

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

(202) 225-6906  
judiciary.house.gov

April 23, 2026

Mr. Bryan Fair  
Interim CEO & President  
Southern Poverty Law Center  
400 Washington Avenue  
Montgomery, AL 36104

Dear Mr. Fair:

On April 21, 2026, a federal grand jury returned an indictment charging the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) with wire fraud, false statements to a federally insured bank, and conspiracy to commit money laundering.<sup>1</sup> Alarming, between 2014 and 2023, the SPLC allegedly funneled more than \$3 million in donor funds to individuals associated with violent extremist groups like the Ku Klux Klan, the United Klans of America, and the National Socialist Party of America (American Nazi Party), among others.<sup>2</sup> The SPLC's informants remained "engaged in the active promotion of racist groups" while receiving money from the SPLC.<sup>3</sup> For instance, one informant who helped to plan the violent rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, in 2017 "made racist postings under the supervision of the SPLC and helped coordinate transportation to the event for several attendees."<sup>4</sup>

At no point did the SPLC inform its donors that their charitable donations might be used to pay leaders of violent hate groups.<sup>5</sup> To conceal the source of these payments, the SPLC allegedly opened bank accounts under the name of various fictitious entities and transferred funds from those accounts to their informants.<sup>6</sup> According to the indictment, these entities "were never incorporated, had no *bona fide* employees, and conducted no actual business."<sup>7</sup> Rather, their sole purpose was to enable the SPLC "to conduct financial transactions that made it appear

---

<sup>1</sup> Indictment, United States v. S. Poverty L. Ctr., No. 26-cr-00139 (M.D. Ala. Apr. 21, 2026); *see also* Press Release, U.S. Dep't of Just., Federal Grand Jury Charges Southern Poverty Law Center for Wire Fraud, False Statements, and Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering (Apr. 21, 2026), <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/federal-grand-jury-charges-southern-poverty-law-center-wire-fraud-false-statements-and>.

<sup>2</sup> Indictment, *supra* note 1, at 3.

<sup>3</sup> *Id.* at 1.

<sup>4</sup> *Id.* at 1, 4.

<sup>5</sup> *Id.* at 7.

<sup>6</sup> *Id.* at 6.

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

as if the [informants] were receiving money from the fictitious entities rather than receiving donated funds from the SPLC.”<sup>8</sup>

Congress has an important interest in protecting Americans from extremist violence and criminal activity. The Committee on the Judiciary has been conducting oversight of the Biden-Harris Administration’s close coordination with the SPLC on federal civil rights matters.<sup>9</sup> We have found that an internal FBI system contained at least 13 documents, including the Richmond memorandum that labeled traditional Catholics as “violent extremists,” that cited material from the SPLC.<sup>10</sup> In addition, other publicly available documents revealed how the Justice Department partnered closely with the SPLC during the Biden-Harris Administration, including scheduling regular meetings, giving the SPLC early access to federal law-enforcement data, and allowing SPLC employees to train federal prosecutors.<sup>11</sup> The new information about the SPLC alleged in the indictment only raises further questions.

As part of the Committee’s continued oversight, we respectfully request that you provide the following documents and information:

1. All documents and communications from January 1, 2017, to the present between or among any employee or agent of the SPLC and any “field source” paid by the SPLC;
2. All documents and communications from January 1, 2017, to the present referring or relating to any fictitious entity the SPLC used to pay any “field source,” including but not limited to:
  - a. Center Investigative Agency;
  - b. Fox Photography;
  - c. North West Technologies;
  - d. Tech Writers Group; and
  - e. Rare Books Warehouse;
3. All documents and communications from January 20, 2021, to January 20, 2025, between or among any employee or agent of the SPLC and any employee of the Justice

---

<sup>8</sup> *Id.* at 9.

<sup>9</sup> See, e.g., “Partisan and Profitable: The SPLC’s Influence on Federal Civil Rights Policy”: *Hearing Before the Subcomm. on the Const. & Limited Gov’t of the H. Comm. on the Judiciary*, 119th Cong. (2025); Letter from Rep. Jim Jordan, Chairman, H. Comm. on the Judiciary, to Pamela Bondi, Att’y Gen., U.S. Dep’t of Just. (Nov. 25, 2025).

<sup>10</sup> FBI-HJC119-DP-000491 – FBI-HJC119-DP-000492 (on file with the Committee).

<sup>11</sup> Press Release, Am. First Legal, America First Legal Reveals Explosive Documents Exposing Biden Department Justice’s Partnership and Coordinated Campaign with the Southern Poverty Law Center to Weaponize Civil Rights Enforcement (Oct. 3, 2025), <https://aflegal.org/press-release/america-first-legal-reveals-explosive-documents-exposing-biden-department-of-justices-partnership-and-coordinated-campaign-with-the-southern-poverty-law-center-to-weaponize-civil-rights-enfor/>.

Department, Federal Bureau of Investigation, or other federal executive branch entity;  
and

4. Documents sufficient to show the SPLC's revenue and expenses for each year from January 1, 2017, to the present, including but not limited to the amount of funds paid to "field sources."

Please produce all documents and information as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 30, 2026.

This letter serves as a formal request to preserve all existing and future records and materials relating to the topics addressed in this letter. You should construe this preservation notice as an instruction to take all reasonable steps to prevent the destruction or alteration, whether intentionally or negligently, of all documents, communications, and other information, including electronic information and metadata, that are or may be responsive to this congressional inquiry. This instruction includes all electronic messages sent using your professional and personal accounts or devices, including records created using text messages, phone-based message applications, or encryption software.

The Supreme Court has recognized that Congress has a "broad and indispensable" power to conduct oversight, which "encompasses inquiries into the administration of existing laws, studies of proposed laws, and surveys in our social, economic or political system for the purpose of enabling Congress to remedy them."<sup>12</sup> Pursuant to the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to conduct oversight of matters concerning criminal law to inform potential legislative reforms.<sup>13</sup>

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan  
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Jamie Raskin, Ranking Member

---

<sup>12</sup> Trump v. Mazars USA, LLP, 591 U.S. 848, 862 (2020) (internal quotation marks omitted).

<sup>13</sup> Rules of the House of Representatives, 119th Cong., R. X (2026).