

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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May 1, 2026

The Honorable Markwayne Mullin
Secretary
Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Secretary Mullin:

I write requesting information on the continued use of the U.S. Coast Guard Commandant's waterfront residence by former Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Kristi Noem. In particular, I demand any lease agreement, contractual arrangement, or special dispensation permitting former Secretary Noem to continue to reside in Coast Guard housing on Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling or any other DHS property. The ongoing use of Coast Guard housing by a former DHS official raises concerns of waste, fraud, and abuse of government resources under your supervision.

On January 21, 2025, President Trump removed Coast Guard Commandant Linda Fagan from her position and evicted her from the historic Quarters 1 residence with only three hours' notice, despite the Coast Guard giving Admiral Fagan a 60-day waiver to find new housing.¹ Then-Secretary Noem moved into Quarters 1, reportedly without a requirement to pay rent or reimburse the federal government for her use of the residence.² Although DHS's spokesperson described Noem's stay as temporary, Noem was living in Quarters 1 when President Trump fired her on March 5, 2026. On April 23, 2026, the *Wall Street Journal* reported that ex-Secretary Noem was still there, nearly two months after her firing.³

Ms. Noem's occupation of the premises with no clear purpose or stated reason calls into question your own stewardship of DHS's taxpayer-funded resources. Ms. Noem's current employment as a special envoy for the "Shield of the Americas" only raises further questions, as

¹ *Trump Administration Evicts Former Coast Guard Leader from Her House with 3 Hours Notice*, NBC News (Feb. 5, 2025) (online at www.nbcnews.com/politics/donald-trump/trump-administration-evicts-former-coast-guard-linda-fagan-3-hours-rcna190820).

² *Kristi Noem Has Continued Using a Waterfront Coast Guard House Since Ouster*, Wall Street Journal (Apr. 23, 2026) (online at www.wsj.com/politics/national-security/kristi-noem-has-continued-using-a-waterfront-coast-guard-house-since-ouster-b906227a); *Kristi Noem Is Living Rent-Free in Home Used by Coast Guard Commandant*, Washington Post (Aug. 15, 2025) (online at www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2025/08/15/kristi-noem-is-living-free-charge-coast-guard-commandants-home/).

³ *Id.*

it is unclear why a Department of State employee should be housed in the Coast Guard commandant's residence for months.⁴ In addition, outstanding questions about Ms. Noem's use of the home—such as what, if any, rent she has paid—raise unresolved concerns of waste, fraud, and abuse during her tenure.⁵

I request you immediately provide the following materials by May 15, 2026:

1. All documents and communications concerning Ms. Noem's residence at Quarters 1 and access to Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, including:
 - a. Any and all lease agreements, housing waivers, or other contractual arrangements permitting Kristi Noem to use residential facilities at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling;
 - b. Any and all evidence of rental payments or reimbursements paid to the federal government by Kristi Noem or in the name of Kristi Noem in exchange for her residence at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling; and
2. All memoranda or policies relied upon to justify the use of Quarters 1 by Ms. Noem, both as Secretary of Homeland Security and after her termination on March 5, 2026.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee of the House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate "any matter" at "any time" under House Rule X. If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee Democratic staff at (202) 225-5051. Thank you for your prompt attention to this request.

Sincerely,



Robert Garcia
Ranking Member

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Chairman

⁴ *What We Know About Noem's New "Shield of the Americas" Role*, The Hill (Mar. 5, 2026) (online at <https://thehill.com/policy/international/5769654-trump-appoints-noem-shield-americas/>).

⁵ Committee on the Judiciary, *Hearing on the Oversight of the Department of Homeland Security* (Mar. 4, 2026) (online at <https://judiciary.house.gov/committee-activity/hearings/oversight-department-homeland-security-0>) ("I rent that facility. I rent where I stay and pay personal dollars to do that."); *Kristi Noem Has Continued Using a Waterfront Coast Guard House Since Ouster*, Wall Street Journal (Apr. 23, 2026) (online at www.wsj.com/politics/national-security/kristi-noem-has-continued-using-a-waterfront-coast-guard-house-since-ouster-b906227a).