Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, **DC** 20515–4205

May 13, 2025

The Honorable Jim Jordan Chairman House Committee on the Judiciary 2138 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mark Green Chairman House Committee on Homeland Security 176 Ford House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Jordan and Chairman Green,

I write to request that your Committees investigate the conduct of Nashville Mayor Freddie O'Connell whose recent actions raise serious questions about whether a municipal official is now obstructing federal law enforcement and possibly even actively aiding and abetting illegal aliens.

In the wake of a successful joint operation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the Tennessee Highway Patrol that resulted in the arrest of more than 100 individuals—including a convicted child sex predator, an alleged member of the violent Tren de Aragua gang, and other criminals tied to drug trafficking and violent offenses—Mayor O'Connell issued an executive order instructing city agencies to track and report all interactions with federal immigration authorities. Rather than commend law enforcement for removing dangerous individuals from the streets, the mayor chose instead to signal that federal agents are to be surveilled and distrusted—not supported.

This executive order is not a transparency initiative. It is already being operationalized as a political weapon. Just days after the mayor's announcement, the city's Community Review Board posted on X urging residents who have "experienced or witnessed an immigration-related event" to call a city-monitored hotline and file a complaint—a move clearly designed to mobilize left-wing activists to monitor and interfere with immigration enforcement.

Let's be clear: when city resources are used to obstruct federal officers and shield unlawful entrants—including convicted predators and violent offenders—from the consequences of violating immigration law, that conduct crosses a line. If any municipal personnel are impeding removals, facilitating evasion, or interfering with ICE operations, such conduct is at best inappropriate and may be illegal.

Accordingly, I respectfully request a joint investigation by the Judiciary and Homeland Security Committees into the actions of municipal leaders – particularly the Mayor of Nashville – who may be placing federal law enforcement officers in harm's way or obstructing the lawful enforcement of immigration laws.

Our immigration system depends on cooperation and trust across all levels of government. When elected officials weaponize their offices to score political points by undermining federal law enforcement, they compromise public safety and the rule of law.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I stand ready to support any investigative or legislative actions the Committees may pursue in response.

Sincerely,

Andy Ogles

Member of Congress