

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

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March 25, 2026

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

Dear Chairman Jordan:

Our Committee must investigate the hundreds of millions of dollars in taxpayer funds the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has recently spent on corrupt, no-bid contracts.

When DHS Secretary Kristi Noem appeared before our Committee and the Senate Judiciary Committee earlier this month, Democrats and Republicans alike demanded answers about the \$220 million that she spent on no-bid advertising contracts with firms tied to her inner circle. Secretary Noem dodged basic questions, misrepresented the bidding process, and made statements that President Trump himself disavowed shortly thereafter. Her answers were so alarming that you told the *New York Post* that even President Trump is “concerned,” and you pledged that our Committee would “take a look” at these contracts.¹ You added that “[o]ur staff is just starting to get information in on that.”²

At the center of these suspect contracts is Corey Lewandowski, who served as Secretary Noem’s top adviser at DHS and a “special government employee.” We urge you to use the Committee’s subpoena power to compel production of documents and communications regarding Mr. Lewandowski’s role in awarding these contracts and require Mr. Lewandowski to appear before the Committee for a deposition.

The facts we know so far are quite astonishing. DHS bypassed the competitive bidding process to spend \$220 million on a series of television ads, including one featuring Secretary Noem on horseback at Mount Rushmore. That spending included \$143 million to an LLC that had been incorporated just days earlier, which in turn subcontracted work to a firm with deep

¹ Josh Christenson, *House GOP Probes \$220M DHS Ad Campaign, Contracts Overseen by Kristi Noem, Corey Lewandowski: “Had His Hands in a Lot”*, N.Y. POST (Mar. 11, 2026), <https://nypost.com/2026/03/11/us-news/house-gop-probes-220m-dhs-ad-campaign-contracts-overseen-by-kristi-noem-corey-lewandowski/>.

² *Id.* We trust that your staff will share all materials you receive in this matter with ours.

personal and professional ties to Secretary Noem and her senior staff.³ Indeed, when Representative Joe Neguse confronted Secretary Noem at our Committee’s hearing on March 4 with evidence that the contracts were not competitively bid, the Secretary was forced to concede the point—insisting all the while that the process was “all done correctly, all done legally.”⁴ The President himself has disavowed any knowledge of the campaign, telling reporters that, contrary to Secretary Noem’s sworn statement, “I never knew anything about it” and “I wasn’t thrilled with it.”⁵ The ad campaign was widely reported to be a principal reason for Secretary Noem’s removal.⁶

In order to get answers, the Committee must investigate the person at the center of these corrupt contracts—Corey Lewandowski. Secretary Noem attempted to cover up Mr. Lewandowski’s role, testifying under oath that he had “no” role in approving DHS contracts. But internal DHS records reviewed by ProPublica tell a different story: Mr. Lewandowski appears to have personally approved a multimillion-dollar equipment contract last summer, routinely signed off on large contracts before they reached the Secretary’s desk, and exercised effective veto power over DHS contracts and grants exceeding \$100,000.⁷ Mr. Lewandowski has also declined to disclose whether he is being compensated by any outside entities, even as the firms that received these ad contracts have extensive direct ties to him and his political network.⁸

As you know, Secretary Noem’s conduct has raised concerns on both sides of the aisle. During Secretary Noem’s appearance on March 3 before the Senate Judiciary Committee, Senator John Kennedy pressed Secretary Noem on how she could square her stated concern with government waste “with the fact that you have spent \$220 million running television advertisements that feature you prominently.”⁹ When Secretary Noem insisted the ads had been

³ Justin Elliott, Joshua Kaplan & Alex Mierjeski, *Firm Tied to Kristi Noem Secretly Got Money from \$220 Million DHS Ad Contracts*, PROPUBLICA (Nov. 14, 2025), <https://www.propublica.org/article/kristi-noem-dhs-ad-campaign-strategy-group>.

⁴ *Oversight of the Department of Homeland Security*, H. COMM. ON THE JUDICIARY, 119th Cong. (Mar. 4, 2026).

⁵ Steve Holland & Ted Hesson, *Exclusive: Trump Tells Reuters He Did Not Sign off on Ad Campaign Featuring Homeland Security Secretary*, REUTERS (Mar. 5, 2026), <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/trump-says-he-didnt-sign-off-200-million-border-security-ad-campaign-2026-03-05/>; Garrett Haake, *Trump Says He “Wasn’t Thrilled” with Kristi Noem’s \$220M Ad Campaign on Self-Deportation*, NBC NEWS (Mar. 5, 2026), <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/trump-administration/trump-was-not-thrilled-kristi-noem-ad-campaign-self-deportation-rcna262050>.

⁶ Alexander Bolton, *How Kristi Noem Finally Lost Trump’s Trust*, THE HILL (Mar. 5, 2026), <https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/5770493-kristi-noem-trump-advertising-scandal/>.

⁷ Joshua Kaplan & Justin Elliott, *Kristi Noem Misled Congress About Top Aide’s Role in DHS Contracts*, PROPUBLICA (Mar. 4, 2026), <https://www.propublica.org/article/kristi-noem-dhs-misled-senate-judiciary-corey-lewandowski-contracts>; Myah Ward & Zack Colman, *Lewandowski’s Veto Power over DHS Contracts Frustrates Admin Officials: ‘Corey Is Part of the Problem’*, POLITICO (Aug. 27, 2025), <https://www.politico.com/news/2025/08/27/tk-00527043>.

⁸ Joshua Kaplan & Justin Elliott, *Kristi Noem Misled Congress About Top Aide’s Role in DHS Contracts*, PROPUBLICA (Mar. 4, 2026), <https://www.propublica.org/article/kristi-noem-dhs-misled-senate-judiciary-corey-lewandowski-contracts>.

⁹ Kathryn Watson et al., *Kristi Noem out as DHS Secretary; Trump Announces Sen. Markwayne Mullin as Replacement*, CBS NEWS (Mar. 5, 2026), <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/kristi-noem-out-as-secretary-of-homeland-security-markwayne-mullin/>.

effective, Senator Kennedy shot back that they had been “effective in your name recognition” and that he “just can’t agree” with the Department’s spending.¹⁰ House Homeland Security Committee Chairman Andrew Garbarino likewise criticized the spending, telling reporters that “[w]e are looking into a lot of contracts” and that Mr. Lewandowski “had his hands in a lot and probably should not have.”¹¹

Mr. Chairman, our Committee’s website declares that our oversight responsibility over DHS is “[p]articularly important in our time.”¹² Mr. Lewandowski was at the center of the Department’s advertising spending and is the person best positioned to explain how a quarter of a billion dollars in taxpayer money was spent. I therefore call on you to subpoena Corey Lewandowski to appear for testimony before the Committee and to produce the following documents:

1. All documents and communications between Mr. Lewandowski and any contractor or subcontractor associated with the DHS advertising campaign, including Safe America Media, LLC; People Who Think, LLC; and the Strategy Group;
2. All documents reflecting Mr. Lewandowski’s approval, review, or sign-off on any contract, grant, or expenditure at DHS, including any internal routing sheets or checklists bearing his signature or initials;
3. All documents and communications relating to Mr. Lewandowski’s role in the decision to award or direct the advertising contracts at issue, including any communications with Secretary Noem or other DHS officials regarding the selection of contractors or subcontractors;
4. All documents reflecting any compensation, payments, or anything of value Mr. Lewandowski has received from any outside entity since January 20, 2025, including but not limited to any entity that has contracted or subcontracted with DHS; and
5. All ethics reviews, conflict-of-interest analyses, financial disclosures, or recusal determinations relating to Mr. Lewandowski’s service at DHS.

¹⁰ Ximena Bustillo & Meg Anderson, *Senators Pressed Kristi Noem on the DHS Shutdown and Shootings. Here Are Key Moments*, NPR (Mar. 3, 2026), <https://www.npr.org/2026/03/03/nx-s1-5732788/kristi-noem-judiciary-hearing-homeland-security>.

¹¹ Josh Christenson, *House GOP Probes \$220M DHS Ad Campaign, Contracts Overseen by Kristi Noem, Corey Lewandowski: “Had His Hands in a Lot”*, N.Y. POST (Mar. 11, 2026), <https://nypost.com/2026/03/11/us-news/house-gop-probes-220m-dhs-ad-campaign-contracts-overseen-by-kristi-noem-corey-lewandowski/>.

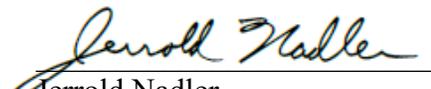
¹² *About the Committee*, H. COMM. ON THE JUDICIARY, <https://judiciary.house.gov/about> (last accessed Mar. 30, 2026).

Oversight of DHS is our shared responsibility. Let's work together, on behalf of American taxpayers, to investigate these corrupt contracts and DHS's efforts to cover them up.

Very truly yours,


Jamie Raskin
Ranking Member


Joe Neguse
Member of Congress


Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress


Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress


Steve Cohen
Member of Congress


Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress


Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress


Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress


Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress


J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress


Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress

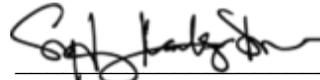

Lucy McBath
Member of Congress


Deborah Ross
Member of Congress


Becca Balint
Member of Congress



Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



Sydney Kamlager-Dove
Member of Congress



Jared Moskowitz
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Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress