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November 7, 2025

The Honorable Michael B. Carroll Secretary of Transportation Pennsylvania Department of Transportation 400 North Street, Fifth Floor Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Secretary Carroll,

On October 14, 2025, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) announced the results of a joint enforcement operation conducted with the Oklahoma Highway Patrol. According to ICE, twelve individuals arrested for immigration violations were found to have been issued Commercial Driver's Licenses (CDLs) by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

This revelation is deeply concerning, particularly given the heightened scrutiny and verification processes that CDL applicants are expected to undergo. The integrity of our licensing system is critical to public safety, national security, and public trust. In light of these developments, we respectfully request that the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) provide answers to the following questions:

- 1. Has PennDOT reviewed the files of the license holders arrested by ICE?
- 2. Were all documents related to the applicants' lawful immigration status present and properly verified at the time of issuance?
- 3. Was there any pattern in where, how, or by whom these licenses were issued?
- 4. Has PennDOT coordinated with ICE or other federal agencies to verify the immigration status of these individuals?
- 5. Is PennDOT currently using the federal SAVE (Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements) system to verify immigration status for all non-citizen CDL applicants, as required under federal regulations?
- 6. Has PennDOT fully complied with the U.S. Department of Transportation's directive to pause the issuance of all non-domiciled CDLs as of September 29, 2025? If so, what internal guidance was issued to licensing centers and staff? How many non-domiciled CDL's issued by the Commonwealth are presently valid?

- 7. Has PennDOT initiated or completed an internal audit of all non-citizen CDL holders to identify any irregularities or fraudulent issuances? If so, what were the findings?
- 8. What steps is PennDOT taking to review the files of other non-citizen CDL holders to determine whether there are broader vulnerabilities in the licensing system?
- 9. What measures are being implemented to ensure that all non-citizens currently licensed to drive in Pennsylvania meet the legal requirements for licensure?
- 10. What oversight mechanisms are in place to monitor third-party CDL examiners, and have any been suspended or investigated in light of recent findings?
- 11. Has PennDOT submitted a corrective action plan to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) to address any identified vulnerabilities in its CDL issuance process?
- 12. Has PennDOT received any warnings or notifications from USDOT or FMCSA regarding potential loss of federal highway funds due to non-compliance with CDL regulations?
- 13. Has PennDOT conducted any assessment of the potential public safety risks posed by improperly issued CDLs?

We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter and look forward to your response by 11/28/2025. Ensuring the integrity of Pennsylvania's CDL program is of utmost importance to the safety of our roads and the confidence of our constituents.

Sincerely,

Senator Jarrett C. Coleman (R-16)

Chairman of Intergovernmental Operations

Committee

Senator Kristin Phillips-Hill (R-28)

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Senator Dawn Keefer (R-31)

Senator Doug Mastrianon (R-33)

cc: Senator Judy Ward (R-30)