

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6275

May 6, 2025

The Honorable Pam Bondi
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530

The Honorable Kash Patel
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Attorney General Bondi and Director Patel:

I write regarding a disturbing development related to the ongoing and increasing threats to the federal judiciary. In recent months, federal judges and their relatives have received anonymous deliveries to their homes.¹ These deliveries are threats intended to show that those seeking to intimidate the targeted judge know the judge's address or their family members' addresses.² The targeted individuals reportedly include Supreme Court justices, judges handling legal cases involving the Administration, and the children of judges.³ Some of these deliveries were made using the name of Judge Esther Salas's son, Daniel Anderl, who was murdered at the family's home by a former litigant who posed as a deliveryman.⁴

These incidents threaten not only judges and their families, but also judicial independence and the rule of law. It is imperative that the Justice Department (DOJ) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) investigate these anonymous or pseudonymous deliveries and that those responsible be held accountable to the full extent of the law.

Accordingly, I request that you immediately investigate these deliveries. In the event you have already initiated investigations, I request an update on those efforts. I also ask that you provide information on any steps that DOJ or the FBI have taken to protect the judges and their families who have received anonymous or pseudonymous deliveries and to prevent further anonymous or pseudonymous deliveries and other threats.

Additionally, I want to highlight the essential role that the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS) plays in protecting the federal judiciary and urge you to ensure that the size of the USMS workforce is not reduced. USMS Acting Director Mark P. Pittella reportedly sent a letter on April 15 to more than 5,000 USMS employees offering them the opportunity to resign.⁵ In the midst of increasing threats of violence against judges, it is inappropriate and unacceptable to

¹ Suzanne Monyak, *Pizzas Sent to Judges' Homes in Name of Judge's Murdered Son*, BLOOMBERG LAW (Apr. 15, 2025), <https://news.bloomberglaw.com/us-law-week/pizzas-sent-to-judges-homes-in-name-of-judges-murdered-son>.

² Peter Eisler et al., *Exclusive: Judges face rise in threats as Musk blasts them over rulings*, REUTERS (Mar. 5, 2025), <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/judges-face-rise-threats-musk-blasts-them-over-rulings-2025-03-05/>.

³ Suzanne Monyak, *Judge Describes 'Alarming' Pizza Delivery as Threats Increase*, BLOOMBERG LAW (Apr. 4, 2025), <https://news.bloomberglaw.com/us-law-week/judge-describes-alarming-pizza-delivery-as-threats-increase>; Monyak, *supra* note 1.

⁴ Monyak, *supra* note 1.

⁵ Mattathias Schwartz & Emily Bazelon, *Judges Worry Trump Could Tell U.S. Marshals to Stop Protecting Them*, N.Y. TIMES (Apr. 25, 2025), <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/04/25/us/politics/trump-judges-marshals-threats.html>.

reduce the size of the agency tasked with protecting the federal judiciary and the judicial process. Accordingly, I ask you to commit to fully supporting USMS and to maintaining or increasing its current number of employees.

Finally, pursuant to this Committee's constitutional obligation to perform oversight over DOJ and the FBI, please respond to the following questions and provide a briefing to committee staff no later than May 20, 2025:

1. How many anonymous or pseudonymous deliveries, pizza or otherwise, have been made to federal judges or their families since January 20, 2025?
2. Including deliveries sent to members of their families, how many federal judges have received an anonymous or pseudonymous delivery? Please provide what level of the judiciary each affected judge serves in, along with their relevant circuit or district.
3. Has an investigation been initiated for each of these deliveries? If not, why not?
4. How many suspects has DOJ or the FBI identified in connection with these anonymous or pseudonymous deliveries?
5. Is there any reason to suspect coordination among these suspects beyond employing similar tactics?
6. Is there any indication that the addresses of the affected federal judges or their families are being found due to data broker violations of the Daniel Anderl Judicial Security and Privacy Act or similar statutory protections?
7. Have delays in processing requests from affected federal judges to remove their personal information from being publicly posted online allowed any of these suspects to find the addresses of federal judges or their families?
8. How many prosecutions has DOJ initiated in response to these anonymous or pseudonymous deliveries?
9. What steps has DOJ or the FBI taken to protect judges and their families from anonymous or pseudonymous deliveries and other threats?
10. What steps has DOJ or the FBI taken to prevent anonymous or pseudonymous deliveries and other threats?
11. What involvement, if any, did DOJ or FBI officials have in the April 15 letter from USMS Acting Director Pittella to USMS employees in which USMS employees were offered the opportunity to resign? Please provide a copy of the April 15 letter.

12. Considering the current threat environment with respect to federal judges, do you support the reduction of the size of the USMS workforce?

13. Does DOJ or the FBI need any additional resources to investigate and respond to threats against judges and their family members?

Please provide an unclassified, non-law enforcement sensitive response to all of these questions to the greatest extent possible, with any classified or law-enforcement sensitive material under separate cover.

I look forward to your prompt attention to these important requests.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin
Ranking Member

cc: The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chairman, U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary