

Steve Drazkowski
State Representative
District 21B
Goodhue, Wabasha
Winona, Dodge



Minnesota House of Representatives

COMMITTEES:
Property and Local Tax Division
Rules and Legislative Administration
Ways and Means

June 25, 2019

The Honorable Angie Craig

1523 Longworth House Office Building
The United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Representative Craig,

I am your constituent. In that capacity, I formally request that you immediately forward the attached material, and open an ethics investigation in the United States House of Representatives regarding actions taken by Rep. Ilhan Omar leading up to the 2018 election. This month, the Minnesota Campaign Finance Board issued a report on Rep. Omar which found that she broke multiple Minnesota campaign finance laws. Furthermore, there is probable cause that she has violated multiple state and federal laws.

Importantly for you, strong evidence suggests that she may have deliberately hid a number of these violations by refusing to release her campaign finance report (where a number of these violations would be made public) until after the congressional district endorsing convention. Her hiding of the information on her statement of economic interest, which was filed five months late, also prevented a Minnesota House ethics investigation in 2018, before the election.

I am also asking you to contact Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and ask her to begin prompt work to revoke Rep. Omar's appointment to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and her security clearances. There are several grounds for these requests.

1. **Federal Tax Fraud:** The Minneapolis Star Tribune reported over two weeks ago that, "Rep. Omar and her husband, Ahmed Abdisalan Hirsi, filed joint tax returns for 2014 and 2015 — before they were actually married and while Omar was legally wed to another man. While some states allow for joint filing for "common law" marriages, Minnesota does not, and filing joint tax returns with someone who is not your legal spouse is against both federal and state law."
2. **Federal Immigration Fraud:** On June 6, the Minnesota Campaign Finance Board (CFB) ordered Rep. Omar to "fully describe" her campaign disbursements to a law firm for "immigration services" which may have affected her husband from 2009 to 2017, British subject Ahmed Nur Said Elmi. It is unclear whether immigration fraud was committed to bring Mr. Elmi to this country.



3. **Federal Student Loan Fraud:** Rep. Omar and Mr. Elmi reportedly applied for federal student loan aid and housing subsidies while studying at North Dakota State University in the past decade. It is unclear whether their marriage and applications were legal.
4. **Perjury:** In her divorce papers seeking service on Ahmed Elmi on August 2, 2017, Rep. Omar repeatedly stated under penalty of perjury that she had not had contact with him since June, 2011 and that his last known location was in London in 2011. Yet a photo posted by Elmi on June 12, 2012 shows him holding her newborn baby and referring to the baby as his niece at the hospital in Minneapolis. Court documents on July 31, 2012 show that Elmi personally accepted his eviction notice from his Minneapolis apartment. This was within ten blocks of Rep. Omar's residence.
5. **Bigamy:** According to the CFB Order, Rep. Omar's attorney testified that Rep. Omar sought aid on filing joint federal returns with Mr. Hirsi for 2014 and 2015. This would have been during her 2009-2017 marriage to Mr. Elmi. This would appear to be a violation of Minnesota Statute 609.355 which carries a penalty of up to five years of imprisonment.
6. **Kick-backs:** On July 31, 2018, Rep. Omar returned \$2,500 in speaking fees from two Minnesota community colleges whose budgets she oversaw and approved as a member of the Higher Education Committee of the Minnesota House of Representatives. These pay-backs were not disclosed until after the prospect of Minnesota House ethics charges against her were discussed while she ran for Congress last summer. The payments were a clear violation of Minnesota House Rules.
7. **Campaign Fund Abuse in Boston:** This month, the CFB found that Rep. Omar had violated campaign law when her campaign committee, "made an in-kind contribution of \$337.40 in airfare to allow Rep. Omar to attend a campaign event in Boston for a local candidate in violation of Minnesota Statutes."
8. **Campaign Fund Abuse in Washington, D.C.:** This month, the CFB found that Rep. Omar's campaign committee, "improperly paid the hotel costs for Rep. Omar's stay in Washington D.C. to give a speech and participate in an interview by a young woman for the Girl Up UN conference."
9. **Campaign Fund Abuse in New York:** This month, the CFB found that Rep. Omar's campaign committee, "improperly paid the costs for Rep. Omar's travel to New York to attend a planning meeting for the America's Cabinet."
10. **Campaign Fund Abuse in Chicago:** This month, the CFB found that Rep. Omar's campaign committee, "improperly paid the costs for Rep. Omar's travel to Chicago to accept an award at a fundraising luncheon for the National Immigrant Justice Center."
11. **Campaign Fund Abuse in Florida:** This month, the CFB found that Rep. Omar's campaign committee, "improperly paid \$207 for Rep. Omar's travel to Florida to receive an honorarium for attending the gala for the African Network of Southwest Florida."

12. **Personal Profiteering:** On June 6, the CFB also found that she had used \$1,500 of campaign donations to pay for personal tax preparation services. The CFB ordered her to pay back the \$1,500 for those services.

Sadly, the list could go on. Prior to the items discussed above, Rep. Omar was fined multiple times by the Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board, resulting in thousands of dollars of fines for both related and unrelated violations. This pattern of abuse, deception, and corruption must be put to an end. The public's trust in the integrity of Congress must be repaired, and the security of vital national intelligence must be protected.

Please file an ethics complaint and urge the Speaker to work swiftly to revoke Rep. Omar's security clearance and membership on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Your constituents and neighbors will be watching closely for your response to these necessary requests.

Sincerely,



Representative Steve Drazkowski

District 21B

Minnesota House of Representatives

Cc: The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
1236 Longworth House Office Building
The United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ted Deutch
Chair, House Committee on Ethics
2447 Rayburn House Office building
The United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kenny Marchant
Ranking Member, House Committee on Ethics
2304 Rayburn House Office Building
The United State House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515