

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

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May 4, 2026

Chief Charles Penn
Chief of Police
Arlington County Police Department
1425 N. Courthouse Road
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Chief Penn:

The Committee on the Judiciary is conducting oversight of state and local jurisdictions that endanger American communities through their refusal to cooperate with federal immigration officials. The Arlington County Police Department's (APD) immigration-related policies prioritize criminal and illegal aliens over American citizens and threaten public safety. We write to request information about Arlington County's sanctuary policies, including local law enforcement's refusal to cooperate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to ensure that dangerous aliens are not released onto American streets.

To protect communities from criminal aliens in law enforcement custody, ICE uses detainers, which are simple requests that a law enforcement agency "notify [ICE] as early as possible before [the agency] release[s] a removable alien" and "[h]old the alien for up to 48 hours beyond the time [the agency] would ordinarily release them so [the Department of Homeland Security] has time to assume custody in accordance with federal immigration law."¹ Federal law prohibits jurisdictions from restricting ICE's requests for and receipt of individuals' citizenship information.² In May 2025, the Arlington County Board enacted more restrictive prohibitions on APD's cooperation with ICE.³ The new "Trust Policy" prohibits APD "from

¹ U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf't, *Immigr. Detainers* (May 13, 2025), <https://www.ice.gov/immigration-detainers>.

² See 8 U.S.C. § 1373.

³ See Nick Minock, *County in Virginia won't work with ICE on gang members and accused terrorists*, ABC 7 NEWS (May 14, 2025, 11:10 AM), <https://wjla.com/news/local/virginia-arlington-county-board-ice-united-states-us-immigration-customs-enforcement-police-department-terrorists-gang-members-human-traffickers-ms-13-illegal-immigrant-migrants>; *Compare* Arlington's Commitment to Strengthening Trust with Our Immigrant Communities, sec. II.B.7 (July 19, 2022), https://www.arlingtonva.us/files/sharedassets/public/v/1/county-board/documents/trust-docs/trust-policy-final-draft-7-18-final-final_clean.pdf (including certain exceptions for aliens arrested for violent felonies, terrorism, human trafficking, and criminal street gang offenses; for aliens who are members of a criminal street gang; and for aliens arrested for non-violent felonies but for whom "notification to federal immigration authorities is prudent to maintain community safety"), *with* Arlington's Commitment to Strengthening Trust with Our Immigrant Communities, sec. II.B.7 (Nov. 16, 2024), <https://www.arlingtonva.us/files/sharedassets/public/v/1/trust-policy-november-2024-update-adopted.pdf> (narrowing

initiating contact with federal immigration authorities” even when APD identifies an illegal alien as a violent felon, gang member, human trafficker, or terrorist.⁴

In July 2025, you bolstered APD’s sanctuary policies to “restrict sharing of personally identifiable information that could be used to further immigration enforcement efforts,” forbid employees from “request[ing] or disclos[ing] to any person or entity the citizenship or immigration status of an individual” except in narrow circumstances, and prohibit compliance with “federal administrative or civil immigration warrants or detainers.”⁵ In addition to ensuring that APD cannot cooperate with ICE, local county officials have advised the public to call emergency services if they witness federal “immigration enforcement operating” in Arlington County.⁶

The effects of Arlington County’s pro-criminal alien policies have been devastating. On April 12, 2026, APD officers arrested Luzvin Orvando Garcia Moran after he approached a woman, “grabb[ed] her,” and “shov[ed] her against a wall,” assaulted her, and continued to attack her even after she initially managed to escape from him.⁷ Two bystanders “stepped in to help and called the police.”⁸ Garcia Moran is an illegal alien whose yearslong criminal history includes multiple arrests and charges, including for public intoxication, assault and battery, and probation violations.⁹ He has now been charged with “abduction of a person with intent to defile, sodomy by force or victim helplessness[,] and assault in an alleged attempted rape.”¹⁰ Despite his multiple arrests in Arlington County, Garcia Moran was repeatedly released into northern Virginia communities, apparently without any notification to or cooperation with ICE.¹¹

Despite your claim that your office is committed “to protecting the rights of all residents and visitors,”¹² Arlington County’s sanctuary policies endanger the communities you serve. Like other sanctuary jurisdictions we have examined, the shielding of criminal aliens from

exceptions to ICE cooperation), *and* Arlington’s Commitment to Strengthening Trust with Our Immigrant Communities (May 13, 2025), <https://www.arlingtonva.us/files/sharedassets/public/v/1/county-board/documents/trust-policy-updated-may-13-2025.pdf> (eliminating exceptions to ICE cooperation).

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ See Arlington Cnty. Police Dep’t Directive Manual, 523.04 Immigr. Status and Access to Police Servs. (July 22, 2025), <https://public.powerdms.com/ARLVAPD/documents/89>.

⁶ Scott McCaffrey, *County Board members advise calling 911 if residents see ICE in Arlington*, ARL NOW (Jan. 26, 2026, 10:00 AM), <https://www.arlnow.com/2026/01/26/county-board-members-advise-calling-911-if-residents-see-ice-in-arlington/>.

⁷ Thomas Mates, *Man accused of attempted rape after woman attacked in Arlington*, ABC 7 NEWS (Apr. 13, 2026, 5:37 PM), <https://wjla.com/news/local/man-accused-of-attempted-rape-after-woman-attacked-in-arlington>.

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ Press Release, ICE pleads with Gov. Abigail Spanberger’s sanctuary state of Virginia not to release accused sexual predator, U.S. Immigr. & Customs Enf’t (Apr. 20, 2026), <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/ice-pleads-gov-abigail-spanbergers-sanctuary-state-virginia-not-release-accused>.

¹⁰ Peter Pinedo, *Spanberger receives DHS plea to hold illegal immigrant repeat offender now charged in attempted rape*, FOX NEWS (Apr. 15, 2026, 5:59 PM), <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/dhs-urges-spanberger-hold-illegal-migrant-charged-attempted-rape-cites-25-prior-charges>.

¹¹ See generally Arlington General District Court, General District Court Online Case Information System, Search for Luzvin Garcia Moran and Luzvin Orvando Garcia Moran.

¹² See Arlington Cnty. Police Dep’t Directive Manual, 523.04 Immigr. Status and Access to Police Servs. (July 22, 2025), <https://public.powerdms.com/ARLVAPD/documents/89>.

immigration enforcement in Arlington County undermines public safety and thwarts the efficient enforcement of federal law. Accordingly, to assist the Committee with its continued oversight of federal immigration policy and to inform potential legislative reforms to address sanctuary policies, we ask that you provide the following information:

1. All documents and communications referring or relating to APD's interaction with ICE for the period January 1, 2020, to the present;
2. All documents and communications referring or relating to APD's policies, practices, and procedures related to non-U.S. citizens for the period January 1, 2020, to the present;
3. All documents and communications referring or relating to APD's implementation of the Arlington County Board's updates to Arlington County's Trust Policy on May 13, 2025, for the period May 13, 2025, to the present;
4. All documents and communications referring or relating to aliens for whom APD did not initiate contact with federal immigration authorities due to the Trust Policy updates from May 13, 2025, but who satisfied the previous criteria from the Trust Policy as updated on November 16, 2024, for the period May 13, 2025, to the present;
5. All documents and communications relating to APD's initiation of contact with federal immigration authorities for aliens who satisfied the criteria in Arlington County's Trust Policy as adopted on July 19, 2022, and as updated on November 16, 2024, for the period July 19, 2022, to the present;
6. The number of ICE detainers and warrants that APD has received and has declined to honor for the period January 1, 2020, to the present;
7. All documents and communications between or among APD, the Arlington County Sheriff's Office, and the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney for Arlington County and the City of Falls Church referring or relating to immigration enforcement for the period January 1, 2020, to the present; and
8. All documents and communications referring or relating to calls to 911 or APD's non-emergency number about ICE for the period January 1, 2026, to the present.

Please provide the information requested as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 18, 2026. The Committee is authorized to conduct oversight of federal immigration law pursuant to the Rules of the House of Representatives.¹³ If you have any questions, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906.

¹³ Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, R. X (2025).

Chief Charles Penn

May 4, 2026

Page 4

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Jordan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jim" and last name "Jordan" clearly legible.

Jim Jordan
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom McClintock". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tom" and last name "McClintock" clearly legible.

Tom McClintock
Chairman
Subcommittee on Immigration
Integrity, Security, and Enforcement

cc: The Honorable Jamie Raskin, Ranking Member
The Honorable Pramila Jayapal, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Immigration
Integrity, Security, and Enforcement