

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 8, 2025

The Honorable Kristi Noem  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
3801 Nebraska Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Secretary Noem:

On September 25, 2025, members of the Oregon congressional delegation visited the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) facility in downtown Portland on S. Macadam Avenue. The facility tour and meeting with ICE staff was very informative. Today we write to follow up on several items that were discussed during the visit. We remain extremely concerned about civil and human rights violations by Federal Protective Service (FPS) at the facility.

More than a dozen advocates outside the facility have reported unprovoked attacks by Homeland Security police and FPS officers, leaving people with large bruises, chemical burns, and lingering pain. The Portland Police Bureau reported that federal police shoved, hit, and used chemical spray on people outside the facility when, according to multiple witnesses, there was no physical threat to officers. Additionally, a Portland Police Bureau Assistant Chief said in a court filing that federal agents are instigating some of the clashes. These allegations are unacceptable. It is the responsibility of FPS to protect federal persons and property.<sup>1</sup> In June, the President issued a Presidential Memoranda calling at least 2,000 members of the National Guard into Federal service under the false premise that they are needed to “temporarily protect ICE and other United States Government personnel performing Federal functions.”<sup>2</sup>

Over the weekend, federal law enforcement escalated their tactics against demonstrators outside of Macadam facility, including firing tear gas and smoke canisters, pepper spraying peaceful protestors in the face, and deploying pepper bullets. These attacks initiated by FPS and other federal law enforcement are unacceptable.

We demand additional clarity about the response from your agents at the ICE Macadam facility:

1. What type of munitions are used against people collected outside of the Macadam facility? Please provide a detailed description.
2. What criteria is used to determine whether or not to use munitions against people outside the facility? How do you decide what tools to use at different times of day? Who makes those determinations?
3. There have been several reports of Federal Protective Services Agents instigating violent altercations with peaceful protestors outside the Macadam facility. How does FPS determine when to engage with protestors? What criteria is used to make these determinations? Are there protocols in place to hold FPS accountable when they use unnecessary force?
4. Neighbors and businesses near the Macadam facility have reported lingering substances in the air causing health concerns. How are you working with neighbors and businesses around the facility to reduce negative consequences of these substances?

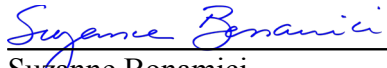
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<sup>1</sup> 40 USC 1315

<sup>2</sup> Presidential Memoranda, Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions (June 7, 2025)

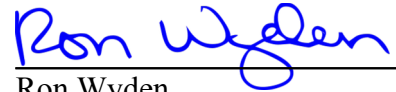
Thank you for your attention to this letter. We look forward to hearing from you by October 22, 2025.

Sincerely,



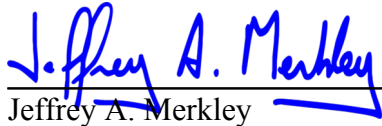
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Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



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Ron Wyden  
United States Senator



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Jeffrey A. Merkley  
United States Senator



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Maxine Dexter  
Member of Congress