

**Nomination of Gadyaces Serralta**  
**To be Director of the United States Marshal Service**  
**Questions for the Record**  
**May 7, 2025**

**QUESTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN GRASSLEY**

1. The United States Marshals Service (USMS) can grant special deputies federal law enforcement authority, allowing them to act as federal law enforcement officers while under the supervision of USMS. Since 2021, Senator Wicker and I have raised concerns to USMS regarding abuses of the Special Deputation program during the Biden/Harris administration. Specifically, we wrote to USMS on May 26, 2021, November 30, 2021, and March 7, 2022, raising concerns about the Department of Commerce's Investigations and Threat Management Service (ITMS) after allegations that ITMS used the Special Deputation program to improperly conduct broad criminal investigations and counterintelligence tactics. We also, on December 12, 2022, wrote to the DOJ OIG requesting an investigation into the ITMS matter and the Special Deputation program. Recently, on October 1, 2024, the DOJ OIG published a report titled, *Audit of the U.S. Marshals Service's Special Deputation Authority*, which identified deficiencies in the USMS's administration and oversight of its special deputation authority. It also substantiated my oversight work.
  - a. Mr. Serralta, if confirmed, what steps will you take to ensure the Special Deputation program is properly administered and overseen?

**RESPONSE:** While I'm generally aware of this program, I have not had the opportunity to study it in detail, as it is primarily run out of Headquarters. I am not familiar with the special deputations you referenced, but if confirmed, I commit to reviewing this program, the OIG report, and your letters, to ensure appropriate administration and oversight.

2. USMS operates eight Regional Fugitive Task Force offices across the country. The RFTFs were established by the Presidential Threat Protection Act of 2000. Their purpose is to apprehend the most dangerous state and federal fugitives through partnerships with state and local law enforcement agencies. In 2024, the USMS-led fugitive task forces arrested over 74,200 federal, state, and local fugitives and cleared over 88,700 warrants.
  - a. Mr. Serralta, if confirmed, will you ensure that the current Marshals regional task force structure remains in place?

**RESPONSE:** For the last 23 years, the Regional Fugitive Task Force model has been an important force multiplier in our fugitive apprehension mission. I am committed to ensuring that this critical mission, which contributes so much to public safety, is accomplished in the most effective and efficient manner.

**Senator Dick Durbin**  
**Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee**  
**Written Questions for Gadyaces Serralta**  
**Nominee to be Director of the United States Marshals Service**  
**May 7, 2025**

1. At your hearing, you stated that “the primary role and mission” of the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS) is “to provide safety for and to obey, enforce, and execute all lawful orders of the federal courts.”

- a. **What distinguishes a “lawful” federal court order from any other federal court order?**

**RESPONSE:** A lawful order is one issued by a federal court judge.

- b. **Will you commit to following all federal court orders, even if President Trump, Attorney General Bondi, or another executive branch official claims that a court order is not “lawful”?**

**RESPONSE:** For the past six years as U.S. Marshal, I have been enforcing federal court orders on behalf of the judiciary. This is a required mission of the U.S. Marshals Service that is fundamental to the rule of law and that will continue if I am confirmed.

- c. **If a federal court orders the Marshals Service to take a particular action, but an executive branch official tells the Marshals Service to take a different action or no action, whose directive will you execute?**

**RESPONSE:** See answer to question 1(b).

2. The Justice Department is currently defending the Trump Administration in a number of lawsuits challenging executive actions taken by the Administration. Federal judges—both Republican and Democratic appointees—have enjoined some of these actions, holding that they are illegal or unconstitutional. Alarming, President Trump, his allies, and even some nominees before the Senate Judiciary Committee have responded by questioning whether the executive branch must follow court orders. If confirmed, you will hold a key law enforcement position and you will have a duty to execute and enforce judicial orders from federal courts.

**Do you believe the president, any other elected official, or any member of the executive branch can lawfully defy a federal court order? If yes, in what circumstances?**

**RESPONSE:** I would not expect any of those possibilities to occur. For the past six years as U.S. Marshal, I have been enforcing federal court orders on behalf of the judiciary. This is a required mission of the U.S. Marshals Service that is fundamental to the rule of law and that will continue if I am confirmed.

3. As I said during your hearing, I am deeply concerned about the increase in threats towards federal judges, their families, and other court employees. The President, members of his Administration, and Republican members of Congress have repeatedly attacked individual federal judges by name simply for ruling against the Administration.

This rhetoric puts the lives of judges and their families in danger, as exhibited by the delivery of hundreds of pizzas to the homes of judges in recent months. At least 10 of these pizzas were sent in the name of Daniel Anderl, the son of New Jersey District Judge Esther Salas, who was murdered by a disgruntled litigant just a few years ago. This is a clear threat to these judges, many of whom are presiding over legal challenges to the Trump Administration's actions. As Judge Salas noted, the goal is to signal, "I know where you live. I know where your kids live. And do you want to end up like Judge Salas? Do you want to end up like her son?"

I appreciate your stated commitment to prioritizing judicial security.

- a. **If you are confirmed, if a judge asks the Marshals Service for additional security, would you provide it?**

**RESPONSE:** Protecting federal judges is our solemn mandate. If confirmed, I will ensure that protective details effectively mitigate risk identified in the threat assessments.

- b. **Have you had any conversations with members of the executive branch regarding the possibility of withdrawing or reducing judicial security?**

**RESPONSE:** No.

- c. **If you are confirmed, if the President, Attorney General, or a member of their Administration asks you to limit or withdraw protection for a judge, would you? Please answer "yes" or "no."**

**RESPONSE:** See answer to question 3(a).

4. The Department of Justice has directed the Marshals Service to assist the Department of Homeland Security in enforcing immigration laws, and USMS has reportedly made over 1,700 immigration-related arrests since the beginning of the Trump Administration.

- a. **If confirmed, if you are directed by the President, Attorney General, or another member of the Administration to prioritize immigration enforcement over judicial security, will you remove USMS personnel from judicial security? Please answer “yes” or “no.”**

**RESPONSE:** As I said during the hearing, safety of federal judges is my number one priority. Their safety will not be compromised.

In February, Mark Pittella, the Acting Director of the U.S. Marshals Service, sent a letter to the Chair of the Judicial Conference Committee on Criminal Law, in which he wrote about the authorization of USMS officials to act as immigration officers and encouraged members of the judiciary to reach out to the U.S. Marshal in their respective districts if they had “questions or concerns regarding the USMS’s operational authority to hold, detain, and arrest individuals remanded or released by the federal judiciary.”

- b. **If confirmed, do you commit to meeting with members of the Judicial Conference or its committees to hear their concerns, including how deputizing marshals for immigration enforcement may be impacting judicial security and the operation of the judiciary?**

**RESPONSE:** Yes.

5. Because the U.S. Marshals Service serves the federal judiciary but is housed within the Justice Department, concerns have been raised about the independence of the Marshals Service and potential conflicts between the executive branch and the judicial branch.

Earlier this year, former USMS Director Ronald Davis wrote that “Congress must also enact legislation to designate the U.S. Marshals Service as an independent agency or, at a minimum, establish safeguards to insulate it from political influence—particularly in the enforcement of court orders and the protection of the judicial process. These protections should mirror those of independent agencies such as the Federal Reserve and the Securities and Exchange Commission.”

**a. Do you support making the Marshals Service an independent agency?**

**RESPONSE:** As a Department of Justice law enforcement component, the U.S. Marshals Service is committed to protecting federal judicial process and the enforcement of federal court orders, among our other critical missions that safeguard the rule of law and contribute to public safety.

**b. Do you support moving the Marshals Service from the executive branch to the judicial branch?**

**RESPONSE:** No. For 236 years the U.S. Marshals Service has faithfully supported the federal judiciary and if confirmed, I will continue our successful partnership with the courts.

6. Last month, the U.S. Marshals Service confirmed that the FBI had arrested Milwaukee County Circuit Judge Hannah Dugan on charges of obstructing an immigration arrest operation. FBI Director Patel posted about this incident multiple times on social media, including going so far as to post a photo of the judge in handcuffs, adding, “No one is above the law.”

This weaponization of federal law enforcement to arrest a local judge is a deeply concerning escalation by this Administration.

**a. Do you agree with the decision by the Marshals Service to assist in arresting Judge Dugan?**

**RESPONSE:** This event took place outside of my purview as the U.S. Marshal in the Southern District of Florida, and I am only aware of media reports about the case. To my understanding, the U.S. Marshals Service had no role in arresting Judge Dugan.

When immigration enforcement officials interfere with our criminal justice system, it undermines public safety, prevents victims and witnesses from coming forward, and often prevents those who committed crimes from facing justice in the United States.

**b. How does arresting a sitting judge make America any safer?**

**RESPONSE:** See answer to question 6(a).

7. You recently appeared in a U.S. Marshals Service video regarding “Operation We Will Find You 2,” a national missing child operation that took place last year. According to the Department of Justice, this operation resulted in the recovery and location of 200 missing children, many of whom were victims of sex trafficking, child exploitation, sexual abuse, and physical abuse.

**RESPONSE:** It is vitally important that children are safeguarded and protected, and a key part of that effort is law enforcement working together to ensure the safety of vulnerable children.

**a. What kind of resources were deployed for this operation?**

**RESPONSE:** In my District of Southern Florida, we accomplished the recovery of 32 missing children as part of Operation We Will Find You 2. My district personnel partnered with the Sex Offender Investigation Branch from USMS Headquarters and multiple state and local partners who all worked seamlessly together to locate these missing children.

**b. Does USMS have sufficient resources to pursue similar operations going forward?**

**RESPONSE:** The U.S. Marshals Service to date has been conducting the missing child mission without dedicated resources. The same deputies who accomplish our fugitive apprehension mission are the same ones who locate critically missing children.

**c. If confirmed, will you commit to pursuing similar operations going forward?**

**RESPONSE:** Yes. There is nothing more devastating to a family or a community than a missing child. If confirmed, I will prioritize this mission and will work to strengthen our ability to locate and recover missing children who are at high risk of trafficking and violence.

8. On May 1, the Senate Judiciary Committee received several documents related to a whistleblower disclosure that the Marshals Service failed to implement a Hearing Conservation Program pursuant to Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations and the DOJ Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Program. The case (DI-24-000141) is now closed.

**If confirmed to serve as Director of the Marshals Service, will you commit to following all applicable OSHA regulations and the DOJ OSH Program to protect USMS employees?**

**RESPONSE:** Yes. I am committed to abiding by all applicable health and safety regulations that keep our employees safe.



**Senator Mike Lee**  
**Questions for the Record**  
**Gadyaces Serralta to be Director of the United States Marshals Service**

1. Mr. Serralta, you've had an impressive career in law enforcement. What is your vision for U.S. Marshals Service and how do you plan to complete its core mission?

**RESPONSE:** If I am confirmed, I will focus on several important priorities for the agency. The first and most important is judicial security, which is the primary mission of the U.S. Marshals Service. I will work to ensure that we have enough resources for this mission, and I am interested in strengthening our ability to use open-source intelligence to identify threats and activities of concern in advance of potential violent acts. Second, I want to strengthen our important but not well-known work locating critically missing children. We currently accomplish this mission without dedicated resources and my own experience in my district showed me the depth of the problem of missing children, most of them older, who have left their families and are at high risk of being victims of trafficking and other crimes. Finally, I will emphasize our fugitive apprehensions mission, which is successful because of our powerful state, local, and federal partnership that allows us to adopt local warrants for the worst of the worst violent criminals and bring them safely into custody, immediately making our communities safer. Ensuring that our deputies and local task force officers receive the best training and equipment for this dangerous mission is paramount.

2. What are your plans to reform the U.S. Marshals Service?

**RESPONSE:** The U.S. Marshals Service has been a critical part of our Nation's history from the beginning. It is important that the agency is always adapting to new challenges and continues to adapt with the Nation we serve. I will work to ensure that we use technology effectively, both as an opportunity to facilitate our criminal investigations, but also so that we understand how criminal elements are using technology to avoid capture and commit crimes against the judicial process. I also think it is critical that we stay current in deploying advanced equipment that helps to keep our deputies safe in our dangerous fugitive apprehension mission.

3. What can Congress do to assist the U.S. Marshals Service complete its core mission?

**RESPONSE:** I appreciate your support of the U.S. Marshals Service. If I am confirmed, I hope this is a future conversation we can have after I have had a chance to study the most pressing issues facing the U.S. Marshals Service.

**Nomination of Gadyaces Serralta  
To be Director of United States Marshals Service  
Submitted May 7, 2025**

**QUESTIONS FROM SENATOR WHITEHOUSE**

1. Under federal law, “the primary role and mission of the United States Marshals Service” includes enforcing federal court orders, and the Service is required to “execute all lawful writs, process, and orders” issued by a federal court under the authority of the United States.

- a. If confirmed, will you enforce all lawful writs, process, and orders when directed by a federal court to do so?

**RESPONSE:** For the past six years as U.S. Marshal, I have been enforcing federal court orders on behalf of the judiciary. This is a required mission of the U.S. Marshals Service that is fundamental to the rule of law and that will continue if I am confirmed.

- b. Has anyone in the Trump Administration discussed with you the possibility of a United States Marshal refusing to enforce a writ, process, or order issued by a federal court based on the executive branch’s view that such writ, process, or order is not lawful?

**RESPONSE:** No.

- c. If the answer to question 1(b) is yes, please provide the names of such individuals and any copies of such communications.
  - d. If confirmed, will you provide to my office as soon as possible copies of any United States Marshals Service materials related to any rules, practices, or procedures governing the United States Marshals’ duty to enforce writs, processes, or orders issued by a federal court against the executive branch?

**RESPONSE:** If confirmed I commit to working with your office to ensure you and your staff are informed of the U.S. Marshals’ duties.

- e. If confirmed, please describe the process by which you would handle a situation in which a directive by the President of the United States or the Attorney General

conflicts with a lawful federal court order that a United States Marshal has been ordered to enforce.

**RESPONSE:** I would not expect such an event to occur. For the past six years as U.S. Marshal, I have been enforcing federal court orders on behalf of the judiciary. This is a required mission of the U.S. Marshals Service that is fundamental to the rule of law and that will continue if I am confirmed.

2. Under federal law, “the primary role and mission of the United States Marshals Service” includes providing security for federal judges.

- a. If confirmed, will you prioritize the protection of federal judges?

**RESPONSE:** Yes.

- b. If confirmed, will you provide security to federal judges commensurate with the threats against such judges, regardless of the identity of the threatened judge?

**RESPONSE:** Yes.

- c. If confirmed, will you provide necessary security to federal judges subject to serious threats, even if ordered by the President of the United States or Attorney General not to do so?

**RESPONSE:** Yes. I would not expect such an event to occur. For the past six years as U.S. Marshal, I have been providing security for federal judges. This is a required mission of the U.S. Marshals Service that is fundamental to the rule of law and that will continue if I am confirmed.

- d. If confirmed, what steps will you take to ensure the safety of federal judges’ family members who are threatened because of their relationship to such judges?

**RESPONSE:** The U.S. Marshals Service protective responsibilities are also extended to the immediate families of federal judiciary officials when the threat assessment warrants protection. If confirmed, I will assess our needs in this area and will work with the Department and this Committee should we identify additional tools needed to keep our judiciary safe.

- e. If confirmed, will you investigate all serious threats against judges and their family members, and any orchestration of such threats, regardless of the party affiliation of the individuals who make or orchestrate those threats?

**RESPONSE:** Yes. As I said at the hearing, the U.S. Marshals Service is apolitical.

- 3. On April 11, 2025, I, along with all other Judiciary Committee Democrats, requested a briefing on the U.S. Marshals Service's response to rising threats against federal judges, along with responses to specific questions related to that topic. As of May 7, 2025, I have not received a substantive response to that request.

- a. Have you seen this letter?

**RESPONSE:** I am aware of the April 11<sup>th</sup> letter.

- b. If confirmed, will provide a response to that letter, including responses to the specific questions asked therein, as soon as possible?

**RESPONSE:** Yes. The U.S. Marshals Service's mission to protect the federal judicial process is our most fundamental. If confirmed, it will be one of my top priorities.

- c. If confirmed, will you provide a briefing to myself and my colleagues who signed that letter on the topics discussed in that letter as soon as possible?

**RESPONSE:** Yes.

- d. If confirmed, will you provide prompt responses to all inquiries by members of this Committee, regardless of party affiliation?

**RESPONSE:** Yes, we will do everything we can to accommodate oversight needs of this Committee, consistent with our law enforcement, litigation, and national security obligations and legal requirements.

- 4. Under federal law, the U.S. Marshals Service has primary authority over asset seizure and the custody, management, and disposal of forfeited assets. Before its disbanding, DOJ's Task Force KleptoCapture had secured the forfeiture of, or consent to forfeiture of, approximately \$170 million worth of private oligarch assets, with the goal of securing the

forfeiture of nearly \$700 million total in private assets from such oligarchs who aid Russia in violation of U.S. laws.

- a. If confirmed, will you provide the resources and staffing necessary for the Marshals to continue to carry out all relevant forfeiture and disposition actions in these cases once forfeiture or consent to forfeiture is secured?

**RESPONSE:** If confirmed, I will review current resources to understand the U.S. Marshals Service's ability to continue carrying out all relevant forfeiture and disposition actions. I am committed to the efficient and effective management of assets in U.S. Marshals Service custody.

- b. In March 2025, a U.S. federal judge approved the forfeiture and disposition of the Amadea, a superyacht allegedly owned by sanctioned Russian oligarch Suleiman Kerimov. If confirmed, will you ensure that forfeited assets, including the Amadea, are managed and sold in an efficient and cost-effective manner? If confirmed, will you also inform my office promptly of any delays in the Amadea's disposition and any decisions to settle as part of its disposition?

**RESPONSE:** My understanding is that the forfeiture of the Amadea has been appealed, and the Department of Justice is actively litigating the case. If confirmed, I will ensure that all forfeited assets are managed and sold in an efficient and cost-effective manner consistent with federal law. I will also commit to being responsive to oversight requests from Congress.

- c. I have a bill to allow DOJ to more quickly seize ill-gotten assets owned by sanctioned Russian oligarchs under established administrative forfeiture procedures and transfer the proceeds to Ukraine. If confirmed, will you support this bill and other legislative efforts to hold these sanctioned oligarchs accountable?

**RESPONSE:** I am not yet familiar with your proposed legislation, but if I am confirmed, the U.S. Marshals Service will review it.

5. Did Joe Biden win the 2020 presidential election?

**RESPONSE:** Former President Joseph Biden was certified as the winner of the 2020 presidential election and sworn in as the forty-sixth President on January 20, 2021.

**Nomination of Gadyaces Serralta to be Director of the  
U.S. Marshals Service  
Questions for the Record  
Submitted May 7, 2025**

**QUESTIONS FROM SENATOR COONS**

1. At any point during the process that led to your nomination, did you have any discussions with anyone—including but not limited to individuals at the White House, at the Justice Department, or at outside groups—about your loyalty to President Trump? If so, please elaborate.

**RESPONSE:** No.

2. If President Trump asked you to do something you judged to be illegal or unethical, would you resign? Please answer yes or no.

**RESPONSE:** I would not expect such an event to occur.

- a. If you would not resign, what would you do?

**RESPONSE:** I will follow the law and my oath to protect and defend the U.S. Constitution.

3. The U.S. Marshals Service (USMS) has a broad range of responsibilities, from protecting members of the federal judiciary, apprehension of fugitives, execution of federal arrest warrants, transport of federal prisoners, to operation of the Federal Witness Protection Program.

- a. Where would you focus USMS resources, and how would you make such decisions?

**RESPONSE:** Protecting the federal judicial process is the primary mission for the U.S. Marshals Service. This mission is more important than ever due to the escalating volatility and severity of threats against public officials and the judicial process in recent years. I pledge to you my best efforts in enforcing federal law and leading the U.S. Marshals Service to carry out all its vital missions.

- b. Given the multifaceted mission of the USMS, how would you ensure that the criminal investigator workforce within the agency includes a broad range of backgrounds and skills?

**RESPONSE:** I pledge to recruit and hire the most qualified candidates who desire to become Deputy U.S. Marshals. We need the best people with a wide variety of skills who are willing to dedicate themselves to a life spent in service to the rule of law.

- 4. Across the country, there are significant pay disparities between U.S. Marshals in different districts that are not attributable to experience or qualifications. For example, the U.S. Marshal for the District of Montana is paid \$186,854 whereas the U.S. Marshal for the District of New Hampshire is paid \$191,900. Sometimes these disparities occur within the same state. For example, the U.S. Marshal for the Western District of Missouri is paid \$189,781 and the U.S. Marshal for the Eastern District of Missouri is paid \$191,900.

- a. Why are different U.S. Marshals paid different amounts when they do the same job?

**RESPONSE:** To my understanding, many presidentially appointed U.S. Marshals (USM) are paid under the Executive Schedule pay scale as Senior Level (SL) positions. These USMs are paid at the Executive Schedule Level IV (EX-IV). However, many Marshals are compensated under the General Schedule (GS), at the GS-15 Step 10 rate, with most of them earning below the EX-IV level based on their duty station and locality pay.

- b. Are you supportive of legislation that would seek to reduce pay disparities within the USMS?

**RESPONSE:** I am committed to promoting fairness within our agency. I am aware of the previous administration's draft proposal from the Department of Justice aimed at addressing pay disparities. I support working with the current Administration and Congress to review this issue if I am confirmed.

- c. Are you supportive of legislation that would pay the Director of the USMS a salary commensurate with the Directors of the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives?

**RESPONSE:** I am aware of the previous Administration's draft proposal from the Department of Justice aimed at addressing this issue. If confirmed, I support working with the current Administration and Congress on this issue.

5. Please describe your understanding of the role of the USMS in enforcing federal court orders and in enforcing civil or criminal contempt of court for failure to abide by a federal court order.

**RESPONSE:** For the past six years as U.S. Marshal, I have been enforcing federal court orders on behalf of the judiciary. This is a required mission of the U.S. Marshals Service that is fundamental to the rule of law and that will continue if I am confirmed.

6. Is there ever a circumstance when an executive branch agency may choose not to comply with a federal court order, until such time as that order is stayed or vacated by a higher court?

**RESPONSE:** See answer to question 5.

7. Is there ever a circumstance when it would be appropriate for a U.S. Marshal to decline to enforce a federal court order or civil or criminal contempt finding?

**RESPONSE:** See answer to question 5.

8. What role do you understand the Attorney General to have with regard to deciding whether a U.S. Marshal should enforce a federal court order or a civil or criminal contempt finding?

**RESPONSE:** See answer to question 5.

9. Is it ever appropriate for the Attorney General to order a U.S. Marshal to refuse to enforce a federal court order or a civil or criminal contempt finding?

**RESPONSE:** See answer to question 5.

10. It is critical that federal, state, and local law enforcement officers establish strong, trusting relationships with the communities they serve. Officers who abuse their authority, either through the use of excessive force, discrimination, or patterns of constitutional violations erode these police-community relationships.



- a. Do law enforcement officers have a special responsibility to intervene and/or promptly report another officer's use of excessive force, discrimination, or constitutional violations?

**RESPONSE:** Yes. The U.S. Marshals Service requires each employee to adhere to our Code of Professional Responsibility which includes a duty to report to appropriate management officials of any violation of constitutional and statutory rights, to include unnecessary use of force and discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, or national origin, among other obligations.

- b. Is it ever appropriate for a law enforcement officer to conceal evidence of wrongful conduct by an officer or provide a false report regarding that conduct?

**RESPONSE:** No.

11. Since President Trump took office, his administration has discredited judges, even calling for their impeachment. Elon Musk took to social media to call federal judges "corrupt" and "evil." Do you think high-level government officials disparaging judges improves or reduces their safety? Please explain your answer.

**RESPONSE:** It is not appropriate for me to comment on the propriety of other people's words or opinions.

- a. The USMS, in the wake of these comments, has informed judges of a heightened threat environment. How has this increase affected your current work as a U.S. Marshal in the Southern District of Florida?

**RESPONSE:** Threats against federal judges are not new. This is something I have observed during my six years as the U.S. Marshal for the Southern District of Florida. The judiciary and their families face a wide range of threats and intimidation, including violence, harassment, and privacy. Their protection has been our highest priority since the establishment of the U.S. Marshals Service in 1789 and, if I am confirmed, that will continue.

- b. How would a reduction in funding or resources impact your ability to protect judges?

**RESPONSE:** I have not yet studied the national budget of the U.S. Marshals Service, so I can't speak to that. However, from my experience as the U.S. Marshal for the Southern District of Florida, I know that an increased threat

environment requires increased personnel, both Deputy U.S. Marshals as well as support staff, to meet the threats.

- c. Drawing on your experience as a U.S. Marshal, how would public safety be impacted if security protections for judges were withdrawn?

**RESPONSE:** I would not expect such an event to occur. For the past six years as U.S. Marshal, I have been providing security protection for federal judges. This is a required mission of the U.S. Marshals Service that is fundamental to the rule of law and that will continue if I am confirmed.

- 12. The USMS is responsible for managing assets seized by law enforcement, including cryptocurrencies. The USMS has failed to timely estimate and disclose the cryptocurrencies in its possession. Should you be confirmed, how would you develop adequate policies related to seized cryptocurrency valuation and storage?

**RESPONSE:** This is not something I have had the opportunity to study in my time as a U.S. Marshal in Florida. If confirmed, I look forward to studying this issue and working with colleagues at the Department of Justice to ensure that cryptocurrency is properly valued and stored.

- a. Do you commit to improving agency transparency about the assets the USMS possesses and their valuation?

**RESPONSE:** I am fully committed to transparency and accountability within the U.S. Marshals Service, particularly with respect to the management of seized assets, including cryptocurrencies. Should I be confirmed, I will ensure the U.S. Marshals Service continues to operate with the highest standards of integrity, transparency, and fiscal responsibility.

**Senator Mazie K. Hirono**  
**Senate Judiciary Committee**

**Nominations Hearing | April 30, 2025**  
**Questions for the Record for Gadyaces Serralta**

1. The Marshals Service has an inter-branch responsibility. The Service is administratively in the Department of Justice, and advances Department of Justice priorities; however, it is also responsible for executing court orders and protecting judges.

**a. Will you commit to executing all federal court orders?**

**RESPONSE:** For the past six years as U.S. Marshal, I have been enforcing federal court orders on behalf of the judiciary. This is a required mission of the U.S. Marshals Service that is fundamental to the rule of law and that will continue if I am confirmed.

**b. If the DOJ ordered you to ignore a federal court order—including holding a member of the administration in contempt—would you properly direct the U.S. Marshal to comply with the court order?**

**RESPONSE:** See answer to question 1(a).

2. Last month, the Marshals Service assisted the FBI in arresting a sitting state judge. This distracted Marshals Service resources away from its crucial responsibility of protecting judges. Threats against judges continue to increase, including in Hawaii. I am gravely concerned by the Trump Administration’s recent attacks on the Judiciary, including calls to impeach judges who block illegal administration actions. **Will you ensure that the Marshals Service is focused first and foremost on its core responsibilities of protecting judges, enforcing court orders, and apprehending fugitives, regardless of the political whims of the Trump administration?**

**RESPONSE:** As I said at my hearing, the safety of the judiciary is my highest priority. If confirmed, the U.S. Marshals Service commitment to protecting judges, enforcing court orders, and apprehending fugitives will not change.

3. Hawaii presents unique challenges for the Marshals Service. As an island state, we face disproportionate levels of interstate and international trafficking. The Marshals Service in Hawaii also faces unique challenges transferring personnel and equipment between

islands. **If confirmed, will you work with the Marshals Service in Hawaii to identify their unique challenges and opportunities?**

**RESPONSE:** Yes, if I am confirmed I am committed to working with all U.S. Marshals offices in identifying their specific and unique challenges. I am aware that the distance from the mainland and other factors create unique challenges in Hawaii.

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**QUESTIONS FROM SENATOR CORY A. BOOKER**

1. In March, the Judicial Conference of the United States, which oversees the administration of the United States federal courts, met for its first biannual meeting since President Trump took office. According to reports,<sup>1</sup> the judges spoke at length about rising threats against judges and their security.

According to the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), serious threats to federal judges more than doubled from 2021 to 2024.<sup>2</sup> In January 2025, the USMS's Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Report noted an increase in "the need for protective services" and "the number and intensity of concerning and potentially threatening electronic communications related to" judges and other persons involved in the judicial process.<sup>3</sup>

- a. If confirmed, what measures will you take to ensure that the U.S. Marshals Service provides the security necessary to protect federal judges and their families?

**RESPONSE:** The protection of federal judges is our solemn mandate. I know from personal experience as the U.S. Marshal for the Southern District of Florida that threats of violence to the federal judiciary are real, inappropriate, and highly concerning. I will ensure that resources are properly allocated to ensure fulfillment of this solemn mandate.

- b. If confirmed, how do you plan to consult with the Judicial Conference to take their views about security needs into account?

**RESPONSE:** As the U.S. Marshal for the Southern District of Florida, I have built a reputation for listening to the safety concerns of the federal judges in my district. I know that our Judicial Security Division is in constant contact with the Administrative Office of U.S. Courts and with several committees of the Judicial

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<sup>1</sup> Mattathias Schwartz & Emily Bazelon, *Judges Worry Trump Could Tell U.S. Marshals to Stop Protecting Them*, NY TIMES (Apr. 25, 2025), <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/04/25/us/politics/trump-judges-marshals-threats.html>.

<sup>2</sup> Joseph Tanfani, Peter Eisler & Ned Parker, *Threats to US federal judges double since 2021, driven by politics*, REUTERS (Feb. 13, 2024), <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/threats-us-federal-judges-double-since-2021-driven-by-politics-2024-02-13/>.

<sup>3</sup> U.S. MARSHALS SERVICE, FY 2024 ANNUAL REPORT 3 (Jan. 2025), <https://www.usmarshals.gov/sites/default/files/media/document/Pub-2-2024-Annual-Report.pdf>.

Conference on various aspects of judicial security. If confirmed, I commit to continuing this dialogue with federal judges to ensure they are heard and that their safety needs are met.

- c. If confirmed, what would you do if you were directed to remove the security from a judge if you believed there was still a need for protection?

**RESPONSE:** That will not happen under my leadership. To my knowledge, the U.S. Marshals Service has never removed protection from a federal judge who has been determined to be under threat, as we are obligated to do by statute. The U.S. Marshals Service Judicial Security Division is responsible for analyzing the threat landscape of the judiciary. The Division does so by employing a national network of Deputy U.S. Marshals, physical security specialists, intelligence analysts, support staff, and contractors, to ensure that security assignments effectively mitigate any identified threats. They make protection recommendations independent of outside influences.

- 2. According to 28 U.S.C. § 566, “It is the primary role and mission of the United States Marshals Service to provide for the security and to obey, execute, and enforce all orders” of the United States District Courts, the United States Courts of Appeals, the Court of International Trade, and the United States Tax Court.

- a. Are there any circumstances under which the U.S. Marshals Service would not obey a court order? Please describe these circumstances.

**RESPONSE:** For the past six years as U.S. Marshal, I have been enforcing federal court orders on behalf of the judiciary. This is a required mission of the U.S. Marshals Service that is fundamental to the rule of law and that will continue if I am confirmed.

- b. If an executive branch official is held in contempt by a federal court, must the U.S. Marshals Service enforce that contempt order?

**RESPONSE:** See answer to question 2(a).

- c. Are there any circumstances under which the U.S. Marshals Service would not enforce a contempt order? Please describe these circumstances.

**RESPONSE:** See answer to question 2(a).

3. Although the Marshals' primary role is to provide for the security of the federal judiciary and obey and execute federal court orders, the U.S. Marshals Service is also situated within the Department of Justice "under the authority and direction of the Attorney General." 28 U.S.C. § 561.

- a. Are U.S. Marshals required to follow all orders issued by the Attorney General?

**RESPONSE:** The U.S. Marshals Service is part of the Department of Justice under the direct supervision of the Deputy Attorney General, who reports to the Attorney General who is directly responsible to the President. U.S. Marshals perform their jobs consistent with Department policy, Federal law, and their oath to uphold and defend the U.S. Constitution.

- b. Are U.S. Marshals required to follow all orders issued by the President of the United States?

**RESPONSE:** See answer to question 3(a).

- c. If confirmed, what would you do if the Attorney General directed you or another member of the U.S. Marshals Service to disregard, disobey, or not enforce a federal court order?

**RESPONSE:** I would not expect such an event to occur. For the past six years as U.S. Marshal, I have been enforcing federal court orders on behalf of the judiciary. This is a required mission of the U.S. Marshals Service that is fundamental to the rule of law and that will continue if I am confirmed.

- d. If confirmed, what would you do if the President directed you or another member of the U.S. Marshals Service to disregard, disobey, or not enforce a federal court order?

**RESPONSE:** See answer to question 3(c).

- e. If confirmed, what would you do if the Attorney General directed you or another member of the U.S. Marshals Service to revoke security protection from a federal judge? What would you do if you believed the revocation was politically motivated or retributive?

**RESPONSE:** I would not expect such an event to occur. For the past six years as U.S. Marshal, I have been providing security protection for federal judges.

This is a required mission of the U.S. Marshals Service that is fundamental to the rule of law and that will continue if I am confirmed

- f. If confirmed, what would you do if the President directed you or another member of the U.S. Marshals Service to revoke security protection from a federal judge? What would you do if you believed the revocation was politically motivated or retributive?

**RESPONSE:** Please see answer to question 3(e).



**Questions for the Record from Senator Alex Padilla**  
**Senate Judiciary Committee**  
**“Nominations Hearing: Terrance Cole and Gadyaces Serralta”**  
**Wednesday, April 30, 2025**

**Questions for Mr. Serralta:**

1. One of the Marshals Service’s core missions is to protect federal judges and court personnel from threats—a duty that has grown more urgent in recent years as threats against judges have risen sharply.

- a. **The U.S. Marshals Service is legally required to protect federal judges from threats and violence. How will you ensure that this responsibility remains free from political interference?**

**RESPONSE:** For the past six years as U.S. Marshal, I have been providing protection services for federal judges from threats and violence. This is a required mission of the U.S. Marshals Service that is fundamental to the rule of law and that will continue if I am confirmed.

- b. **In light of the increasing threats against federal judges and their families, what investments or reforms would you prioritize to enhance judicial security?**

**RESPONSE:** I have devoted my career to fulfilling the mission of the U.S. Marshals Service. We have faced challenges and with the hard work of our people, we have met those challenges. I can’t predict with precision what investments and reforms may be necessary in the future, but I will apply my experience and the counsel of my colleagues to be sure we provide effective judicial security.

- c. **If directed by the President to withdraw judicial security protection from a particular judge, how would you respond?**

**RESPONSE:** I do not expect this would occur. For the past six years as U.S. Marshal, I have been providing protection services for federal judges from threats and violence. This is a required mission of the U.S. Marshals Service that is fundamental to the rule of law and that will continue if I am confirmed.

2. President Trump has directed the Marshals Service to take on new immigration enforcement responsibilities. This shift has raised concerns over whether diverting Marshals Service resources could undermine its core missions.

- a. **The Marshals Service has recently been tasked with expanded immigration enforcement responsibilities. What impact has this had on core missions like judicial security and detainee management?**

**RESPONSE:** I have not had opportunity to study this issue, but judicial security will remain my top priority and will not compete with other missions. If confirmed, I will ensure that all of our statutory duties are fulfilled.

- b. **If confirmed, will you conduct a formal review of how immigration enforcement demands are affecting the Marshals Service's ability to carry out its statutory duties?**

**RESPONSE:** The U.S. Marshals Service has always had significant work relating to illegal immigration as part of our mission to help uphold the rule of law. The U.S. Marshals Service is responsible for the production of defendants who are prosecuted for illegal entry and reentry, which is a significant driver of work for our border judicial districts. The U.S. Marshals Service is committed to assisting with President Trump's whole of government approach to immigration enforcement.

- c. **Will you commit to working with the Judicial Conference and Congress to ensure that immigration responsibilities do not compromise courtroom safety or custodial standards?**

**RESPONSE:** As the U.S. Marshal for the Southern District of Florida, I have built a reputation for listening to the safety concerns of the federal judges in my district. If confirmed, I commit to continuing this dialogue with federal judges to ensure they are heard and that their safety needs are met and, consistent with Department of Justice policy, working with Congress for the same purpose.

3. The Marshals Service routinely conducts high-risk arrests and fugitive apprehensions, often under dangerous and rapidly evolving conditions. Maintaining clear policies, strong training, and appropriate oversight is critical to protecting both officers and the public.

- a. **What steps will you take to improve internal oversight mechanisms within the U.S. Marshals Service, especially in areas such as use of force, detainee treatment, and task force accountability?**

**RESPONSE:** As U.S. Marshal in Southern Florida, I have been committed to protecting public safety and accountability. If confirmed, I will continue my commitment to all applicable U.S. Marshals Service and Department policies.

- b. **How will you ensure prompt and complete responses to oversight inquiries from Congress and the DOJ Office of Inspector General?**

**RESPONSE:** I am committed to transparency and cooperation with external stakeholders such as Congress and the Department's Office of Inspector General. I will continue this longstanding commitment if confirmed.

- c. **Do you support the establishment of an independent oversight body or ombudsman within USMS to allow for reporting of misconduct or abuse?**

**RESPONSE:** The U.S. Marshals Service has an established Office of the Ombuds which serves as an independent, impartial, and confidential conflict resolution resource for all U.S. Marshals Service employees where workplace issues, including but not limited to misconduct, can be surfaced.

4. On January 6, 2021, a violent mob attacked the U.S. Capitol, injuring approximately 140 law enforcement officers. Following the attack, 598 individuals were charged with assaulting, resisting, or impeding law enforcement officers, including 171 defendants charged with using a deadly or dangerous weapon or causing serious bodily injury to an officer.

- a. **What message do you believe it sends to law enforcement personnel when individuals convicted of attacking officers on January 6 are not only pardoned, but may have their restitution refunded by the government?**

**RESPONSE:** I am proud of the time I have served in law enforcement and the men and women with whom I have worked. In my experience, members of law enforcement are dedicated to their mission and respectful of the roles and opinions of all participants in the judicial system.

- b. **In your view, should financial restitution ordered by a court for Capitol damage be considered a necessary component of accountability for January 6-related convictions?**

**RESPONSE:** I am not familiar enough with this issue to offer an opinion.

- c. **What safeguards, if any, should exist to ensure that mass clemency orders do not interfere with law enforcement morale or undermine the deterrent effect of criminal prosecutions?**

**RESPONSE:** See answer to question 4(b).

**Senator Peter Welch**  
**Senate Judiciary Committee**  
**Written Questions for Gadyaces Serralta**  
**Hearing on “Nominations”**  
**Wednesday, April 30, 2025**

1. Who won the 2020 election?

**RESPONSE:** Former President Joseph Biden was certified as the winner of the 2020 presidential election and sworn in as the forty-sixth President on January 20, 2021.

Numerous news outlets reported that marshals from the U.S. Marshals Service were ordered to deliver a letter to the home of Liz Oyer on the evening of Friday, April 4, 2025. Ms. Oyer had recently been fired as the Pardon Attorney at the Department of Justice. Reportedly, the delivery was scheduled to occur shortly before she testified to Congress.

2. Are you aware of this order?

**RESPONSE:** I am only aware of this matter from media reports.

3. Were you consulted in any way regarding it? If so, please provide information on who you spoke to, the contents of that conversation, and when it occurred.

**RESPONSE:** No, I have no involvement in this matter.

4. In your time as a U.S. Marshal, have you ever delivered a letter to a former government employee regarding a non-criminal matter?

**RESPONSE:** No.

5. Do you believe this order was appropriate?

**RESPONSE:** I had no personal involvement in this matter and do not have sufficient information to answer this question.