

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 5, 2025

Kash Patel
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20535-0001

Dear Director Patel:

I write to demand the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) immediately end its participation in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) unconstitutional and unlawful abduction U.S. citizens off American streets—without identification, without explanation, without warrants, without probable cause and *with* excessive use of force.

FBI's secret detention of American citizens, who are delivered by DHS and then held by FBI personnel in FBI owned, rented or occupied facilities, is deeply alarming. I have heard from frightened constituents who were denied an explanation for why an American citizen was abducted by plain clothes or militarized Federal agents, and then unable to locate or determine which government agency was even responsible for the kidnapping or detention of that U.S. citizen, let alone receive assurances that the United States Government would ensure the health and safety of the abducted American.

For example, every public servant that swears an oath to support and defend the Constitution should be outraged by Federal agents arresting a high school student peacefully protesting their actions against his community and using the fog of government bureaucracy to obfuscate his whereabouts from his friends and family for hours. They should be equally incensed by the unjustified taking of two staffers of a Chicago alderman, both U.S. citizens, leading to hours of fear and uncertainty as loved ones, lawyers and legislators scrambled to locate them. Such horrifying and tragic violations are not isolated incidents.

It has become the *modus operandi* of Federal agents operating in Chicago to abdicate responsibility for the people they snatch and deny having custody of our citizens for hours before ultimately releasing them, often without criminal charges. To better understand the FBI's involvement in these disturbing taxpayer-funded abductions of Americans, please respond to the following oversight requests by November 12, 2025:

1. Provide all communication, agreements, memorandums, policy documents or other materials related to FBI employing personnel and resources to detain U.S. citizens that DHS has abducted off American streets without warrants;
2. Provide all legal analysis and related materials regarding FBI's evaluation of whether detaining U.S. citizens without warrants or criminal charges complies with the Constitution, Federal law and agency regulations and policies;

3. Provide all communication with individuals or officials related to requests from members of the public seeking to locate a U.S. citizen being held under FBI supervision;
4. Provide a detailed description (redacting sensitive personally identifiable information) of each instance where the FBI detained a U.S. citizen during Operation Midway Blitz, including which agency abducted the citizen, the date that citizen was transferred to a facility where the FBI assumed responsibility for detaining that citizen—or FBI personnel ensured that citizen was unable to depart the facility—and the date upon which that citizen was allowed to depart the facility and whether criminal charges were filed against that citizen;
5. Provide financial documents detailing the FBI's expenditure of funds to detain U.S. citizens that are ultimately released without criminal charges; and
6. Provide a detailed list of the previous duties and responsibilities that each FBI employee was performing prior to being effectively outsourced to serve as a pawn in DHS's domestication of extraordinary rendition tactics.

In closing, I demand that the FBI immediately cease its alarming complicity in supporting DHS's unconstitutional and lawless pattern and practice of abducting U.S. citizens—without warrants, without probable cause, without explanation and without identification—and stashing them in undisclosed FBI sites.

When FBI assumes physical custody of U.S. citizens but denies any legal liability, authority or official relationship to that citizen, the FBI is actively engaging in anti-American, authoritarian operations designed to terrorize U.S. citizens through aggressive abductions without explanation or transparency.

That the FBI ultimately releases U.S. citizens without criminal charges in the vast majority, if not all, of these instances does not negate the reality, and in fact likely confirms that the FBI is knowingly and willingly supporting operations that kidnap Americans off the streets to suppress constitutionally protected speech.

The FBI must defend the Constitution and uphold the law, even when—especially when—it is the President of the United States that is knowingly, and willingly, failing to take care that the laws are faithfully executed and shredding the Constitution by aggressively abusing government power to intimidate and harm Americans.

Sincerely,



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator

cc: Acting Inspector General Don R. Berthiaume