

Senator Peter Welch  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security and  
Subcommittee on Crime and Counterterrorism  
Written Questions for Sergeant Nadim Yousify  
Joint Hearing on “Biden’s Afghan Parolee Program – A Trojan Horse with Flawed Vetting and  
Deadly Consequences”  
Wednesday, January 21, 2026

1. To your knowledge, what has happened to individuals who are still in Afghanistan who have been accused of working with Americans after the U.S. withdrawal of forces in August 2021?

Based on consistent reporting from the United Nations and human-rights organizations, Afghans who are perceived as having supported U.S. forces or U.S. backed institutions (including interpreters, former Afghan security forces, and government personnel) have faced serious reprisals after August 2021 despite Taliban claims of a general amnesty. These reprisals have included targeted killings, enforced disappearances, arbitrary detention, and torture/ill-treatment, as well as threats and intimidation directed at them and their families.

In addition, UN reporting on people returned to Afghanistan has documented profile-based abuse by de facto authorities including arbitrary detention, ill-treatment/torture, and threats to personal security which heightens fears for anyone with a known U.S. connection or a perceived “pro-Western” profile.

2. The Trump Administration has halted all immigration processing and ordered a review of all approved applications for individuals from Afghanistan who seek to enter the United States.
  - a. What do you believe are the long-term consequences of halting the admission, resettlement, and support of Afghan refugees and servicemember partners to the United States?

Halting the admission, resettlement, and support of Afghan partners significantly increases the danger faced by those who have already been identified or can be accused of working with the United States, leaving them exposed to retaliation, coercion, and persecution in Afghanistan and the region. These actions also damage U.S. credibility and moral authority

because promises made to wartime partners are not symbolic but serve as a signal that determines whether America will be trusted in future operations, and a halt communicates to both allies and adversaries that U.S. commitments can be paused indefinitely due to political decisions. From an operational and national security perspective, when local partners believe the United States cannot or will not protect them after a mission ends, it reduces future cooperation, weakens intelligence collection, and pushes potential partners to avoid U.S. contact or seek protection from other actors. Closing legal pathways also increases instability and irregular migration pressure, forcing families to pursue dangerous alternatives that strain host countries and contribute to regional insecurity. Finally, limiting resettlement support for those already in the United States, including mental health services, employment assistance, language access, and case management, undermines successful integration and increases isolation and failure to thrive risks that could otherwise be prevented through basic stabilization and community investment.

- b. How do you anticipate President Trump's policies towards Afghan allies will influence the United States' ability to recruit local partners in future conflicts?

I anticipate three long term effects on the United States' ability to recruit local partners in future conflicts. First, there will be fewer willing partners and slower recruitment, as local professionals such as interpreters, guides, informants, medics, and civic leaders will weigh the personal risk and ask whether the United States will protect their families if circumstances deteriorate, and uncertainty in that answer will lead many to refuse cooperation altogether. Second, even when cooperation does exist, it will come at higher cost and with lower quality access, as partners may demand stronger guarantees, rely on intermediaries, or limit the information they share, reducing speed, trust, and operational effectiveness. Third, these policies provide a strategic advantage to adversaries such as the Taliban, who benefit when the United States is perceived as unreliable, making it easier for them to intimidate local populations into silence and harder for the United States to build durable and trustworthy partner networks.