

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

June 23, 2026

The Honorable Nathan Vasquez
Multnomah County District Attorney
1200 SW 1st Avenue, Suite 5200
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Mr. Vasquez:

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 your office's sanctuary policies, which ultimately endanger the communities you serve.

For years, the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office has routinely undermined the rule of law under the guise of safeguarding the public. In 2022, your predecessor announced that the office's deputy district attorneys would "explicitly consider immigration consequences at all phases of a criminal prosecution, including charging, plea bargaining and sentencing, in order to obtain an immigration-neutral case resolution wherever possible."¹ Your predecessor denied that the obvious results of the policy would be "more lenient sentences" for foreign nationals, instead arguing that the preferential policy "avoids the imposition of the additional consequence of deportation when consistent with public safety and the safety of the victim."² At the time, the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office committed to "not provide information to [U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)] for the purposes of immigration enforcement without a court order requiring the office to do so" and "not otherwise cooperate with ICE in any investigation or enforcement of Federal immigration law."³ Open-borders, pro-illegal immigration groups praised the policy.⁴

You have continued the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office's pro-illegal alien policies, directing your office's prosecutors to consider a criminal defendant's immigration consequences and to "take reasonable steps to seek an immigration-neutral resolution once

¹ Press Release, DA Mike Schmidt, Community stakeholders announce immigration reform policy, Multnomah District Att'y's Off. (Oct. 13, 2022), <https://www.mcda.us/index.php/news/da-mike-schmidt-community-stakeholders-announce-immigration-reform-policy>.

² *Id.*

³ *Id.*

⁴ *See id.*

informed that such consequences may exist.”⁵ Even though you describe this policy as not giving foreign nationals softer sentences, you admit that “a disposition that may be acceptable to all parties in one case may be severely damaging in another, depending on differences” in factors such as “current immigration status.”⁶

Under your office’s pro-crime, pro-illegal immigration policies, illegal alien criminals are allowed 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 Portland 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 Multnomah County District 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 Multnomah County District 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 the development of the Multnomah County District Attorney’s Office’s immigration-related policies, including its engagement with immigration attorneys, defense attorneys, and community advocates in such development, for the period January 1, 2022, to the present;
4. All documents and communications referring or relating to active and closed cases in which attorneys in the Multnomah County District Attorney’s Office 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 Multnomah County District Attorney’s Office authorized an alien defendant to replead;
 - b. Active and closed cases in which an alien defendant had a conviction reduced or vacated;
5. All documents and communications referring or relating to the Multnomah County District Attorney’s Office’s training materials related to immigration and collateral consequences for the period January 1, 2022, to the present;

⁵ Policy Manual, Multnomah Cnty. District Att’y’s Off., 11.3 Plea Bargaining, <https://www.mcda.us/index.php/documents/mcda-policy-manual.pdf> (revised Mar. 31, 2026).

⁶ *Id.*

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6. All documents and communications referring or relating to the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office's policies related to bond for non-U.S. citizens for the period January 1, 2022, to the present;
7. All documents and communications between or among the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office, the Oregon Department of Corrections, the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office, and the Portland Police Department referring or relating to immigration enforcement for the period January 1, 2022, to the present; and
8. All documents and communications between or among the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office and the Portland Mayor'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 July 7, 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).