

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

(202) 225-3951
judiciary.house.gov

October 19, 2022

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
301 7th Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20528

The Honorable Chris Magnus
Commissioner
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
1300 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20229

Dear Secretary Mayorkas and Commissioner Magnus:

We write to ask why you have not yet published the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) data about illegal alien encounters on the southwest border for September 2022 and the entire Fiscal Year 2022. According to estimates, the September 2022 figures are expected to place the total number of illegal alien encounters at over 2.3 million for fiscal year 2022—not including an additional 599,000 known “gotaways.”¹ We understand that the Biden Administration may hope to keep the official number of illegal alien encounters along the southwest border a secret from the American public for as long as possible for obvious political reasons. However, the American people deserve transparency, not political games.

During the Trump Administration, CBP released border apprehension statistics to Members of Congress on a weekly basis. The Biden Administration, however, has abandoned this level of transparency amid the Biden border crisis. The Biden CBP has been providing border apprehension data to Congress on a monthly basis. As of today, however, the Biden Administration has not released its September 2022 data. This delay is unacceptable.

Please immediately provide us, and publish for the American people, the September 2022 and the entire Fiscal Year 2022 southwest border encounter data. The American people must

¹ Tweet by Bill Melugin, @BillFOXLA, Twitter.com, (Oct. 18, 2022, 10:31 AM), twitter.com/billfoxla/status/1582378866219180032.

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas
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Page 2

know the full extent of the Biden border crisis and the unprecedented surge of illegal aliens it has caused.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Jordan".

Jim Jordan
Ranking Member

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom McClintock".

Tom McClintock
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Immigration and
Citizenship

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler, Chairman
The Honorable Zoe Lofgren, Chair, Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship