

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

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judiciary.house.gov

May 21, 2026

The Honorable Eileen O'Neill Burke
State's Attorney
Cook County State's Attorney's Office
69 W. Washington
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear Ms. O'Neill Burke:

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 and their prioritization of illegal and criminal aliens over American citizens. We write to request information about Cook County's sanctuary policies, which ultimately endanger the communities you serve.

Before your tenure, the Cook County State's Attorney's Office routinely undermined the rule of law under the guise of safeguarding the public. For years, your predecessor openly gave preferential treatment to aliens based on their immigration status.¹ To "drastically reduce case backlogs" and "protect the rights of the accused," former Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx made it a priority to "restore discretion to prosecutors at key decision points, including plea bargaining and bond decisions, and ensure that training addresse[d] risk screening, available diversion and alternative court resources, and any potential collateral consequences of various options particularly regarding immigration status."² Your predecessor also hired an Immigration Policy Advisor to help illegal aliens avoid deportation during the first Trump Administration.³

Far-left immigration activist groups have openly criticized your office for its failure to pursue a more pro-illegal immigration agenda. Even after your office wrongly criticized the Trump Administration for enforcing federal immigration law,⁴ radical activists were not

¹ See, e.g., Off. Priorities, Cook Cnty. State's Att'y, <https://www.cookcountystatesattorney.org/commitment-transparency/office-priorities> (last accessed Apr. 29, 2026).

² *Id.*

³ See Cook Cnty. State's Att'y Candidate Questionnaire: Kim Foxx, ACLU Chicago, <https://www.aclu-il.org/cook-county-states-attorney-candidate-questionnaire-kim-foxx/>.

⁴ See Jon Seidel & Sophie Sherry, *O'Neill Burke wouldn't publicly denounce Trump because she wanted to 'maintain' ties with feds, emails show*, CHICAGO SUN-TIMES (Apr. 21, 2026, 6:30 AM), <https://chicago.suntimes.com/immigration/2026/04/21/oneill-burke-trump-midway-blitz-special-prosecutor-chicago-cook-county>.

satisfied, and accused you of hypocrisy.⁵ Chicago's soft-on-crime, pro-illegal immigration advocates have also pushed for a special prosecutor to investigate and potentially prosecute immigration officers for enforcing federal law, a move you have rightly resisted.⁶

Policies that impede immigration enforcement and consider collateral immigration consequences in prosecution prioritize foreign nationals over U.S. citizens and allow illegal alien criminals to freely operate, terrorize local communities, and reoffend without consequences. Like other sanctuary jurisdictions we have examined, the shielding of criminal aliens from immigration enforcement in Chicago 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 the Cook County State's Attorney's Office's interaction with Immigration and Customs Enforcement for the period January 1, 2022, to the present;
2. All documents and communications referring or relating to the Cook County State's Attorney's Office's policies related to the prosecution of non-U.S. citizens for the period January 1, 2022, to the present;
3. All documents and communications referring or relating to active and closed cases in which attorneys in the Cook County State's Attorney's Office's considered immigration collateral consequences, including the defendants' initial charges and the cases' ultimate dispositions, for the period January 1, 2022, to the present, including:
 - a. Active and closed cases in which the Cook County State's Attorney's Office's authorized an alien defendant to plead;
 - b. Active and closed cases in which an alien defendant had a conviction reduced or vacated;
4. All documents and communications referring or relating to the Cook County State's Attorney's Office's training materials related to immigration and immigration collateral consequences for the period January 1, 2022, to the present;
5. All documents and communications referring or relating to the Cook County State's Attorney's Office's policies related to bond for non-U.S. citizens for the period January 1, 2022, to the present; and

⁵ See *Chicago unites to put pressure on State's Attorney Eileen Burke*, FIGHT BACK! NEWS (Nov. 6, 2025), <https://fightbacknews.org/articles/chicago-unites-to-put-pressure-on-states-attorney-eileen-burke>.

⁶ The Editorial Board, *Editorial: The usual suspects take aim at Eileen O'Neill Burke over the lack of Midway Blitz prosecutions*, CHICAGO TRIBUNE (Apr. 23, 2026, 6:00 AM), <https://www.chicagotribune.com/2026/04/23/editorial-eileen-oneill-burke-cook-county-states-attorney-midway-blitz-special-prosecutor/>.

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6. All documents and communications between or among the Cook County State's Attorney's Office's, the Chicago Police Department, and the Cook County Sheriff's Office referring or relating to immigration enforcement for the period January 1, 2022, to the present.

Please provide the information requested as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on June 4, 2026. The Committee is authorized to conduct oversight of federal immigration law pursuant to the Rules of the House of Representatives.⁷ If you have any questions, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan
Chairman



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

⁷ Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, R. X (2025).