far too often, they get a very small fine or a far too short of a sentence.

Our current guidelines are not a deterrent. They actually invite more theft, betrayal, and more risk. We need to make it unmistakably clear that, if you betray your oath, violate your uniform, or sell out our country for a few dollars, you will face the full force of the U.S. Government.

The H.R. 4081 delivers that clarity. A mandatory double-digit sentence will make potential spies think twice before choosing China over their own Nation.

I look forward to working with every Member of this Committee to get this bill across the finish line. My team and I welcome your input and certainly welcome your support.

This is about protecting the American people and strengthening the security of the country that we serve and love.

Thank you for your time.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Harrigan follows:]

**Testimony of the Honorable Pat Harrigan**

Thank you, Chairman Jordan and Ranking Member Raskin. I appreciate the chance to speak about a bill that goes straight to the heart of our national security. We are facing an unprecedented wave of espionage from statutorily designated foreign adversaries, and the response from our legal system has been far too weak.

My bill, H.R. 4081, the Foreign Adversary Federal Offense Act, fixes that. It creates mandatory minimum sentences of 10 years for economic espionage and 15 years for defense espionage. It also doubles the penalties for intellectual property theft committed on behalf of foreign adversaries. If you steal for Beijing or any other hostile power, you should expect to spend a long time in federal prison.

The scale of this threat is staggering. In April, former Army analyst **Korbein Schultz** sold missile defense data, satellite intelligence, and deployment plans to someone working with the Chinese government. He made forty-two thousand dollars and was sentenced to only eighty-four months.

In August, two United States Navy sailors, **Jinchao Wei and Wenheng Zhao**, provided Chinese intelligence with ship blueprints, weapons systems, and troop movements. They were trusted with our national security and they sold it off.

In 2022, Broadcom engineer **Kisang Kim** stole more than five hundred chip design files for a Chinese tech startup. He openly admitted he did it to help China compete with the United States and received eight months in prison.

Meanwhile, [the FBI estimates](#) that up to six hundred billion dollars in American intellectual property is stolen every year, almost all of it by China. That is our innovation, our technology, and our military advantage walking out the door.

People who spy for our enemies can cripple our military, damage our economy, and leave our critical infrastructure exposed. Yet far too often they get a small fine or a short sentence. Our current guidelines are not a deterrent. They invite more theft, more betrayal, and more risk.

We need to make it unmistakably clear that if you betray your oath, violate your uniform, or sell out your country for a few dollars, you will face the full force of the United States government. H.R. 4081 delivers that clarity. A mandatory double-digit sentence will make potential spies think twice before choosing China over their own nation.

I look forward to working with every member of this committee to get this bill across the finish line. My team and I welcome your input and your support. This is about protecting the American people and strengthening the security of the country we serve.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield back.

Chair JORDAN. You bet. Thank you, Representative. Thank you for your service to our country. Thank you for your legislation that you have brought forward.

The Chair now recognizes—oh, we have got a number here—Representative Stansbury. The gentlelady is recognized for five minutes. Go right ahead.

**STATEMENT OF THE HON. MELANIE STANSBURY**

Ms. STANSBURY. All right. Well, good morning, Mr. Chair, Ranking Member, and the Members of the Committee.

I want to say thank you for the opportunity to testify in the Judiciary Committee. It is an honor to be here to discuss that is as serious as it is urgent, and that is the ongoing congressional inquiry into the Jeffrey Epstein case, and the failures of the criminal justice system to hold powerful individuals accountable.

I want to acknowledge that this Committee has taken some significant steps to advance the discharge petition demanding that the administration release the files, and I want to bring some additional materials here today from the Oversight Committee on which I serve, because so many of the issues at play in this case are within the jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee, including the miscarriage of justice that was conducted within the courts, the Department of Justice, law enforcement agencies that failed survivors for decades.

Let me begin with this: This is not a partisan issue. Sexual violence is not a partisan issue; justice for survivors is not a partisan issue, and the pursuit of truth, transparency, and accountability is not a partisan issue. It is essential to restore trust in our institutions, especially when powerful individuals, whoever they are, have engaged in criminal misconduct and escaped scrutiny and prosecution.

The Oversight Committee's work is focused on four central questions:

- (1) What powerful individuals were engaged in criminal behavior?
- (2) Why did the justice system repeatedly fail women and girls who were groomed, raped, trafficked, and abused?
- (3) Were individuals with significant influence shielded from proper investigation and accountability?
- (4) How do we pursue justice today?

Questions that are surely within the clear jurisdiction and interest of this Committee.

In recent weeks, pursuant to a subpoena, the Oversight Committee has received tens of thousands of documents from the Epstein estate, including more than 1,600 references to the current President. These include emails, correspondence, financial records, litigation documents, and statements attributed to Epstein himself.

I want to be clear, these documents contain allegations, including sworn statements, that must be evaluated through a full transparent, investigative lens, and process. This is precisely why releasing the full, unredacted Epstein files is essential, and why this public inquiry is also essential.

Among the materials I will reference are a sexual assault case in which Donald Trump appears to have been subpoenaed, served,

and deposed; sworn statements involving a then-16-year-old who was recruited at Mar-a-Lago, who alleged that she was groomed and assaulted by Epstein and others, including those with significant global influence; emails and correspondence in which Epstein states that Trump knew about the girls and that minors were being recruited from Mar-a-Lago; that Trump was present at Epstein's residence on numerous occasions, and that Epstein possessed photographs of Trump with young girls, and that Trump was, quote, "the dog that hadn't barked"—a phrase that Epstein used to suggest Trump's potential silence to police.

The documents also reference financial transfers between Epstein and Trump; discussion of Trump's business affairs, and concerns about potential money-laundering through real estate transactions—all matters that may or may not have criminal significance and, clearly, warrant investigation.

Additionally, we have documents from the Epstein estate in which Epstein himself assessed that he faced a mandatory minimum of at least 10 years in prison. Yet, the Justice Department declined to prosecute him under Federal law, despite recommendations from his own line prosecutor. These statements appear to directly conflict with sworn testimony that the Oversight Committee received from U.S. Attorney Alex Acosta just a few months ago, when he claimed that credible evidence to pursue Federal charges was not there.

Together, these materials are a substantial body of evidence, and it is evidence that the American people deserve and demand to see. Justice matters because those who abused, enabled, financed, and protected this criminal enterprise must face the truth and must face consequences. Transparency is essential for healing and restoring confidence in the rule of the law, and it is essential because Congress has a responsibility to ensure that our justice system protects victims, not perpetrators, and that includes strengthening victims' rights legislation that will likely move through this very Committee.

Part of why I am here today is to advocate to please take the partisanship out of this case. Please address the facts as you see them before you. Please join us in this investigation, and please help us hold these people accountable. Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Stansbury follows:]

**Judiciary Committee Member Day  
Testimony by Congresswoman Stansbury  
November 20, 2025**

Mr. Chairman, Ranking Member, and Members of the Committee—

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. It is an honor to appear before the Judiciary Committee to discuss this investigation that is as serious as it is urgent—and that is the Epstein Investigation currently before Congress.

I want start by acknowledging the steps this Committee has taken just three days to help pass a discharge petition to compel the Administration and the Department of Justice to release the full Epstein files. We are grateful for your partnership and as a Member of the House Oversight Committee I am here today to talk about where our investigation and the evidence has taken us so far and what comes next.

This should not be a partisan issue. Sexual violence is not a partisan issue. Justice for survivors is not a partisan issue. And, the pursuit of truth, transparency, and accountability are essential for restoring trust in our institutions, especially when powerful individuals are involved in criminal misconduct and the system has failed to deliver justice.

**The Importance of this Investigation**

The Oversight Committee’s investigation is, at its core, an inquiry by the United States Congress into:

- credible allegations of criminal behavior by powerful individuals;
- a justice system that repeatedly failed women and girls who were abused, raped, groomed, and trafficked; and
- powerful individuals who may never have been fully investigated or held accountable.

This is not, and will never be, an attempt to “move on.” We will continue to follow the evidence and pursue justice to its end.

In recent weeks, pursuant to a subpoena issued by the House Oversight Committee received a tranche of teen of thousands of documents from the Epstein Estate—which include over 1,600 references involving the President. This include emails, correspondence, bank records, references of litigation, and statements by Epstein himself.

I want to be very clear: These materials contain allegations, including claims made in sworn filings, and statements whose credibility must now be evaluated through a full and transparent investigative process. Which is precisely why releasing the full set of Epstein files and this Congressional inquiry are essential.

Included in these documents are materials referencing:

- A sexual assault suit against Epstein in which Donald Trump appears to have been subpoenaed, served, and deposed.
- Sworn statements and court documents involving a then-16-year-old who was recruited at Mar-a-Lago, who alleged she was groomed and sexually assaulted by Epstein and others—including individuals of significant global influence.

Statements in emails and correspondence attributed to Epstein in which he states:

- that Trump “knew about the girls,”
- in which Epstein indicates that Trump was aware that minors were being recruited from Mar-a-lago,
- that Trump was present at Epstein’s residence on numerous occasions,
- that Epstein claimed to have photographs of Trump with young women at his house, and
- that Trump was the “dog that hadn’t barked”—a phrase indicating his silence to police, which raised questions.

The files also reference:

- bank transactions between Epstein and Trump,
- discussions of Trump’s financial affairs,
- and concerns about potential money laundering through real estate deals—matters that may or may not have criminal significance, but which clearly warrant investigation.

Other documents include Epstein’s assessment that he faced a mandatory minimum of at least ten years in prison—yet the U.S. Department of Justice failed to indict and prosecute this case under federal law in spite of the recommendation of his own line prosecutor. These statements appear to contradict sworn statements given by former U.S. Attorney Alex Acosta in front of the Oversight Committee in a transcribed interview on September 19, 2025, in which he claimed he did not prosecute due to a lack of credible evidence.

Together, these documents form a substantial body of evidence—evidence that the American people deserve to see.

So I say to the public: believe your eyes. Read the documents. They speak for themselves. And to you, Members of this Committee, many of whom are seasoned attorneys, we need your expertise in this case.

#### **Why Justice Matters in this Case**

Justice in this case matters, because these survivors have waited decades for accountability.

It matters because individuals who abused women and girls must be held accountable—no matter their position, wealth, or power.

It matters because those who enabled, facilitated, financed, or participated in Epstein's criminal enterprise must face the truth.

It matters because transparency is necessary for healing.

And it matters because Congress has a responsibility to ensure our laws and justice system to protect the victims and not those committing crimes—including strengthening victims' rights legislation. Legislation that would likely move through this very committee.

#### **Entering Materials Into the Record**

Today, I am entering into the record the documents referenced in my remarks, organized by topic and in the order presented:

1. Court filings and sworn statements involving victims
2. Correspondence and emails involving Epstein and notable associates
3. Financial documents and bank transfers
4. Records referencing the President
5. Statements attributed to Epstein regarding recruitment of minors
6. Litigation records involving Mar-a-Lago recruitment allegations
7. Documents referencing individuals implicated by plaintiffs
8. Evidence contradicting prior DOJ testimony or statements

These materials are essential for a full public accounting. While the full records obtained from the Estate are publicly available on the Oversight Committee's website, I would like to request to have this particular set of key documents entered into this hearing record, because of their significance to our Congressional investigations

#### **The Call for Truth, Transparency, and Accountability**

Finally, I just want to say thank you. We know, as the victims have told us, the truth is out there. It is knowable. The survivors know what happened. And, that it is why it is time—way past time—to release the files, in full, whatever we may find.

And, to the survivors:

And to every woman and little girl who has ever wept, felt shame, or believed you were alone...  
To every parent who has feared the worst...  
To every survivor who felt the system failed you...

Know this:

You are not alone.

We see you.

We believe you.

We are fighting for you.

And we will not stop until truth and justice are served.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

In email as well

Chair JORDAN. Thank you, Representative. I appreciate you at this hearing today.

The gentlelady from New York is recognized. Representative Gillen, thank you for joining us today. Go right ahead.

**STATEMENT OF THE HON. LAURA GILLEN**

Ms. GILLEN. Good morning. Chair Jordan, Ranking Member, and the Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today to highlight how we can take action together in a bipartisan fashion to save lives and prevent tragedies.

I'm here today because of the extraordinary woman alongside me, Georgian Cornago from Lynbrook, New York, who I'm honored to represent here in Congress. Georgian traveled from Long Island to join me here today to honor the memory of her son, Giovanni "Gio" Cipriano, and to help me to urge our colleagues to prevent future heartbreaking tragedies like the one that befell her family, by passing H.R. 4019, Gio's Law.

This bipartisan legislation which I'm proud to have introduced alongside my Republican colleague from Long Island, Chair Andrew Garbarino, would help equip law enforcement officers across this country with access to lifesaving EpiPens for emergencies.

Mr. Chair, Gio was a son, a travel baseball team player, an honor student, and a freshman at Holy Trinity High School, when he suffered a sudden severe allergic reaction to a snack that contained peanuts, but he didn't know it.

His heart stopped while he was being rushed to the hospital and he left us on October 18, 2013. His passing was an unfathomable tragedy, a devastating loss to his family, to his friends, and to our community. Since his loss, Georgina has channeled her grief into tireless advocacy, doing everything possible to prevent another family from suffering such a tragedy.

More than 32 million Americans live with life-threatening food allergies and other severe allergic conditions. Anaphylaxis can be triggered by food, by insect bites, or medications—things that we come in contact with every day.

She established the Love for Giovanni Foundation and succeeded in passing New York State's Gio's Law in 2019, which enables police officers across the State to carry epinephrine pens. Starting with her hometown police department in the Village of Lynbrook, she worked to expand these programs throughout Nassau County, Westchester County, and Suffolk County, where just earlier this year the cops were able to save a 72-year-old bee sting victim who was suffering a life-threatening allergic reaction just two days after they started stocking EpiPens in their police cars.

Thanks to the incredible work of advocates like Georgina and other moms and activists across our community, each day more and more police departments are carrying EpiPens in their police patrol cars. However, these devices cost up to \$600 per use, which can make it very difficult for smaller departments to stock them.

That is why this bipartisan bill, Gio's Law, would establish the first-ever Federal grant program in the U.S. Department of Justice to equip law enforcement agencies across the country with EpiPens and to train officers on how to safely administer them. This competitive grant program would help offset the cost of epinephrine for

qualified State and local law enforcement agencies, just like the existing OJP and COPS grant programs for body-worn cameras, bulletproof vests, and other equipment and technology.

The bill would also standardize training for officers on how to recognize the symptoms of anaphylaxis and how to administer EpiPens. It would ensure that there are Good Samaritan laws and safe harbor protections to protect the police, and it would promote outreach and awareness about the use of epinephrine.

This is a bipartisan, prolaw enforcement, and public safety issue. Our brave police officers are often the first ones to arrive on the scene in an emergency, and they deserve to have the equipment they need to save lives.

I'm proud to say that this bill has been endorsed by the National Association of Police Organizations, the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, the Food Allergy Nurses Association, and the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology.

Mr. Chair, we don't have to read about another American losing their life to a severe allergic reaction. We can take the steps together to end these tragedies. Let's fund our police. Let's give them the tools that they need, so they can continue to be heroes in our community.

I'm asking for your help to advance this critical, bipartisan measure in memory of Gio—to better equip our police officers, save lives, and American people.

Chair Jordan, Ranking Member, thank you all for your time. Thank you for your work on this Committee. Thank you for serving our country and supporting our law enforcement.

Thank you, Mr. Chair, for agreeing to meet with me and Georgian later today.

I look forward to working with all you, my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, to pass Gio's Law. Thank you so much.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Gillen follows:]

**Testimony of The Honorable Laura A. Gillen (NY-04)**

**“Member Day Hearing”**

**House Committee on the Judiciary**

**November 20, 2025**

Chairman Jordan, Ranking Member Raskin, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today to highlight how we can take action, together -- in a bipartisan way -- to save precious lives and prevent tragedies.

I'm here today because of this extraordinary woman alongside me -- Georgina Cornago, from Lynbrook, New York, who I am honored to represent in Congress.

Georgina traveled from Long Island to join me today to honor the memory of her beloved son, Giovanni Cipriano, and to help prevent future, heartbreaking tragedies by passing H.R. 4019, Gio's Law. This bipartisan legislation, which I introduced with my Republican colleague from Long Island, Chairman Andrew Garbarino, would equip law enforcement officers across this country with access to lifesaving Epi-Pens in emergencies.

Mr. Chairman, Gio was a son. A brother. A teammate on a local travel baseball team. An honor student. He had just started his freshman year at Holy Trinity High School on Long Island, when he suffered a sudden, severe allergic reaction from a snack that contained peanuts.

His heart stopped while he was rushed to the hospital and he left us on October 18, 2013. His passing was an unfathomable tragedy, and we can and must never forget it.

Since his loss, Georgina has been tireless in doing everything possible to prevent another family from enduring this pain. That is because more than 32 million Americans live with life-threatening food allergies and other severe allergic conditions. Anaphylaxis can be triggered by food, insect stings, or medications – things we come into contact every day.

She succeeded in passing New York State's Gio's Law in 2019, enabling police departments across the state to carry epinephrine, and, starting with her hometown of Lynbrook, has worked to expand access to police in Nassau, Westchester, and Suffolk County— where earlier this year, cops saved the life of a 72-year-old bee-sting victim suffering a life-threatening allergic reaction, just two days after they started stocking EpiPens in their vehicles.

Thanks to the incredible work of advocates like Georgina, and other moms and activists in the allergy community, each day, more police departments across the country are already stepping up to equip officers with Epi-Pens. However, these devices can cost up to \$600 per use, which can make it difficult for many departments to purchase them.

That is why our bipartisan bill, Gio's Law, would establish the first-ever federal grant program at the U.S. Department of Justice to equip law enforcement across our country with EpiPens and train officers on how to safely use them.

This competitive grant program would help offset the cost of epinephrine for qualified state and local enforcement agencies – just like the existing OJP and COPS grant programs for body-worn cameras, bulletproof vests, and other equipment and technology. The bill would also standardize training for law enforcement officers to recognize the symptoms of anaphylaxis and administer epinephrine, ensure “Good Samaritan” safe harbor protections for police; and, promote outreach and awareness about the use of epinephrine.

This is a bipartisan, pro-law enforcement, public safety issue. Our brave police officers are the first to arrive on the scene in an emergency, and they deserve to have the equipment they need to save lives.

I’m proud that this bill has been endorsed by the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, the Food Allergy Nurses Association, and the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology.

Mr. Chairman, we should not have to read about another American losing his or her life due to a severe allergic reaction, when we can take steps to prevent these tragedies. Let’s fund our police and give them the tools they need to continue to be heroes in our communities.

I am asking for your help to advance this critical, bipartisan measure, in memory of Gio, to better equip our police, save lives, and help the American people.

Chairman Jordan and Ranking Member Raskin, thank you for your time today and for your work on this Committee to serve our country and support law enforcement. I look forward to working with you and colleagues on both sides of the aisle to make progress on this critical issue and help save lives by passing Gio's Law. Thank you, and I yield back.

Chair JORDAN. Thank you. Georgian, thank you. God bless you. I appreciate your work.

We have one of our staffers who also happens to be a police officer and travels with me almost all the time. He carries the EpiPen because, if he gets stung by a bee, it gets serious really quick.

We appreciate what you are trying to do there. We will look forward to talking later. Thank you.

The gentlelady from Texas, Representative Fletcher, thanks for joining us. You are recognized for five minutes.

#### **STATEMENT OF THE HON. LIZZIE FLETCHER**

Ms. FLETCHER. Thank you, Chair Jordan, Ranking Member Scanlon, and the Members of the Committee. I appreciate the opportunity to speak before you today.

When I became a Member of the State Bar of Texas in 2006, I took an oath, solemnly swearing to uphold and support the Constitution of the United States; to honestly demean myself in the practice of law; to discharge my duties to the best of my ability; and to conduct myself with integrity and civility.

I know many of you have taken a similar oath, and I know that all of us have sworn and signed an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States when we became Members of this Congress.

That is why I'm before you this morning. As Historian Heather Cox Richardson so eloquently explained in her book *Democracy Awakening*, the Constitution established a representative democracy, a Republic in which voters would elect lawmakers who would represent the people. The Legislative Branch would be a balance to a single leader at the head of the Executive Branch. Each would prevent the rise of a tyrant on the other side.

Congress would write all the necessary and proper laws, levy taxes, borrow money, pay the Nation's debts, establish a postal service, establish courts, declare war, support an Army and Navy, and organize and call forth the militia to execute the laws of the Union, and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States.

The President would execute the laws. If Congress overstepped, the President could veto proposed legislation and, in turn, Congress could override a Presidential veto.

As all of us here know, the Framers created the Congress, the House and the Senate, devising a system of representative democracy that has endured for more than 200 years. As you know, they enumerated a Bill of Rights as the first 10 Amendments to the Constitution.

That system, and the rights of the Americans that it protects, has been under assault this year, and it is the responsibility of this Congress and this Committee to protect them. I'm sorry to say that this Congress appears to be failing to do so.

That's why I introduced with Representative Garamendi H.R. 603, reaffirming the principles of the U.S. Constitution, including the separation of powers and the rule of law, which is before this Committee.

Since January 20th of this year, the Executive Branch, the Article II branch of government, has undermined the separation of

powers enumerated in the Constitution between the Congress, the courts, and the Executive. Under the leadership and at the direction of President Trump, the Executive Branch has overstepped its authority and undermined the institutions that uphold the rule of law; that guarantee fair and free elections; that regulate commerce; that protect public health; that conduct oversight; that engage with people and nations around the world—expanding the power of the Presidency to implement dangerous and divisive policies.

From Executive Orders and actions encouraging lawlessness, eviscerating progress for all Americans, and abandoning our allies and our leadership in the world, the harms to Americans are apparent now and will be for generations to come if Congress does not act and assert its authority.

Of course, congressional spending has been on all our minds lately, and while appropriations is the work of another Committee, protection of the mandate that spending bills originate in the Congress is part of the work of this Committee.

This administration has willfully ignored that principle, violating Federal law by withholding funding authorized by Congress; canceling funding for Federal programs Congress created, and that communities across the country rely on—eviscerating bipartisan spending laws.

This administration has frozen, canceled, clawed-back, or illegally impounded investments Congress has made in public health, public safety, public welfare, public education, public lands, and protection of our environment.

This House and Senate have utterly failed to respond to this attack on congressional authority and the refusal to spend congressionally appropriated funds. These are serious harms to the people we represent and serious harms to our Constitution's separation of powers.

They are matched by the grave harm to our constitutional order that come from the President and the administration's efforts to censure dissent; to prohibit and intimidate Americans' peaceful assembly; to limit public participation and freedom to associate, whether that is by joining a union or organizing a protest; to restrain and exclude the press and the transparency that a free press brings; and to prohibit the free exercise of religion.

All these rights are protected by the Constitution and must be protected by this Committee. This Committee must use its authority to protect the constitutional system of justice and the independence of the judiciary, as this administration abuses its authority by intimidation, investigation, and prosecution of its critics.

I urge the Committee and the Congress to remember its purpose and to use its power to protect, support, and defend the people and the Constitution of the United States. Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Fletcher follows:]

**Testimony of the Honorable Lizzie Fletcher**

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

I appreciate the opportunity to speak before you today.

When I became a member of the State Bar of Texas, in 2006, I took an oath, solemnly swearing to support the Constitution of the United States; to honestly demean myself in the practice of law; to discharge my duties to the best of my ability; and, to conduct myself with integrity and civility.

I know many of you have taken a similar oath.

And all of us have sworn—and signed—an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States when we became members of Congress.

And that is why I am here before you this morning.

As historian Heather Cox Richardson so elegantly explained in *Democracy Awakening*, the “Constitution established a representative democracy, a republic in which voters would elect lawmakers who would represent the people. That legislative branch would be a balance to a single leader at the head of the executive branch; each would prevent the rise of a tyrant on the other side. Congress would write all ‘necessary and proper’ laws, levy taxes, borrow money, pay the nation’s debts, establish a postal service, establish courts, declare war, support an army and navy, and organize and call forth ‘the militia to execute the laws of the Union,’ and provide for the common Defence and general welfare of the United States.’ The president would execute the laws, but if Congress overstepped, the president could veto proposed legislation. In turn, Congress could override a presidential veto.”

As all of us here know, the Framers created the Congress, the House and the Senate, devised a system of representative democracy that has endured for more than 200 years. And, as you know, they enumerated a Bill of Rights as the first ten amendments to the Constitution.

That system, and the rights of Americans it protects, has been under assault this year. And it is the responsibility of this Congress and this Committee to protect them.

I am sorry to say that this Congress appears to be failing to do so.

Since January 20 of this year, the Executive Branch—the Article II Branch of the government—has undermined the separation of powers enumerated in the Constitution between the Congress (Article I), the Courts (Article III), and the Executive (Article II).

Under the leadership and at the direction of President Trump, the Executive Branch has overstepped its authority and undermined the institutions that uphold the rule of law, that guarantee free and fair elections, that regulate commerce, that protect public health, that conduct oversight, that engage with people and nations around the world, expanding the power of the presidency to implement dangerous and divisive policies.

From executive orders and actions encouraging lawlessness, eviscerating progress for all Americans, and abandoning our allies and our leadership in the world, the harms to Americans are apparent now and will be for generations to come if this Congress does not act and assert its authority.

Of course, Congressional spending has been on our minds lately. And while Appropriations are the work of another committee, protection of the mandate that all spending bills originate in the Congress is part of the work of this Committee.

And yet, President Trump and his administration have willfully ignored this principle, violating federal law by withholding funding authorized by Congress, canceling funding for federal programs Congress created that communities across the country rely on, and eviscerating bipartisan spending laws.

Through a variety of means, President Trump has frozen, canceled, clawed back, or illegally impounded investments the Congress has directed in:

- Public health, including critical medical research, including for cancer, Alzheimer's, diabetes, and more;
- Public safety, including COPS grants and Office of Violence Against Women grants;
- Public welfare, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, putting 3.5 million Texans—including 1.7 million children—at risk of going hungry;
- Public education, including Head Start programs;

- Public emergency preparation, including FEMA hazard mitigation funding;
- Public lands and efforts to protect and promote clean air, clean water, and public health; and more.

This House and Senate have utterly failed to respond to this assault on Congressional authority or this refusal to spend funding as Congress intended.

These are serious harms to the people we represent. And serious harms to our Constitution's separation of powers.

They are matched by the grave harm to our Constitutional order that come from the President and the Administration's efforts to censure dissent, to prohibit and intimidate Americans' peaceful assembly, to limit public participation and freedom to associate, whether by joining a Union or organizing a protest; to restrain and exclude the press and the transparency a free press brings; and to prohibit the free exercise of religion. All of these rights are protected by the Constitution and must be protected by this Committee.

As this Committee must use its authority to protect the constitutional system of justice and the independence of the judiciary as this administration abuses its authority by intimidation, investigation, and prosecution of its critics.

To date, this Congress has largely supported, defended, and encouraged President Trump's unlawful, unconstitutional and un-American actions.

I urge this Committee and this Congress to remember its purpose and to use its power to protect, support, and defend the people and the Constitution of the United States.

Chair JORDAN. Thank you, Representative. We appreciate you coming.

The Chair now recognizes the gentleman from California, Mr. Min.

#### STATEMENT OF THE HON. DAVE MIN

Mr. MIN. Thank you, Mr. Chair and Ranking Member Scanlon. I'm here to discuss a number of bills related to financial conflicts of interest.

In May of this year, I introduced H.R. 3779, the STOCK Act 2.0, to address a clear conflict of interest that we have seen far too often illustrated here, and that is congressional stock trading.

This legislation would strengthen restrictions on individual stock trading by Members of Congress, the Judiciary, and the Executive Branch. Critically, it builds on the important foundation of the original STOCK Act by improving filing and disclosure requirements of financial reports; increasing penalties for noncompliance, ensuring real transparency, and accountability.

Public service is an honor, not an opportunity for self-enrichment at the expense of our constituents. This should not be a partisan issue. I'm pleased to see so many Members from both parties joining on efforts to try to address this issue.

We have seen the news reports of Members of Congress, Members of this administration, Members of the Judiciary, apparently, benefiting from access to information that Americans, average Americans, don't have—trading on the information we have, cheating the markets.

Now, I'm very, very reassured by the fact that Speaker Johnson told Representative Luna that he is strongly considering addressing this issue. Of course, a number of legislative efforts are under discussion right now. This is encouraging and it underscores the need for accountability across the board.

I also want to highlight another important bill being led by my colleague and friend, Representative Hank Johnson, who's been at the forefront of efforts to address the ethical challenges currently facing this Supreme Court. Representative Johnson's Supreme Court Ethics, Recusal, and Transparency Act would require Justices of the Supreme Court to adopt and follow a binding code of ethics with an enforcement mechanism for resolving ethics or misconduct complaints.

This is a crucial step for restoring the public's trust in the highest Court. We cannot just allow them to police themselves. There needs to be some transparency and accountability.

Together, these two bills demonstrate a commitment to restoring public trust, which is failing right now in our public institutions and our government. They are making efforts to try to ensure that all three branches of government—the Executive Branch, the Legislative Branch, and the Judiciary—are held to the highest standards of ethics and transparency, and that we are holding ourselves to the same standards that we ask of people in other fields.

Building on this momentum, I'm pleased to announce the launch of the Congressional Progressive Caucus' Fighting Corruption Task Force. As Chair of that new task force, alongside Vice Chair Hank

Johnson, we are working right now on efforts to elevate anticorruption measures across the Democratic Caucus.

I'm excited to work with several of my colleagues on this initiative, including Representatives Scanlon, Deluzio, Summer Lee, and Mike Levin. Our first meeting will take place in December, and we look forward to advancing meaningful reforms for Congress.

We also welcome input from our Republican colleagues because corruption is not confined to one party, and efforts to try to rein this in should not be confined to any one political party.

I will conclude my remarks by thanking the Committee once again for its focus on addressing corruption and safeguarding the integrity of our institutions. I yield back.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Min follows:]

**Statement for Rep. Dave Min (CA-47)**  
**House Judiciary Committee**  
**Member Day Hearing**  
**November 20, 2023**

Thank you, Chairman Jordan and Ranking Member Raskin, for the opportunity to speak before the House Judiciary Committee today.

I want to begin by recognizing the vital role this Committee plays in safeguarding the integrity of our nation's institutions, including the federal courts, administrative bodies, and law enforcement agencies.

That role is all the more critical under Donald Trump's presidency, where we have witnessed alarming levels of corruption and graft: widespread pardons of criminals, violations of the Constitution's emoluments clause, the gifting of luxury aircraft, and even profiteering through speculative financial schemes like Trump's meme coins.

While many important bills fall under this Committee's jurisdiction, I want to highlight two anti-corruption measures currently before you.

In May, I introduced H.R. 3779, the **STOCK Act 2.0**, to address a clear conflict of interest: congressional stock trading.

My legislation strengthens restrictions on individual stock trading by Members of Congress, the judiciary, and the executive branch. Critically, it builds on the important foundation of the original STOCK Act by improving the filing and disclosure of financial reports, increasing penalties for non-compliance, and ensuring real transparency and accountability.

Public service is an honor, not an opportunity for self-enrichment at the expense of constituents. This should not be a partisan issue.

Speaker Johnson assured Representative Luna that he would consider addressing this issue, and several other legislative efforts are under discussion. That is encouraging, and it underscores the need for accountability across the board.

I also want to highlight another important bill led by my colleague and friend, **Representative Hank Johnson**, who has been at the forefront of efforts to address the ethical challenges currently facing the Supreme Court.

Representative Johnson's Supreme Court Ethics, Recusal, and Transparency Act would require justices of the Supreme Court to adopt and follow a binding code of ethics with an enforcement mechanism for resolving ethics or misconduct complaints. This is a critical step to restoring the public's trust in the highest court.

Together, these measures demonstrate a commitment to restoring public trust. They show that all three branches of government must hold themselves to the same standards they expect of others.

Building on this momentum, I am pleased to announce the launch of the **Congressional Progressive Caucus' Fighting Corruption Task Force**. As chair, alongside vice-chair Rep. Hank Johnson, we will elevate anti-corruption measures across the Democratic caucus. I am excited to work with several of my colleagues on this initiative, including Representatives Scanlon, Deluzio, Summer Lee, and Levin.

Our first meeting will take place in December, and we look forward to advancing meaningful reforms this Congress.

We also welcome input from our Republican colleagues because corruption is not confined to any one political party.

I will conclude my remarks by thanking the Committee once again for its focus on addressing corruption and safeguarding the integrity of our institutions.

I yield back.

Chair JORDAN. Thank you so much, Mr. Min. The right fine gentleman from Pennsylvania is recognized, Mr. Fitzpatrick. Good to have you with us. Hit that button, Brian—or Representative Fitzpatrick.

**STATEMENT OF THE HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK**

Mr. FITZPATRICK. There we go. Thank you to the Chair and the Ranking Member. Thank you for your time today and for holding this hearing.

As you continue your important work, I would respectfully ask the Committee to address the issue of protecting our veterans from fraud and strengthening guardrails against those targeting vulnerable populations.

For far too often, so many of us hear from our veteran constituents, many of whom are seniors who have been wrongfully defrauded of their earned benefits by bad actors. Criminals often prey on veterans' desperation by posing as facilitators, but, instead, scam veterans out of benefits using various very, very sophisticated methods.

Active-duty service members, National Guard personnel, veterans and their families lost nearly 25 percent more money to scammers in 2024 than in the previous year—with reported losses totaling well over \$580 million, according to the consumer complaints filed with the Federal Trade Commission.

To address this emergency, Representative Scanlon and I introduced the Preventing Crimes Against Veterans Act. This is a bipartisan bill that adds appropriate penalties to those actors who knowingly defraud a veteran of their earned benefits, subject fraudsters to a fine and/or five years in prison.

This bill has garnered strong bipartisan support, and it is passed out of the House of Representatives with a near unanimous vote in the 114th, 115th, and 116th Congresses.

Individuals who defraud our veterans must be held accountable and punished, and it is critical that the men and women who served our Nation receive their hard-earned benefits from the VA.

I'm proud to co-lead this bipartisan bill with Representative Scanlon to crack down on fraudsters who take advantage of our veterans. I look forward to continuing to work with this Committee to answer any and all questions you all have to advance this legislation to protect our Nation's veterans.

I thank you for your time.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Fitzpatrick follows:]

House Judiciary Committee  
*Member Day Hearing* | November 20, 2025  
TESTIMONY OF REPRESENTATIVE BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

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Chairman Jordan, Ranking Member Raskin, Members of the Committee:

Thank you for holding this Member Day hearing and providing me with the opportunity to share the concerns of my constituents.

As you continue your important work, I strongly urge the Committee to address issues of protecting our veterans from fraud and strengthening guardrails against those targeting vulnerable populations.

Far too often, I hear from veteran constituents, many of whom are seniors, who have been wrongfully defrauded of their earned benefits by bad actors. Criminals often prey on veterans' desperation by posing as facilitators, but instead scam veterans out of their benefits by various methods.

Active-duty service members, National Guard personnel, veterans, and their families lost nearly 25 percent more money to scammers in 2024 than the previous year, with reported losses totaling \$584 million, according to consumer complaints filed with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

To address this emergency, I introduced the Preventing Crimes Against Veterans Act alongside my colleague from Pennsylvania and Member of this Committee, Representative Scanlon. This bipartisan bill adds appropriate penalties to those actors who knowingly defraud a veteran of their earned benefits, subjecting fraudsters to a fine and/or five years in prison.

This bill has garnered strong bipartisan support, and has been passed out of the House of Representatives with near unanimous consent in the 114<sup>th</sup>, 115<sup>th</sup>, and 116<sup>th</sup> Congresses.

Individuals who defraud our veterans must be held accountable and punished. It is critical that the men and women who served our country receive their hard-earned benefits from the VA, and I'm proud to lead this bipartisan legislation to crack-down on fraudsters who take advantage of our veterans. I look forward to continuing to work with you all to advance this legislation and protect our nation's veterans.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify today.

I look forward to continuing to work with the Committee and on my colleagues on commonsense solutions to protect vulnerable communities.

Chair JORDAN. Does the gentlelady from Pennsylvania want to—  
Ms. SCANLON. I just wanted to thank my colleague from Pennsylvania for continuing to sponsor the bill.

Chair JORDAN. Great. The Representative from Guam is recognized. Mr. Moylan, good to have you with us.

**STATEMENT OF THE HON. JAMES MOYLAN**

Mr. MOYLAN. Thank you, Chair Jordan and Ranking Member Raskin. Hafa adai and thank you for hosting today's Member Day.

As the Committee considers and deliberates on Members' requests for the end of 2025 and for 2026, I would like to highlight two policy priorities for the people of Guam.

First, we must, as a Congress, finally deliver the radiation survivors that have been left behind. As you know, I have been a staunch vocal advocate for ensuring that the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act, or RECA, includes all those who were unwillingly and unknowingly exposed to radiation and developed illnesses as a result.

Since the beginning of my time in Congress, I have worked with my colleagues across the aisle to make this proposal a reality. While I applaud the Members of this body, the Senate, and President Trump for including the reauthorization of RECA in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, I must express my disappointment and frustration that the people of Guam were left out yet again.

For decades, our radiation survivors have fought to include Guam as a downwinder jurisdiction. Our suffering was recognized by the Federal Government in 2005, affirming what the people of Guam have long known to be true.

In 2017, a survivor testified before the Senate urging Guam's inclusion in the reauthorization language. Most recently, with broad bipartisan support, Guam was included in the Senate-passed Radiation Exposure Reauthorization Act. Despite our best efforts, it was not brought forth to a vote before the end of the 118th Congress.

Much of this language was included in the One Big Beautiful Act when it was signed into law. However, many were excluded. I am once again working on legislation that would rectify this injustice.

I thank the Committee and the Chair for his continuing work with me on it. With that in mind, I urge the Committee to continue to work with Members representing downwind jurisdictions to ensure we are compensated to compensate those affected—those who were the hidden cost of nuclear testing.

Second, I ask that the Committee consider a request that would bring parity to the territorial courts. As you are aware, the Federal District Court in Guam, and the CNMI, and the Virgin Islands are currently Article I courts. This somewhat obscured fact means that, unlike District Courts in the 50 States, D.C., and Puerto Rico, our Federal Courts are not afforded the same constitutional protection as courts organized under Article III.

Additionally, it limits the ability for our Federal judges to sit on the Appeals Courts and hear cases before their respected circuits.

The conversion of our District Courts from Article I to Article III courts would afford those who stand before it a guarantee of judicial independence—the cornerstone of our national and legal heritage. I urge the Committee to consider this request and to ensure

that all Americans are guaranteed a fair trial by an independent judiciary.

To quote John Jay, quote, “Justice is indiscriminately due to all, without regard to numbers, wealth, or rank.”

Si yu’os ma’ase, and I look forward to answering any of your questions you may have. Thank you.

Chair JORDAN. Thank you, Representative Moylan. We appreciate the passion you bring representing the folks of Guam, and I know, particularly, on this issue of the downwinders, your commitment to getting something done there. We will continue to see if we can be helpful. Thank you so much.

The gentlelady from Arizona is recognized. Hit that button again. There you go.

#### **STATEMENT OF THE HON. YASSAMIN ANSARI**

Ms. ANSARI. Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

I am here to urge the Judiciary Committee to uphold its duty to hold the Trump Administration accountable for the massive and unprecedented abuses it is unleashing across the entire country.

As Donald Trump carries out his indiscriminate war on immigrants and American communities, it is essential that we conduct thorough congressional oversight of what is happening in detention centers like Eloy, a facility outside of my district.

I have now visited the Eloy Detention Center three times. What I have encountered inside Eloy is sickening. Many of the detainees share that they do not have access to reliable basic necessities like adequate food and water or essential medical care when they are in crisis. This includes women who do not have access to proper health care or feminine products.

Detainees describe to me firsthand the overcrowded, moldy cells, being forced to participate in dehumanizing marches outside in the Arizona heat, the AC intentionally turned off, and then blasted on high periodically, and constant berating from guards—conditions worse than prison. They have described having to drink water with chlorine in it and being given used underwear that gave them UTIs.

Right now, so many of my constituents in Arizona’s 3rd District are scared that they or their family members may be unjustly detained and denied their basic rights; sent to one of these internment camps without due process. This is unconstitutional and unacceptable.

Yes, constituents include citizens, green-card holders, DACA recipients, asylum seekers, refugees, including people, human beings, held in ICE detention. Members of Congress shouldn’t have to pick and choose who matters or who deserves help.

Some of the people I have spoken with in detention are asylum seekers. Some are refugees from some of the most dangerous places in the world who believed in the United States as a place of refuge.

I have written repeatedly to Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem and the Acting Director of Ice, Todd Lyons, detailing my deep concerns about the inhumane conditions at the Eloy Detention Center and demanding answers. Their responses have been completely unsatisfactory.

I want to tell you the story of one of my constituents, Yari Rodriguez Marquez, who has been held for the better part of a year in ICE detention. Yari was a green-card holder, someone here in this country legally, following the exact legal process that we have.

I have spent hours on end now with Yari inside the Eloy Detention Center. She is suffering from leukemia and is extremely sick. She told me the first two times I visited her that she vomited blood several times a week, and I witnessed it myself in this last visit.

Watching her suffer like that without answers or a plan is unbearable and unnecessary. She wasn't given her full test results or medical results. That's not a mistake; it is a bureaucracy designed to deny care and hide what is happening inside these ICE Detention Centers.

I made clear that day that I would not leave until next steps were set—full records, another oncology visit, and a treatment plan. Due to the persistence of Yari, her family and friends, my office, she was finally able to see a doctor, but that was after 6 months of direct advocacy from a Member of Congress. That should never have been the case, and thousands of other detainees are being silently treated in the same way.

We must fight back against Donald Trump's racist and authoritarian playbook. This is why I am planning on introducing a package of immigration bills to ensure that these abuses are permanently ended.

I urge the Judiciary Committee to do everything in your power to do so. It is imperative for the communities and families that we all represent. Thank you, and I yield back.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Ansari follows:]

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0303**

Thank you. Under Republican leadership, the Judiciary Committee has absolutely neglected its duty to hold the Trump Administration accountable for the massive, unprecedented abuses it is unleashing across the entire country.

As Donald Trump carries out his indiscriminate war on immigrants and American communities, it is essential that we conduct thorough Congressional Oversight for what's happening in detention centers like Eloy, a facility very near my district in Phoenix.

What I have encountered in Eloy was sickening—so many of the detainees shared that they do not have reliable access to basic necessities like adequate food and water or essential medical care when they are in crisis.

This includes women who do not have access to proper healthcare or feminine products.

Detainees described to me firsthand the overcrowded, moldy cells, being forced to participate in dehumanizing marches outside in the Arizona heat, the AC turned off and then blasted on high periodically, and constant berating from guards. Conditions worse than prison.

They described having to drink water with chlorine in it and being given used underwear that gave them UTIs.

Right now, so many of my constituents are scared that they or their family members may be unjustly detained and denied their basic rights, sent to one of these internment camps without due process. This is unconstitutional and unacceptable.

And yes, constituents include citizens, green card holders, DACA recipients, asylum seekers, refugees— including people – human beings – held in ICE detention. Members of Congress shouldn't pick and choose who matters or who deserves help.

Some of the people I have spoken with in detention are asylum seekers. Some are refugees from some of the most dangerous places in the world who believed in the United States as a place of refuge.

I have written repeatedly to Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem and the Acting Director of ICE Todd Lyons detailing my deep concerns about the inhumane conditions of the Eloy ICE

Detention Center and demanding answers. Their responses have been completely unsatisfactory.

I want to tell you the story of one of my constituents, Yari Rodríguez Márquez, who has been held for the better part of a year in ICE detention.

Yari was a green card holder. Someone here in this country legally, following the exact legal process we have.

I have spent hours on end with Yari in detention. She's suffering from cancer and extremely sick.

She told me she vomits blood several times a week—and I witnessed it myself.

Watching her suffer like that, without answers or a plan, is unbearable and unnecessary. She still hasn't been given her full test results or medical records. That's not a mistake. It's a bureaucracy designed to deny care and hide what's happening inside these ICE detention centers.

I made clear I wouldn't leave until next steps were set: full records, another oncology visit, and a real treatment plan.

Due to the persistence of Yari, her family and friends, and my office, she was finally able to see a doctor.

But that should never have been the case – and thousands of other detainees are being silently treated the same way.

We must fight back this part of Trump's racist and authoritarian playbook.

That is why I am planning on introducing a package of immigration bills to ensure that these abuses are permanently ended.

I urge the Judiciary Committee to do everything in your power to do so. It is imperative for the communities and families we all represent.

Thank you, and I yield back.

Chair JORDAN. The gentlelady yields back. Thank you, Representative. The Chair now recognizes the gentlelady from Florida.

**STATEMENT OF THE HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ**

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Thank you, Mr. Chair. It's good to be back in the Judiciary Committee.

Chair JORDAN. Welcome back. Welcome back.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. It's been a few years. Mr. Chair, Ranking Member Scanlon, thank you for the opportunity to present two critical bills that protect the vulnerable, uphold the rule of law, and ensure real accountability for dangerous criminals.

First, I would like to discuss H.R. 4406, the bipartisan Courtney Wild Reinforcing Crime Victims' Rights Act, which I proudly colead with Representative Tim Burchett. It's named for Courtney Wild, who bravely survived Epstein's cruelty and now fights to reform a system that badly mistreated her and her fellow survivors.

As we all know by now, in 2008, Epstein received a sweetheart plea deal from then-U.S. Attorney Alex Acosta. It now only gave Epstein and his co-conspirator immunity from Federal prosecution, but worse, his victims weren't informed or consulted before this outrageous deal was reached. It was a clear violation of the intent of the Crime Victims' Rights Act, or CVRA, passed in 2004, which specifically gives victims the right to timely notice of any major development in the defendant's case.

Courtney thought she had that right, too, but courts ruled that, because Epstein's charges were not formally filed, she and other victims weren't guaranteed these vital CVRA rights. It's a glaring loophole that must be fixed.

While I'm grateful the Epstein Files Transparency Act passed overwhelmingly this week, this bill guarantees transparency beyond just one man. This bill would ensure future survivors of such horrific crimes aren't kept in the dark and guarantee the transparency and accountability that the CVRA intended.

Victims deserve to be protected at every legal step, and our job is to ensure legal loopholes don't allow criminals to escape accountability. I urge the Committee to take up and pass the bipartisan bill to show we support real justice and a transparency for Epstein's survivors, but also to make sure that all really universally agreed, we prevent anything like this deal from ever happening again.

Mr. Chair, I would love an opportunity to come and talk to you after the meeting at some point about this bill specifically, because it has been out there a while and I know there is a lot of bipartisan support for it. Thank you so much.

Second, I would like to discuss H.R. 3310, the bipartisan Venezuela TPS Act, which I proudly colead with my Florida colleagues, Mr. Soto and Ms. Salazar.

I'm grateful to the Ranking Member of this Committee for his unwavering partnership on this issue as well.

This bill would redesignate temporary protective status for Venezuelans residing in the United States. Over the last decade, Venezuela has spiraled deeper into humanitarian, economic, and political crisis under the criminal dictatorship of Nicolas Maduro. Maduro's murderous brutality, brazen election theft, and klepto-

cratic corruption have precipitated the largest peaceful refugee crisis in modern history. Over eight million people have fled poverty, repression, and failed communist policies, and some have made a home in America legally under TPS, but the current President has taken that status away.

Over 400,000 Venezuelan Americans, most of whom arrived before 2021 during President Trump's first term, have had their legal residency and work permits revoked. The economic impact of this action will be devastating for South Florida and it will drive up costs everywhere.

I proudly represent the largest Venezuelan American community in Congress, and I would like to tell you about them. Venezuelans are teachers, nurses, construction workers, and firefighters. They care for elderly parents and their kids. Many run small businesses and create jobs, and they all boost our labor force, tax base, and consumer market.

Deporting Venezuelans means fewer jobs, less innovation, and less funding for Social Security and Medicare, but it also means higher health, housing, and grocery costs, not to mention a massive waste of taxpayer dollars on detentions and deportations.

Then, there's the moral price we pay for subjecting people to a totalitarian regime that this administration accurately calls corrupt, authoritarian, and hostile to human rights. Venezuelans love America. They are patriots who cherish the freedoms many of us take for granted and want that democracy for their home country, too.

Many Venezuelan TPS holders have U.S. citizen children. Trump's policy will orphan them or condemn them to hopeless misery alongside their parents.

TPS is bipartisan. Created by Congress, Presidents of both parties utilized it to protect people from countries in crisis, provided that they follow the law.

TPS recipients don't get handouts. They pay application fees that fund the system without burdening taxpayers.

This bill also doesn't shield anyone who commits a crime. TPS holders pass repeated background checks, and any criminal record is disqualifying.

Ending TPS doesn't stop crime. It means law enforcement expends more resources arresting noncriminals, and that means letting real public threats walk free.

Trump's termination of TPS doesn't just separate families; it sends people back to a criminal regime where they will face violence, persecution, and even death.

It is even more heinous to actively collaborate with Maduro, an indicted cartel kingpin, to facilitate these removals and reward him with sanctions relief. It is totally inconceivable and contradictory to continue twice-weekly deportation flights to Venezuela while threatening military action that may put innocents in the crossfire.

How could the administration declare conditions in Venezuela have improved enough to revoke TPS, while bringing our largest aircraft carrier off their coast and considering military action?

We cannot credibly denounce authoritarian dictators while cutting side deals to swap immigrants for oil money.

Venezuelan TPS recipients are law-abiding families, and we should focus law enforcement resources on real criminals, not collective punishment. Let's pressure Venezuela's regime, not its refugees, and let's reduce Americans' high costs, not our highest ideals.

I urge the Committee to take up and pass the bipartisan Venezuela TPS Act—not out of charity, but for America's interests.

Thank you, Mr. Chair and the Ranking Member, for your indulgence and for your time on these two bills. Now, let's work together to protect the truly vulnerable among us.

I yield back.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Wasserman Schultz follows:]

**Rep. Wasserman Schultz Testimony for Judiciary Committee Member  
Day  
Thursday Nov. 20, 2025**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member, for the opportunity to present two critical bills that protect the vulnerable, uphold the rule of law, and ensure real accountability for dangerous criminals.

First, I'd like to discuss H.R. 5506, the bipartisan Courtney Wild Reinforcing Crime Victims' Rights Act, which I proudly co-lead with Rep. Burchett. It's named for Courtney Wild, who bravely survived Epstein's cruelty and now fights to reform a system that badly mistreated her and her fellow survivors. As we all know by now, in 2008, Epstein received a sweetheart plea deal from then-U.S. Attorney Alex Acosta.

It not only gave Epstein and his co-conspirator immunity from federal prosecution, but worse, his victims weren't informed or consulted before this outrageous deal was reached. It was a clear violation of the intent of the Crime Victims' Rights Act, or CVRA, passed in 2004, which specifically gives victims the right to timely notice of any major development in the defendant's case.

Courtney thought she had the right, too. But courts ruled that because Epstein's charges were not formally filed, she and other victims weren't guaranteed these vital CVRA rights. It's a glaring loophole that must be fixed. And while I'm grateful the Epstein Files Transparency Act passed overwhelmingly this week, this bill guarantees transparency beyond just one man.

This bill would ensure future survivors of such horrific crimes aren't kept in the dark, and guarantees the transparency and accountability that the CVRA intended. Victims deserve to be protected at every legal step, and our job is to ensure legal loopholes don't allow criminals to escape accountability. I urge the Committee to take up and pass this bipartisan bill to show we support real justice and transparency for Epstein's survivors.

Next, I'd like to discuss H.R. 3310, the bipartisan Venezuela TPS Act, which I proudly co-lead with my Florida colleagues Mr. Soto and Ms. Salazar. I'm grateful to the Ranking Member for his unwavering partnership on this issue as well. This bill would redesignate Temporary Protected Status for Venezuelans residing in the U.S.

Over the last decade, Venezuela has spiraled deeper into humanitarian, economic, and political crisis under the criminal dictatorship of Nicolás Maduro. Maduro's murderous brutality, brazen election theft, and kleptocratic corruption have precipitated the largest peacetime refugee crisis

in modern history. Over eight million people have fled poverty, repression, and failed communist policies. And some have made a home in America, *legally*, under TPS. But the current President has taken that status away.

Over 400,000 Venezuelan Americans – most of whom arrived before 2021 during President Trump’s first term – have had their legal residency and work permits revoked. The economic impacts of this action will be devastating for South Florida, and it will drive up costs everywhere.

I proudly represent the largest Venezuelan American community in Congress, and I’d like to tell you about them. Venezuelans are teachers, nurses, construction workers, and firefighters. They care for elderly parents and kids. Many run small businesses, and create jobs. And they all boost our labor force, tax base, and consumer market. Deporting Venezuelans means fewer jobs, less innovation, and less funding for Social Security and Medicare.

But it also means higher health, housing, and grocery costs, not to mention a massive waste of taxpayer dollars on detentions and deportations. Then there’s the moral price we pay for subjecting people to a totalitarian regime that this Administration accurately calls corrupt, authoritarian, and hostile to human rights.

Venezuelans love America. They’re patriots who cherish the freedoms many of us take for granted, and want that democracy for their home country too. And many Venezuelan TPS holders have U.S. citizen children. Trump’s policy will orphan them or condemn them to hopeless misery alongside their parents.

And TPS is bipartisan. Created by Congress, presidents of both parties utilized it to protect people from countries in crisis, provided that they follow the law. TPS recipients don’t get handouts. They pay application fees that fund this system without burdening taxpayers.

This bill also doesn’t shield anyone who commits a crime. TPS holders pass repeated background checks and *any* criminal record is disqualifying. Ending TPS doesn’t stop crime. It means law enforcement expends more resources arresting non-criminals, and that means letting real public threats walk free.

Trump’s termination of TPS doesn’t just separate families, it sends people back to a criminal regime where they will face violence, persecution and even death. It’s even more heinous to actively collaborate with Maduro, an indicted cartel kingpin, to facilitate these removals and reward him with sanctions relief.

And it's totally inconceivable and contradictory to continue twice-weekly deportation flights to Venezuela while threatening military action that may put innocents in the crossfire. How could the Administration declare conditions in Venezuela have improved enough to revoke TPS while bringing our largest aircraft carrier off their cost and considering military action?

We cannot credibly denounce authoritarian dictators while cutting side deals to swap immigrants for oil money. Venezuelan TPS recipients are law-abiding families, and we should focus law enforcement resources on real criminals, not collective punishment. Let's pressure Venezuela's regime, not its refugees. And let's reduce Americans' high costs, not our highest ideals.

I urge the Committee to take up and pass the bipartisan Venezuela TPS Act not out of charity, but for America's interests. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member, for your time on these two bills. Now, let's work together to protect the truly vulnerable among us. I yield back.

Chair JORDAN. Thank you. I appreciate your passion on this.  
[Pause.]

That concludes today's hearing. We thank our colleagues for appearing before the Committee today.

Without objection, all Members will have five legislative days to submit additional materials for the record. Without objection, the hearing is adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 11 a.m., the Committee was adjourned.]

All materials submitted for the record by Members of the Committee on the Judiciary can be found at: <https://docs.house.gov/Committee/Calendar/ByEvent.aspx?EventID=118678>.

