

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 19, 2024

U.S. Attorney Jessica D. Aber
Eastern District of Virginia
2100 Jamieson Ave
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear U.S. Attorney Aber,

It has come to our attention that the two Jordanian aliens who were in the country illegally and attempted to gain access to Marine Corps Base Quantico in Virginia have been released per conditions requested by your office. The release of these two illegal aliens is egregious, especially in light of recent reports which state that one of the aliens was on a terror watchlist.

In early May, Hasan Yousef Hamdan (who is on a terror watchlist) and Mohammad Khair Dabous attempted to enter the Marine Corps base, with Mr. Hamdan claiming he was an Amazon deliveryman. When they were stopped by base security, Hamdan tried to drive the truck into the base but was stopped by the deployment of vehicle denial barriers. The pair were then arrested and handed over to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for detention due to their immigration statuses.

Subsequently, the two illegal aliens were allowed to post bail and were released from federal custody in June. The pair were released despite not only their statuses as illegal aliens who are subject to removal but also their having trespassed on a U.S. military installation, an act which is potentially connected to current or future terrorist activity. Furthermore, their release was conditioned on a promise to appear in court at a future date despite the fact that a large number of illegal aliens released with similar agreements never attend their future court proceedings.

It is clear now that this administration values the desires of illegal aliens—including those who intend to commit acts of terror—over the safety of American citizens. Not only does this administration allow suspected terrorists to cross the southwest border and parole them into the country, but even when those same individuals engage in potential terrorist activity this administration continues to release them into the country based simply on promises to reappear at court hearings.


The American people are tired of the recklessness of this administration's border and immigration policies and demand that illegal aliens who commit crimes be detained and held accountable. Please provide answers to the following questions on this matter by August 31, 2024:

1. Does your office believe that Hamdan and Dabous pose any threat to American citizens in light of their criminal conduct and the location in which it occurred?
2. What factors does your office consider when determining if an illegal alien who has committed a crime should be released on bail?


3. How did the fact that Mr. Hamdan was on a terror watchlist change your office's consideration of whether to release him on bail?
4. Do you believe it is wise to release illegal aliens who are on terrorist watchlists into the country, especially after they attempt to illegally gain access to a U.S. military installation?
5. Was the judge in this case aware that Mr. Hamdan was on a terror watchlist?
6. How does the possibility that the conduct in question might stem from terrorist motives change your office's consideration of whether to release a charged illegal alien?
7. Is it reasonable to infer that the release of these two men means your office does not believe they intended to engage in terrorist activity?
8. Did your office communicate with ICE officials or Marine Corps personnel about the potential motives of the two men?
9. What level of potential terrorist activity is sufficient for your office to deny releasing an illegal alien from custody?
10. Is it possible that the two men were testing out the security of the base to plan for a future terrorist attack, similar to how the 9/11 hijackers flew multiple flights with box cutters to test airport security before planning their act of terror?

We look forward to your timely response.


Sincerely,



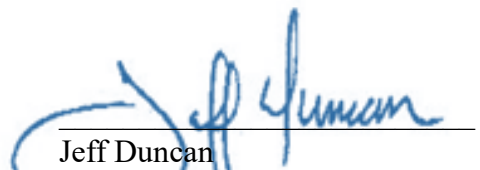
Andy Biggs
Member of Congress



Chip Roy
Member of Congress



Andy Ogles
Member of Congress



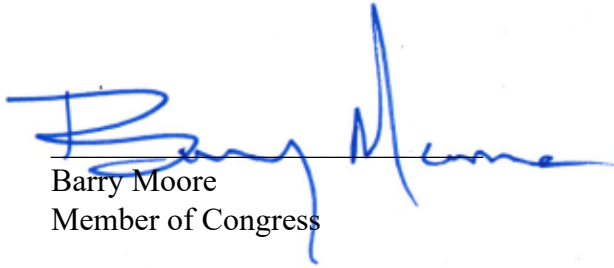
Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress




Eric Burlison
Member of Congress



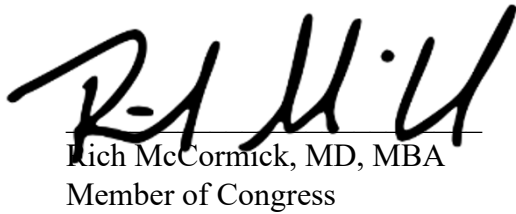
Eli Crane
Member of Congress



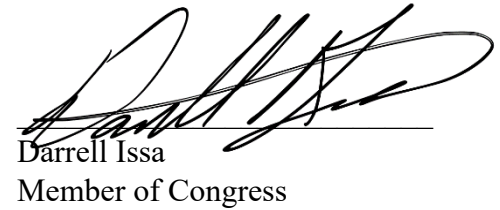
Barry Moore
Member of Congress



Ralph Norman
Member of Congress



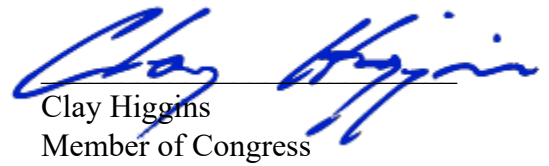
Rich McCormick, MD, MBA
Member of Congress



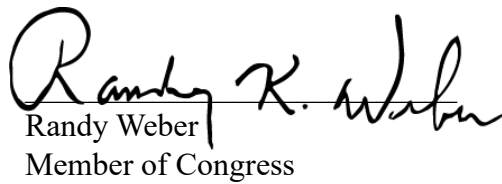
Darrell Issa
Member of Congress



Mike Collins
Member of Congress



Clay Higgins
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Randy Weber
Member of Congress