

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 23, 2025

The Honorable Pamela Jo Bondi  
Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington D.C. 20530

The Honorable Todd Wallace Blanche  
Deputy Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Bondi and Deputy Attorney General Blanche:

We write with grave concern regarding multiple reports that the Department of Justice (DOJ) abruptly terminated an active and ongoing public corruption investigation into White House border czar Tom Homan. These reports allege that Mr. Homan received a significant amount of money from undercover Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agents in “exchange for facilitating future contracts related to border enforcement,” and that top DOJ and FBI officials from the Trump Administration were briefed on the allegations and then shut down the investigation.<sup>1</sup> Such allegations of high-level corruption and cover-up demand your close cooperation with congressional oversight and transparency to restore public trust, including the public release of key evidence.

**As members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, we are initiating a robust oversight inquiry to review Mr. Homan’s actions prior to and since joining this administration, as well as DOJ’s role in ultimately shutting down the investigation into Mr. Homan.** To ensure the Committee can undertake its legislative and oversight functions, please instruct all components of the Department to preserve any and all records related to the investigation into Mr. Homan and the decision to close the investigation.

**Moreover, given the urgent need to repair public trust, we request the full investigative file, including any recordings of Mr. Homan receiving cash from undercover FBI agents, be**

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<sup>1</sup> Carol Leonnig and Ken Dilanian, *Tom Homan was investigated for accepting \$50,000 from undercover FBI agents. Trump’s DOJ shut it down*, MSNBC (Sept. 20, 2025) [www.msnbc.com/msnbc/news/tom-homan-cash-contracts-trump-doj-investigation-rcna232568](https://www.msnbc.com/msnbc/news/tom-homan-cash-contracts-trump-doj-investigation-rcna232568); Devlin Barrett, *et al.*, *Trump Justice Dept. Closed Investigation Into Tom Homan for Accepting Bag of Cash*, NY TIMES (Sept. 20, 2025) [www.nytimes.com/2025/09/20/us/politics/tom-homan-fbi-trump.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2025/09/20/us/politics/tom-homan-fbi-trump.html).

**delivered immediately to Congress and made available to the public.** Under your management, DOJ has touted its commitment to transparency and released records from other closed investigations. This case should be no different.

These reports allege that the FBI recorded Mr. Homan accepting \$50,000 in cash in a paper bag after he indicated he would help the undercover FBI agents win government contracts in a second Trump administration.<sup>2</sup> Top law enforcement officials reportedly debated charging Mr. Homan prior to the 2024 presidential election but decided to continue their investigation once he became a public official again. Furthermore, top administration officials, including then-Acting Deputy Attorney General Emil Bove and FBI Director Kash Patel, were reportedly briefed on the evidence before moving to close the investigation. It is difficult to believe that an investigation with evidence of Mr. Homan accepting \$50,000 cash in a bag – documented by audio and/or video recording – could have been found to lack “credible evidence of any criminal wrongdoing,” as Deputy Attorney General Blanche and Director Patel recently stated.<sup>3</sup>

These allegations against Tom Homan raise additional concerns that this administration’s immigration enforcement and deportation policies and actions, including its award of federal funds for detention centers or security related technology, have been and may continue to be influenced by Mr. Homan’s corrupt financial interests.

Mr. Homan’s ties to private companies that benefit from Department of Homeland Security (DHS) contracts are well known and raised ethics concerns even prior to these new reports.<sup>4</sup> For instance, following his tenure as Acting Director for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) during the first Trump Administration, Mr. Homan’s financial disclosures show that he received substantial consulting fees from The GEO Group, one of the two main private detention center contractors with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).<sup>5</sup> While campaigning for now-President Trump’s second administration, Mr. Homan publicly stated that he planned to “run the biggest deportation operation this country’s ever seen,” and, since being appointed as the White House border czar, Mr. Homan has advocated for unprecedented and extraordinarily expensive immigration enforcement actions, including establishing more than 107,000 detention beds that will require significant new detention center contracts.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> *Id.*; Perry Stein and Aaron C. Davis, *Trump officials shut down bribery probe of border czar Tom Homan*, WASHINGTON POST (Sept. 21, 2025) [www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2025/09/21/trump-administration-bribery-probe-homan/](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2025/09/21/trump-administration-bribery-probe-homan/); Sarah N. Lynch, *Trump aide Homan accepted \$50,000 in bribery sting operation, sources say*, REUTERS (Sept. 21, 2025) [www.reuters.com/world/us/trump-aide-homan-accepted-50000-bribery-sting-operation-sources-say-2025-09-21](https://www.reuters.com/world/us/trump-aide-homan-accepted-50000-bribery-sting-operation-sources-say-2025-09-21).

<sup>3</sup> Carol Leonnig and Ken Dilanian, *Tom Homan was investigated for accepting \$50,000 from undercover FBI agents. Trump’s DOJ shut it down*, MSNBC (Sept. 20, 2025) [www.msnbc.com/msnbc/news/tom-homan-cash-contracts-trump-doj-investigation-rcna232568](https://www.msnbc.com/msnbc/news/tom-homan-cash-contracts-trump-doj-investigation-rcna232568).

<sup>4</sup> Naomi Lachane, *Incoming Trump border czar’s firm brags about helping companies get contracts*, ROLLING STONE (Dec. 30, 2024), [www.rollingstone.com/politics/politics-features/trump-border-tom-homan-firm-federal-contracts-1235219657](https://www.rollingstone.com/politics/politics-features/trump-border-tom-homan-firm-federal-contracts-1235219657).

<sup>5</sup> Douglas MacMillan and Aaron Schaffer, *Trump’s border czar earned consulting fees from immigrant detention firm*, WASHINGTON POST (May 27, 2025), [www.washingtonpost.com/business/2025/05/27/border-czar-ethics-consulting-fees/](https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2025/05/27/border-czar-ethics-consulting-fees/).

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*; Douglas MacMillan et al., *ICE documents reveal plan to double immigrant detention space this year*, WASHINGTON POST (Aug. 15, 2025), [www.washingtonpost.com/immigration/2025/08/15/ice-documents-reveal-plan-double-immigrant-detention-space-this-year](https://www.washingtonpost.com/immigration/2025/08/15/ice-documents-reveal-plan-double-immigrant-detention-space-this-year).

In addition to the full investigative file, we request written responses to the following oversight questions by October 6, 2025:

1. When were you made aware that there was an open and ongoing investigation into Mr. Homan?
2. Did you receive direction, instruction, suggestions, or other communication from President Trump or other White House officials to terminate the ongoing investigation into Mr. Homan? If so, please detail all such communications.
3. Did you ever discuss the investigation of Mr. Homan with President Trump or other White House officials prior to closing the investigation? If so, please detail all such communications.
4. Have you ever discussed the investigation of Mr. Homan with Mr. Homan prior to closing the investigation?
5. When was the decision to terminate the ongoing investigation into Mr. Homan made?
  - a. Was Mr. Homan informed of this decision? If so, please state the date that Mr. Homan was informed, and please list all the officials, disaggregated by agency, who participated in that communication.
6. Who was involved in the decision to terminate the ongoing investigation into Mr. Homan?
7. Did any Department of Justice investigators or prosecutors review or conclude that Mr. Homan committed any non-criminal violations, such as violations of ethics policies? Please provide copies of all related memoranda from the Office of Legal Counsel or the responsible Ethics Officials.
8. During Mr. Bove's nomination to the Third Circuit Court of Appeals, Senator Schiff asked him in writing about his involvement, instruction, or direction to DOJ prosecutors to dismiss a criminal matter that involved a person who became a senior official in the current administration. Mr. Bove declined to answer, citing confidentiality and separation-of-power questions. Was Mr. Bove involved in the decision-making process to terminate the ongoing investigation into Mr. Homan?
9. Has Mr. Homan provided additional financial records outside of his public financial disclosures, for ethics waivers or a background investigation? Did these financial records include \$50,000 cash that Mr. Homan received from an undercover FBI agent?
10. Does Mr. Homan currently hold an active security clearance or suitability determination? If so, was information about the ongoing criminal investigation into Mr. Homan provided to the law enforcement agents who conducted his background investigation?

Alternatively, was Mr. Homan provided with a security clearance without the typical background investigation?

Thank you for your prompt attention to these extraordinary allegations. We are prepared to work with DOJ and the FBI to protect sensitive information contained in the investigative file, including the identities of any undercover agents or confidential human sources, in order to preserve the integrity of the evidence and any ongoing investigations.

Sincerely,



Adam B. Schiff  
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator



Alex Padilla  
United States Senator



Peter Welch  
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse  
United States Senator



Mazie K. Hirono  
United States Senator



Cory A. Booker  
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator