

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515

January 13, 2021

The Honorable Timothy Blodgett  
Acting House Sergeant at Arms  
Room H-124 U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jennifer A. Hemmingway  
Acting Senate Sergeant at Arms  
Room S-151 U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

Yogananda Pittman  
Acting Chief  
United States Capitol Police  
119 D Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Blodgett, Ms. Hemmingway, and Acting Chief Pittman:

We write today to request an immediate investigation into the suspicious behavior and access given to visitors to the Capitol Complex on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 - the day before the attacks on the Capitol.

Many of the Members who signed this letter, including those of us who have served in the military and are trained to recognize suspicious activity, as well as various members of our staff, witnessed an extremely high number of outside groups in the complex on Tuesday, January 5. This is unusual for several reasons, including the fact that access to the Capitol Complex has been restricted since public tours ended in March of last year due to the pandemic.

The tours being conducted on Tuesday, January 5, were a noticeable and concerning departure from the procedures in place as of March 2020 that limited the number of visitors to the Capitol. These tours were so concerning that they were reported to the Sergeant at Arms on January 5.

The visitors encountered by some of the Members of Congress on this letter appeared to be associated with the rally at the White House the following day. That group left the White House and marched to the Capitol with the objective of preventing Congress from certifying our election. Members of the group that attacked the Capitol seemed to have an unusually detailed knowledge of the layout of the Capitol Complex. The presence of these groups within the Capitol Complex was indeed suspicious. Given the events of January 6, the ties between these groups inside the Capitol Complex and the attacks on the Capitol need to be investigated.

It is important that we feel safe in the halls of Congress, and we applaud the Sergeant at Arms (SAA) and US Capitol Police (USCP) for their efforts. But the fact remains that there were unusually large groups of people throughout the Capitol who could only have gained access to the Capitol Complex from a Member of Congress or a member of their staff.

To that end, please provide answers to the following questions:

- 1) Are logbooks of Capitol Complex visitors inspected regularly and collected in any type of database?
  - a) Do additional law enforcement agencies have access to that database?
  - b) Does SAA/USCP track visitors by Member?
  - c) Does SAA/USCP ask for ID from visitors?
  - d) If yes, will SAA/USCP provide the information, including names of Members or staff who were part of these tours?
- 2) Does SAA/USCP enforce Members signing in guests?
  - a) Does SAA/USCP have logs of which Members signed guests in on 1/5/21?
  - b) If yes, will SAA/USCP provide the information, including names of Members or staff who were part of these tours?
- 3) Have any additional law enforcement agencies requested access to these logs?
- 4) What would prevent the SAA/USCP from permitting a visitor from entering the building?
- 5) What tracking does the SAA/USCP employ to ensure that one staffer did not bring more than their allotted "official visitors" through multiple entrances?
- 6) Are there video logs of the day in question?
  - a) If Yes, will SAA/USCP provide the video logs?
- 7) Is facial recognition software used for visitors entering the complex?
  - a) If Yes, will SAA/USCP provide the facial recognition results?
- 8) Are any of the individuals recorded in the Capitol complex on January 5 being investigated for their role in the insurrection the following day?

We appreciate your immediate attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Mikie Sherrill  
Member of Congress

Katherine Clark  
Member of Congress

Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Member of Congress

Daniel T. Kildee  
Member of Congress

Abigail D. Spanberger  
Member of Congress

Grace Meng  
Member of Congress

Tom Malinowski  
Member of Congress

Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress

Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress

Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress

Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress

Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress

Michael F. Doyle, Jr.  
Member of Congress

Mary Gay Scanlon  
Member of Congress

Dean Phillips  
Member of Congress

Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress

Donald M. Payne, Jr.  
Member of Congress

Sara Jacobs  
Member of Congress

Elaine G. Luria  
Member of Congress

Mike Levin  
Member of Congress

Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress

Susan Wild  
Member of Congress

Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress

Jackie Speier  
Member of Congress

Lizzie Fletcher  
Member of Congress

Kathleen M. Rice  
Member of Congress

Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress

André Carson  
Member of Congress

Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
Member of Congress

Marie Newman  
Member of Congress

Albio Sires  
Member of Congress

Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress

Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress

Lisa Blunt Rochester  
Member of Congress

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JAMIE FLEET  
STAFF DIRECTOR

One Hundred Seventeenth  
Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

**COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION**

1309 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6157  
202-225-2061 | CHA.HOUSE.GOV

**RODNEY DAVIS, ILLINOIS**  
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

BARRY LOUDERMILK, GEORGIA  
BRYAN STEIL, WISCONSIN

TIM MONAHAN  
MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi:

For over a year, Democrats in the House of Representatives have sought to exploit the violence of January 6, 2021 for partisan political purposes. Democrats have gone as far as to publicly accuse their Republican colleagues of organizing so-called “reconnaissance” tours of the Capitol Complex in advance of January 6. These claims are baseless. We have reviewed the security footage for the relevant period, and it does not support these wild accusations. We demand that you release this footage immediately so that the American people can see the truth and judge for themselves why Democrats are so willing to mislead about the events of January 6.

On January 13, 2021, a group of 34 Democrats, led by Representative Mikie Sherrill, wrote to the Acting House Sergeant-at-Arms, the Acting Senate Sergeant-at-Arms, and the Acting Chief of U.S. Capitol Police calling for an investigation into “suspicious behavior” by groups in the Capitol Complex on January 5.<sup>1</sup> These Democrats alleged without evidence that these tours were tied to the violence of January 6, writing “the group that attacked the Capitol seemed to have an unusually detailed knowledge of the layout of the Capitol Complex.”<sup>2</sup> Representative Sherrill elaborated publicly:

Those Members of Congress who had groups coming through the Capitol that I saw on January 5th for reconnaissance for the next day—those Members of Congress who incited the violent crowd, those Members that attempted to help our president undermine our democracy—I’m going to see that they’re held accountable.”<sup>3</sup>

The same day, during an interview on MSNBC, Representative Sean Patrick Maloney told Americans he could “confirm” Representative Sherrill’s allegations.<sup>4</sup> He told MSNBC viewers, “we find ourselves at a place where the enemy is within, and we cannot trust our own colleagues.”<sup>5</sup> Similarly, on CNN on January 18, Representative Steve Cohen specifically accused a Republican colleague by name of leading a reconnaissance tour. Representative Cohen said:

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from Rep. Mikie Sherrill et al. to Timothy Blodgett, Acting House Sergeant-at-Arm, et al. (Jan. 13, 2021).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> Rep. Mikie Sherrill, *An Address to the 11th District*, Facebook (Jan. 12, 2021).

<sup>4</sup> *Deadline: White House* (MSNBC television broadcast Jan. 13, 2021) (interview with Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney).

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

Only thing that I've seen, Congressman Yarmouth refreshed my recollection yesterday. We saw Congresswoman Boebert taking a group of people for a tour sometime after the 3rd and before the 6th. I don't remember the day we were walking in a tunnel and we saw her and commented who she was and she had a large group with her. Now whether these people were people that were involved in the insurrection or not, I do not know. She was a freshman, she might have had a large number of people coming to be with her on this historic occasion and just wanting to give them the opportunity to have a tour. ***But it is pretty clear that her team is the team—she's not on the home team. She was with the visitors.***<sup>6</sup>

Likewise, Representative Jason Crow led a group of over 100 Democrats in calling for an investigation, in part, into the role of Members in the January 6 violence.<sup>7</sup> In an interview with the *New York Times*, Representative Crow specifically accused his colleagues of being “complicit” in the January 6 violence.<sup>8</sup> You also breathed life into these accusations, telling reporters in January 2021 that the allegations “will be looked into” to determine if Members “were accomplices to this insurrection.”<sup>9</sup>

Even now, House Democrats are continuing to parrot accusations that Republican Members led “reconnaissance” tours of the Capitol. Last month, Representative Bennie Thompson, your handpicked chair of the January 6 Select Committee, told the *Washington Post* that the Select Committee had evidence of Members “aiding or abetting” the violence.<sup>10</sup> He alleged: “We have information that before the actual certification, people came earlier, were giving tours in the Capitol.”<sup>11</sup> Representative Thompson’s assertion to the *Washington Post* is dubious because only days earlier he told NBC’s *Meet the Press* that the Select Committee “do[es]n’t have any real knowledge that I’m aware of, of people giving tours. We heard a lot of that. But we’re still — to be honest with you, reviewing a lot of film that the House administration and other have provided the committee.”<sup>12</sup>

We have reviewed the security footage from the Capitol Complex during the relevant period preceding January 6, 2021, and we know it does not support these repeated Democrat accusations about so-called “reconnaissance” tours. Regrettably, the truth has not stopped these Democrat allegations. The repeated attempts by House Democrats to spread misinformation about Republican-led “reconnaissance” tours is just the latest example of how House Democrats have sought to exploit January 6 for political purposes. The Select Committee has already been

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<sup>6</sup> *CNN Newsroom* (CNN television broadcast Jan. 18, 2021) (interview with Rep. Steve Cohen).

<sup>7</sup> Letter from Rep. Jason Crow et al. to Gene L. Dodaro, Gov. Accountability Office (Jan. 7, 2021). See also Luke Broadwater, *Republican lawmakers are accused of giving Capitol tours to insurrectionists before the riot as new inquiries are opened*, N.Y. Times, Jan. 13, 2021.

<sup>8</sup> Luke Broadwater, *Republican lawmakers are accused of giving Capitol tours to insurrectionists before the riot as new inquiries are opened*, N.Y. Times, Jan. 13, 2021.

<sup>9</sup> Marisa Schultz, *Pelosi: Any GOP lawmakers who ‘aided or abetted’ Capitol rioters should be prosecuted*, Fox News (Jan. 15, 2021).

<sup>10</sup> *Transcript: One year later with Rep. Bennie Thompson (D-Miss.)*, Wash. Post (Jan. 6, 2022).

<sup>11</sup> *Id.*

<sup>12</sup> *Meet the Press* (NBC television broadcast Jan. 2, 2022) (interview with Rep. Bennie Thompson).

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi

February xx, 2022

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caught altering and misrepresenting nonpublic information about Republican Members,<sup>13</sup> falsely attributing statements to Republican Members,<sup>14</sup> and selectively leaking nonpublic information to create false public narratives.<sup>15</sup> Now it appears that Representative Thompson and the Select Committee are similarly misrepresenting the contents of nonpublic security footage to wrongly accuse Republican Members of wrongdoing.

The only way for you to stop the spread of Democrat misinformation about January 6 “reconnaissance” tours is to release all of the relevant security footage. Because House Democrats released selective excerpts of this footage in conjunction with its impeachment effort last year, we know it is possible to release this footage without undermining law-enforcement procedures or processes. We call on you to release all of the footage immediately to set the record straight and allow the American people to judge for themselves the merits of these Democrat allegations.

Sincerely,



Rodney Davis  
Ranking Member

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<sup>13</sup> Sean Davis, *During January 6 hearing, Schiff doctored text messages between Mark Meadows and Rep. Jim Jordan*, *The Federalist* (Dec. 15, 2021).

<sup>14</sup> Daniel Chaitlin & Asher Notheis, *Jan. 6 Committee caught misportraying another text message to Mark Meadows*, *Wash. Exam.* (Dec. 17, 2021).

<sup>15</sup> See Kimberley A. Strassell, *What the Jan. 6 panel won't probe*, *Wall St. J.* (Jan. 6, 2022).

BENNIE G. THOMPSON, MISSISSIPPI  
CHAIRMAN

ZOE LOFGREN, CALIFORNIA  
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PETE AGUILAR, CALIFORNIA  
STEPHANIE N. MURPHY, FLORIDA  
JAMIE RASKIN, MARYLAND  
ELAINE G. LURIA, VIRGINIA  
LIZ CHENEY, WYOMING  
ADAM KINZINGER, ILLINOIS



U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

january6th.house.gov  
(202) 225-7800

## One Hundred Seventeenth Congress

### Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol

May 19, 2022

Representative Barry Loudermilk  
United States House of Representatives  
2133 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Loudermilk:

On June 30, 2021, the House adopted House Resolution 503, establishing the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol (the “Select Committee”). The Select Committee is investigating the facts, circumstances, and causes of the January 6th attack and issues relating to the peaceful transfer of power in order to identify and evaluate lessons learned and to recommend to the House and its relevant committees corrective laws, policies, procedures, rules, or regulations. The Select Committee has tremendous respect for the prerogatives of Congress and the privacy of its Members. At the same time, we have a solemn responsibility to investigate fully the facts and circumstances of these events.

We write to seek your voluntary cooperation in advancing our investigation. Based on our review of evidence in the Select Committee’s possession, we believe you have information regarding a tour you led through parts of the Capitol complex on January 5, 2021.

The foregoing information raises questions to which the Select Committee must seek answers. Public reporting and witness accounts indicate some individuals and groups engaged in efforts to gather information about the layout of the U.S. Capitol, as well as the House and Senate office buildings, in advance of January 6, 2021. For example, in the week following January 6th, Members urged law enforcement leaders to investigate sightings of “outside groups in the complex” on January 5th that “appeared to be associated with the rally at the White House the following day.”<sup>1</sup>

In response to those allegations, Republicans on the Committee on House Administration—of which you are a Member—claimed to have reviewed security footage from the days preceding January 6th and determined that “[t]here were no tours, no large groups, no one

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from Rep. Sherrill, et al., to Acting House Sergeant at Arms Timothy Blodgett, Acting Senate Sergeant at Arms Jennifer A. Hemmingway & Acting U.S. Capitol Police Chief Yogananda Pittman (January 13, 2021), available at [https://sherrill.house.gov/sites/sherrill.house.gov/files/wysiwyg\\_uploaded/2020.01.13\\_Sherrill%20Letter%20to%20USCP%20and%20SAA.pdf](https://sherrill.house.gov/sites/sherrill.house.gov/files/wysiwyg_uploaded/2020.01.13_Sherrill%20Letter%20to%20USCP%20and%20SAA.pdf).

Representative Barry Loudermilk

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with MAGA hats on.”<sup>2</sup> However, the Select Committee’s review of evidence directly contradicts that denial.

We would like to meet with you soon, but we also want to accommodate your schedule. We propose meeting with you on the week of May 23, 2022. Please let us know whether one of those dates will fit with your schedule. If you are unavailable that week, we can arrange an alternative time to meet. If it would be preferable to hold this meeting with you in your home district, we would also be glad to explore travel arrangements to facilitate that option.

The American people deserve a full and accurate accounting of what happened on January 6th. We aim to make informed legislative recommendations taking account of all relevant facts. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Bennie G. Thompson  
Chairman



Liz Cheney  
Vice Chair

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<sup>2</sup> Rebecca Beistch, GOP reps call for release of security footage amid allegations of ‘reconnaissance tours’, The Hill (Feb. 17, 2022), <https://thehill.com/policy/national-security/594740-house-republicans-call-for-release-of-security-footage-amid>.





UNITED STATES CAPITOL POLICE

119 D STREET, NE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-7218  
PHONE: 202-224-1677

June 13, 2022

COP 220807

The Honorable Rodney Davis  
Ranking Member  
Committee on House Administration  
United States House of Representatives  
1216 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

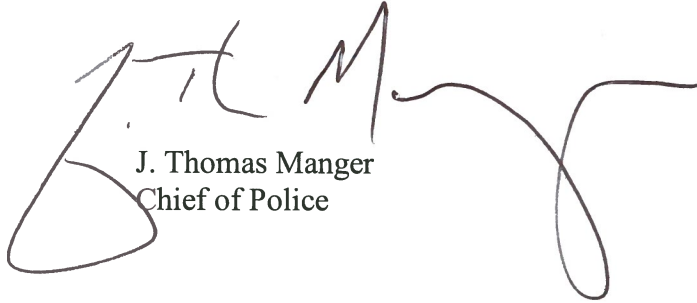
Dear Ranking Member Davis:

I write in response to your letter of June 8, 2022. The Capitol Police Board asked the United States Capitol Police (USCP) to review footage from January 5, 2021, related to a visit by constituents of Representative Barry Loudermilk as requested during our meeting on June 8, 2022. The USCP can confirm the following:

- On January 5, 2021, Representative Loudermilk's group of constituents (a group of approximately 12 people which later grew to 15 people) entered the Rayburn Building at 11:00 a.m. and was met by a Congressional staffer. Shortly thereafter, the group departed from the building entrance (out of camera range but within the building) in the direction of Rayburn Room 2133 (Representative Loudermilk's office).
- The group reappeared on the closed-circuit television system at 1:00 p.m., entering the basement of the Cannon House Office Building (Cannon) that houses a series of exhibits. The group entered the basement of the Cannon from the direction of the Longworth House Office Building (Longworth) cafeteria. The group spent approximately five minutes at the exhibit. During this time, Representative Loudermilk separated from the group and exited the Longworth South Capitol Street Door alone.
- The group continued in the Cannon without Representative Loudermilk. At no time did the group appear in any tunnels that would have led them to the U.S. Capitol. In addition, the tunnels leading to the U.S. Capitol were posted with USCP officers and admittance to the U.S. Capitol without a Member of Congress was not permitted on January 5, 2021.

There is no evidence that Representative Loudermilk entered the U.S. Capitol with this group on January 5, 2021. We train our officers on being alert for people conducting surveillance or reconnaissance, and we do not consider any of the activities we observed as suspicious.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. Thomas Manger', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above the printed name and title.

J. Thomas Manger  
Chief of Police

cc: Capitol Police Board

BENNIE G. THOMPSON, MISSISSIPPI  
CHAIRMAN

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Representative Barry Loudermilk

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Sincerely,



Bennie G. Thompson  
Chairman



Liz Cheney  
Vice Chair

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<sup>2</sup> Rebecca Beistch, GOP reps call for release of security footage amid allegations of ‘reconnaissance tours’, The Hill (Feb. 17, 2022), <https://thehill.com/policy/national-security/594740-house-republicans-call-for-release-of-security-footage-amid>.