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July 29, 2025

The Honorable Joseph V. Cuffari Inspector General Department of Homeland Security 245 Murray Lane SW Washington DC 20528-0305

Dear Mr. Cuffari:

I write to request that you investigate reports that Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) has stopped investigating serious crimes, including child sexual abuse, in order to focus on immigration enforcement.

HSI is the primary investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and the 7,000 agents working at HSI investigate transnational drug smuggling, human trafficking, counterfeit goods, and a range of other cross-border criminal activities. HSI is also the primary federal agency that investigates sexual crimes against children; according to statistics published by DHS, in fiscal year 2020, HSI arrested more than 3,000 individuals for crimes against children, including the production and distribution of online child exploitation material, child sex tourism, and sex trafficking of children. HSI also identified or rescued over 1,000 victims of child exploitation.

However, according to news reports, investigators at HSI are being pulled off of this critically important work in order to focus on immigration enforcement. That report stated that HSI "supervisors have waved agents off new cases so they have more time to make immigration-enforcement arrests," and quoted one agent describing the impact: "No drug cases, no human trafficking, no child exploitation."

Instead of locking up rapists, child predators and other violent criminals, Trump appears to be diverting investigators to target cooks, farm workers and students. Congress and the American people will not tolerate the Trump administration ignoring the ongoing sexual abuse of vulnerable children. Accordingly, I urge you to promptly investigate these troubling reports.

Sincerely,

Ron Wyden

United States Senator