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NOMINATION OF HON. TROY EDGAR AND DAN BISHOP

HEARING

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS UNITED STATES SENATE

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

NOMINATION OF HON. TROY EDGAR TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, AND DAN BISHOP TO BE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

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NOMINATION OF HON. TROY EDGAR AND DAN BISHOP

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2025

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC.

The Committee met, pursuant to notice, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD–342, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Hon. Rand Paul, Chair of the Committee, presiding.

Present: Senators Paul [presiding], Johnson, Lankford, Rick Scott, Hawley, Moreno, Ernst, Moody, Peters, Hassan, Blumenthal, Kim, Gallego, and Slotkin.

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR PAUL[1]

Chairman PAUL. The hearing to consider the nomination of Troy Edgar to be Deputy Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Dan Bishop to be the Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) will come to order.

For far too long, Federal spending has increased unchecked, amassing over $36 trillion in debt that our children and grandchildren will one day inherit. Here in Washington, the default mindset seems to be just write another check, as though each new dollar of debt somehow does not matter. In the last four years, we have added nearly $6 billion a day, or $241 million per hour to our national deficit for a running total of $8.5 trillion over the last four years.

The unchecked and reckless spending spree in Washington over the last four years has put every American family on the hook for another $67,000 in debt. Yet despite this unprecedented level of spending, agencies continue to ask for more funding, more authority, more staff—while doing less and less for Americans.

Unsurprisingly, Americans across the country have taken notice and voted for a change in the status quo. One month ago, President Trump, behind the wheel with a clear mandate from the American people to steer this country in a different direction, and he has not let off the gas since.

The Trump Administration, along with the new Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), has been hard at work identifying waste, fraud, and duplicative or outdated programs. Their efforts have revealed just how many billions of taxpayer dollars are slipping through the cracks, and they are moving fast to identify fla-

[1] The prepared statement of Senator Paul appears in the Appendix on page 35.

grant waste, fraud, and abuse across the Federal bureaucracy. That is good news. The bad news is that unearthing waste is only half the battle. Real reform will require a complete disruption of Washington, how Washington operates, including Congress, and ultimately, an affirmation of the savings by a congressional vote.

Accountability cannot be outsourced. Real, lasting change demands leaders who are not afraid to push back against business as usual, leaders who will stand up and say we cannot spend our way out of every problem.

Which brings us to the two nominees appearing before us today. First, we have Mr. Troy Edgar, who has been nominated to serve as the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. If confirmed, Mr. Edgar will take on the role of Deputy Secretary, serving as the Department's Chief Operating Officer (COO). DHS is a massive agency, employing nearly 260,000 people across more than 20 components. Having previously served as DHS' Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Mr. Edgar has first-hand knowledge of where the Department can make cuts and streamline operations.

Second, we have Representative Dan Bishop, nominated to be Deputy Director of OMB. OMB is supposed to be the bulwark against overspending. We rely on OMB to carefully scrutinize agencies' budgets and identify redundancies. It is OMB's job to ensure that Federal agencies are not rubberstamping costly new programs subsidized by the American taxpayer. If confirmed, Representative Bishop will have a front-row seat to the entire Federal budget process and a chance to say no when agencies continue to demand endless expansions in authority and unchecked spending.

Both of these nominees have come forward at a time when Americans are fed up with government overreach and runaway debt. Mr. Edgar and Representative Bishop, we appreciate your willingness to serve and the experiences you bring to the table. If confirmed, you will each wield influence that can truly shape how this government operates and how it spends the public's money. The American people deserve an honest, efficient government that respects our hard-earned dollars. Thank you for joining us this morning to share how you plan to meet these responsibilities.

The Committee has received several statements in support of the nominees. Without objection, these letters of support will be made part of the hearing record.[1]

It is the practice of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee (HSGAC) to swear in witnesses. Mr. Edgar and Mr. Bishop, please stand and raise your right hand.

[Witnesses sworn.]

Mr. Bishop is being introduced today by Senator Budd. Senator Budd, you are recognized for your introduction.

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR BUDD

Senator BUDD. Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you to the Committee. It is my honor to be here to introduce a good friend and colleague, Dan Bishop. Long before I was ever in Congress, when Amy, Kate, and I lived in Charlotte, North Carolina, everyone would tell me, if you want to meet a great leader, get to know

[1] The letters of support appears in the Appendix on page 166.

County Commissioner Dan Bishop. At that time, I was helping run a landscaping and janitorial business. I was in my late 20s, and I was probably a little too nervous to reach out and call him. It was a big county. Who knew then that, years later, I would have the privilege to serve with Dan in the House of Representatives.

I have seen firsthand his thoughtfulness, his deep understanding of the issues, his love for our country, his care for people, and his commitment to stopping runaway spending and getting the Federal budget under control. I have no doubt that Dan will bring the same tenacity to the job at OMB that he has shown throughout his career, both as a litigator in his time serving the people of North Carolina in public office.

Dan, God speed, and best of luck. To the Members of the Committee, you all be nice.

Thank you, Senator.

Chairman PAUL. Representative Bishop, you are recognized for your opening remarks.

TESTIMONY OF DAN BISHOP,[1] TO BE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Mr. BISHOP. Thank you, Chairman Paul, Ranking Member Peters, and Members of the Committee for this hearing. It is my first time on this side of the dais, after five years in the House of Representatives, where I had the pleasure of working with several of you. If I am confirmed, it would be an honor to serve our nation in a new capacity to implement President Trump's vision and agenda.

I want to thank my wife, Jo, and my life partner, and my son, Jack, who is working hard in law school today for all that we have seen over the last decade, including my tenure in Congress, and now this nomination process. It is a testament to Jo's much greater popularity that a number of congressional spouses are here with her today. My thanks to them for their kindness to Jo. Thanks also to my former congressional office staff, several of whom have come today as my dear friends.

It is a tremendous honor to be nominated by President Trump to serve as the Deputy Director of Office of Management and Budget. Unknown by name to many, it does what the name implies, craft the President's budget, manage and coordinate among Federal agencies, implement the President's regulatory agenda, and so on. It is a critical part of ensuring that the government responds to the democratically elected President in order to respond to the will of the American people and not to entrench Washington interests and the political establishment.

Something I always noticed in Congress when I was out meeting folks in North Carolina is that the American people are way ahead of us in Washington. They know what is going on. They are smart, resourceful, resilient, and hardworking. They want accountability, transparency, and an end to the waste and the Washington status quo. They recognized in this past election that our nation was at a crossroads on the precipice of either renewed greatness or ruin. In that precarious moment, they placed their confidence in Presi-

[1] The prepared statement of Mr. Bishop appears in the Appendix on page 40.

dent Donald Trump to usher in a new golden age for America. I am here on behalf of that mission and the trust placed in President Trump by the people.

Our children and grandchildren are being crushed under the massive burden of an out-of-control Federal debt. For too long, we have been spending money we do not have on things we do not need. Our government has been self-absorbed, inefficient, unaccountable, and mal-administered. The good news is we can fix all of those things, and if confirmed, I will be laser focused on doing so, along with Director Russ Vought and the superb public servants at OMB.

It is finally time for a government accountable to the people. I have fought to deliver that my entire public service career, from county commission to State legislature to Congress, and it will continue to be my north star. Whether elected or appointed, we must never forget the right of the people to decide. I know that I will never forget it, and neither will Director Vought. I was thrilled to see Director Vought confirmed by the Senate, and I can assure you, he is the man to get management of the Federal Government back on track. If confirmed, I look forward to serving as his Deputy.

Thank you for considering my nomination. I look forward to your questions.

Chairman PAUL. Thank you, Representative Bishop.

I also wanted to recognize our current Department of Homeland Security, Kristi Noem. Thank you for joining us today.

At this time, I am going to recognize the Ranking Member. We are kind of going out of order because he had another commitment at another Committee, but—for his opening statement.

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR PETERS[1]

Senator PETERS. Thank you for that accommodation, Chairman Paul. Thank you, Mr. Edgar and Congressman Bishop, for being here today.

The Department of Homeland Security and the Office of Management and Budget, where you have each been nominated to fill very key positions, plays a critical role in strengthening our national security and ensuring that the Federal Government is operating effectively, efficiently, and in accordance with law.

Mr. Edgar, as the Committee considers your nomination, there are several questions about recent actions the Administration has taken with respect to the Department of Homeland Security, where you are already serving, I understand, as a Senior Advisor to the Secretary. I am concerned about the troubling reports of key DHS personnel getting fired indiscriminately, including staff at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), as well as the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), and I am going to want to know more about the individuals who have been terminated, those who have been placed on administrative leave, and the reasons for the Department's action. Specifically, I want to know what impact these terminations will have on DHS' ability to execute its vital national se-

[1] The prepared statement of Senator Peters appears in the Appendix on page 38.

curity missions, including disaster response and efforts to prevent cyber attacks.

I am also alarmed that Elon Musk and DOGE personnel have been granted access to potentially very sensitive DHS data, which could violate cybersecurity and privacy laws. DHS holds some of the most sensitive data about Americans and American companies of any government agency, including their biometric information, as well as private companies' proprietary information. Congress, the American people need to know what data was accessed, how that data will be used, and, more importantly, why. We need to know what kind of legal and security analysis was conducted before sharing this very sensitive personal information. We also need to know whether this data was properly managed and not at risk of being stolen by any of our adversaries.

Mr. Edgar, I hope that you will address these concerns and will demonstrate how you will work with Congress, the Secretary, and the Administration to rectify these issues if confirmed.

Today, we are also considering the nomination of Dan Bishop to serve as the Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget. The Office of Management and Budget is a critical office in the Executive Office of the President (EOP) with significant responsibilities ranging from developing and executing the Federal budget to improving agency performance, as well as reviewing regulations. This role not only requires expertise in budgetary processes, fiscal policy and government management, but a fundamental understanding and appreciation for the Constitution and the law, including spending laws passed by Congress on a bipartisan basis.

Congressman Bishop, given your record and your views on allowing OMB to withhold Federal funds, I certainly have serious concerns about your ability to carry out this very important role.

As we saw recently with the funding freeze ordered by President Trump, communities across our country are counting on the funds appropriated by Congress to upgrade their roads and bridges, pay their first responders, and provide a host of other services. We need leaders at OMB who are committed to following the laws on the books, which includes the Impoundment Control Act (ICA). I am concerned, if confirmed, that you will not carry out the laws of Congress that we pass that is funding our communities, and that is simply unacceptable.

I also have serious questions about your positions on the Federal workforce. As I have said before, our nonpartisan civil service employees play a vital role in protecting our national security, caring for our veterans, and ensuring safety of our transportation system. Your record and views, including support for legislation that would make all Federal employees at-will, give me serious pause about how you would manage the Federal workforce.

Finally, I have questions about your record of disregard for independent oversight, including retaliatory actions by revealing the name of a whistleblower.

I appreciate you being here today, both of you, to answer these questions and how you intend to manage the operations and the budget of the Federal Government if you are confirmed to this role.

Chairman PAUL. Mr. Edgar is being introduced today by Senator Johnson. Senator Johnson, you are recognized for your introduction.

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR JOHNSON

Senator JOHNSON. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

It is my pleasure this morning to introduce Troy Edgar, President Trump's nominee to be the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. Mr. Edgar is from Los Alamitos, California, where he served as Mayor and a county official for over 12 years. Troy is also a U.S. Navy veteran with more than 30 years of business and executive experience providing leadership and advisory services to companies across a range of industries, including in aerospace and defense, the government sector, high tech, software, and telecommunications industries.

Troy first came before this Committee when President Trump nominated him to serve as Chief Financial Officer at DHS. In that role, he was responsible for the fiscal management, integrity, and accountability of the Department's $90 billion budget supporting 240,000 employees. Prior to DHS, he was an executive at International Business Machines (IBM), running a part of their Federal consulting business. I also want to acknowledge a letter of support from the CEO and Chairman of IBM, Arvind Krishna, and ask that it be entered in the Committee record.[1]

Chairman PAUL. Without objection.

Senator JOHNSON. Troy spent nearly a decade in the aerospace industry at Boeing, where he was the CFO of the Military Aircraft Logistics Division. He has held many key positions within manufacturing, logistics, information technology (IT), and procurement, which makes him an ideal fit for the position of Deputy Secretary of DHS.

Mr. Edgar earned his bachelor of science (B.S.) and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Southern California (USC) in Los Angeles. He is joined this morning by his wife, Betty.

His business and government work experience and strong support from President Trump would help Troy find success as Deputy Secretary of DHS. I encourage all on this Committee to swiftly confirm him to this position. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman PAUL. Mr. Edgar, you are recognized for your opening statement.

TESTIMONY OF TROY EDGAR,[2] TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Mr. EDGAR. Thank you. Chairman Paul, Ranking Member Peters, distinguished Members of the Committee, it is an honor for me to appear before you today as the President's nominee to be the Deputy Secretary for Homeland Security. I want to also recognize and thank Senator Johnson for that very kind introduction. Thank you, sir.

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[1] The letter of support appears in the Appendix on page 166.

[2] The prepared statement of Mr. Edgar appears in the Appendix on page 98.

I am grateful to President Trump and to Secretary Noem for the trust and confidence that they have placed in me, and I thank the Committee for considering my nomination. I am honored that Secretary Noem has taken time out of her busy schedule today to be here with me in support of my nomination. Thank you for being here, Madam Secretary. I appreciate it.

The process has enabled me to better appreciate the high honor bestowed upon me to serve the American people and better understand the critical expectations that the Committee may have for me if confirmed to be the Deputy Secretary. Thanks to my Lord for His grace on my life and the opportunity to serve my country.

My family is very important to me, but they are not here. I would like to recognize them. Matt, Tyler, and Ethan are my sons. My brother is Tracy. I honor the memory of my mom and dad, Ralph and Maxine.

I would like to introduce my precious wife, Betty. Betty embodies the American dream in a manner that enables me to understand the hopes and aspirations of millions of people who come to America. Her story helps me understand the true weight of public service. I have not only come to this nomination with technical skills and business experience, but with the conscience informed through my personal experience with my wife.

Betty is an immigrant from Iran who spoke Farsi, Aramaic, and French growing up in Tehran. Her family fled to the United States after the Shah was overthrown in 1979. When she arrived, she learned English and Spanish and then attained a bachelor's and master's degree in French. She has been a French teacher in La Quinta High School in Orange County for over 25 years. Betty rises every morning believing that she has the ability to change another student's life for the way that this country has changed hers. Thank you, Betty, for being here to support me.

I have had the honor of previously working with this Committee in the first Trump Administration, as Senator Johnson said, in my Senate confirmation for being the DHS Chief Financial Officer. When I left being the CFO of DHS on January 20, I was managing a $90 billion budget and over 250,000 employees. That role allowed me to learn and resource the entire department, not just the important border security and immigration components. It is with this unique knowledge and my significant business experience that if I am confirmed I intend to honorably serve President Trump, Secretary Noem, and the American people to the best of my ability.

The DHS Deputy Secretary serves as the Chief Operating Officer, as Senator Rand Paul said. If confirmed, I will stay focused on supporting the Secretary and ensuring that we are effectively and efficiently using the policies and resources provided to meet the President's goals on immigration, border, and other national security missions of DHS.

Furthermore, I will fully support the hardworking professionals at DHS by helping provide the resources they need to fulfill the critically important missions. If confirmed, I look forward to working with this Committee and other Members of Congress to assist you in the important role of oversight in support of the Department. I am committed to investing the time to build the critical working relationships needed to help significantly advance DHS.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr. Arvind Krishna, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of IBM; the National Sheriffs Association; and the Major County Sheriffs for their letters of support for my nomination.

Thanks again for the opportunity to appear before you, and I look forward to answering your questions. Thank you.

Chairman PAUL. Thank you, Mr. Edgar.

We will now proceed to questions where each Member will have five minutes. I want to be clear from the outset that the Committee will not tolerate any disruptions. I will direct the Capitol Police to immediately remove any member of the audience that disrupts the hearing.

Mr. Edgar, Mr. Bishop, do you agree, without reservation, to comply with any request or summons to appear and testify before any duly constituted Committee of Congress if you are confirmed?

Mr. EDGAR. Yes.

Mr. BISHOP. Yes, with advice of counsel, yes, sir.

Chairman PAUL. Thank you. While the Secretary is still here, I want to put in one plug for both of you. At the DHS, there is a National Biodefense Analysis and Countermeasures Center (NBACC). They do gain-of-function (GOF) research in a highly supposedly very safe lab, but we want more oversight as to what specific experiments are going on there. We have sent requests, and we just hope that you will keep complying. I do not need an answer necessarily for that.

With that, I am going to pass my time to Senator Lankford.

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR LANKFORD

Senator LANKFORD. Mr. Chair, thank you. Thank you to the witnesses for being here, for what you have walked through already, and the million forms you have already filled out and the details that you have already done on this. Mr. Edgar, I do have to say, though, after your introduction of your wife, I am open to actually moving her to that seat rather than you in that seat——

Mr. EDGAR. Yes.

Senator LANKFORD [continuing]. To have her to be able to take charge of this as well, so it is very kind of you both introducing your families and your wife to be able to come in.

Secretary Noem, good to see you. Thanks for what you have already done and the engagement that is here.

Let me walk through a couple of things on this as quickly as I can on this. Mr. Edgar, you have done a lot of the work behind the scenes. This Committee, in the days ahead, will work a tremendous amount on trying to get the funds to DHS that they need to actually implement the border security that is desperately wanted by the American people on that. Without question, additional dollars are needed, but without question, there is also waste in the structure. You and I have talked about $20 million a month that is being spent on soft-sided facilities, and there is multiple of those, $20 million a month for giant tents that are up there.

We have talked about General Services Administration (GSA) and the frustration with Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and GSA facilities that are organized where GSA has put in a $14,000 urinal or they have sold a parking lot for $1 to the local commu-

nity, only to a couple years have to buy it back for a million dollars on it, the challenges they have had where CBP has said we need more lanes, and then GSA designs a building that actually has fewer lanes of entry, saying this is based on their design. We have to be able to figure out how to be able to deal with the waste, but also to be able to implement policy quickly.

What would you do to be able to help the communities on the ground and the leadership on the ground efficiently be able to do the mission?

Mr. EDGAR. Thank you, Senator. I would start, first of all, having the opportunity to be the CFO for DHS and looking at all 23 components, the two that you are talking about mainly—or the one main one you are talking about, CBP, I think right now, the organization is very focused on an immigration and border security mission. I think, if confirmed to be the Deputy Secretary, I would work not only with CBP but U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). I think that the facilities that you are talking about potentially could be leveraged in the same vein that ICE is going to need about 100,000 detention beds. CBP has, like you said, potential availability within soft-sided tents.

My job as being the previous CFO and now, if confirmed to be the Deputy Secretary, to make sure that we are not being wasteful, that we are being responsible with our spending, that we are leveraging all the contracts across the government to be able to get to our mission and really execute on President Trump's agenda.

Senator LANKFORD. That would be helpful, and we will walk through that process together. We do not mind allocating the dollars, as long as they are spent wisely in the process on it, and the American people can go, that is where all my tax dollars are going on this.

Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), great letters around here, but they are a challenge at times to be able to cooperate together on it and try to be able to keep from mission creep. Your oversight and Secretary Noem's oversight in this process, over Coast Guard, over all things border, over FEMA, over Secret Service, there are a lot of tasks that are out there, but a lot of coordination that has to happen as well.

What needs to be done, in your view at this point, to make sure that we are actually on mission and that we are actually working with other agencies to make sure that, for instance, Secret Service is doing what it can do well and not getting into other areas; HSI is doing what it can do well and not getting into DEA areas, for instance?

Mr. EDGAR. I think what has happened at the very beginning is President Trump set the agenda. He created the executive order that created the Homeland Security Task Force. We follow the leadership of Secretary Noem—joint task force has a combination of the Department of Justice (DOJ) with all the law enforcement agencies that you are talking about and within HSI, Enforcement and Removal Operation (ERO) of ICE and CBP. We will have the whole of government that we will bring to that. That task force will take on cross-government type activity, and not only just being able to do border security, but actually bring the full power of enforce-

ment out to law enforcement. It has a steering committee that they will appoint people to. It will be chaired by Attorney General (AG) Bondi and Secretary Noem and will follow their direction going forward.

Senator LANKFORD. OK. We look forward to that coordination, make sure we are actually cooperating together as efficiently as we can.

Mr. Bishop, it is good to see you. Thanks for your leadership and what you have done for the country already and the sacrifices you have already made on that. You and I have talked a little bit about there are Federal agencies and a Federal law already, I should say, that requires E-Verify for Federal contracts. We have now learned that is actually not being enforced, so we don't know how many people are not legally present in the country that are also executing Federal contracts or at work for the Federal Government on this. That is Federal law already. And you and I have already spoken on this, and your assurance to me was we are going to actually make sure we are implementing the law in that area, that we are doing the oversight that is needed to be done. Is that true?

Mr. BISHOP. Thank you, Senator. Absolutely, Senator.

Senator LANKFORD. That is terrific. We have something called the Federal program inventory that is new. That is one of those areas that we passed a law actually six years ago called the Taxpayers Right-to-Know that is still being implemented, but for the first time will give this body the ability to be able to see in duplication, and we look forward to the full implementation. Thank you.

Mr. BISHOP. Yes, sir. Thank you, Senator.

Chairman PAUL. Senator Peters.

Senator PETERS. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Gentlemen, I have sent numerous oversight requests to both DHS and OMB since the start of this Administration, and unfortunately, have received little or no response or responsive documents or information as a result of these requests. For example, two weeks ago, I asked OMB about the Administration's illegal funding freezes. This Committee is responsible, as both of you know, for oversight of all of these agencies.

My question for each of you is, if confirmed, do you commit to ensuring that OMB and DHS promptly answers requests for information as we fulfill our oversight role here in this Committee, information for me, all of my colleagues, as well as my staff? I hope this is not a hollow promise. Mr. Edgar.

Mr. EDGAR. Yes, if confirmed, I will follow any lawful requests from you, sir.

Senator PETERS. And you understand our role as the chief oversight Committee, that is we need to work together on that, but we have to have information?

Mr. EDGAR. Yes, sir.

Mr. BISHOP. As do I, Senator, subject to the advice of counsel and direction of Director Vought, of course, that Director Vought has already made clear we want to maintain transparency at the Office of Management and Budget and that he will personally be aware of every request made by a Member of Congress, and I will see to it that I am as well.

Senator PETERS. I appreciate that. Can both of you commit to providing the information within two weeks of assuming your office? Mr. Bishop.

Mr. BISHOP. Sir, I am not certain what the processes at OMB will permit. I certainly think they need to be provided in an expedited way and will certainly work to that end within the Department according to its processes.

Senator PETERS. If it cannot be done in two weeks, you will tell us exactly why it cannot be provided in two weeks?

Mr. BISHOP. Sir, I would certainly commit to following the processes at OMB to that effect, yes, sir.

Senator PETERS. Let us know, I appreciate that. Mr. Edgar.

Mr. EDGAR. Yes, same thing. I will follow the processes, and I hope that we are able to maintain a very transparent relationship with this Committee. Thank you.

Senator PETERS. Good. I am now hearing from several agencies that this Administration has instructed its staff to not communicate with Members of Congress and our staff. My question for each of you, are either of you aware of this directive that is coming from the Trump Administration to not talk to Members of Congress? Congressman Bishop, that should be pretty outrageous to you.

Mr. BISHOP. Senator, I am unaware of that. I did encounter such instructions by the prior Administration when I was a Member of Congress, but I cannot speak to it. I am serving as a Senior Advisor. I have not been involved in anything of that kind, sir.

Senator PETERS. But you would push back against anything like that?

Mr. BISHOP. I certainly would want to ask questions about it and learn what the reasons are and the processes that have led to that, sir.

Senator PETERS. Thank you. Mr. Edgar.

Mr. EDGAR. Yes, same thing, I am not familiar with what you are specifically talking about, but I would be open to taking a look at that if confirmed.

Senator PETERS. And you understand how wrong that is?

Mr. EDGAR. Yes.

Senator PETERS. To have that kind of directive would be wrong?

Mr. EDGAR. Yes.

Senator PETERS. Yes, is that for the record——

Mr. EDGAR. Yes, like I said, I am not familiar with that directive. If that was a directive, we would look at it. I would work with the Secretary——

Senator PETERS. You would look at it and say that is wrong.

Mr. EDGAR. I do not know what the directive is specifically.

Senator PETERS. OK. The Trump Administration is currently indiscriminately firing civil service servants across the Federal Government. These actions, in many ways, are harming public services across the country. But it appears the Administration has not done any analysis about how this impacts customer service and, even more importantly, national security. Congressman Bishop, do you support—and this is just a yes or no answer, pretty easy. Do you support the Administration's recent efforts to indiscriminately remove civil servants from their positions?

Mr. BISHOP. I cannot answer yes or no, Senator, because I believe the premise is wrong. I do not believe the Administration is proceeding in an indiscriminate way to terminate employees.

Senator PETERS. You have seen the analysis that has gone for each employee as to why they have been terminated?

Mr. BISHOP. No, I certainly have not, but I——

Senator PETERS. But how can you make that statement if you have not seen that analysis?

Mr. BISHOP. Because I know that President Trump and the folks who are working hard in the White House every day to do the will of the American people are not proceeding in a way that is indiscriminate, Senator.

Senator PETERS. When you get in, if we ask for information as to why these particular individuals were, you will be able to provide it to show that it was not indiscriminate?

Mr. BISHOP. Certainly, Senator, subject again to the processes at OMB, the deliberative processes and the advice of counsel.

Senator PETERS. Mr. Edgar.

Mr. EDGAR. Yes, same thing. I think the process that we are going to go through, I also believe that it has been a lawful process that is followed by President Trump, and I look forward to continuing to work with President Trump and Secretary Noem to carry out these——

Senator PETERS. So you are at DHS now, as we talked about when you came into the office, and we know we have layoffs that could definitely impact national security operations, firings of personnel at CISA, at FEMA, at Transportation Security Administration (TSA). These are indiscriminate, or have you actually seen detailed analysis before each individual is fired?

Mr. EDGAR. No, I have not. I am serving as a Senior Advisor, so I have not seen that. I would say that these are legal orders coming through the Executive Order (EO) process with the President. I am sure that he is duly informed and knows exactly what he is focused on and has got the right protection with his general counsel.

Senator PETERS. If confirmed, you will then be in a position to analyze both the impact, as well as the criteria. Will you do that, and will you be transparent about that?

Mr. EDGAR. Yes, I will work with the Secretary. We will make sure that we can continue our mission while we are trying to also get to the objectives of trying to save money, waste, fraud, and abuse from the government.

Senator PETERS. We all want to save money, waste, fraud, and abuse, everybody here in this Committee is all about that. We do not want to jeopardize national security. We want to make sure that thoughtful decisions are being made before folks are terminated, not indiscriminately. Clearly, you can meet the objective of fraud, waste, and abuse in a thoughtful manner and not indiscriminate, but you need to be transparent about that in order to have trust in the process.

Mr. EDGAR. Yes, I would agree with that.

Senator PETERS. So I look forward to working with you if confirmed.

Mr. EDGAR. Thank you.

Chairman PAUL. Senator Johnson.

Senator JOHNSON. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Mr. Edgar and Mr. Bishop, I think you are both aware of the fact that I have been talking quite a bit about returning to some pre-pandemic level of spending. Mr. Edgar, you obviously have experience as the CFO of DHS and an awful lot of private sector experience. What drives me nuts around here, coming from the private sector, is nobody seems to use a budget the way families use a budget and the way businesses use a budget. I use the analogy, I do not think any family, if they have a serious illness, they have to borrow $50,000 to pay for medical bills, that family member gets well, they continue to borrow $50,000 and spend at that level.

But that is exactly what we have done here in the Federal Government. We went from $4.4 trillion in 2019 to averaging $6.5 trillion over the next five years. Last year, we spent 6.9. This year, we are on course to spending $7.3 trillion.

First of all, both you gentlemen, do you think there is any justification for us to be spending, after the pandemic has wound its way down, at $7.3 trillion, 61 percent above where we were in 2019? Mr. Edgar.

Mr. EDGAR. First of all, I think that what we are going through right now and what you are talking about is potentially a reconciliation bill that would be spending up to a higher level than what we would normally spend. I think at this point, if you look at what the focus is for the agenda for President Trump, this is truly money that is needed to be able to get through and make sure that we can make good on the promises of sealing the border and interior enforcement.

I think over the long term, my commitment to you and to this Committee, as the previous CFO, is that this spending level is not sustainable. My focus would be to work with the Secretary and our staff to look at the longer-term sustainability. Once we are able to get through the agenda, get numbers down, continue our partnerships with the Department of Defense (DOD), we will get to a spending profile that long term will be more sustainable and responsible.

Senator JOHNSON. Mr. Bishop, we have had number of conversations along this line. You are smiling. As a candidate, did you ever talk about zero-based budgeting by any chance?

Mr. BISHOP. I certainly did, Senator.

Senator JOHNSON. Do you know a lot other members who talked about zero-based budgeting?

Mr. BISHOP. Yes, absolutely.

Senator JOHNSON. Do you think they were serious about it?

Mr. BISHOP. The result hasn't gotten there, has it, Senator? You have struck a consistent theme in making this point, which is, I would say, somewhat inescapable, that there is no reason for the government to have grown permanently in the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID–19) era.

Senator JOHNSON. So just to review, I have looked at a number of pre-pandemic baselines. One was 1998, Bill Clinton, where we actually had a surplus. That was voted for by people like Senator Durbin and Schumer and McConnell and Grassley and Collins and John Thune in the House, a very bipartisan bill. If we increase that $1.65 trillion by population growth and inflation, leaving today's

Social Security, Medicare, and interest in place, that would give us $5.5 trillion worth of baseline spending. That is what President Biden projected as revenue. That is how close we are to balancing a budget if we would return to that baseline.

If you go to Clinton, 2014, do the same thing, plus it up for population growth, inflation, use this year's Social Security, Medicare, and interest, it would be $6.2 trillion. Now, I do not even like talking about 2019 because that gives us a figure of $6.5, but there is the range, $5.5–$6.5 trillion as a pre-pandemic baseline spending. My question, how do we return to that? The House is obviously having a really hard time and I appreciate their efforts. I keep talking about death by a thousand cuts. If you start at $7.3 trillion, you can't cut that.

But again, it is entirely reasonable to say, let's return to a pre-pandemic-level baseline, plus it up for population growth and inflation, and again, if you have to add some for defense or for, obviously, border security, which we are trying to do in this first reconciliation package, how do we accomplish this? How do we turn what DOGE—and I do not necessarily agree that the Ranking Member says we all want to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse. The way they are howling about the outrageous waste, fraud, and abuse that DOGE is uncovering does not seem like they are real serious about eliminating waste, fraud, and abuse. But how do we translate what DOGE is finding into real spending savings? How do we return to that pre-pandemic using reconciliation? Mr. Bishop, you seem ready to answer.

Mr. BISHOP. Senator, certainly, it is something that requires, obviously, actions in Congress, ultimately. What is going on in the House, what you guys have begun in the Budget Committee here in the Senate—and I appreciate the point that you have made, Senator, a lot about this fundamental idea about getting spending back to a pre-COVID sort of concept.

I would say that over at OMB, there is a deliberative process going on. Director Vought is very serious about the topics you are focusing on here, and there is a deliberative process ongoing. Now, it would be inappropriate to get ahead of it about how the President weighs in on the process that has gone on here in Congress toward reconciliation.

Senator JOHNSON. If confirmed, I just count on both you working very closely with me to try and accomplish exactly that, return to some reasonable pre-pandemic baseline of spending. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Mr. BISHOP. I look forward to having those conversations. Thank you, Senator.

Chairman PAUL. Senator Kim.

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR KIM

Senator KIM. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Mr. Bishop, I wanted to start with you. I guess I was concerned by what I just heard in terms of your previous response. So you believe that the firings that have happened and the layoffs that have happened, you said that they are not indiscriminate?

Mr. BISHOP. Yes, Senator Kim, I do not believe that President Trump or the people at Presidential Personnel Office (PPO) or the

folks who are around—or in the White House policymaking operation would proceed in a way that is indiscriminate with respect to Federal employees.

Senator KIM. We are seeing firing based off of status of being probationary, both in terms of new hires, as well as probationary also includes those that have been recently promoted, and they are new in that position because they have been promoted into that. We have seen mass layoffs of that status because frankly, I guess it is easier to be able to fire them. You do not consider that to be indiscriminate?

Mr. BISHOP. Senator, I do not. The folks who are advising the President has made points about believing that the Federal employee workforce is not at the right size.

Senator KIM. When we were seeing the National Nuclear Security Administration, we are seeing hundreds fired there, later to be reinstated, I mean, did that not seem like that was indiscriminate initially, and then they realized, hey, look, that actually probably the nuclear functions of the United States is important, you know? We are seeing just the level in which this is happening, do you think that was an appropriate move to initially fire them?

Mr. BISHOP. I think the President has spoken directly to that or spokespeople for the President have, that in the course of making changes, you may find that you need to then move in the other direction to make an adjustment after you have made the first change. In my view, Senator, that does not make it indiscriminate.

Senator KIM. Mr. Edgar, I guess I would love to turn to you and just get a sense, what was the reasoning for the firing of 130 employees at the Cybersecurity Infrastructure Security Agency?

Mr. EDGAR. Yes, as the Senior Advisor, I was not responsible for that, but I guess what I would say just as a response is, if you look at this outside of Federal Government, the process that you are talking about, about whether we are being indiscriminate or not, I mean, this is something that all Fortune 500 companies do. To me, this does not seem out of the norm. You would normally go to reflect on more junior people, especially if you had to make a head cut reduction and you needed to be able to go through a process to be able to get to that. To me, this seemed totally logical and not indiscriminate.

Senator KIM. I am just trying to think that we have incredibly important procedures going forward. For instance, the Cyber Safety Review Board under DHS was revoked, the membership there revoked.

Mr. EDGAR. Yes.

Senator KIM. Do you think that was a good idea?

Mr. EDGAR. I do. I think that was a great idea.

Senator KIM. You think that was a great idea, even though that is the board that is overseeing the investigation on Salt Typhoon? Explain that to me.

Mr. EDGAR. Like I said, I did not make the decision to do it, but I think it was a great idea. I think that CISA has overstepped its boundaries and authorities. I think it needs to be reeled in, and it starts with that steering committee.

Senator KIM. So who is conducting the investigation on Salt Typhoon right now at DHS?

Mr. EDGAR. CISA.

Senator KIM. CISA is doing it?

Mr. EDGAR. Yes.

Senator KIM. So they have taken over the review of the Cyber Safety Review Board?

Mr. EDGAR. At this point, that review board will be reconstituted at the right time, but as an organization, it continues with its priorities set by the Secretary.

Senator KIM. If it is going to be reconstituted, why was it decommissioned to start with? At least, why were the members taken off?

Mr. EDGAR. Like I said, I thought it was decommissioned because it was going in the wrong direction. It starts with the leadership there.

Senator KIM. I wanted to just switch gears here, Mr. Edgar. I guess I wanted to just get your response, just have you on record when it comes to the temporary protected status (TPS). We have seen the revoking of that for Haiti, for Venezuela. I guess I just want to ask you, do you not believe that consideration of safety of individuals is something that we, as the United States, should take into account when we are thinking about how to proceed with legal pathways to immigration?

Mr. EDGAR. I think temporary protective status is just that, temporary. I think the Secretary reserves the right and the opportunity to go in and look at what the policies are, either from Venezuela or Haiti, and I think the Secretary has taken appropriate action to make sure that she reserves her opportunity that Secretary Mayorkas had really pushed up and really kind of overdid what his authority was. I think we are just putting more options on the table for the Secretary to make her decision.

Senator KIM. When it comes to FEMA, in the past, you have called it a great organization, great people. Their mission drives their organization at all levels. What we are seeing at U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and other aspects of the Federal Government, should we expect that at FEMA, or are we going to see a rapid abolishment of FEMA?

Mr. EDGAR. I think I would agree with the President. I think we need to reevaluate what the direction is that we are going to go with FEMA. It has got a lot of issues that need to be dealt with structurally. As you know, it is structured in two different ways, the disaster recovery fund and the non-disaster recovery.

Senator KIM. Yes, so just here at the end, I guess I just want to say—and we talked about this—is like I think everyone here understands there needs to be reforms when it comes to FEMA. What has been happening has not been working. I say this from New Jersey, crushed by hurricanes, problems on that front. But I really do urge you and the Secretary—and I have talked about this before with her—try for us to have a bipartisan approach to this, work with this Committee to try to address it. If we see just a quick gutting of it, it is just going to leave American people unsafe, insecure when it comes to disasters that can affect every aspect of this country.

With that, I will yield back.

Mr. EDGAR. Thank you.

Chairman PAUL. Senator Ernst.

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR ERNST

Senator ERNST. Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you to the nominees for being here today. We truly do appreciate your service.

Congressman Bishop, I am going to go ahead and start with you, sir.

Mr. BISHOP. Yes, Senator.

Senator ERNST. As Chair and Founder of the Senate DOGE Caucus, I am very laser focused on making sure our government is responsive to our taxpayers and ensuring our Federal workforce is actually serving the American people. Today, I want to focus on taxpayer-funded union time, OK, which requires Federal agencies to pay employees for time spent working for their union, not the American people.

The Biden Administration took several steps to hide the costs of taxpayer-funded union time from the American people, including rolling back President Trump's Executive Order to prevent union time abuses and increase agency oversight, pulling down annual reports on the cost of taxpayer-funded union time off of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM's) website, and hiding annual reports OPM had previously published.

Meanwhile, as part of my investigation into telework, I learned teleworking Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) employees were reportedly paid for performing union duties, despite one being in an Oklahoma jail for drunk driving and another in Puerto Rico vacationing during duty time. Even more alarming, HUD told me it was not even aware of this because there was no way to verify when or even if employees are engaging in union duties.

Congressman Bishop, will you commit to working with Director Vought and OPM to restart those annual reporting requirements?

Mr. BISHOP. Thank you, Senator. I followed closely the work you have done in that area, chairing the DOGE Caucus and also concerning the back-to-work issue with Federal employees, and so thank you for that.

And OMB and OPM do have a close working relationship. I am coming to learn about it as a Senior Advisor, not yet confirmed, but certainly I will take that back to Director Vought. I think the issues you are speaking to are quite significant. I won't be Deputy Director and implement my policies but the policies of President Trump and follow the direction of Director Vought, but certainly—and look forward to looking into the issue and communicating with you about that and making sure the information you need is readily available.

Senator ERNST. That is great. Thank you. In 2019, some of those agencies refused to provide OPM with data. Will you ensure all agencies are responsive to OPM when it solicits information on taxpayer-funded union time?

Mr. BISHOP. It is very important that Congress receive the oversight information it needs, and there is a deliberative process that I will work with, of course, at OMB, but certainly want to, subject to the advice of counsel and direction of the Director of OMB, provide everything we can. Thank you.

Senator ERNST. Thank you. Briefly, is there something we can do to make sure agencies are appropriately reviewing taxpayer-funded union time payments?

Mr. BISHOP. I cannot make a specific commitment on that Senator because there are deliberative processes at OMB, of course, to follow, but certainly, I think it is an issue that needs to be front and center, and we will look at it hard.

Senator ERNST. Assuming your confirmation, I hope that we work together on this issue.

Mr. BISHOP. I guarantee it.

Senator ERNST. It is a big one for our taxpayers.

In the time that I have left, politicians and bureaucrats in Washington seem to be a lot more upset that DOGE is finding waste, fraud, and abuse than about the nonsense that we have funded in the first place. You can hear all of these big spenders squealing all the way from Iowa. Every taxpayer should have the ability to look and find the same ways DOGE is exposing, but there are nearly 50 Federal agencies right now that are not reporting their spending on USAspending.gov, accounting for more than $5 billion each year.

Congressman Bishop, every American can be one of our DOGE deputies just out across the United States, but they actually need OMB's help to do that. Will you require all agencies provide timely, accurate, and complete reporting of their spending?

Mr. BISHOP. I can tell you, Senator, that with the scope of USAspending and the items that are not on there is something that I have learned a great deal about since being nominated and researching that. It is a very significant issue to me. I will be paying very close attention to it, should I be confirmed as Deputy Director.

Senator ERNST. Absolutely. Thank you. My time has expired, but thank you. I think we have a lot of issues here, and I look forward to working with both of you on these issues.

Mr. BISHOP. Thank you, Senator.

Senator ERNST. Thank you.

Chairman PAUL. Senator Slotkin.

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR SLOTKIN

Senator SLOTKIN. Thank you. Thanks for being here, Congressman Bishop, good to see you. We were neighbors for a short time in Longworth when we were both Members of Congress. And separate from being good officemates, I am really concerned about the view that you and Director Vought and the President have expressed on the Executive Branch and the President having the unilateral ability to spend Federal dollars, despite what Congress appropriates. I will skip the irony of a Congressman who ran for office and was deeply involved in appropriating dollars and voting on those things for years and years and years, now being seemingly willing to give up that authority.

It is a fundamental principle of the Constitution. The Supreme Court, starting back in 1975, has said that, as the Constitution says, this body, which Republicans now control both houses of, appropriates the dollars, and the Federal Government spends them accordingly. This has been reiterated by the courts. Can you tell us

your position? As Deputy Director of OMB, do you believe that President Trump has the ability to spend appropriated dollars in different ways than they were appropriated?

Mr. BISHOP. Thank you for the question, Senator Slotkin. President Trump has run on the issue of impoundment, and there will be a process in the Administration the decisionmaking involving lawyers. I will not be serving as Deputy Director in a legal capacity, but there will be folks who are looking at the legal issues you describe.

Senator SLOTKIN. But it is just your view. I understand lawyers, but your personal view, like, just be open with it. Vought was very open about it. Do you believe that if this Chairman appropriates dollars that are voted on by this Senate, that you and President Trump have the ability to spend those dollars in a different way than your Republican Chairman has appropriated?

Mr. BISHOP. Senator, I support the views of President Trump and Director Vought on the subject.

Senator SLOTKIN. OK, so yes. Mr. Vought owned it. You just own it. Let me ask this question. If you believe that to be true, do you believe that you have the right to unilaterally take money out of Social Security, not that you will, but that you have the right?

Mr. BISHOP. Senator, the President has made very clear that they are not going to touch Social Security, but—and you are speaking to hypotheticals. I would say, I do not think that the President has——

Senator SLOTKIN. It is not a hypothetical if every single Michigander that I talk to is worried about you cutting their Social Security benefits, their Medicare benefits, their veteran's benefits, the post office, right? I was just up in very red, conservative upper peninsula of Michigan, right? I am the only Democrat there and they are, like, happy. As you said, there are people who are perfectly happy with cuts that are going on, but they are desperately worried that you are going to cut their Social Security, their Medicare, their veteran's benefits, and the Postal Service. Despite everyone saying they are not going to touch it, you are smarter than that and know that the big cuts that you are calling for need big chunks out of these programs.

Mr. BISHOP. Senator, I do not hesitate to say that I do not believe that the President can stop Social Security benefits being paid. I don't think so.

Senator SLOTKIN. You do not think he can pull money out of Social Security, Medicare, veteran's benefits and the Postal Service.

Mr. BISHOP. I don't.

Mr. BISHOP. Of course, the reason I say the President said he is not going to is because that is what he has consistently declared, so I do not think it is an issue.

Senator SLOTKIN. But if you look behind the numbers, and you guys are looking for $6 trillion, DOGE is looking for that, you guys have been open about it, which I appreciate. Six trillion dollars does not come from a million here and a million there. It comes from cutting big programs. What you are saying is, despite what everyone says here, you proudly support this idea that you can move money even though it has been appropriated for a certain reason.

I do not think any American, red, blue, purple, the whole thing, should trust that these programs that they have worked their entire life for are safe if you believe you can do anything that you want.

Mr. BISHOP. There are distinctions to be made, Senator. To the point you suggested hypocrisy about serving in Congress and taking this position, Harry Truman exercised the impoundment power to cancel a squadron of I believe it was bombers that he had vetoed and Congress had passed over his veto. These things have happened across history by Presidents.

Senator SLOTKIN. OK, I would just say I feel very strongly that, again, it is not about red America or blue America or any of those things. I am from a purple State. It is that people watch this chaotic cutting, right? Let's just be fair. You fire people and then hire them the next week. That is indiscriminate. That is acknowledging you have made a mistake. That is not some review that normal private sector companies would do. I do not know a damn private sector company that would fire someone on Friday and hire them back on Monday because, whoops, they made a mistake.

But let's just be honest that this approach is scaring the crap out of people on the benefits they have worked their entire life for. I know I am out of time. I yield back.

Chairman PAUL. Thank you. Probably we should try to put aside some of the fearmongering. To my knowledge, no one in the Trump Administration has advocated for taking Social Security money and using it for another purpose, so that is a hypothetical that is not only untrue, it is promoting fear. We should be telling everyone in America, no one is promoting that. No one is asking for that.

There are some debatable points, though. Nobody is advocating it from the post office either. Plus, the post office has no money. They are $9.5 billion in the hole every year now.

But there are some real questions. The other side has called these illegal funding freezes. I do not think pausing spending for a month, which is what we have had so far, will be interpreted even as impoundment. There is a debate when something is actually impounded. I think if you went through a fiscal year (FY) and you get beyond a fiscal year and you have not spent money, it is going to be classified by anybody as impoundment. There will be a legal debate over it at that time, but that will be a legal discussion.

This is a separation-of-powers issue. It is an important one. I actually voted against repurposing money for the wall, for building the wall last time because I thought it was congressional perspective. I share some of the concerns, but I think it is unfair to leap to sort of conclusions of this is illegal, or this is being done, and democracy is in turmoil, and the world is going to end. When they stopped the money flowing at USAID, they found $2 million for sex changes in Guatemala.

If the other side wants to stand up and argue that that is really wrong that we are going to stop $2 million for sex changes in Guatemala, they can, but instead, they just say everything is illegal and Elon is terrible and Elon has all this data and Elon was not elected. These gentlemen were not elected either. Their bosses won't be elected. Trump was elected. He is appointing them. So no-

body in the Administration is elected other than the President. They are all going to be appointed.

But there is a question, when you elect a President, should they get to execute their policy? Did we elect a change, or is there some sort of bureaucracy that is so huge and inert that we cannot move it? That is what many of us have complained about for a long time. Some call it the deep State, and the other side says, oh, they are all conniving. Well, no, the deep State is essentially the bureaucracy that is unmovable and has a perspective, and their perspective is skewed toward spending more money, not less.

We should debate not whether Elon Musk is Satan, but maybe whether or not we should spend $3 million out of State Department funds on girl-centric climate change in Brazil, whether you spend $30,000 on a trans operation in Colombia, $25,000 on a trans comic book in Peru, $660,000 on microaggressions among obese Latinx. When you say that, most people do not even know what that means, and most people who are Hispanic are just frankly offended by the whole thing, whatever it is supposed to mean.

All these racial sort of things and sort of left wing sort of causes, we can debate that, whether we should keep spending money on it, but we would not know it. Had Elon Musk not stopped things, we would not even know it was being spent.

I for one think scrutiny is good, but I am not a blank check. I have told both of the nominees today, and I have told Russ Vought when it comes down to a year from now, if the money is being impounded, I am probably going to be saying, send it back and let Congress vote on it. It is also a way of making permanence. I love all the stuff he is finding, all the waste. I want it to be permanent. I want it to have real value, and we get that through a decision. It won't be easy, but it can be done through simple majority.

My guess is that the minority party, while they are squawking about Elon looking at their Social Security number or something, they are probably not any of them interested in cutting the $2 million for sex changes in Guatemala. That will be part of a rescission package. My guess is that there will not be anybody on the Democrat party that will vote for rescission of any kind of cutting. If we give them a billion dollars for an aircraft carrier, and they can do it for $800 million, shouldn't we be happy to get the $200 million back and do a rescission package?

I will say publicly, though, giving it back to the taxpayer when we have a $2 trillion deficit, let's fill up the hole of the $2 trillion deficit, and then we can talk about sending some back to the people. But I think it is premature to send any of that money back. It is also premature to say it is saved until we actually have a spending bill.

I think next in line we have Senator Gallego.

Senator GALLEGO. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR GALLEGO

Mr. Edgar, thank you for joining us for your nomination hearing. I have heard concerns from numerous law enforcement officials in Arizona, including elected Republican sheriffs, about the deep strain some of these ambitious deportation operations have on their resources and the ability to keep violent criminals off their streets,

whether they are here legally or not. The State and local enforcement departments across the country are already operating very tight budgets and are facing personnel shortages just trying to get new cops to come in.

Can you commit that DHS will not deputize State and local law enforcement and personnel devoted to combating violent crime? Essentially, what they are concerned about, these police officers, is that they do not mind if DHS says, hey, we are going to go and there is this criminal, let's say, whatever, gang or cartel member, we have a deportation order, could you come help us, city of Phoenix police to do a cordon and everything else like that, they are fine with that because that helps them.

What they are not fine with is being deputized and made to do everyday deportation or deportation processes for people that are nonviolent offenders, people that have overstayed visas, things of that nature because in terms of fiscal dollars and time, they just do not have the time for that, nor do they want to engage in that. That is what these police officers, police unions, as well as sheriffs are asking, that they are not engaged in that kind of day-to-day stuff that the Federal Government should be focused on.

Mr. EDGAR. First of all, the program that you are talking about, 287(g), which would go through and basically deputize the State and local law enforcement officials, is voluntary. The sheriffs' organizations, the different county sheriffs sign up for that and they——

Senator GALLEGO. Yes, I am aware of the 287(g) program. As long as it is voluntary, that is one thing.

Mr. EDGAR. Yes.

Senator GALLEGO. Largely, the best use of 287(g) programs are in the prisons so that way, ICE checks and ICE detainer holds, so then ICE will come and do that. That does not actually put a strain on the police because the person's already in custody. What they are worried about is a forced 287(g) program where they have to actively be doing street enforcement of immigration laws, and that is what they do not want to do because they just do not have the money, more important than anything else. They may even have the will, they just do not have the money and time to do it.

Mr. EDGAR. Part of this process I went through, I met with the Major County Sheriffs of America and the National Sheriffs Association, and I did talk a lot about this issue. I would just say maybe we are a little bit at mixed purposes here, as I know that the President's perspective of this and Stephen Miller, who helps us coordinate across all law enforcement across the government, 287(g) and the relationships with the sheriffs are very important. I think what you are talking about is discretionarily whether it is just in prisons or in jails where we are actually serving in that sort of a function in detention.

But I think if you start to look at whether we are looking for the 300,000 lost children in America, I think that partnership with the sheriffs will be really critical and important to not only just in immigration, but in helping locate and find those 300,000 that were lost under the Biden Administration.

Senator GALLEGO [continuing]. 300,000 is not where the sheriffs are worried about. Again, they are worried that they are going to

be deputized to go after the local taco vendor. They do not want to be going into farms to look for undocumented migrant workers. It is not worth their time. It is not worth the public citizens' money to do that. If you want to go after these hardcore criminals, that is where there is alignment with the Arizona citizen who is willing to pay the money to go after the rapists, go after these drug dealers, go after these horrible people. But it is when you are going after the nana and the tata that has been here for 10 years and has kids in the United States, they do not want the local beat cop doing that.

Moving on kind of into that same vein—there is a lot of fear about also the question about some of our students in schools, particularly public schools, being questioned about their status or their family status. Could you give us some commitment that we are not going to essentially turn our schools, our, principals, our teachers into deputized ICE officers by asking the status of these students under the age of 18?

Mr. EDGAR. Yes, you know what, I do not see that being the situation. I see what President Trump has put in place through Executive Order to be able to allow law enforcement to go to schools and churches, but I grew up in southern California. I grew up in an area that had a gang problem, and I would have welcomed as a use to be able to make sure that I felt safe at my school, and as my kids grow up, to make sure they feel safe. I think that is what we are doing——

Senator GALLEGO. Sure, and this is why you should support local police officers. It is why I am for getting police officers in school. But there is also a lot of kids that are actually good, innocent kids, and not all gang members are illegals, just in case you were wondering. And so, being able for them to go to school, receive services, learn because a lot of them will eventually become citizens one way or the other legally, and by making it a place that is not safe to go, you are going to have kids skipping school, which we are already seeing all over this country where kids are skipping school, even some that are here legally, that were born in the United States, because they are afraid that they are going to be followed home by ICE, and their parents are going to be taken away. This is why I am concerned about our schools not being kind of a safe zone for kids, not for drug dealers or anything else, but for actually kids.

Mr. Bishop, good to see you. I think we served at least four years together for a little bit.

Mr. BISHOP. That is right, Senator.

Senator GALLEGO. If confirmed, you will serve alongside Director Vought, who said he wants Federal employees to be traumatized, and we have seen that. I am hearing horrible stories, especially some of the veterans that I served with in the Iraq war, they do feel traumatized. They have actually served their country. These guys are actually Trump supporters. They have been doing different types of work for the government. Some of them have now been laid off, so mission accomplished along that route.

Can you explain the thinking behind intentionally targeting people dedicated to serving their country? How can we trust that you are going to have the best interest of the American people at heart

if the stated goal of OMB's leadership is to traumatize the very people who provide, often, some lifesaving services to the public? My concern too for some of these veterans is that they are not going to come back and work or we are not going to be able to recruit a lot of these veterans to come back and work for the Federal Government at some point when we are going to need to have more support.

Mr. BISHOP. Senator, one of the things that is very interesting is that Federal workers say in surveys that they have frustration that low performers cannot be moved out, they see problems in their own workplace that is the result of the way the bureaucracy operates. This quote that Director Vought is often talked about, about putting workers in trauma, and sort of taken out of context. I watched the way he works with folks at OMB. He has the greatest regard for the professionals at OMB who are really stellar.

Change is difficult. There is going to need to be change to the Federal Government. I mean, we can all look at it and see the $36 trillion of debt, the spending that is $2 trillion a year in deficit roughly, and going in the wrong direction, it has to be dealt with. It is going to require change to the Federal Government, including the Federal employee situations. But I just disavow and do not believe the ideas many have said that it is indiscriminate or it is designed to harm anybody. It is designed to put the Federal Government back on the side of the American people.

Senator GALLEGO. I mean, when you are firing employees that we need for stuff it clearly is indiscriminate.

Chairman PAUL. Time has expired.

Chairman PAUL. Senator Scott.

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR SCOTT

Senator SCOTT. Sure. First off, congratulations to both of you for your nominations. I know you are both going to do an outstanding job.

Starting with you, Mr. Edgar, what is success? What do you want get done?

Mr. EDGAR. I define success in supporting President Trump. I think he ran on the agenda to seal the border and to make sure, for the interior enforcement, that we are able to deport over a million people. As the Chief Operating Officer, I think there are two things, be able to execute that agenda, but there are also 22 other components within DHS that have missions that need to be executed, and we need to be making sure that we are responsible, whether it is the Coast Guard, the Secret Service (USSS), TSA, et cetera, we need be able to walk and chew gum. So my opportunity of being the previous Chief Financial Officer will allow us to make sure that we get the most for the taxpayers' money for the amount that they are paying here.

Senator SCOTT. Congressman Bishop, what would you like to accomplish?

Mr. BISHOP. Thank you, Senator. I think you would say that we can implement President Trump's vision to put government back on the side of the people, to get government to function more efficiently and effectively, certainly to get the out-of-control spending

under control to begin making headway on the massive debt that we otherwise will be handing to our children and grandchildren.

Talking about Elon Musk and what Elon Musk is seeking to accomplish, they want to see actual change, not the same status quo, the same stagnation that we have seen—that you and I both experienced in our service in Congress where we know we have to solve these problems, but yet nothing ever seems to happen. President Trump means to make it happen, and OMB is going to be a critical tool in seeing to it that it does.

Senator SCOTT. Congressman Bishop, so you are a staunch supporter of getting rid of wasteful spending. Do you think we can actually balance the budget?

Mr. BISHOP. I think the budget can be balanced. I certainly do. When and under what circumstances and how that comes out, that is the President's decision, not mine. My priorities don't weigh in this balance. I am serving his program. But I know that we can bring the Federal leviathan under control so that the American taxpayer can afford it again.

Senator SCOTT. Yes. Mr. Edgar, have you spent much time with regard to FEMA? My experience, I was Governor, so I can just tell you, FEMA wasted billions of dollars. There was no logic to it. They are involved in so many things that it never was anticipated that they would be involved in. How would you try to fix FEMA? And they are wonderful people.

Mr. EDGAR. Yes.

Senator SCOTT. I do not know. I dealt with mostly the Southeast with FEMA. Gracia Szczech ran it, and now Robert Samaan does, and they are wonderful people, but, I mean, they are involved in so many things that does not make any sense.

Mr. EDGAR. The President came out and said one of his first directives is we need to rethink about FEMA. When you start taking a look at that, a couple different mechanisms, I think the funding process, I started my public service while I was a corporate guy in the local government. If you talk with Secretary Noem, as a Governor, she definitely knows how the disasters are related to at the State level. She would tell you that if she was here, that a lot of this is best done by the local government. I think what ends up happening is FEMA gets in the way of the process. They do not know the total priorities, and I think that is what the President sees.

I think it also is going to require a legislative fix. I look forward to the opportunity not only working on one side of the aisle, but both sides of the aisle. I think we need to take a look at it very systematically and look at the authorities that were given to FEMA during the DHS stack of 2002 and evaluate what would be structurally the best way. I know you and I have talked about this privately. I would love to be able to work with you to do that.

Senator SCOTT. Congressman Bishop, inflation is out of control. It is impacting the poorest families in our country. How much is that tied to wasteful spending?

Mr. BISHOP. I think what Americans are seeing now revealed every day, frankly, unfortunately, to the consternation of some, is that there is jaw-dropping waste in the Federal Government. Senator, I think about what you did as Governor of Florida. You sat

down, took your budget, went through it at great pain, line by line and began moving to solve it. You and the fiscal results you achieved there, we can do the same thing in the Federal Government.

I think what President Trump is demonstrating in first several weeks in office, with the help of DOGE, is that there is going to be action on multiple fronts all at the same time. There is going to be significant change. I think Americans are enthusiastic to see someone finally take hold of it the way that you did when you were Governor of Florida.

Senator SCOTT. You are both going to be great, so I look forward to voting for your confirmation so you can get to work.

Mr. BISHOP. Thank you, Senator.

Senator SCOTT. Thanks, Mr. Chair.

Chairman PAUL. Senator Hassan.

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR HASSAN

Senator HASSAN. Thanks, Mr. Chair, and welcome to both of you, and congratulations on your nominations.

I want to start with a question to both of you, and it is a simple one. If directed by the President to take action that would break the law, would you follow the law or follow the President's directive? Mr. Edgar.

Mr. EDGAR. I would follow President Trump because I know he is advised and he is doing a lawful job, and so I would be following the President.

Senator HASSAN. That is disappointing because no one is above the law in the United States of America, and your obligation and the oath you will take is to the Constitution and to the law, not to President Trump.

Mr. Bishop.

Mr. BISHOP. Senator Hassan, I am confident that President Trump will issue lawful orders. It would not be up to me, serving in a non-lawyer capacity, to decide what is lawful and not lawful.

Senator HASSAN. Excuse me. If you are advised by a lawyer in your agency that it is against law or if it is clearly against the Constitution, as some of the things that President Trump has already done in this term and in his last term were, I would expect you to follow the law. Your unwillingness to say that—other members of the Administration, by the way, who I voted for, have come forward and said, yes, I will follow the law. So it is disappointing.

If a court issues an order requiring the Department of Homeland Security or the Office of Management and Budget, respectively, to take or refrain from taking specific actions, will you follow the court's order? Mr. Edgar.

Mr. EDGAR. Yes.

Senator HASSAN. Mr. Bishop.

Mr. BISHOP. Yes.

Senator HASSAN. That is great. I will turn to another question now, and this is to you, Congressman Bishop. Last month, the President unilaterally cutoff nearly all Federal grants before multiple Federal courts determined that doing so illegally harmed Americans all across the country. This funding cut created chaos and disruption in my State of New Hampshire. For example, one

of our hospitals had a Federal grant to replace its sewer system. It is a small rural hospital. It applied for the grant. It got it. It was a contract with the Federal Government. While this funding cut was in effect, this hospital was stuck with a $300,000 outstanding bill that was due to contractors, and the job was halfway done.

Congressman Bishop, if you are confirmed, what will you do to ensure that Federal grants are reinstated and that OMB and the Trump Administration follow the law?

Mr. BISHOP. Senator, I will follow the deliberative process and its outcome at OMB. I think in that case, there was a memorandum that said some items that were implicated by the President's Executive Orders were paused. The thing that you are describing, I don't think, was.

There was a media reaction that was alarmist——

Senator HASSAN. No, it was not a media reaction because when I talked with people on the ground in New Hampshire, the money was not flowing because the freeze was overwhelming because nobody understood the Executive Orders, which, by the way, were very poorly drafted. They were so general and so imprecise that everything stopped.

I will just note that you talked about President Truman impounding funds. That was before the Impoundment Control Act was passed in the 1970s, an act that was deemed constitutional by the Supreme Court of the United States. So what previous Presidents did before the Impoundment Control Act is one thing, but if you are going to follow the law, you are going to follow the Impoundment Control Act. It is highly disappointing to hear you, Mr. Vought did it too, this sleight of hand. Oh, previous Presidents have done it, as if the law was never passed.

I just want you to understand that the freeze has had real impacts, they are not hypotheticals, and they are impacts on money that not only was appropriated by this body, Article I, the Congress of the United States, but signed into law by a President of the United States.

Now, Mr. Edgar, I am going to follow up on FEMA. FEMA is responsible for coordinating the Federal response to disasters, and it recently fired hundreds of employees. Reporting suggests that the fired employees included not just new employees, but also some longtime employees who had recently been promoted, including some with more than a decade of experience. I am concerned that these indiscriminate firings done in a really sloppy manner will harm the ability of FEMA to do its job. Mr. Edgar, can you explain how these firings will do anything other than destabilize an agency that the American people rely upon when disasters strike?

Mr. EDGAR. Yes, at my current role, I am the Senior Advisor to the Secretary. I did not make the decisions to fire the people in FEMA. My commitment, if confirmed, I will continue to work with FEMA and make sure that we get to an operational posture that will be successful, be able to carry out the mission for the American people.

Senator HASSAN. Will you stop indiscriminate firings?

Mr. EDGAR. I will go through and see what the data is that we are looking at, what our objectives are, and like I would do in any

situation, whether it would be in Federal Government or the corporate world——

Senator HASSAN. I will just note a couple of other points, I am a former Governor too. I have worked with FEMA closely. I have had this discussion with the Secretary, whose nomination I supported. It is really important to understand that when you say a local government should do it, I have 234 towns in New Hampshire, some of them are fewer than 1,000 people. They do not have the staff or the budget to handle major disasters. It is going to be really important that, if you are all talking about right-sizing FEMA and making sure that it can do its work, that the investments in resilience continue so that we do not have the same natural disasters impacting the same infrastructure over and over again. It is going to be important that we have people on the ground who can do the mission of working hand-in-hand, as they do with local governments.

I look forward to trying to work up with you on that, but I hope very much that you will find out what actually happens and works with FEMA, come to us with concrete plans, and actually do some analysis before you start firing people because it is really destabilizing, and it is going to be hard for the agency to recover because who is going to want to go work there? Thank you.

Mr. EDGAR. Thank you.

Chairman PAUL. Senator Hawley.

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR HAWLEY

Senator HAWLEY. Thank you very much, Mr. Chair.

Congressman Bishop, Mr. Edgar, congratulations on your nomination. Thanks for being here.

Mr. BISHOP. Thank you, Senator.

Senator HAWLEY [continuing]. It is great to see you both here. Congressman, let me start with you. The agency that you are going to be the Deputy Director of—and I believe you will be confirmed. I look forward to supporting your confirmation——

Mr. BISHOP. Thank you, sir.

Senator HAWLEY [continuing]. Is a key agency, as you know, and it includes—among its many components, it includes a very key component, the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA). It is a mouthful.

Mr. BISHOP. It is.

Senator HAWLEY. But that little agency, that mouthful, OIRA, does a lot, as you know. It reviews basically every agency regulation, reviews it, vets it, provides recommendations on it, does cost-benefit analysis in some cases, every agency regulation that comes through the Federal Government. So that office is a key node in the Federal Government——

Mr. BISHOP. No doubt.

Senator HAWLEY [continuing]. For assessing regulations. With that in mind, I just want to ask you some questions that I also asked Director Vought that I think are so important. For those of us who are pro-life, serving in an Administration that is avowedly pro-life, just on Title X, this is the Title X grant program that currently provides money—under the Biden Administration, has been providing money for abortion providers.

Now, I talked with Director Vought about this. I have talked with Robert F. Kennedy (RFK) about it. RFK committed to me that he would end Title X funding for abortion providers. There will be a rule that will be necessary for that. My question to you is, will you be an advocate within OMB for seeing that RFK's commitment, which is also the President's commitment, is carried through, that we stop Title X funding for abortion providers?

Mr. BISHOP. Senator, as you know, my role as Deputy Director is to implement the President's policy, not my own, but certainly, I have taken note of what you have articulated on the subject. It has been the source of discussion, and so there is a deliberative process at OMB and OIRA that it would be inappropriate of me to get ahead of or to foretell or forecast the result of. But thank you for articulating it into something that I will take back.

Senator HAWLEY. Good. I just want to drill down on this, though, because this is very important, and I do not think this is in doubt. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary, now confirmed and sitting, has said under oath that he will overturn the current rule and put back in place President Trump's rule on Title X funding. The President himself has said he does not support Title X funding going to abortion providers. I guess another way to ask you this question is, let me put it to you this way, do you support the President's policy implemented into law in his first term, articulated again since then, articulated again now by his current HHS Secretary, that Title X funding should not flow to abortion providers? Let me ask it that way.

Mr. BISHOP. In my view, the purpose of OMB and my purpose as Deputy Director will be to implement the President's policy.

Senator HAWLEY. OK, good. Let me ask you about the Hyde Amendment. Will you work to ensure that all Federal agencies fully comply with the Hyde Amendment, which, as you know, is statutory law and has been since 1977?

Mr. BISHOP. OMB does play a role in ensuring consistency and observing law across the Federal agencies. Certainly, Senator, it will be an issue we will give attention to.

Senator HAWLEY. Great. Just to be clear, that that includes the Hyde Amendment, which is in place and has been governing law since 1977? Is that fair to say?

Mr. BISHOP. Yes, sir, it is.

Senator HAWLEY. OK, good. The Weldon Amendment, similarly, the Weldon Amendment prevents discrimination against healthcare providers who have a conscience objection to abortion. The last Administration essentially ignored it. It is the law. Again, in your position at OMB, as you review these regulations, as you advise on the implementation of the law, will you advise every component of the government to comply with the law, which includes the Weldon Amendment.

Mr. BISHOP. Senator, it will be my purpose as Deputy Director of OMB to comply with the law and see to it that other agencies and personnel within the Federal Government do so to the extent of my responsibility.

Senator HAWLEY. Good. That includes the Weldon Amendment, correct, Congressman?

Mr. BISHOP. Yes, sir, Senator.

Senator HAWLEY. OK.

Mr. BISHOP. That is part of the law, so yes, sir.

Senator HAWLEY. Yes, that is good. It is. It is part of the law. The last Administration seemed to forget this.

Last thing, when it comes to pregnancy resource centers, pregnancy care centers, so important, provide, in many cases, completely free medical care to mothers, many of whom are facing an unexpected pregnancy, everything from health screenings to diapers, baby food, consultation, all, again, often completely free. The last Administration conducted an incredible effort to attempt to persecute and shut down these pregnancy care centers. The President, in his first Administration, allowed Federal funding to be available in Federal grants to pregnancy care centers. He said he wants to do that again.

Here again, my question to you is, as you look at these grants, as you look at these regulations, will you be an advocate for the President's policies allowing Federal funding to flow to these pregnancy care centers?

Mr. BISHOP. I will be an advocate for the President's policies on that subject, Senator. I would say one advantage that my service in Congress, alongside you and working together with you on some things, Senator, provides is I did witness the evidence that you are describing about the official posture and neglect or hostility toward pregnancy resource centers in the past Administration, and so I carry that experience with me into the role I seek to be confirmed to.

Senator HAWLEY. That is fantastic. I am glad to hear you say that. Just to put a fine point on that, you know these statistics as well as I do. In the last Administration after the Dobbs decision, hundreds of pregnancy care centers were vandalized, were firebombed, were the subject of criminal activity. While the last Administration abused Federal statutes to go persecute pro-lifers who demonstrated peacefully according to their religious beliefs, they did nothing to protect pregnancy care centers, nothing, hung them out to dry, allowed them to be firebombed, vandalized, criminalized, and the rest. It is absolutely outrageous, all while denying them, in many cases, grants for which they qualify under Federal law. So your experience on this will be important, I think, and I look forward to you being a strong advocate in the Administration.

Mr. BISHOP. Thank you.

Senator HAWLEY. I see my time has sadly expired, and as Senator Paul knows, I always adhere to my time limits, so I will have some questions for the record for you, Mr. Edgar, or maybe a few more for you, Congressman. Again, thank you both for being here. I look forward to supporting your nominations.

Mr. BISHOP. Thank you, sir.

Chairman PAUL. Senator Moody.

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR MOODY

Senator MOODY. Thank you, Chairman Paul, and great to be with you. As you see, I am four weeks in and still do not know which way to go in my Committee room.

Mr. BISHOP. I did not even notice, Senator, but I was five years in and did not know which way to go.

Senator MOODY. But I will tell you what I do know, and that is what we need to accomplish under this Administration to get this country on the right track, and a lot of it is because I served as the Attorney General in the free State of Florida and saw the ramifications of some of the policy choices of the last Administration and how that affected the stability and safety in our communities. I am glad to be here with you today, and I am grateful that I am given the chance to speak to you about your upcoming duties.

I do not have a ton of questions for you, Mr. Bishop. I know you very well. I know we both thought that you would be in a different position right now, as Attorney General in North Carolina, and I will pray for you in your new role. I know you are going to do a great job, and, as I can attest, God has a way of messing up our plans that we make so diligently——

Mr. BISHOP. No doubt about it, and I am thankful for it. Thank you, Senator.

Senator MOODY. Congratulations on your nomination, sir.

Mr. BISHOP. Thank you.

Senator MOODY. I would like to turn my attention to Mr. Edgar. When I was the Attorney General in Florida and President Biden first got in office, one of the first things he did was rescind the longstanding practice of both Democratic and Republican Administrations of deporting serious felony offenders that were here illegally committing crimes back to their countries of origin. That was never something that was kind of argued. In that first month, they said we are not going to do that anymore, issued completely different directives to law enforcement, in fact, started canceling detainers that sheriffs were using in jails to hold people who had committed felonies that were in our country illegally and needed to go back. So you can imagine the outcry from law enforcement when those detainers were being canceled by the Biden Administration.

One of the first things I did as Attorney General was sue on that practice. I believe that was one of the most dangerous things that they could have done, one of the things that put our citizens at risk, and it was not necessary.

What they also started doing was taking prisoners that were in Federal prisons that were brought here from other countries or picked up in the middle of the ocean for Federal prosecution and put in our prisons because they were prosecuted here only, they were sending them back to the places where they were prosecuted within the United States, and releasing them into the communities. Their only connection to the United States was that they were prosecuted here.

Those practices have to stop immediately. Many of those groups and organizations within DHS will be under your purview. I know we had some time to talk about this. Do I have your commitment to go back—I sued on that practice as well to get as much information that we could to see who was being released into the State of Florida because, of course, they were not telling us. Do I have your commitment to go back and look at both of those practices and make sure that State and local law enforcement, No. 1, can detain,

pass over to ICE so they can be deported, and that those Federal prisoners are deported back to their countries?

Mr. EDGAR. Absolutely. As you can see, President Trump came out of the chute very hot with not only just making sure that that ICE ERO and all the law enforcement that we would focus on at DHS is really trying to get this back on track. But he has also started, through his diplomatic relationships, through State, to get countries to receive those citizens or those migrants back into their country, and they are criminal folks. We have started to unlock a lot of different types of capabilities to be able to get those folks and get them out of the country in almost a nonstop method. It is a really significant part of our process within DHS to hit that, be able to get a million people deported, especially——

Senator MOODY. So much of that, however, to correct course is going to be someone in your position going back, digging down through the directives, the emails, the guidance memos, all of those things that were done to make sure that everything is rescinded so that all of those relationships, all of those agreements, everything that the President is doing so well can be promoted and propped up by what you are doing as an agency. I think truly, and all the things that you do, getting people that are known to commit crimes against our citizens out of here as fast as possible, that has to be our No. 1 priority.

In that vein, the 287(g) program, I know one of my prior colleagues mentioned that maybe some sheriffs were saying they do not want to do that, they do not want to be a part of it. Do I have your commitment to look into additional funding for salaries, training, equipment for those agencies that either want to cooperate with you and be part of the 287(g) program, or maybe in States like Florida, where we have supported them and, statutorily, we want them to be partners with you?

Mr. EDGAR. Yes, you absolutely have my commitment, and you will probably hear in the next week or two, Secretary Noem has been working aggressively with the State of Florida. I think you guys are going to be the first ones coming out with us. It is pretty major initiatives. Your delegation of sheriffs have come and actually had an opportunity to meet with the Secretary and her staff, and we are really looking forward to working with the State of Florida.

Senator MOODY. Thank you.

Chairman PAUL. Mr. Edgar, we talked a little bit about our records request. We have done these both with the minority and the Chair when we were in reverse roles last year, through letters. Then we finally sent subpoenas in January. Our hope is that you will show these subpoenas to the career officials who we believe have been obstructing us and let them know, I mean, there are repercussions for resisting a court order. I think you will be very helpful, but I think you need to make sure that all the people that are the bureaucracy are obeying the law and will get that information to us.

We are interested not only in all the dual-use research that could be gain-of-function or might be dangerous, classified or unclassified. We need to look at it. There are certain things that really just probably should not be done. I give the example of Ebola. It is

spread like acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) through bodily contact and fluids. If you are doing an experiment to see if you can get it to spread through the air, I do not think we ought to be funding that. That is just too dangerous, and we need to look at all that research to make sure people are not doing things like that. If you want to recreate the Spanish flu there are things that we probably should not be doing that we can do now, but we probably should not be doing.

We also want to meet with the scientists. like at the National Biodefense Analysis and Countermeasures Center is DHL lab. It is a biosafety level (BSL–4). We would like for a public hearing, we would like the head of that agency or that laboratory to come in and talk to us, be prepared to tell us about all the different gain-of-function or dual-use research of concern are things we are going to want.

We know that the government actually does a little bit of this through the Executive Branch, and the National Institute of Health (NIH) coordinates it and sends it to the Office of Science and Technology Policy. We have not been privy to any of it. I have been trying for three years to get it. This is not the atomic secrets. This is not personal data. This is the deliberations over this, and we should have a role. We are sending the money over to the Executive Branch, and I hope you will help us in that. In fact, I think you could actually assign somebody within your department that their job is to look for information concerning dangerous type of research. I do not think DHS was involved with funding the Wuhan research. It was coming out of NIH primarily, but State Department had some of this, so just looking around and being inquisitive on this will help us.

Another area that we are interested in, and we have sent letters and will probably resend letters and maybe subpoenas, if necessary, is on the CISA censorship. I am pleased that you all have already announced you are not going to do it. No more government officials showing up at publications and saying, take this down, I think that was offensive to the First Amendment. They wrote a lot about it in the Twitter Files. Matt Taibbi and others when Elon Musk gave them access to the private half, everybody in the Twitter Files was talking to somebody in the government.

There is a government file, so I hope you will assign somebody to look at that because if you have people in government discussing, conspiring, colluding to take down politically protected speech such as "Cloth masks do not work," which I do not think they do, and I think it is a disservice actually to tell people something works that does not work. Even if you disagree, it is an opinion. It is my opinion. It is a politically protected statement, and we should not have the government on the other side.

I hope you will assign somebody to look at the other side of the Twitter Files and see if there are people who are working within government still. They say they are firing everybody. Maybe we can get rid of some of the people who do not appreciate the First Amendment or respect the First Amendment.

One final thing is just for Mr. Bishop on the impoundment versus rescission. I hope you will bring in constitutional scholars. There are a bunch of respected constitutional scholars and at

least—I know it is not particularly your job, but the OMB will look at that. We really want to send the message to the public that we are actually going to cut this spending.

I am already predicting the public is going to be disappointed come September because what is going to happen is, every day we have the news of firings and savings, but the deficit this year is still going to be $2 trillion because we have not structurally done something. Now, people will say it is hard, Congress is not any good at their job, they are feckless. All of that is true, but we still have to try.

We are in the majority, and rescission, you sending us back money that we say we are no longer going to spend it, we are sending it back to the Treasury, a simple majority vote. We have simple majorities in both Houses. It is not easy, but we ought to really try, and the Administration should come back to us and lobby us and get some of those who are equivocal on this and let them know how important it is to the country because many of them are saying, and many over here are saying, well, you are doing it improperly, it is illegal. But will they vote to cut any of the spending? Not one of them will vote to cut any spending through rescission, but we have to really work hard to see if the majority, almost all of us, will vote. We have to get everybody to vote for rescission if it does.

I think it is an important debate. I do think for a couple of months you have a window of it being a pause and not an impoundment. I think the judges are overreaching that are trying to stop you from firing people or pausing. I think all those things are within the realm, and it is a jump to say they are illegal. You can find one liberal judge to try to stop stuff, but ultimately, decisions between our power and the executive power probably are going to work its way up to the Supreme Court.

But I appreciate both of your willingness to serve, and we are going to conclude it there unless you have—my questions were pretty just general. I just wanted to give you some advice? I know you wanted some advice. But we appreciate your willingness to serve.

The nominees have filed responses to biographical and financial questionnaires,[1] answered pre-hearing questions submitted by the Committee.[2] They have had their financial statements reviewed by the Office of Government Ethics (OGE). Without objection, this information will be made part of the hearing record with the exception of the financial data, which are on file with the Committee.

The hearing will remain open until 5 p.m. today for submission of statements and questions for the record.

With that, the hearing is adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 11:05 a.m., the Committee was adjourned.]

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[1] The information for Mr. Bishop appears in the Appendix on page 41.
[2] The information for Mr. Edgar appears in the Appendix on page 100.

A P P E N D I X

HSGAC Hearing:

Considering the Nominations of the Honorable Troy Edgar to be Deputy Secretary, Department of Homeland Security and the Honorable Dan Bishop to be Deputy Secretary, Office of Management and Budget.

February 25th, 2025

Opening Statement as delivered

For far too long, federal spending has increased unchecked, amassing over $36 trillion in debt that our children and grandchildren will one day inherit. Here in Washington, the default mindset seems to be "just write another check," as though each new dollar of debt somehow doesn't matter.

In the last four years, we have added nearly $6 billion a day or $241 million per hour to our national deficit for a running total of $8.5 trillion over the last four years. The unchecked and reckless spending spree in Washington over the last four years has put every American family on the hook for another $67,000 of debt.

Yet despite this unprecedented level of spending, agencies continue to ask for more—more funding, more authority, more staff—while doing less and less for Americans. Unsurprisingly, Americans across the country have taken notice and voted for a change in the status quo.

One month ago, President Trump, behind the wheel with a clear mandate by the American people to steer this country in a different direction—and he hasn't let off the gas since.

The Trump Administration, along with the new Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), has been hard at work identifying waste, fraud, and duplicative or outdated programs. Their efforts have revealed just how many billions of taxpayer dollars are slipping through the

cracks— and they're moving fast to identify flagrant waste, fraud, and abuse across the federal bureaucracy. That's good news. The bad news is that unearthing waste is only half the battle—real reform will require a complete disruption of how Washington operates including Congress, and ultimately an affirmation of the savings by congressional vote.

Accountability cannot be outsourced. Real, lasting change demands leaders who aren't afraid to push back against business as usual, leaders who will stand up and say, "We can't spend our way out of every problem."

Which brings us to the two nominees appearing before us today.

First, we have Mr. Troy Edgar, who has been nominated to serve as Deputy Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. If confirmed, Mr. Edgar will take on the role of Deputy Secretary, serving as the Department's chief operating officer.

DHS is a massive agency, employing nearly 260,000 people across more than 20 components. Having previously served as DHS's Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Edgar has firsthand knowledge of where the Department can make cuts and streamline operations.

Second, we have Representative Dan Bishop, nominated to be Deputy Director of OMB. OMB is supposed to be the bulwark against overspending. We rely on OMB to carefully scrutinize agencies' budgets and identify redundancies. It is OMB's job to ensure that federal agencies are not rubber-stamping costly new programs subsidized by the American taxpayers.

If confirmed, Representative Bishop will have a front-row seat to the entire federal budget process and a chance to say "no" when agencies

continue to demand endless expansions in authority and unchecked spending.

Both of these nominees have come forward at a time when Americans are fed up with government overreach and runaway debt.

So, Mr. Edgar and Representative Bishop, we appreciate your willingness to serve and the experiences you bring to the table. If confirmed, you will each wield influence that can truly shape how this government operates—and how it spends the public's money.

The American people deserve an honest, efficient government that respects their hard-earned dollars. Thank you for joining us this morning to share how you plan to meet these responsibilities.

Ranking Member Peters Opening Statement as Prepared for Delivery
Full Committee Hearing: Nomination of the Honorable Troy Edgar to be Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and the Honorable Dan Bishop to be Deputy Director, Office of Management and Budget
February 25, 2025

Thank you for being here today Mr. Edgar and Congressman Bishop.

The Department of Homeland Security and the Office of Management and Budget – where you have each been nominated for key leadership positions – play a critical role in strengthening our national security and ensuring the federal government is operating effectively, efficiently, and in accordance with the law.

Mr. Edgar, as the Committee considers your nomination, there are several questions about recent actions the Administration has taken with respect to the Department of Homeland Security, where you are already serving as a senior advisor to the Secretary.

I'm concerned by the troubling reports of key DHS personnel getting fired indiscriminately, including staff at FEMA, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, and the Coast Guard.

I want to know more about the individuals who've been terminated, those who have been placed on administrative leave, and the reasons behind the Department's actions. I want to know what impact these terminations will have on DHS's ability to execute its vital national security missions, including disaster response and efforts to prevent cyberattacks.

I am also alarmed that Elon Musk and DOGE personnel have been granted access to potentially sensitive DHS data, which could violate cybersecurity and privacy laws.

DHS holds some of the most sensitive data about Americans and American companies of any government agency, including their biometric information and private companies' proprietary data.

Congress, and the American people need to know what data was accessed, how the data will be used, and why. We need to know what kind of legal and security analysis was conducted before sharing this potentially sensitive information. We also need to know that this data was properly managed and is not at risk of being stolen by our adversaries.

Mr. Edgar, I hope that you will address these concerns and demonstrate how you will work with Congress, the Secretary, and Administration to rectify these issues, if confirmed.

Today we're also considering the nomination of Dan Bishop to serve as the Deputy Director at the Office of Management and Budget.

The Office of Management and Budget, or OMB, is a critical office in the Executive Office of the President with significant responsibilities ranging from developing and executing the federal budget to improving agency performance and reviewing regulations.

This role not only requires expertise in budgetary processes, fiscal policy, and government management, but a fundamental understanding and appreciation for the Constitution and the law, including spending laws passed by Congress on a bipartisan basis.

Congressman Bishop, given your record and your views on allowing OMB to withhold federal funds – I have serious concerns about your ability to carry out this important role.

As we saw recently with the funding freeze ordered by President Trump, communities are counting on the funds appropriated by Congress to upgrade their roads and bridges, pay their first responders, and provide a host of other services. We need leaders at OMB who are committed to following the laws on the books, which includes the Impoundment Control Act.

I'm concerned that if confirmed, you will not carry out the laws that Congresses passes when it comes to funding our communities – and that is unacceptable.

I also have serious questions about your positions on our federal workforce. As I have said before, our nonpartisan civil service employees play vital roles in protecting our national security, caring for our veterans, and ensuring the safety of our transportation systems.

Your record and views, including support for legislation that would made all federal employees "at-will," give me serious pause about how you would manage the federal workforce.

Finally, I have questions about your record of disregard for independent oversight, including retaliatory actions by revealing the name of a whistleblower.

I appreciate you being here with us today to answer these and other questions about how you intend to manage the operations and budget of the federal government if confirmed to this role.

Dan Bishop Opening statement

Thank you Chairman Paul, Ranking Member Peters, and members of the committee for this hearing.

It's my first time on this side of the dais after 5 years in the House of Representatives, where I had the pleasure of working with several of you. If I am confirmed, it would be an honor to serve our nation in a new capacity — to implement President Trump's vision and agenda.

I want to thank Jo, my wife and life partner, and my son Jack who's working hard in law school today, for all that we've seen over the last decade, including my tenure in Congress, and now this nomination process. It's a testament to Jo's much greater popularity that a number of Congressional spouses are with her today. My thanks to them for their kindness to Jo. And thanks also to my former Congressional office staff, who've come today as my dear friends.

It's a tremendous honor to be nominated by President Trump to serve as the Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget. Unknown by name to many, it does what the name implies – craft the President's budget, manage and coordinate among federal agencies, implement the President's regulatory agenda, and so on. It's a critical part of ensuring that the government responds to the democratically elected President in order to respond to the will of the American people and not to entrenched Washington interests and the political establishment.

Something I always noticed in Congress, when I was out meeting folks in North Carolina, is that the American people are way ahead of us in Washington. They know what's going on. They're smart, resourceful, resilient, and hardworking. They want accountability, transparency, and an end to the waste and the Washington status quo.

They recognized in this past election that our nation was at a crossroads, on the precipice of either renewed greatness or ruin. In that precarious moment, they placed their confidence in President Donald Trump to usher in a new Golden Age for America. I'm here on behalf of that mission, and the trust placed in President Trump by the people.

Our children and grandchildren are being crushed under the massive burden of an out-of-control federal debt. For too long, we've been spending money we don't have on things we don't need. Our government has been self-absorbed, inefficient, unaccountable, and maladministered. The good news is that we can fix all of those things, and, if confirmed, I will be laser-focused on doing so, along with Director Russ Vought and the superb public servants at OMB.

It's finally time for a government accountable to the people. I've fought to deliver that my entire public service career, from county commission, to state legislature, to Congress, and it will continue to be my North Star. Whether elected or appointed, we must never forget the right of the people to decide. I know that I will never forget it, and neither will Director Vought. I was thrilled to see Director Vought confirmed by the Senate, and I can assure you that he is the man to get management of the federal government back on track. If confirmed, I look forward to serving as his deputy.

Thank you for considering my nomination. I look forward to your questions.

REDACTED

HSGAC BIOGRAPHICAL QUESTIONS FOR EXECUTIVE NOMINEES

1. Basic Biographical Information

Please provide the following information.

Position to Which You Have Been Nominated	
Name of Position	**Date of Nomination**
Deputy Director of OMB	1/20/2025

Current Legal Name			
First Name	**Middle Name**	**Last Name**	**Suffix**
James	Daniel ("Dan")	Bishop	

Addresses					
Residential Address (do not include street address)			**Office Address** (include street address)		
[redacted]			**Street:** 725 17th St NW		
City: Charlotte	**State:** NC	**Zip:** 28210	**City:** Washington	**State:** DC	**Zip:** 20503

Other Names Used						
First Name	**Middle Name**	**Last Name**	**Suffix**	Check if Maiden Name	**Name Used From** (Month/Year) (Check box if estimate)	**Name Used To** (Month/Year) (Check box if estimate)
Dan		Bishop			07/1982 Est ☑	Present Est ☐
Danny		Bishop			07/1964 Est ☐	07/1982 Est ☑

Birth Year and Place	
Year of Birth (Do not include month and day.)	**Place of Birth**
1964	Charlotte, NC

Marital Status					
Check All That Describe Your Current Situation:					
Never Married	**Married**	**Separated**	**Annulled**	**Divorced**	**Widowed**
☐	☑	☐	☐	☑	☐

Spouse's Name (current spouse only)			
Spouse's First Name	**Spouse's Middle Name**	**Spouse's Last Name**	**Spouse's Suffix**
Jo	Johnson	Bishop	

Spouse's Other Names Used (current spouse only)						
First Name	**Middle Name**	**Last Name**	**Suffix**	Check if Maiden Name	**Name Used From** (Month/Year) (Check box if estimate)	**Name Used To** (Month/Year) (Check box if estimate)
Betsy	Jo	Johnson		☑	**06/1960** **Est** ☐	**09/1998** **Est** ☐
					Est ☐	**Est** ☐

Children's Names (if over 18)			
First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Suffix
John	David	Bishop	

2. Education

List all post-secondary schools attended.

Name of School	Type of School (vocational/technical/trade school, college/university/military college, correspondence/distance/extension/online school)	Date Began School (month/year) (check box if estimate)	Date Ended School (month/year) (check box if estimate) (check "present" box if still in school)	Degree	Date Awarded
UNC-CH	University	08/1982 Est ☐	05/1986 Est ☐ Present ☐	BS	05/1986
UNC-CH	University	08/1987 Est ☐	05/1990 Est ☐ Present ☐	JD	05/1990
		Est ☐	Est ☐ Present ☐		
		Est ☐	Est ☐ Present ☐		

3. Employment

(A) List all of your employment activities, including unemployment and self-employment. If the employment activity was military duty, list separate employment activity periods to show each change of military duty station. Do not list employment before your 18th birthday unless to provide a minimum of two years of employment history.

Type of Employment (Active Military Duty Station, National Guard/Reserve, USPHS Commissioned Corps, Other Federal employment, State Government (Non-Federal Employment), Self-employment, Unemployment, Federal Contractor, Non-Government Employment (excluding self-employment), Other	**Name of Your Employer/ Assigned Duty Station**	**Most Recent Position Title/Rank**	**Location** (City and State only)	**Date Employment Began** (month/year) (check box if estimate)	**Date Employment Ended** (month/year) (check box if estimate) (check "present" box if still employed)
Federal employment	OMB	Senior Advisor	Wash., DC	1/2025 Est ☐	Present Est ☐
Unemployment				1/2025 Est ☐	1/2025 Est ☐
Federal employment	US House of Reps	Congressman	Wash., DC	9/2019 Est ☐	1/2025 Est ☐
State Government	NC General Assy	Representative /Senator	Raleigh, NC	1/2015 Est ☐	9/2019 Est ☐
Local Government	Mecklenburg County	County Commissioner	Charlotte , NC	12/2004	12/2008
Self-employment	Erwin Bishop Capitano & Moss PA	Attorney/Partner	Charlotte , NC	01/2000 Est ☐	9/2019 Est ☐
Self-employment	The Bishop Law Firm PA	Attorney/Partner	Charlotte , NC	02/1996	01/2000
Non-government employment	Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson, PA	Associate attorney	Charlotte , NC	09/1990	02/1996
Unemployment				05/1990	09/1990
Non-government employment	Trident Financial	Analyst	Raleigh, NC/Washington, DC	6/1986 Est ☑	8/1987 Est ☑

(B) List any advisory, consultative, honorary or other part-time service or positions with federal, state, or local governments, not listed elsewhere.

Name of Government Entity	Name of Position	Date Service Began (month/year) (check box if estimate)	Date Service Ended (month/year) (check box if estimate) (check "present" box if still serving)
Listed above		Est ☐	Est ☐ Present ☐
		Est ☐	Est ☐ Present ☐
		Est ☐	Est ☐ Present ☐

4. Potential Conflict of Interest

(A) Describe any business relationship, dealing or financial transaction which you have had during the last 10 years, whether for yourself, on behalf of a client, or acting as an agent, that could in any way constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position to which you have been nominated.

None.

(B) Describe any activity during the past 10 years in which you have engaged for the purpose of directly or indirectly influencing the passage, defeat or modification of any legislation or affecting the administration or execution of law or public policy, other than while in a federal government capacity.

None.

5. Honors and Awards

List all scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, civilian service citations, military medals, academic or professional honors, honorary society memberships and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievement.

NC Business Magazine Legal Elite, 13 years.

Order of the Coif

North Carolina Law Review

Phi Beta Kappa

6. Memberships

List all memberships that you have held in professional, social, business, fraternal, scholarly, civic, or charitable organizations in the last 10 years.

Unless relevant to your nomination, you do NOT need to include memberships in charitable organizations available to the public as a result of a tax deductible donation of $1,000 or less, Parent-Teacher Associations or other organizations connected to schools attended by your children, athletic clubs or teams, automobile support organizations (such as AAA), discounts clubs (such as Groupon or Sam's Club), or affinity memberships/consumer clubs (such as frequent flyer memberships).

Name of Organization	Dates of Your Membership (You may approximate.)	Position(s) Held
None		

7. Political Activity

(A) Have you ever been a candidate for or been elected or appointed to a political office?

Name of Office	Elected/Appointed/ Candidate Only	Year(s) Election Held or Appointment Made	Term of Service (if applicable)
NC Attorney General	Candidate	2024	Not elected
US House of Representatives	Elected	2019, 2020, 2022	2019-2024
NC Senate	Elected	2016, 2018	2017-9/2019

Name of Office	Elected/Appointed/ Candidate Only	Year(s) Election Held or Appointment Made	Term of Service (if applicable)
NC House of Representatives	Elected	2014	2015-2017
Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners	Elected	2004, 2008	2004-2008

(B) List any offices held in or services rendered to a political party or election committee during the last ten years that you have not listed elsewhere.

Name of Party/Election Committee	Office/Services Rendered	Responsibilities	Dates of Service
None			

(C) Itemize all individual political contributions of $200 or more that you have made in the past five years to any individual, campaign organization, political party, political action committee, or similar entity. Please list each individual contribution and not the total amount contributed to the person or entity during the year.

Name of Recipient	Amount	Year of Contribution
Forsyth County Republican Party	104.10	2023
Mecklenburg County Republican Party	20.00	2020
Mecklenburg County Republican Party	200.00	2020
Bishop for NC	6400.00	2023

Name of Recipient	Amount	Year of Contribution
Bishop for NC	246.66	2024

8. Publications and Speeches

(A) List the titles, publishers and dates of books, articles, reports or other published materials that you have written, including articles published on the Internet. Please provide the Committee with copies of all listed publications. In lieu of hard copies, electronic copies can be provided via e-mail or other digital format.

Title	Publisher	Date(s) of Publication
How Trump Can Convert a Key Identity Politics Agency Into a Tool for Equality Under the Law, https://thefederalist.com/2024/11/20/how-trump-can-convert-a-key-identity-politics-agency-into-a-tool-for-equality-under-the-law/	The Federalist	Nov. 20, 2024
More Illegals Enter Under Parole Than Legal Immigrants Are Issued Green Cards, https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2024/apr/11/more-illegals-enter-us-under-parole-than-legal-imm/	Washington Times	Apr. 11, 2024
A Call for Courage, The American Conservative, https://www.theamericanconservative.com/a-call-for-courage/	The American Conservative	Dec. 2, 2022
There Should Be No Critical Race Theory in Foxholes, >https://nsjonline.com/article/2022/10/bishop-saying-no-to-reckless-spending/<	Fox News Digital	Oct. 31, 2022
Bishop: Saying NO to Reckless Spending, >https://nsjonline.com/article/2022/10/bishop-saying-no-to-reckless-spending/<	North State Journal	Oct. 4, 2022
We Were Promised Unity. We Got Becerra Instead., https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/2631540/we-were-promised-unity-we-got-becerra-instead/	Washington Examiner	Mar. 18, 2021
Reopen NC, All Businesses Are Essential, https://www.yourdailyjournal.com/opinion/93820/congressman-dan-bishop-reopen-nc-all-businesses-are-essential	Richmond County Daily Journal	Apr. 21, 2020
Critics of NC Action Against Charlotte Bathroom Ordinance Distort Reality, https://dailycaller.com/2016/03/30/critics-of-nc-action-against-charlotte-bathroom-ordinance-distort-reality/	Daily Caller	Mar. 30, 2016
Transit Tax Isn't About Transit - Mecklenburg Needs Transit, But Not Expensive, Inefficient Light Rail (PDF copy)	Charlotte Observer at 12A	Oct. 1, 2007
Why did bonds lose? It's common sense - a seat for every student matters more than brand new seats for all. (PDF copy)	Charlotte Observer at 13A	Nov. 15, 2005
James D. Bishop, *Benefits without Proof: The North Carolina Supreme Court Creates a Presumption of Compensability in Workers' Compensation Death Benefits Actions*, Available at: https://scholarship.law.unc.edu/nclr/vol67/iss6/21	67 N.C. L. Rev. 1522	1989

(B) List any formal speeches you have delivered during the last five years and provide the Committee with copies of those speeches relevant to the position for which you have been nominated. Include any testimony to Congress or any other legislative or administrative body. These items can be provided electronically via e-mail or other digital format.

Title/Topic	Place/Audience	Date(s) of Speech
Speech to NCGOP State Convention https://rumble.com/v37b07i-congressman-dan-bishop.html	Greensboro	6/10/2023
The American Conservative's 20th Anniversary Gala https://www.theamericanconservative.com/a-call-for-courage/	Washington	11/17/2022

(C) List all speeches and testimony you have delivered in the past ten years, except for those the text of which you are providing to the Committee.

Title	Place/Audience	Date(s) of Speech
Trump rally https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dyik9KR2LhY at timestamp 16:45	Fayetteville, NC	9/10/2019
Hoke County GOP Convention speech https://rumble.com/vfmx9d-hoke-gop-convention-keynote-speakers.html	Hoke County, NC	3/19/2021
Address to Grass Roots NC and Gun Owners of America Steel Plate Challenge https://rumble.com/v10tr7v-us-congressman-dan-bishop-r-nc-speaks-at-grnc-and-goa-steel-plate-challenge.html	Polkton, NC	3/21/2022
"Up From Chaos: Conserving American Security" Conference Keynote https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ITjGL25ai1c	Washington	4/7/2022

Title	Place/Audience	Date(s) of Speech
Trump rally https://rumble.com/v10ep8q-rep.-dan-bishop-r-nc-full-speech-at-president-trump-rally-in-selma-nc-4922.html	Selma, NC	4/9/2022
The American Conservative's 10th annual foreign policy conference https://rumble.com/v2tyr7a-common-sense-in-foreign-policy.html	Washington	6/8/2023
Trump rally https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=918946253062657	Greensboro, NC	3/2/2024
Address to 2024 RNC NC delegates Part 1: https://rumble.com/v57d6zf-rnc-convention-day-3-dan-bishop-addresses-nc-delicates-part-one.html Part 2: https://rumble.com/v57h9ep-rnc-convention-day-3-dan-bishop-address-nc-delegates-part-2.html	Milwaukee	7/17/2024
Trump rally https://rumble.com/v58ndil-dan-bishop-slams-democrat-oligarchs-during-trump-rally-they-cancelled-14-mi.html	Charlotte, NC	8/24/2024
Trump rally https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o_17tSulU8k	Wilmington, NC	9/21/2024
Trump rally https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ss7PVodbTzM	Greenville, NC	10/21/2024
Trump rally https://rumble.com/v5lfsx8-full-speech-congressman-dan-bishop-delivers-remarks-in-gastonia-nc.html	Gastonia, NC	11/2/2024
Trump rally https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jCpwsM4W7lw	Kinston, NC	11/3/2024
Trump rally https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DmLiSw_nPE4	Raleigh, NC	11/4/2024

9. Criminal History

Since (and including) your 18th birthday, has any of the following happened?

- Have you been issued a summons, citation, or ticket to appear in court in a criminal proceeding against you? (Exclude citations involving traffic infractions where the fine was less than $300 and did not include alcohol or drugs.)

  No.

- Have you been arrested by any police officer, sheriff, marshal or any other type of law enforcement official?

  No.

- Have you been charged, convicted, or sentenced of a crime in any court?

  No.

- Have you been or are you currently on probation or parole?

  No.

- Are you currently on trial or awaiting a trial on criminal charges?

  No.

- To your knowledge, have you ever been the subject or target of a federal, state or local criminal investigation?

  No.

If the answer to any of the questions above is yes, please answer the questions below for each criminal event (citation, arrest, investigation, etc.). If the event was an investigation, where the question below asks for information about the offense, please offer information about the offense under investigation (if known).

A) Date of offense: N/A

   a. Is this an estimate (Yes/No):

B) Description of the specific nature of the offense: N/A

C) Did the offense involve any of the following?
   1) Domestic violence or a crime of violence (such as battery or assault) against your child, dependent, cohabitant, spouse, former spouse, or someone with whom you share a child in common: **Yes / No**
   2) Firearms or explosives: **Yes / No**
   3) Alcohol or drugs: **Yes / No**

D) Location where the offense occurred (city, county, state, zip code, country):

E) Were you arrested, summoned, cited or did you receive a ticket to appear as a result of this offense by any police officer, sheriff, marshal or any other type of law enforcement official: **Yes / No**

   1) Name of the law enforcement agency that arrested/cited/summoned you:

   2) Location of the law enforcement agency (city, county, state, zip code, country):

F) As a result of this offense were you charged, convicted, currently awaiting trial, and/or ordered to appear in court in a criminal proceeding against you: **Yes / No**

1) If yes, provide the name of the court and the location of the court (city, county, state, zip code, country):

2) If yes, provide all the charges brought against you for this offense, and the outcome of each charged offense (such as found guilty, found not-guilty, charge dropped or "nolle pros," etc). If you were found guilty of or pleaded guilty to a lesser offense, list separately both the original charge and the lesser offense:

3) If no, provide explanation:

G) Were you sentenced as a result of this offense: **Yes / No**

H) Provide a description of the sentence:

I) Were you sentenced to imprisonment for a term exceeding one year: **Yes / No**

J) Were you incarcerated as a result of that sentence for not less than one year: **Yes / No**

K) If the conviction resulted in imprisonment, provide the dates that you actually were incarcerated:

L) If conviction resulted in probation or parole, provide the dates of probation or parole:

M) Are you currently on trial, awaiting a trial, or awaiting sentencing on criminal charges for this offense: **Yes / No**

N) Provide explanation:

10. Civil Litigation and Administrative or Legislative Proceedings

(A) Since (and including) your 18th birthday, have you been a party to any public record civil court action or administrative or legislative proceeding of any kind that resulted in (1) a finding of wrongdoing against you, or (2) a settlement agreement for you, or some other person or entity, to make a payment to settle allegations against you, or for you to take, or refrain from taking, some action. Do NOT include small claims proceedings.

Date Claim/Suit Was Filed or Legislative Proceedings Began	Court Name	Name(s) of Principal Parties Involved in Action/Proceeding	Nature of Action/Proceeding	Results of Action/Proceeding
None				

(B) In addition to those listed above, have you or any business of which you were an officer, director or owner ever been involved as a party of interest in any administrative agency proceeding or civil litigation? Please identify and provide details for any proceedings or civil litigation that involve actions taken or omitted by you, or alleged to have been taken or omitted by you, while serving in your official capacity.

Date Claim/Suit Was Filed	Court Name	Name(s) of Principal Parties Involved in Action/Proceeding	Nature of Action/Proceeding	Results of Action/Proceeding
None				

(C) For responses to the previous question, please identify and provide details for any proceedings or civil litigation that involve actions taken or omitted by you, or alleged to have been taken or omitted by you, while serving in your official capacity.

N/A

11. Breach of Professional Ethics

(A) Have you ever been disciplined or cited for a breach of ethics or unprofessional conduct by, or been the subject of a complaint to, any court, administrative agency, professional association, disciplinary committee, or other professional group? Exclude cases and proceedings already listed.

Name of Agency/Association/ Committee/Group	Date Citation/Disciplinary Action/Complaint Issued/Initiated	Describe Citation/Disciplinary Action/Complaint	Results of Disciplinary Action/Complaint
NC Bar Grievance Committee	2/13/2003	The Bar reports that grievance 03G0292 was filed by Storm Jenkins, a litigant adverse to my then client	Dismissed by Chair of Grievance Committee 5/6/2003

(B) Have you ever been fired from a job, quit a job after being told you would be fired, left a job by mutual agreement following charges or allegations of misconduct, left a job by mutual agreement following notice of unsatisfactory performance, or received a written warning, been officially reprimanded, suspended, or disciplined for misconduct in the workplace, such as violation of a security policy?

No.

12. Tax Compliance

(This information will not be published in the record of the hearing on your nomination, but it will be retained in the Committee's files and will be available for public inspection.)

REDACTED

REDACTED

13. Lobbying

In the past ten years, have you registered as a lobbyist? If so, please indicate the state, federal, or local bodies with which you have registered (e.g., House, Senate, California Secretary of State). No.

14. Outside Positions

☑ See OGE Form 278. (If, for your nomination, you have completed an OGE Form 278 Executive Branch Personnel Public Financial Disclosure Report, you may check the box here to complete this section and then proceed to the next section.)

For the preceding ten calendar years and the current calendar year, report any positions held, whether compensated or not. Positions include but are not limited to those of an officer, director, trustee, general partner, proprietor, representative, employee, or consultant of any corporation, firm, partnership, or other business enterprise or any non-profit organization or educational institution. Exclude positions with religious, social, fraternal, or political entities and those solely of an honorary nature.

Name of Organization	Address of Organization	Type of Organization (corporation, firm, partnership, other business enterprise, other non-profit organization,	Position Held	Position Held From (month/year)	Position Held To (month/year)

		educational institution)			

15. Agreements or Arrangements

☑ See OGE Form 278. (If, for your nomination, you have completed an OGE Form 278 Executive Branch Personnel Public Financial Disclosure Report, you may check the box here to complete this section and then proceed to the next section.)

As of the date of filing your OGE Form 278, report your agreements or arrangements for: (1) continuing participation in an employee benefit plan (e.g. pension, 401k, deferred compensation); (2) continuation of payment by a former employer (including severance payments); (3) leaves of absence; and (4) future employment.

Provide information regarding any agreements or arrangements you have concerning (1) future employment; (2) a leave of absence during your period of Government service; (3) continuation of payments by a former employer other than the United States Government; and (4) continuing participation in an employee welfare or benefit plan maintained by a former employer other than United States Government retirement benefits.

Status and Terms of Any Agreement or Arrangement	Parties	Date (month/year)

16. Additional Financial Data

All information requested under this heading must be provided for yourself, your spouse, and your dependents. (This information will not be published in the record of the hearing on your nomination, but it will be retained in the Committee's files and will be available for public inspection.)

REDACTED

REDACTED

58

SIGNATURE AND DATE

I hereby state that I have read the foregoing Statement on Biographical and Financial Information and that the information provided therein is, to the best of my knowledge, current, accurate, and complete.

James W. Bishop

James Daniel Bishop

This 6th **day of February, 2025.**

REDACTED

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

January 30, 2025

The Honorable Rand Paul
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510-6200

The Honorable Gary Peters
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510-6200

Dear Chairman Paul and Ranking Member Peters:

The President has announced that he has nominated James Daniel Bishop for the position of Deputy Director at the Office of Management and Budget.

I have reviewed the information contained in the financial disclosure report (OGE Form 278) filed by Mr. Bishop, and the enclosed Ethics Agreement signed by Mr. Bishop that specifies certain actions he will take in connection with ethics matters if confirmed as the Deputy Director of OMB. Based on my review of the information contained in the report and the commitments made in the Ethics Agreement, it is my opinion that there will be no unresolved conflicts between the nominee's financial interests and the duties that Mr. Bishop will be expected to perform as the Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 202-510-8743, or Jon Brazill, Assistant General Counsel, at 202-881-6201 or via email at Jon.P.Brazill@omb.eop.gov.

Sincerely,

Heather V. Walsh

Heather V. Walsh
Deputy General Counsel and DAEO

January 28, 2025

Laurie E. Adams
Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Ms. Adams:

The purpose of this letter is to describe the steps that I will take to avoid any actual or apparent conflict of interest in the event that I am confirmed for the position of Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget. It is my responsibility to understand and comply with commitments outlined in this agreement.

SECTION 1 – GENERAL COMMITMENTS

As required by the criminal conflicts of interest law at 18 U.S.C. § 208(a), I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter in which I know that I have a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the matter, or in which I know that a person whose interests are imputed to me has a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the particular matter, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1), or qualify for a regulatory exemption, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(2). I understand that the interests of the following persons are imputed to me:

- Any spouse or minor child of mine;
- Any general partner of a partnership in which I am a limited or general partner;
- Any organization in which I serve as an officer, director, trustee, general partner, or employee, even if uncompensated; and
- Any person or organization with which I am negotiating or have an arrangement concerning prospective employment.

In the event that an actual or potential conflict of interest arises during my appointment, I will consult with an agency ethics official and take the measures necessary to resolve the conflict, such as recusal from the particular matter or divestiture of an asset.

If I have a managed account or otherwise use the services of an investment professional during my appointment, I will ensure that the account manager or investment professional obtains my prior approval on a case-by-case basis for the purchase of any assets other than cash, cash equivalents, investment funds that qualify for the regulatory exemption for diversified mutual funds and unit investment trusts at 5 C.F.R. § 2640.201(a), or obligations of the United States.

I will receive a live ethics briefing from a member of the ethics office after my confirmation but not later than 15 days after my appointment pursuant to the ethics program regulation at 5 C.F.R. § 2638.305. Within 90 days of my confirmation, I will submit my

Certification of Ethics Agreement Compliance which documents my compliance with this ethics agreement.

I will not modify this ethics agreement without your approval and the approval of the U.S. Office of Government Ethics (OGE) pursuant to the ethics agreement requirements contained in the financial disclosure regulation at 5 C.F.R. § 2634.803(a)(4).

SECTION 2 – DIVESTITURES

I will divest my interest in the Health Care Select Sector SPDR Fund (XLV) as soon as practicable but not later than 90 days after my confirmation. Until I have completed this divestiture, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that to my knowledge has a direct and predictable effect on the financial interests of any holding of the Health Care Select Sector SPDR Fund that is invested in the healthcare sector, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1), or qualify for a regulatory exemption, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(2). I have verified that I will be able to carry out the divestiture within the timeframe described above.

I understand that I may be eligible to request a Certificate of Divestiture for qualifying assets and that a Certificate of Divestiture is effective only if obtained prior to divestiture. Regardless of whether I receive a Certificate of Divestiture, I will ensure that all divestitures discussed in this agreement occur within the agreed upon timeframes and that all proceeds are invested in non-conflicting assets. I understand that I must submit my request for a Certificate of Divestiture to allow for adequate time for OGE to process the Certificate of Divestiture, and in order to divest assets within the agreed upon timeframe.

I (including my spouse and minor children if applicable) will not repurchase any asset I was required to divest without my consultation with my agency ethics official and the U.S. Office of Government Ethics.

SECTION 3 – PUBLIC POSTING

I have been advised that this ethics agreement and the Certification of Ethics Agreement Compliance will be posted publicly, consistent with the public information law at 5 U.S.C. § 552, on the website of the U.S. Office of Government Ethics with ethics agreements of other presidential nominees who file public financial disclosure reports.

Sincerely,

James Daniel Bishop

U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Pre-hearing Questionnaire
For the Nomination of Dan Bishop
to be Deputy Director, Office of Management and Budget

I. Nomination Process and Conflicts of Interest

1. Did the President or anyone else give you specific reasons why the President nominated you to be the Deputy Director, and if so, what were they?

   No.

2. Were any conditions, expressed or implied, attached to your nomination? If so, please explain.

   No.

3. Have you made any commitments with respect to the policies and principles you will attempt to implement as Deputy Director? If so, what are they, and to whom were the commitments made?

   No.

4. Are you aware of any business relationship, dealing, or financial transaction that could result in a possible conflict of interest for you or the appearance of a conflict of interest? If so, please explain what procedures you will use to recuse yourself or otherwise address the conflict. And if you will recuse yourself, explain how you will ensure your responsibilities are not affected by your recusal.

   No.

5. If confirmed, do you commit to upholding the Constitution and the rule of law?

   Of course.

6. If the President or anyone acting at the direction of the President or on his behalf asks you to violate the law, will you decline to do so?

   President Trump and his administration have implemented the highest ethical standards. I do not believe the President nor anyone acting on his behalf would ask me to violate the law. I would never violate the law on behalf of anyone.

7. Do you believe that President can ever disregard a court order? If so, under what circumstances? Please explain.

If confirmed to this policy position, I will defer to the views of OMB Office of General Counsel, the White House Counsel's Office, and the Department of Justice on such legal matters.

8. Have you or any organization of which you were an officer, director or owner, or have or had a significant financial interest in been the recipient of any Federal grants, loans, or other financial assistance (such as, but not limited to, Paycheck Protection Program Loans, Economic Injury Disaster Loans, Restaurant Revitalization Grants, etc.) within the past 10 years. If so, please list the program, amount, and date of receipt.

The law firm in which I practiced until being elected to Congress in 2019 received a Paycheck Protection Program loan in the amount of $206,693, on April 11, 2020, which was after my withdrawal from employment and ownership and without any participation by or benefit to me.

9. Please provide the name of any individual, law firm, consulting firm, lobbying firm, public relations firm, or other entity you have formally retained, contracted, or consulted with regarding this nomination, including any amounts paid in fees or otherwise.

None.

II. Background of the Nominee

10. What specific background, experience, and attributes qualify you to be the Deputy Director?

I have a broad range of elected public service experience: local, state legislative and Congressional. But in the main, my career has been in the private sector, 30 years in a successful commercial litigation practice handling complex business cases. My undergraduate degree was business-finance. I'm determined to see the President's agenda implemented.

11. Please describe:

    a. Your leadership and management style.

I disfavor hierarchy, inculcate a peer dynamic to empower team members, consult intensively, demonstrate respect for expertise, endeavor to model work ethic and humility, all of which in my experience tends to promote strong team orientation and encourage contributions and initiative on the part of employees at every level.

    b. Your experience managing personnel.

I've had varying managerial experiences — over decades in a small law firm; and as an elected leader in local government, state legislature and Congress. Each involved differing dynamics, challenges and opportunities.

c. What is the largest number of people who have worked under your supervision?

Roughly 15

12. What would you consider your greatest successes as a leader?

In my long law practice and my legislative and congressional offices, I had exceedingly low turnover and high esprit de corps, especially in positions with which I had the opportunity to interact most often.

13. What would you consider your greatest failure as a leader? What lessons did you take away from that experience?

I lost a statewide race for attorney general, so I suppose that was my biggest failure.

14. Please give examples of times in your career when you disagreed with your superiors and advocated your position. Describe circumstances in which you were successful and in which you were unsuccessful.

Over course of my career, I have advocated my position with colleagues, adversaries and superiors, with the hope of persuading them to adopt and implement my views. I have been successful at times and at other times, not successful. Through all these experiences, I have walked away with more experience and knowledge that hopefully informs my next engagement.

15. Do you seek out dissenting views and encourage constructive critical dialogue with subordinates? Please provide examples of times in your career when you have done so.

Always. Anyone familiar with my public or private career will observe that I relish give and take and that people who have served me have not only felt free to disagree with me but, especially among my Congressional staff, have come to expect as a matter of office ritual, weekly, group discussions with a range of viewpoints expressed on decisions at hand.

16. Please list and describe examples of when you made politically difficult choices that you thought were in the best interest of the country or an organization.

Over course of my career, I have advocated my position with colleagues, adversaries and superiors, with the hope of persuading them to adopt and implement my views. I have been successful at times and at other times, not successful. Through all these experiences, I walked away with more experience and knowledge that hopefully informs my next engagement.

17. Please describe how you build credibility and trust among staff as a leader.

First, the approach that I described in response to 11a sets the right tone. Second, the leader must model qualities he expects staff to embrace: strong work ethic, consistently exceptional performance, personal courage, adherence to truth, service to sincerely held principles, genuine humility, and concern for and recognition of the contributions of others. Third, he must hold everyone accountable for results.

18. During your career, has your conduct as a government employee ever been subject to an investigation or audit by the Office of Special Counsel, Department of Justice, agency Equal Opportunity office or investigator, agency Inspector General, Congressional ethics committee, or any other similar federal, state, or local investigative entity? If so, please describe the nature of the allegations/conduct and the outcome(s) of the investigation(s) or audit(s).

No.

III. Role of the Deputy Director

19. What do you consider to be the core mission of OMB and what you would consider to be your primary role and responsibilities if confirmed.

The core mission of OMB is to implement the president's policy agenda throughout the executive branch, to steward the fiscal health of the country, and to steer the regulatory agenda of the administration. My primary role as Deputy Director is to be a force multiplier for the Director within the agency and to expand and facilitate high-level contacts and communications for OMB across the executive branch and with former colleagues in Congress in order to maximize OMB's impact in all respects on behalf of the president.

20. Please describe your understanding of the authorities of the Deputy Director and how those authorities facilitate the core mission of the office.

The Deputy Director serves in the Director's stead when absent, exercises managerial authority as the Director's general delegee, focuses on specific managerial challenges and opportunities prioritized by the Director, and teams with the Director and other senior leadership of OMB to manage the organization and fulfill its mission on behalf of the President's policy agenda.

21. What do you anticipate will be your greatest challenges as OMB Deputy Director, and what will be your top priorities? What do you hope to accomplish during your tenure?

My top priorities will be the President's priorities. I hope to help the Director implement the President's priorities, for which the people elected him.

22. How do you view the responsibilities of the Deputy Director and the Deputy Director for Management, and how do you plan to delegate responsibilities to these respective positions? Do you anticipate their roles and responsibilities changing?

Those are in the main the Director's prerogative to establish. The Deputy Director is generally regarded as second in leadership to the Director. Some of the DDM's responsibilities, defined by statute, focus on financial, information systems, and procurement management functions across the federal government and participation in human resources management, akin to a chief operating officer's role. The Deputy Director's role is a more general and policy-oriented position, including management and direction of budget, resources, and regulatory agenda. I anticipate that the Director will frequently redirect my focus as Deputy Director as issues arise so that flexibility and versatility will be essential.

IV. Policy Questions

Budget

23. President Trump has organized the "Department of Government Efficiency" (DOGE) with the mission of identifying $2 trillion in government spending by 2026. How do you plan on implementing these cuts once recommended?

DOGE has just begun identifying significant amounts of waste, fraud and abuse, and discussions on implementing those savings are ongoing.

24. Can you define what a successful federal budget looks like from your perspective? How long will it take to reach the ideal federal budget under your leadership?

I will support Director Vought and the President's efforts in developing and enacting a budget that advances the priorities of the President, who was elected with a mandate from the American people.

25. Do you believe that Congress should eliminate the debt ceiling?

I support the President's position.

26. If confirmed, do you commit to oppose any cuts to Social Security, Medicaid, and Medicare?

President Trump has stated repeatedly that he will not touch Social Security or Medicare and that they are off limits. On Medicaid, the Director has said that he will follow the President, and I will follow the Director.

27. Please explain whether you believe that there should be alterations to Social Security, Medicaid, and Medicare.

See above.

28. What level of spending on non-defense discretionary and defense spending do you think is appropriate?

A deliberative process is ongoing at OMB and across the administration that ultimately will lead to decisions by the President on those issues. It would be inappropriate for me to offer personal opinions outside that process.

29. Do you consider the reports, analysis and data produced by the Congressional Budget Office to be reliable? If not, why not?

CBO reports, along with other reports and papers, are helpful.

30. In 2023, as a member of the House of Representatives, you previously criticized President Biden for potential violations of the Impoundment Control Act, saying that you believed it constituted a violation of the law if the President were "unilaterally to disregard Congress's appropriation." You also cosponsored a resolution to censure President Joe Biden for not spending money on the Border Wall, and you cosponsored legislation mandating the administration spend the funds.

    a. Do you still believe that a President does not have the unilateral authority to disregard Congressional appropriations?

    President Trump ran on restoring impoundment authority, which presidents have utilized effectively for nearly two hundred years to help prevent waste, fraud, and abuse. I support the President's view on that. If confirmed, I will faithfully uphold the Constitution and the laws of the United States. I will follow the advice of legal counsel, and ultimately the President, with respect to this matter.

    b. Do you believe that President Biden had the authority to unilaterally refuse to spend appropriated money to build the Border Wall?

    If confirmed, I will implement President Trump's agenda on this issue and faithfully uphold the Constitution and the laws of the United States. I will follow the advice of legal counsel, and ultimately the President, with respect to this matter.

    c. If you are directed to withhold congressionally appropriated funding, how would you respond?

President Trump ran on restoring impoundment authority, which presidents have utilized effectively for nearly two hundred years to help prevent waste, fraud, and abuse. I support the President's view on that. If confirmed, I will faithfully uphold the Constitution and the laws of the United States. I will follow the advice of legal counsel, and ultimately the President, with respect to this matter.

31. In 2024, you cosponsored legislation to repeal the Impoundment Control Act.

    a. Do you still believe that the Impoundment Control Act should be repealed? Please explain.

    President Trump ran on restoring impoundment authority and repealing the Impoundment Control Act. I support the President's view.

    b. Please explain why you changed your view from supporting the Impoundment Control Act in 2023, and then later sponsoring legislation to repeal the law?

    I support the President's views on the ICA.

32. OMB recently paused all federal financial assistance, a move which has been temporarily blocked in court. Despite recent orders to unfreeze federal financial assistance, many grants and loan programs continue to be frozen.

    a. Do you believe that the President has the authority to cancel or pause such grants and loans? Please explain and provide any relevant statutory or legal authorities.

    Presidents have long issued temporary pauses on funds to ensure that they are being spent consistent with Presidential priorities and are not being used in a wasteful or fraudulent manner. I will follow the advice of counsel on the legal authority.

    b. Were you involved in the formulation and issuance of OMB M-25-11 or M-25-13, and the subsequent rescission of M-25-13? If so, please describe your role in detail.

    No.

33. Do you believe that the President has the constitutional authority to withhold funds which Congress has appropriated for a specific purpose? Please explain.

President Trump ran on restoring impoundment authority, which presidents have utilized effectively for nearly two hundred years to help prevent waste, fraud, and abuse. I support the President's view on that. If confirmed, I will faithfully uphold the Constitution and the laws of the United States. I will follow the advice of legal counsel, and ultimately the President, with respect to this matter.

34. Do you believe that the Impoundment Control Act is unconstitutional? Please explain.

President Trump ran on restoring impoundment authority and repealing the Impoundment Control Act. I support the President's view on that.

35. Do you believe that the President has the power to withhold funding for entitlement programs like Social Security? Please explain.

President Trump has declared repeatedly that he would not touch Social Security and Medicare.

36. Do you believe the President has the power to withhold funding under formula grants, where Congress has clearly required the expenditure of a particular amount? Please explain.

If confirmed, I will faithfully uphold the Constitution and the laws of the United States. I will follow the advice of legal counsel, and ultimately the President, with respect to this matter.

37. Do you commit to not proposing recissions late in the fiscal year that would in effect impound funds until they expire? Please explain.

The President ran on restoring the impoundment authority. I support the President's views.

38. Do you believe that the Budget Control and Impoundment Control Act of 1974, or any other federal statute, gives the President or the OMB Director the power to withhold appropriations from agencies that have expired authorizations? Do you plan to withhold funding from agencies which receive appropriations but whose authorizations are expired? Please explain.

If confirmed, I will faithfully uphold the Constitution and the laws of the United States. I will follow the advice of legal counsel, and ultimately the President, with respect to this matter.

39. Do you believe that the President possesses the authority to shut down or eliminate agencies that have been established by Congress? If so, why and under what authority?

My role as Deputy Director of OMB will be neither to argue nor adjudicate the existence and extent of the President's authority. Responsibility to develop the administration's positions on such questions falls to others, and it would be inappropriate for me to assume or anticipate their positions. I will act at all times in

accordance with advice of legal counsel and direction of the President and Director with respect to this issue.

40. In 2020, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) determined that OMB violated the Impoundment Control Act (ICA) when OMB withheld Security Assistance for Ukraine. Do you agree with GAO's determination that OMB violated the ICA? Please explain.

OMB disagreed with GAO's opinion via a January 19, 2021 letter from the Director and General Counsel. I support and defer to OMB's view as expressed.

41. Do you commit to complying with all of the requirements of the Antideficiency Act?

Yes, subject to the advice of legal counsel.

42. Do you commit to instructing federal agencies to report all Antideficiency Act violations, including those identified by GAO to Congress, even if the administration does not agree that the spending violated the law? Please explain.

Yes, subject to the advice of counsel.

43. Do you commit to providing information and access to GAO when requested on appropriations matters? Please explain.

Yes, I will commit, subject to legal advice and ultimately to the President's supervision.

44. Do you commit to complying with all GAO decisions issued on appropriation law matters? Please explain.

I will faithfully comply with advice of administration counsel as to the correctness and effect of any GAO decision.

45. Given your current position at OMB, please provide a list of each federal account that is not able to currently incur obligations or disburse funds, and the applicable legal authority that allows such freeze to occur.

There are TROs in place stemming from several challenges to the Administration's lawful actions. As a result, and pursuant to these TROs, any pause can only be implemented by agencies pursuant to their own statutory authorities.

Regulatory Affairs

46. Please describe how you view the mission of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA).

OIRA is the principal instrumentality to implement the President's regulatory agenda across all federal agencies in accordance with Executive Orders 14192 (President Trump) and 12866, as amended (President Clinton).

47. What actions will you take to ensure that cost benefit analyses have integrity, are accurate, and that costs and benefits of proposed regulations are properly estimated?

I will participate in managing OIRA to follow all guidance of the Director and President as to any new initiatives and expert review and guidance to be applied to cost-benefit analyses and in accurately presenting budget information, including the President's direction via Executive Order 14192 to reinstate OMB Circular No. A-4 to its 2003 version.

48. Do you believe that OIRA should review regulations and policy conducted by independent agencies, such as the:

a. Federal Trade Commission?

b. Federal Election Commission?

c. Federal Reserve?

I will faithfully follow instructions and policies of the President and Director with respect to subjecting independent agencies to regulatory analysis and review.

49. Do you think that Congress has the authority to provide for-cause protections or removal restrictions for officers of the Executive Branch?

My role as Deputy Director of OMB will be neither to argue nor adjudicate the existence and extent of Congress's authority over employment in the Executive Branch.

50. Do you believe that the President has the authority to fire the head of the Federal Reserve?

My role as Deputy Director of OMB will be neither to argue nor adjudicate the existence and extent of the President's authority. Responsibility to develop the administration's positions on such questions falls to others, and it would be inappropriate for me to assume or anticipate their positions. I will act at all times in accordance with advice of legal counsel and direction of the President and Director with respect to this issue.

51. Please describe how you plan to implement the "ten-out-one-in" regulatory policy.

Executive Order No. 14192 charges the Director to formulate and furnish guidance to heads of agencies on the subject. When presented, the Director's guidance will speak to this question, but I am unable to provide an answer until the deliberative process at OMB is complete and the Director issues guidance.

Management, Workforce

52. Do you believe that OMB and the federal government currently has the appropriate resources, including the necessary personnel to effectively carry out its mission? Do you believe that there are any offices within OMB or the federal government that lack the necessary resources, including personnel to carry out their mission?

I support and will faithfully assist in implementing the President's articulated policy that federal agency employment needs to be right sized. Details must be left to the deliberative processes implementing the President's policy, and I do not have and could not appropriately articulate opinions on the subject across all positions in the federal government.

53. Do you believe that any of the offices within OMB should be eliminated, consolidated or otherwise restructured?

I will support the Director's views on structure and staffing modifications for OMB.

54. What do you consider to be the principal challenges in the area of human capital management facing the OMB and the federal government overall?

I agree with the views on this subject articulated by the President.

55. What measurements would you use to determine whether the OMB and the federal government is successful?

Measurements prescribed by the Director and developed by deliberative process at OMB.

56. How will you address the challenge of recruiting, hiring, training, and retaining the necessary personnel for OMB and the federal government, respectively?

Those are decisions to be made in consultation with the Director and other senior leadership of OMB through a deliberative process, such that I am unable to articulate them in advance.

57. If confirmed, how will you ensure OMB is positioned to succeed beyond your tenure as Deputy Director? What steps will you take to prepare the office for future presidential transitions?

Those are decisions to be made in consultation with the Director and other senior leadership of OMB through a deliberative process, such that I am unable to articulate them in advance.

58. Do you think any federal department or agency should be eliminated? If so, what entity or entities specifically should take on the responsibilities that the federal government would no longer have by eliminating those departments or agencies?

The President ran on proposals to eliminate certain departments. I support the President's policies on this subject and stand ready to facilitate their implementation, but it would be inappropriate for me to go beyond the President's articulated policy or to anticipate undeveloped or unannounced details of implementation.

a. Do you believe that the President has unilateral authority to eliminate any department?

My role as Deputy Director of OMB will be neither to argue nor adjudicate the existence and extent of the President's authority. Responsibility to develop the administration's positions on such questions falls to others, and it would be inappropriate for me to assume or anticipate their positions. I will act at all times in accordance with advice of legal counsel and direction of the President and Director with respect to this issue.

59. During your time in Congress, you led the introduction of a bill to eliminate the use of official time for collective bargaining negotiations. Do you still support this policy?

If I am confirmed as Deputy Director, I will be focused on implementing policies adopted by the President.

60. How would you describe the difference between career federal employees and political appointees?

By reference to the laws and regulations that contrast and govern each category.

a. What do you think is an appropriate ratio of career federal employees to political appointees at OMB and governmentwide (approximately)?

I hold no specific opinion as to the appropriate ratio.

61. During your time in Congress, you cosponsored a bill to make all federal civil servants at-will employees. In your view, would making the civil service at-will have an effect on agency personnel turnover during Presidential transitions? Please explain.

My views as expressed through legislation I supported or opposed in Congress have no bearing on my responsibilities as Deputy Director of OMB. If I am confirmed, I will faithfully execute the policies of the President and guidance of the Director.

62. Do you think high rates of agency personnel turnover during Presidential transitions creates any national security risks for the U.S.? Please explain.

Both high rates and low rates of agency personnel turnover pose articulable risks.

63. What type of quantitative and qualitative data should the President or agencies use to inform their decisions about federal telework policies? What are reliable sources and methods for gathering this information?

The President is entitled to use any information he sees fit to inform his policies and has decided that federal employees generally should return to work. I support the policy and will help to implement it to the best of my ability.

64. Will you commit to sending this Committee weekly information from OMB about the number of employees who have offered their resignations as part of the "deferred resignation" program, including:

a. The number of these employees who are on administrative leave and a running total of how much OMB has spent on administrative leave for these employees;

b. The list of positions held by these employees, with the description of agency functions associated with each position; and

c. A description of how OMB will or will not cover the functions associated with the positions.

Yes, subject to legal advice and guidance from the Director.

65. Will you commit to sharing with this Committee which positions OMB exempted from the "deferred resignation" program?

Yes, subject to legal advice and guidance from the Director.

66. Upon request, would you commit to sending to this Committee weekly information from OMB about the number of probationary employees whose employment at OMB is terminated and how OMB determined that these individuals should be terminated?

Yes, subject to legal advice and guidance from the Director.

67. Do you think OMB or any federal agency should place employees on administrative leave for more than 10 work days, despite the requirements in 5 U.S.C. 6329a?

I have not placed any employee on leave or guided anyone else in taking such action and have no legal opinion with respect to the cited statute or the effect of other potentially applicable law, all of which would be the responsibility of other positions in the administration.

68. How do you view the role of new employees in maintaining and enhancing the expertise within an organization like OMB? To what extent do you believe probationary employees at OMB should be removed?"

I have no considered view or opinion on the subject.

69. Do you commit to following statutory and regulatory requirements for any reductions in force at OMB and any federal agencies?

If I am confirmed as Deputy Director of OMB and have a role in such matters, I will follow the advice of legal counsel and direction of the President and Director.

70. When requested, will you provide to this Committee all records relating to the reduction in force process should OMB reduce the size of its staff?

Yes, subject to legal advice and guidance from the Director.

71. What impact do you believe the administration's recent actions to issue stop work orders, fire or place employees on administrative leave, and shutter buildings and office will have?

I believe that they will cause the federal bureaucracy to respond to the direction and policies of the newly elected President rather than to perpetuate its own preferences and self-interest.

72. The Office of Personnel Management stated that approximately 75,000 federal employees have accepted the administration's offer of the deferred resignation program. What impact do you believe this will have?

I believe it will result in a federal workforce that is leaner, less impaired by low-performers unenthusiastic for their work.

73. Do you commit to following statutory requirements for removing or reassigning career Senior Executive Service employees?

If I am confirmed as Deputy Director of OMB and have a role in such matters, I will follow the advice of legal counsel and direction of the President.

74. There have been reports of surveillance tools being used on government employees at various agencies, including keystroke loggers and other tools.

a. Do you believe tracking the keystrokes of employees is an appropriate way to manage employees? Please explain.

I defer to the Director and OMB General Counsel.

b. Would you support the use of such practices at OMB or any federal agency?

I defer to the Director and OMB General Counsel.

c. If asked to implement keystroke loggers or similar tools, what privacy or security guardrails would you require?

I would defer to the Director and OMB General Counsel.

Procurement and Financial Management

75. President Trump has directed agencies to terminate and descope contracts. What steps will you take to ensure this process is done responsibly, including ensuring the payment of work performed under contracts to small businesses?

If I am confirmed as Deputy Director of OMB and have a role in such matters, I will follow the advice of legal counsel and direction of the President.

76. What are your priorities for reducing improper payments made by the federal government?

OMB's priorities will be established through deliberative process and decision of the Director.

77. What are your priorities relating to improving the oversight and management of federal financial assistance, including grants and cooperative agreements?

As expressed in the previous answer, the priorities of OMB will follow the priorities of the President and be established through deliberative process and decision of the Director.

78. The Department of Defense (DOD) has been unable to complete and pass a financial audit as required by the Government Management Reform Act of 1994. If confirmed, what steps, if any, will you take to address DOD's longstanding financial management challenges?

I will strategize with and follow faithfully the decisions of the Director and policies of the President to facilitate reforms undertaken by Secretary Hegseth.

79. Please describe your plans for the Made in America Office?

These plans are in development, and I will follow faithfully the paradigm changing policies declared by the President toward reestablishing American dominance in manufacturing and fairness to America in trade.

Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity

80. Within 60 days of President Trump's executive order on AI, OMB has been tasked to revise OMB Memoranda M-24-10 and M-24-18. Will you ensure that revisions to these memoranda adhere to the law?

I have not yet had a role in this implementation responsibility, but to the extent I do, I will follow advice of counsel and direction of the Director and President.

81. How would you govern and set goals for agency AI adoption that can help expand responsible use of secure AI to achieve agency goals, without stifling AI innovation?

I have not yet had a role in this implementation responsibility, but to the extent I do, I will follow advice of counsel and direction of the Director and President.

82. OMB's Guidance for Regulation of AI Applications (M-21-06), released under your leadership of OMB during the first Trump administration, states that "AI applications could pose risks to privacy, individual rights, personal choice, civil liberties, public health, safety, and security that must be carefully assessed and appropriately addressed." If confirmed, would you continue to uphold and promote policies that ensure these risks are appropriately addressed?

I have not yet had a role in this implementation responsibility, but to the extent I do, I will follow advice of counsel and direction of the Director and President.

83. Please describe your views regarding the use of AI to identify or replace federal positions to be eliminated. Are there federal functions or positions that you believe cannot be performed by AI and must be performed by an actual federal employee?

I have no preconceived ideas that any federal "function or position" can be performed by AI or cannot.

84. What are your views on the Technology Modernization Fund (TMF)?

I defer to the Director.

Interaction with Department of Government Efficiency

85. President Trump organized the "Department of Government Efficiency" (DOGE) with the mission of identifying $2 trillion in government spending by 2026. How do you plan on identifying and implementing these cuts?

See response to nearly identical Question 23.

86. Have you had any communication with DOGE since President Trump nominated you for this position? Please describe your communications in detail including:

No.

a. Were you asked, or did you make, any commitments to DOGE?

No.

b. Who from DOGE did you meet with, what were the purposes of those meetings, and how many times did you meet?

I have not met with DOGE officials.

87. What is Mr. Musk's role in the federal government (including his position description)? If you do not know, please say so.

a. Who do you believe is the U.S. DOGE Service Administrator?

b. Who does Mr. Musk report to? Who reports to Mr. Musk?

I only know what has been publicly stated, which is that Mr. Musk leads the effort of DOGE to identify and eliminate waste, fraud and abuse in the federal government.

88. What is your understanding of OMB's relationship with DOGE? Please include the following:

Director Vought has explained that OMB will endeavor to make permanent and lasting the changes that DOGE is effectuating immediately.

a. How do you envision OMB and DOGE interacting with each other?

Such interactions are governed by the President's executive orders.

b. Do you believe OMB is required to approve any actions taken by DOGE, including related to government management and performance, government budget allocation, and federal workforce decisions?

The relationship between OMB and DOGE is governed by the President's executive orders.

89. Who do you believe should have access to personally identifiable information at

agencies, including but not limited to Social Security numbers, addresses, and dates of birth, payment information, or other sensitive data?

Persons authorized by the President or under his authority, consistent with law.

90. Do you believe it is the responsibility of OMB to ensure that all government employees are aware of and understand their responsibility with regards to the handling of classified information or sensitive personally identifiable information (as listed above) at federal agencies? If so, what training if any is necessary before accessing that information?

I do not believe that that responsibility falls to OMB under current arrangements.

91. Do you believe DOGE has the authority to make changes (removal, addition, augmentation of data) to federal IT systems or federal data at agencies? Do you believe DOGE has to notify OMB during any of these instances?

I have no knowledge of DOGE's authority, except that the President has said that DOGE officials have only read-access to IT systems and data. I am unaware of any notification obligation by DOGE to OMB.

92. How would you respond if you were made aware that unauthorized individuals accessed federal systems or data? Specifically, what steps would you take to (1) stop the unauthorized access; (2) assess the impact of that access; and (3) set guidance to prevent future unauthorized access?

I would bring the matter to the attention of OMB General Counsel and the Director and consult with them about the appropriate course of action.

V. Accountability

Presidential Transitions

93. What is OMB's role during presidential transitions? What is your role in that process? Do you commit to supporting the Presidential transition process and cooperating with the incoming administration in 2028?

I have had no involvement or experience with devising or implementing OMB's responsibilities for presidential transition. In the event such responsibilities fall to me, I will act in conformity with directions of the Director and President.

Whistleblower Protections

94. Protecting whistleblowers and their confidentiality is of the utmost importance to this Committee.

a. Will you commit to not interfering with whistleblowers' right to make protected disclosures, and to not retaliating or directing retaliation against whistleblowers who take protected actions, including by disclosing information to Congress?

Yes.

b. Please describe any previous experience with handling whistleblower complaints. What steps did you take to ensure those individuals did not face retaliation and that their claims were thoroughly investigated?

I have never experienced handling a whistleblower complaint administratively. As a member of Congress, I worked with the Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee to ensure that FBI agent whistleblowers received a fair and complete opportunity to be heard in their grievances against the Biden Justice Department and to defend them from hostile, highly personalized attacks by Democrat members of the committee.

c. If confirmed, what steps will you take to ensure that whistleblower complaints are handled appropriately at the Office of Management and Budget.

If confirmed, I will be sure to assess the whistleblower protections OMB has in place and make any improvements warranted, subject to the direction of the Director. I will also always personally ensure that complaints are made known to senior officials and investigated.

d. If confirmed, what steps will you take to ensure that whistleblowers at the Office of Management and Budget do not face retaliation, that whistleblower identifiers are protected, and that complaints of retaliation are handled appropriately?

If confirmed, to the extent of my authority, I will ensure that whistleblowers do not face retaliation and are protected.

Cooperation with Inspectors General

95. Inspectors General (IGs) face unique obstacles as they do their work, including budget challenges and disputes with agency heads over access to information. How do you view OMB's relationship with various Offices of Inspectors General (OIGs)?

Inspectors General are vital in exposing waste, fraud, abuse, and weaponization of federal agencies against the people. OMB has an integral role in chairing (through the Deputy for Management) the Council of the Inspector Generals on Integrity and Efficiency. I look forward to overseeing the DDM's efforts to ensure that CIGIE properly coordinates the functioning of disparate inspectors general in order to prevent common forms of abuse and illegality across the federal enterprise.

96. Under what circumstances, if any, do you believe Office of Management and Budget

would not be required to provide any OIG with timely access to agency records?

I would respond to all timely requests for agency records, subject to the advice of legal counsel and directions of the Director.

97. If confirmed, do you commit to fully cooperate in a timely manner with any audits, investigations, and other reviews and related requests for information from IGs?

Yes, subject to the advice of legal counsel and directions of the Director.

98. Do you believe that President Trump violated the Inspector General Act when he fired Inspectors General in January and February 2025? Why or why not?

I support the President's actions in this matter.

Cooperation with GAO

99. If confirmed, do you commit without reservation to ensuring GAO receives timely, comprehensive responses to requests for information, including for records, meetings, and information?

Yes, subject to the advice of legal counsel and directions of the Director.

100. If confirmed, what steps will you take to ensure OMB and its employees cooperate fully and promptly with GAO requests?

I will conform to and join in the Director's agency-wide policy of being personally apprised of every GAO request.

VI. Relations with Congress

101. Do you agree without reservation to comply with any request or summons to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of Congress if you are confirmed?

Yes, subject to the advice of legal counsel and directions of the Director.

102. Do you agree without reservation to make any subordinate official or employee available to appear and testify before, or provide information to, any duly constituted committee of Congress if you are confirmed?

Yes, subject to the advice of legal counsel and directions of the Director.

103. Do you agree without reservation to comply fully, completely, and promptly to any request for documents, communications, or any other agency material or information from any duly constituted committee of the Congress if you are confirmed?

Yes, subject to the advice of legal counsel and directions of the Director.

104. If confirmed, how will you make certain that you will respond in a timely manner to Member requests for information?

I will conform to and join in the Director's agency-wide policy of being personally apprised of every Member request for information.

105. Will you respond in a timely manner to all oversight requests from members of the committee?

Yes, subject to the advice of legal counsel and directions of the Director.

106. Do you commit to having OMB respond in a timely manner to all letters sent to OMB from this Committee, including letters sent by members of the committee?

Yes, subject to the advice of legal counsel and directions of the Director.

107. If confirmed, will you direct your staff to adopt a presumption of openness where practical, including identifying documents that can and should be proactively released to the public, without requiring a Freedom of Information Act request?

Yes, subject to the advice of legal counsel and directions of the Director.

108. If confirmed, will you keep this Committee apprised of new information if it materially impacts the accuracy of information your agency's officials have provided us?

Yes, subject to the advice of legal counsel and directions of the Director.

VII. Assistance

109. Are these answers completely your own? If not, who has provided you with assistance?

Yes.

110. Have you consulted with the Office of Management and Budget, or any other interested parties? If so, please indicate which entities.

I have consulted with OMB leadership staff and monitored the Director's confirmation process and considered his responses in formulating my own.

I, Dan Bishop, hereby state that I have read the foregoing Pre-Hearing Questionnaire and that the information provided therein is, to the best of my knowledge, current, accurate, and complete.

(Signature)

This 18th day of February 2025

Post-Hearing Questions for the Record
Submitted to Congressman Dan Bishop
Senator Gary C. Peters

Nomination of Dan Bishop to be Deputy Director, Office of Management and Budget
Tuesday, February 25, 2025

1. The Trump administration is currently indiscriminately firing civil servants across the federal government. OMB has helped implement these actions without any analysis of how they will impact agency performance. The IRS has fired 6,700 staff during tax season, and the VA has fired 1,000 staff who support our nation's veterans. The Administration has fired 400 FAA specialists and thousands of Forest Service staff whose jobs include preventing wildfires.

    a. If confirmed, do you commit to measuring the impact that these mass layoffs will have on national security, customer service, and public safety operations?

    I respectfully disagree that the administration's federal workforce rightsizing actions reflect indiscriminate firings. If confirmed, I look forward to OMB furnishing information sought by members of Congress in accordance with agency processes and subject to the advice of counsel.

2. Earlier this year, OMB froze all federal grants and loans. Even though multiple courts have blocked the freeze on federal funds, the Administration is still stopping critical funding to communities, businesses, and organizations. The Constitution gives Congress – not the President – the "power of the purse." Multiple laws support this congressional power, including the Impoundment Control Act and the Anti-Deficiency Act. During your time as a Member of Congress, you stated that OMB and the President would be violating the law if they were to quote-- "unilaterally disregard Congress's appropriation." Yet, just days after President Trump announced your nomination for OMB – you changed your position and cosponsored a bill to repeal the Impoundment Control Act.

    a. Why did you change your support for the Impoundment Control Act?

    If confirmed as Deputy Director, my job will be to implement President Trump's policy views. President Trump ran on restoring impoundment authority, which presidents have utilized effectively for nearly 200 years to help prevent waste, fraud, and abuse. I support the President's view on that. If confirmed, I will faithfully uphold the Constitution and the laws of the United States. I will follow the advice of legal counsel, and ultimately the President, with respect to this matter.

    b. If confirmed, do you commit to follow the law – and not allow OMB to illegally withhold funding from programs that Congress appropriated?

    If confirmed, I will implement President Trump's agenda on this issue and

faithfully uphold the Constitution and the laws of the United States. I will follow the advice of legal counsel, and ultimately the President, with respect to this matter.

c. Do you know if any federal grant and loan funds are still frozen as of February 25, 2025? Please include a list of any grants or loan programs which are frozen.

I am unaware of any funds being frozen.

3. On February 12, 2025, I wrote to Director Vought requesting the following information about the freeze on all federal grants and loans and have yet to receive a response:

   i. A list of each federal account that is not incurring obligations or disbursing funds, the reason for the funding freeze, and the applicable legal authority that allows such a pause in obligations or funding.

   ii. A list of all federal grant programs with online portals that have been taken offline across the federal government in service of implementation of the President's Executive Orders.

   iii. A list of each federal grant or contract that has been cancelled, modified, or otherwise terminated, the reason for the cancellation, modification, or termination, and the applicable legal authority permitting cancellation, modification, or termination.

   iv. A list of each payment management system that was paused or made inaccessible to payees since January 20, 2025, including any payment systems that remain inaccessible, and the start and end times of the pause.

   v. All written communications and guidance that OMB has issued to agencies since January 20, 2025, including memoranda, data calls, question and answer documents, instructions, or informational documents relating to implementation of the President's Executive Orders concerning funding pauses.

   vi. A detailed description of all steps the Administration has taken to comply with court orders issued in *National Council of Nonprofits v. Office of Management and Budget*, and *State of New York v. Trump*.

a. To your knowledge, is OMB planning to provide the information requested in that letter and listed below? Please describe any steps OMB has taken to respond to the above requests.

Pending my confirmation, I am not involved in OMB's internal process for handling member information requests, although I am aware of the requests. Accordingly, I do not know the answers to these questions.

b. If confirmed, do you commit to providing the information above within 2 weeks of your confirmation?

I do not know the time requirements for OMB's processes to be completed in order to furnish responsive information but, if confirmed, will endeavor to facilitate OMB's response subject to legal advice and guidance from the Director.

4. While I agree that there are opportunities for the government to be more efficient, efforts to trim work forces in the private sector are generally targeted and aim to reduce redundant employees while retaining high performance individuals to continue the work of the company. Do you believe that firing employees who were recently promoted to a higher position is a good government/good business practice?

I support the administration's actions to right size the federal workforce.

5. Federal agencies like OMB experience thousands of attempted intrusions into their networks every year from foreign adversaries, cybercriminals, and so-called hackers. Congress has worked to pass and enforce bipartisan cyber and privacy requirements to prevent unauthorized access and usage of the sensitive data federal agencies hold.

    a. Do you believe federal agencies should be held to the highest standards of privacy and cybersecurity?

    I am confident that the administration will maintain the highest standards of privacy protection and cybersecurity, and I support these efforts.

    b. If confirmed, how will you ensure that Americans' data is not used or accessed inappropriately?

    I am not aware of specific responsibilities of this sort that will fall to me as Deputy Director of OMB, but to the extent they exist, I will discharge them faithfully.

6. In the past few weeks, individuals from the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) accessed Americans' photos and fingerprints from DHS, their student loan information from the Department of Education, and their health records at the VA, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid, and Social Security Administration. News reports suggest all of this information will be put into some kind of AI system – although which one is unknown.

    a. Do you think it would be appropriate to use all of this personal data about Americans to create a database akin to what the Chinese government has done to its own citizens?

I have no knowledge of any such action. I am confident that the administration will maintain the highest standards of privacy protection and cybersecurity.

b. Will you commit to answering clearly and in detail to Congress' questions about DOGE's use of OMB data and other government data?

I am unaware that DOGE is using OMB data, but if confirmed, will provide information to Congress subject to legal advice and guidance from the Director.

c. Can you assure us that this is not happening?

Given the limitations of my role pending confirmation, I do not have responsive knowledge.

7. In 2019, you publicly revealed the identity of a federal employee who blew the whistle on President Trump's phone call with the President of Ukraine. Disclosure of a whistleblower's identity is a form of whistleblower retaliation.

a. Do you believe it's acceptable to retaliate against whistleblowers who make disclosures involving the President or his allies?

If confirmed, to the extent of my authority, I will ensure that whistleblowers do not face retaliation and are protected.

b. How can federal employees feel comfortable disclosing waste, fraud, or abuse in OMB operations if you are Deputy Director, knowing that you may retaliate against them if you don't like the subject of their disclosure?

If confirmed, to the extent of my authority, I will ensure that whistleblowers do not face retaliation and are protected.

c. If confirmed, do you commit to not interfering with whistleblowers' right to make protected disclosures, including by disclosing information to Congress?

Yes.

d. If confirmed, do you commit to ensuring that whistleblower complaints are handled appropriately at OMB, and working to reassure employees that you will protect their information and identities?

Yes, subject to the advice of counsel and guidance from the Director.

8. In January, President Trump removed 18 Inspectors General (IGs) from office.

a. Do you support the President's removal of Inspectors General (IGs) in January?

Yes, I support the President.

b. Do you believe that theses removals were lawful? If so, please explain how it did not violate the Inspector General Act.

My role as Deputy Director of OMB will be neither to argue nor adjudicate the existence and extent of the President's authority. Responsibility to develop the administration's positions on such questions falls to others, and it would be inappropriate for me to assume or anticipate their positions. If confirmed, I will act at all times in accordance with the advice of legal counsel and direction of the President and Director with respect to this issue.

c. Do you believe the President's IG firings will hurt the ability of the government to identify and root out waste, fraud and abuse? If not, why not?

I support the President's oversight and supervision of IGs.

d. On February 10th the USAID OIG issued an advisory about the impact of the pause on foreign assistance and firings at USAID. The next day, on February 11th USAID IG Paul Martin was fired by President Trump. Do you believe this firing constituted retaliation for conducting robust government oversight? If not, why?

Given my role at OMB pending confirmation, I have no knowledge of any such action or its circumstances.

9. At your nomination hearing, you could not unequivocally state that it would be wrong for agency staff to be instructed not to communicate with Congress. I want to give you another chance to answer this question.

a. Is it permissible for the Administration to instruct agencies not to communicate with Congress?

I will act at all times in accordance with advice of legal counsel and direction of the President and Director with respect to this issue.

b. Do you commit to ensuring your agencies maintain communication with congressional offices?

If confirmed, I commit to ensuring that OMB maintains communication with congressional offices, subject to the advice of counsel and direction from the Director.

10. Will you respond in a timely manner to all oversight requests, including from the Ranking

Member and members of the Minority party?

Yes, subject to the advice of counsel and direction from the Director.

11. How will you help manage the federal government's response to the PFAS contamination crisis and ensure that communities that have been dealing with this challenge for years have the support they need for cleanup efforts?

I am not aware of specific responsibilities of this sort that will fall to me as Deputy Director of OMB, but to the extent they exist, I will discharge them faithfully.

12. We have increasingly seen wildfires, floods, tornados and hurricanes intensify with climate change, devastating entire communities and regions. Can you explain how you plan to incorporate climate and natural disaster resilience into your leadership?

I am not aware of specific responsibilities of this sort that will fall to me as Deputy Director of OMB, but to the extent they exist, I will discharge them faithfully.

13. With the devastation in Los Angeles, it could not be clearer that we need sound, scientific decision-making to navigate the growing and even lethal threats of climate change. If confirmed, will you use your position to reshape or thwart the National Climate Assessment, a preeminent report that informs sound policy responsive to the growing climate threat?

My job as Deputy Director of OMB, if confirmed, will be to implement President Trump's policies, subject to direction from the Director.

14. Michigan is leading the nation in advanced manufacturing, with investments in chips, batteries, and other cutting-edge technologies thanks to the bipartisan work over the last 4 years with the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act and CHIPS and Science Act. What assurances can you give to hardworking Michiganders – who are making batteries and chips to secure our energy future – that this administration won't take actions to undermine these critical investments?

My job as Deputy Director of OMB, if confirmed, will be to implement President Trump's policies, subject to direction from the Director.

15. You told the Committee in your pre-hearing questionnaire that you would uphold the Constitution and the Rule of law and that "I would never violate the law on behalf of anyone." However, during your confirmation hearing you stated, "It would not be up to me to decide what is lawful and what is not lawful."

    a. Notwithstanding the President's campaign promises, views, or directives, do you commit to follow the Impoundment Control Act, which is currently federal law?

If confirmed, I will faithfully uphold the Constitution and laws of the United States. I will follow the advice of legal counsel, and ultimately the President, with respect to this matter.

b. Notwithstanding the President's campaign promises, views, or directives, do you commit to following the Anti-deficiency Act, which is currently federal law?

If confirmed, I will faithfully uphold the Constitution and laws of the United States. I will follow the advice of legal counsel, and ultimately the President, with respect to this matter.

c. Notwithstanding the President's campaign promises, views, or directives, do you commit to faithfully executing enacted appropriations bills, which are currently federal law?

If confirmed, I will faithfully uphold the Constitution and laws of the United States. I will follow the advice of legal counsel, and ultimately the President, with respect to this matter.

16. Under what circumstances, if any, do you believe that the President can incur obligations in lieu of budget authority provided by Congress?

If confirmed, I will faithfully uphold the Constitution and laws of the United States. I will follow the advice of legal counsel, and ultimately the President.

17. What limitations do you believe there are for OMB or a federal agency to reprogram or otherwise redirect funds from one initiative or program appropriated by Congress to another?

If confirmed, I will faithfully uphold the Constitution and laws of the United States. I will follow the advice of legal counsel, and ultimately the President.

18. How would you navigate a situation where a career employee, including career counsel, advises you that an action is illegal or unconstitutional?

If confirmed, I will faithfully uphold the Constitution and laws of the United States. I will follow the advice of legal counsel. I would defer to the processes at OMB and in the administration for determining questions of law.

a. What would you do if a career employee refused to carry out the action or directive that they believed to be unconstitutional or illegal?

If confirmed, I will faithfully uphold the Constitution and laws of the United States. In any event, I would follow the advice of legal counsel and act in accordance with law.

19. How would you navigate a situation where the President or the Director asked you to take an action that you knew or were advised violated the law?

President Trump and his administration have implemented the highest legal ethical standards. I do not believe the President, the Director, nor anyone else acting on his behalf would ask me or any other OMB employee to violate the law. I will follow the advice of legal counsel as to the legality of directives.

20. How would you navigate a situation where you believed that the legal advice you were provided by counsel was faulty or not in adherence to the law or the Constitution?

I would expect to consult with counsel on the issue in question but would abide the result of the agency or administration process for determining legal questions and act in accordance with the advice of counsel and direction of the President and Director.

21. OMB has historically maintained a public website (housed on the White House website). This website has included valuable information for the public, including all OMB Guidance, memoranda, circulars, bulletins, federal budget information, such as the President's budget, budget execution reporting and historical budget tables, whistleblower protection information, PAYGO Scorecard information, and ethics waivers. However, the Trump Administration has just recently launched an OMB that has limited information available.

    a. If confirmed, do you commit to posting critical information about the federal budget and agency management, including those listed above on OMB's website?

    I do not know the form that the OMB webpage(s) on the White House website will take. Director Vought has expressed his intention to maintain transparency and openness for OMB, and I would anticipate that that will be reflected in the OMB webpage(s).

    b. In specific, do you commit to posting all OMB M-Memos? As of today, some M-Memos, including M-25-12, are not publicly available

    I do not know the form that the OMB webpage(s) on the White House website will take. Director Vought has expressed his intention to maintain transparency and openness for OMB, and I would anticipate that that will be reflected in the OMB webpage(s).

    c. Do you commit to publicly posting M-25-12?

    I do not know the form that the OMB webpage(s) on the White House website will take. Director Vought has expressed his intention to maintain transparency and openness for OMB, and I would anticipate that that will be reflected in the OMB webpage(s).

22. Since January 20, 2025, several Administration officials, including Director Vought, have been serving, advising, or leading more than one federal agency, including Director Vought at the CFPB.

    a. Since January 20, 2025, have you served, advised, or lead any other agency besides OMB?

    I am detailed for part of my time to CFPB.

    b. If so, please describe the scope of your activities at any other agency you have served, advised, or lead.

    Gathering information to inform a general oversight review of the agency's activities.

    c. If so, please provide the proportion of your time spent serving, advising, or leading any other agency.

    I am detailed to CFPB two days per week.

    d. If confirmed, do you intend to serve, advise or lead any other agency in an acting capacity?

    I do not know whether my detail to CFPB will continue or terminate after I am confirmed.

23. Since beginning your tenure as a Senior Advisor at OMB on January 20, 2025, you have also served as a detailee to the CFPB.

    a. Please identify the dates during which you were detailed to the CFPB.

    From February 8, 2025 to present (two days per week).

    b. What were your specific responsibilities as a detailee to the CFPB?

    Gathering information to inform a general oversight review of the agency's activities.

    c. Are you aware of the "Assignment Agreement," or other memorandum of understanding between the CFPB and DOGE? Did OMB have any role in the creation or review of this agreement?

    No.

d. Please describe any interactions or coordination you had with DOGE personnel during your time as a CFPB detailee.

None.

24. In your pre-hearing questionnaire, you did not commit to cooperating with the incoming administration in 2028. Do you commit to following the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 (as amended) and helping facilitate the peaceful transfer of power in 2028?

If confirmed, I will faithfully uphold the Constitution and laws of the United States. I will follow the advice of legal counsel, and ultimately the President, with respect to this matter.

25. Who do you believe won the 2024 election?

President Trump

23. Was the 2024 election free and fair?

I associate myself with President Trump's and Director Vought's views on the 2024 election.

24. Who do you believe the 2020 election?

Joe Biden was certified as the 46th President of the United States.

25. Was the 2020 election free and fair?

I associate myself with President Trump's and Director Vought's views on the 2020 election.

Senator Richard Blumenthal
Post-Hearing Questions for the Record
Submitted to Dan Bishop

Nomination of the Honorable Dan Bishop to be Deputy Director,
Office of Management and Budget
Tuesday, February 25, 2025

1. President-elect Trump has publicly promised to not restrict abortion federally.

    a. President-elect Trump clearly stated, "I would not support a federal abortion ban, under any circumstances." If confirmed, do you commit to upholding President-elect Trump's promise at OMB?

    As Deputy Director, my responsibility will be to help implement the President's policies.

    b. President-elect Trump has said, "I have never and will never advocate imposing restrictions on birth control or other contraceptives." If confirmed, do you commit to upholding this promise at OMB?

    As Deputy Director, my responsibility will be to help implement the President's policies.

Senator John Fetterman
Post-Hearing Questions for the Record
Submitted to the Honorable Dan Bishop

Nomination of the Honorable Troy Edgar to be Deputy Secretary, DHS; and the Honorable Dan Bishop to be Deputy Director, OMB
February 25, 2025

1. As Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), you will have significant oversight of interagency coordination. Therefore, you will have the ability to influence decisions across the federal government. With this in mind:
    a. Is it important to make changes at federal agencies in such a way as to ensure the appropriate and efficient delivery of federal services?

       Yes.

    b. Given the important role of Congress in providing appropriations to operate federal agencies and ensuring that federal services meet the needs of their constituents, should OMB and federal agencies provide Congress with specific information about how they plan to ensure the continued operation of federal services?

       Yes. If confirmed, I look forward to OMB furnishing information sought by members of Congress in accordance with agency processes and subject to the advice of counsel.

2. Health benefits for postal workers, annuitants, and their families was reformed under the bipartisan Postal Service Reform Act of 2022, requiring the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to implement and operate the Postal Services Health Benefits (PSHB) Program. Congress has learned that OPM may struggle to operate the program effectively due to the cuts this Administration is making at the agency.

   Should an agency, in this case OPM, determine what staffing they need to operate a program such as PSHB before they start making arbitrary cuts to personnel levels? And, what steps should OMB and OPM take to ensure capacity to operate a statutorily mandated program?

   I have no personal knowledge of the program referenced. If confirmed, I will act at all times in accordance with advice of legal counsel and direction of the President and Director with respect to this issue.

3. During your tenure in the House of Representatives, you led and cosponsored multiple pieces of legislation that were blatantly anti-worker and anti-union. Will you respect the right of federal workers to organize as guaranteed by statute?

I will act at all times in accordance with advice of legal counsel and direction of the President and Director with respect to this issue.

4. Do you believe in the professional merit-based competitive service or reinstituting a political patronage system?

   I believe in a merit-based competitive service that is committed to carrying out the President's priorities.

5. The Chance to Compete Act (Pub. L. 118-188) gives Pennsylvanians a fair shot at a good job by requiring the federal government to adopt skills-based testing in the federal hiring process that prioritize what you can do, not who you know, who you voted for, or where you went to school. This legislation received unanimous support in both chambers of the Congress, and President Trump affirmed the importance of this legislation in Executive Order 14170.

   Implementation of this legislation will be resource intensive and require a significant amount of interagency coordination. Considering the efforts of the Administration to reduce the federal workforce, what steps will you take to ensure this legislation is implemented correctly and on time?

   I am not aware of specific responsibilities of this sort that will fall to me as Deputy Director of OMB, but to the extent they exist, I will discharge them faithfully.

6. As stated above, President Trump also embraced the Chance to Compete Act. If Chance to Compete is the law of the land – and the best are hired regardless of partisanship - why would it be a good idea to move hundreds of thousands of employees into at-will classifications?

   I support the administration's actions to right size the federal workforce.

7. The Impoundment Control Act of 1974 sets limits on the president's authority to withhold money from programs that receive Congressional appropriations. To permanently withhold money, the president must send Congress a rescission request which Congress may approve or disapprove. If confirmed, do you agree to abide by the Impoundment Control Act, regardless of any personal beliefs about its Constitutionality or effectiveness?

   If confirmed as Deputy Director, my job will be to implement President Trump's policy views. President Trump ran on restoring impoundment authority, which presidents have utilized effectively for nearly 200 years to help prevent waste, fraud, and abuse. I support the President's view on that. If confirmed, I will faithfully uphold the Constitution and the laws of the United States. I will follow the advice of legal counsel, and ultimately the President, with respect to this matter.

8. Do you agree that if the president permanently withholds funds from an agency that has received a specific appropriation – like USAID or the Department of Education – that constitutes an impoundment, by definition? Do you agree that such an impoundment requires a rescission to be

submitted to Congress? Do you agree to abide by Congressional decision-making, if a rescission request is disapproved?

Presidents have long issued temporary pauses on funds to ensure that they are being spent consistent with Presidential priorities and are not being used in a wasteful or fraudulent manner. I will follow the advice of counsel on the legal authority.

9. If an agency were to lay off a large percentage of its staff, with no plan to replace those positions or to provide their services in some other way, that would also constitute an impoundment, would it not?

If confirmed as Deputy Director, my job will be to implement President Trump's policy views. President Trump ran on restoring impoundment authority, which presidents have utilized effectively for nearly 200 years to help prevent waste, fraud, and abuse. I support the President's view on that. If confirmed, I will faithfully uphold the Constitution and the laws of the United States. I will follow the advice of legal counsel, and ultimately the President, with respect to this matter.

10. Chapter 71 of title 5, titled "Labor-Management Relations," establishes the role of collective bargaining in the federal workplace. Under that chapter more than a million federal workers have negotiated agreements with management covering health and safety, working conditions, grievance procedures, and similar topics. Do you support collective bargaining within the federal government, as described in Chapter 71? Do you believe federal agencies are bound by their collective bargaining agreements, just as they would be bound by any other legal contract?

If confirmed, I will implement President Trump's agenda on this issue and faithfully uphold the Constitution and the laws of the United States. I will follow the advice of legal counsel, and ultimately the President, with respect to this matter.

Statement of Troy D. Edgar

On his Nomination to Serve as
Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Before the
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

February 25, 2025

Chairman Paul, Ranking Member Peters, and distinguished Members of the Committee, it is an honor for me to appear before you today as the President's nominee to be the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

I am grateful to President Trump and Secretary Noem for the trust and confidence that they have placed in me, and I thank the Committee for considering my nomination.

This process has enabled me to better appreciate the high honor bestowed upon me to serve the American people and better understand the critical expectations that this Committee may have for me, if confirmed to be the next Deputy Secretary for DHS.

Thanks to my Lord for his grace on my life and for the opportunity to serve my country.

My family is very important to me. Although they are not here, I would like to recognize them. Mat, Tyler, and Ethan are my sons. Tracy is my brother. And I honor the memory of my late mom and dad, Ralph and Maxine.

I would like to introduce my precious wife, Betty.

Betty embodies the American dream in a manner that enables me to understand the hopes and aspirations of millions of people who come to America. Her story also helps me understand the true weight of public service. I not only come to this nomination with technical skills and business experience, but with a conscience informed through the personal experiences of my wife.

Betty is an immigrant from Iran who spoke Farsi, Aramaic and French growing up in Tehran. Her family fled to the United States after the Shah was overthrown in 1979. When she arrived, she learned English and Spanish and then attained a bachelor and master's degree in French. She has been a French teacher at La Quinta High School for over 25 years. Betty rises every morning believing that she has the ability to change another student's life the way this country has changed hers. Thank you, Betty, for being here to support me today.

I have had the honor of previously working with many of you on this Committee in the first Trump Administration through my Senate confirmation as the DHS Chief Financial Officer (CFO). When I left as CFO on January 20, 2021, I was managing the DHS budget of $90 billion

dollars which supported over 250,000 employees. That role allowed me to learn and resource the entire department—not just the important border security and immigration components. It is with this unique knowledge and my significant business experience that, if confirmed, I intend to honorably serve President Trump, Secretary Noem, and the American people to the best of my ability.

The DHS Deputy Secretary serves as the chief operating officer for the Department, and if confirmed, I will stay focused on supporting the Secretary and ensuring that we are effectively and efficiently using the policies and resources provided to meet the President's goals on immigration, border, and the other important national security missions of DHS. Furthermore, I will fully support the hard-working professionals at DHS by helping to provide the resources they need to fulfill their critically important missions.

Lastly, if confirmed, I look forward to working with this Committee and other Members of Congress to assist you in your important role of oversight and support for the Department. I am committed to investing the time to build critical working relationships needed to help significantly advance DHS.

Thanks again for this opportunity to appear before you, and I look forward to answering your questions.

REDACTED

HSGAC BIOGRAPHICAL QUESTIONS FOR EXECUTIVE NOMINEES

1. Basic Biographical Information

Please provide the following information.

Position to Which You Have Been Nominated	
Name of Position	**Date of Nomination**
Deputy Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security	January 20, 2025

Current Legal Name			
First Name	**Middle Name**	**Last Name**	**Suffix**
Troy	Dean	Edgar	

Addresses					
Residential Address (do not include street address)			**Office Address** (include street address)		
[redacted]			600 14th St. SW #300		
City: Los Alamitos	**State:** CA	**Zip:** 90720	**City:** Washington	**State:** D.C.	**Zip:** 20005

Other Names Used						
First Name	**Middle Name**	**Last Name**	**Suffix**	Check if Maiden Name	**Name Used From** (Month/Year) (Check box if estimate)	**Name Used To** (Month/Year) (Check box if estimate)
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	**Est** ☐	**Est** ☐

Birth Year and Place	
Year of Birth (Do not include month and day.)	**Place of Birth**
1966	Long Beach, CA

Marital Status					
Check All That Describe Your Current Situation:					
Never Married	**Married**	**Separated**	**Annulled**	**Divorced**	**Widowed**
☐	**X**	☐	☐	☐	☐

Spouse's Name (current spouse only)			
Spouse's First Name	**Spouse's Middle Name**	**Spouse's Last Name**	**Spouse's Suffix**
Betinaz (Betty)		Sarkis	

Spouse's Other Names Used (current spouse only)						
First Name	**Middle Name**	**Last Name**	**Suffix**	Check if Maiden Name	**Name Used From** (Month/Year) (Check box if estimate)	**Name Used To** (Month/Year) (Check box if estimate)
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	**Est** ☐	**Est** ☐
					Est ☐	**Est** ☐

Children's Names (if over 18)			
First Name	**Middle Name**	**Last Name**	**Suffix**
Ethan	Dean	Edgar	
Tyler	Douglas	Edgar	
Mathew	Allen	Edgar	

2. Education

List all post-secondary schools attended.

Name of School	**Type of School** (vocational/technical/trade school, college/university/military college, correspondence/distance/extension/online school)	**Date Began School** (month/year) (check box if estimate)	**Date Ended School** (month/year) (check box if estimate) (check "present" box if still in school)	**Degree**	**Date Awarded**
Long Beach City College	Navy Campus Naval Station Long Beach	January 1987	June 1987	Transfer units	N/A
Long Beach City College	City College	January 1989	July 1993	Transfer units	N/A
California State Long Beach	University	September 1990	May 1991	Transfer units	N/A
University of Southern California	University	September 1991	May 1993	B.S. Business Administration	May 1993
University of Southern California	University	September 1995	May 1998	M.B.A.	May 1998

3. Employment

(A) List all of your employment activities, including unemployment and self-employment. If the employment activity was military duty, list separate employment activity periods to show each change of military duty station. Do not list employment before your 18th birthday unless to provide a minimum of two years of employment history.

Type of Employment (Active Military Duty Station, National Guard/Reserve, USPHS Commissioned Corps, Other Federal employment, State Government (Non-Federal Employment), Self-employment, Unemployment, Federal Contractor, Non-Government Employment (excluding self-employment), Other	**Name of Your Employer/ Assigned Duty Station**	**Most Recent Position Title/Rank**	**Location** (City and State only)	**Date Employment Began** (month/year) (check box if estimate)	**Date Employment Ended** (month/year) (check box if estimate) (check "present" box if still employed)
Non-Government Employment	Prospect House Media dba Ameritocracy	Podcast Host	Los Angeles, CA	January 2023	Present
Non-Government Employment	IBM	Partner, Federal – Finance and Supply Chain Transformation Leader	Washington, DC	June 2021	Present
Non-Government Employment	America First Policy Institute (AFPI)	Transition Project SME/Training	Fort Worth, TX	March 2024	December 2024
Non-Government Employment	Global Conductor, Inc. Irvine, CA	Founder & Executive Chairman	Irvine, CA	January 2002 (Note: Began founding of Global Conductor, Inc. in January 2002. The Articles of Incorporation were approved March 2002.)	December 2024
Federal Employment	U.S. Department of Homeland Security	Chief Financial Officer	Washington, DC	May 2020	January 2021
Federal Employment	U.S. Department of Homeland Security	Associate Deputy Under Secretary for Management	Washington, DC	January 2020	May 2020
Non-Government Employment	Los Alamitos Medical Center (Tenet Healthcare), Los Alamitos, CA	Board Member	Los Alamitos, CA	January 2019	January 2020
Non-Government Employment	Global Conductor Construction Corporation, Westminster, CA	CEO, Licensed Engineer	Westminster, CA	June 2004	December 2019
Non-Government Employment	Avery Dennison Pasadena, CA Cork, Ireland	1099 -Contract Executive	Pasadena, CA	October 2001	February 2002

	Las Vegas, NV London, England Leiden, The Netherlands				
Non-Government Employment	PricewaterhouseCoopers Los Angeles, CA	Principal Consultant	Los Angeles, CA	December 1997	October 2001
Federal Contractor	The Boeing Company Long Beach, CA	CFO C17 Sustainment, Merger Leader, Military Transport Aircraft – Product Support	Long Beach, CA	August 1997	November 1997
Federal Contractor	McDonnell Douglas Aircraft Corporation Long Beach, CA	CFO, Military Transport Aircraft – Product Support	Long Beach, CA	June 1989	August 1997
Non-Government Employment	Valin Corporation Carson, CA	Logistic Support	Carson, CA	December 1988	May 1989
Active Military Duty Station	U.S. Navy Pearl Harbor Sub Base	Sonar Technician – Submarine (E4)	Pearl Harbor, HI	July 1987	November 1988
Active Military Duty Station	U.S. Navy Naval Station Long Beach (Hums Assign)	Sonar Technician – Submarine (E4)	Long Beach, CA	December 1986	June 1987
Active Military Duty Station	U.S. Navy Portsmouth Naval Shipyard	Sonar Technician – Submarine (E4)	Portsmouth, NH	June 1986	December 1986

(B) List any advisory, consultative, honorary or other part-time service or positions with federal, state, or local governments, not listed elsewhere.

Name of Government Entity	**Name of Position**	**Date Service Began** (month/year) (check box if estimate)	**Date Service Ended** (month/year) (check box if estimate) (check "present" box if still serving)
San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountain Conservancy	Board Member	March 2009	December 2017
Orange County Sanitation District	Chairman / Board Member	March 2009	June 2014
Groundwater Replenishment System Steering Committee - Orange County Water District and Orange County Sanitation District	President / Board Member	May 2012	June 2014
Orange County Fire Authority	Board Member	January 2009	December 2009

WestComm 911 Dispatch	Board Member	March 2009	December 2009
Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) – Regional Metropolitan Planning Agency	Regional Councilmember – District 21	January 2007	March 2008
Orange County Association of Governments (OCCOG)	Board Member	January 2007	December 2008
Orange County Public Library Advisory Board	Board Member	January 2007	December 2008
Orange Line High Speed Rail Authority	Vice Chairman / Board Member	January 2007	December 2008

4. Potential Conflict of Interest

(A) Describe any business relationship, dealing or financial transaction which you have had during the last 10 years, whether for yourself, on behalf of a client, or acting as an agent, that could in any way constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position to which you have been nominated.

In connection with the nomination process, I will consult with the U.S. Office of Government Ethics and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Designated Agency Ethics Official (DAEO) to identify any potential conflicts of interest. Any potential conflicts of interest will be resolved in accordance with the terms of the ethics agreement that I sign and transmit to the Department's DAEO, which will be provided to this Committee. I am not aware of any other potential conflicts of interest.

(B) Describe any activity during the past 10 years in which you have engaged for the purpose of directly or indirectly influencing the passage, defeat or modification of any legislation or affecting the administration or execution of law or public policy, other than while in a federal government capacity.

As Mayor and City Councilmember, I supported my city's legislative platforms as well as the other municipalities I represented. I worked with other city, county, state and federal officials to support legislation and signed letters of neutrality, opposition, and support usually coordinated with the California League of Cities. I also served on various board legislative affairs committees and would assist in policy review and make frequent visits to Sacramento, CA and Washington D.C.

5. Honors and Awards

List all scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, civilian service citations, military medals, academic or professional honors, honorary society memberships and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievement.

Industry Diamond Certification (Federal) – IBM – September 2023

Distinguished Public Service Award – U.S. Coast Guard – January 2021

Outstanding Service Medal – Department of Homeland Security – December 2020

Certificate of Appreciation – California National Guard – 2018 – MG Baldwin, BG Lathrop

Certificate of Recognition – California State Assembly – 2018 – Assemblyman Diep (AD72)

Certificate of Recognition – Orange County Board of Supervisors – 2018 – Supervisor Steel (2nd District)

Orange County Register – Top 100 Influencers 2018

News Enterprise – Top Elected Official 2017 and 2018

Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Dedicated Service – State of California, Rivers and Mountains Conservancy 2017

Inc. Magazine – Inc. 5,000 Fastest Growing Firms 2017 (#1,824)

Consulting Magazine – Fastest Growing Firm for 2017 (#25)

Consulting Magazine – Fastest Growing Firm for 2016 (Top 30)

Honor Walk Recipient – Orange County Sanitation District – Inducted May 2016

U.S. Congressional Record, Chairman of the Orange County Sanitation District – June 2014

2014 U.S. Water Prize – Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS), Orange County Water District (OCWD) and Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD) – April 2014

Certificate of Recognition for Leadership and Building a New Relationship – Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) – March 2014

Malcolm Baldridge Quality Award – McDonnell Douglas Aerospace Corporation – 1996

Golden Eagle Award – McDonnell Douglas Aerospace Corporation – 1996
MMAS (Material Management & Accounting Systems) DCMA Government Compliance (Defense Contract Management Agency)

Golden Eagle Award – McDonnell Douglas Aerospace Corporation – 1996
Bid Versus Actuals Systems

California Quality Award – McDonnell Douglas Aerospace Corporation – 1995

Dean's List – University of Southern California, 1993

Commanding Officer Endorsement for BOOST Program (Broadened Opportunity for Officer Selection and Training) – November 1987

Submarine Qualified and earned "SS" designator in months (normally takes 6 months to 1 year) – August 1987

Honor Graduate – Sonar Technician "A" School – Finished #1 – September 1986

6. Memberships

List all memberships that you have held in professional, social, business, fraternal, scholarly, civic, or charitable organizations in the last 10 years.

Unless relevant to your nomination, you do NOT need to include memberships in charitable organizations available to the public as a result of a tax deductible donation of $1,000 or less, Parent-Teacher Associations or other organizations connected to schools attended by your children, athletic clubs or teams, automobile support organizations (such as AAA), discounts clubs (such as Groupon or Sam's Club), or affinity memberships/consumer clubs (such as frequent flyer memberships).

Name of Organization	Dates of Your Membership (You may approximate.)	Position(s) Held
Casa Youth Shelter	June 2009 - Present	Treasurer, Board Member
Los Alamitos Chamber of Commerce	September 2003 – Present	Member

7. Political Activity

(A) Have you ever been a candidate for or been elected or appointed to a political office?

Name of Office	Elected/Appointed/ Candidate Only	Year(s) Election Held or Appointment Made	Term of Service (if applicable)
Mayor / City Councilmember	Elected	2006 – 2018	12 years
California State Assembly – District 72	Candidate Only	2012	N/A

(B) List any offices held in or services rendered to a political party or election committee during the last ten years that you have not listed elsewhere.

Name of Party/Election Committee	Office/Services Rendered	Responsibilities	Dates of Service
California Republican Party	Delegate (for Rep. Royce and Sen. Tom Harman)	Voting Delegate	2007 – 2014

(C) Itemize all individual political contributions of $200 or more that you have made in the past five years to any individual, campaign organization, political party, political action committee, or similar entity. Please list each individual contribution and not the total amount contributed to the person or entity during the year.

Name of Recipient	Amount	Year of Contribution
Trump National Committee JFC, Inc.	$5,205	2024
Trump National Committee JFC, Inc.	$1,665	2024
Nguyen for Supervisor 2024	$2,500	2024
John Curtis for Utah	$1,500	2024
Michelle Steel for Congress	$1,561	2024

Ken Calvert for Congress Committee	$1,000	2023
Laxalt for Senate	$1,000	2022
Team Herschel, Inc.	$1,000	2022
Doctor Oz for Senate	$1,000	2022
Ron Johnson for Senate, Inc.	$2,900	2022
Bolduc 2022, Inc.	$1,000	2022
JD Vance for Senate, Inc.	$1,000	2022
Michelle Steel for Congress	$750	2022
Scott Baugh for Congress	$500	2022
Blake Masters for Senate	$2,900	2022
Moorlach for Supervisor 2021	$500	2021

8. Publications and Speeches

(A) List the titles, publishers and dates of books, articles, reports or other published materials that you have written, including articles published on the Internet. Please provide the Committee with copies of all listed publications. In lieu of hard copies, electronic copies can be provided via e-mail or other digital format.

Title	Publisher	Date(s) of Publication
Various Podcast Episodes	Ameritocracy (all episodes available on troyedgar.com)	January 2023 to Present
Cities in Support of ICE (OpEd)	Orange County Register	August 30, 2018

Cal Chiefs Role in SB54	Orange County Register	January 03, 2019

(B) List any formal speeches you have delivered during the last five years and provide the Committee with copies of those speeches relevant to the position for which you have been nominated. Include any testimony to Congress or any other legislative or administrative body. These items can be provided electronically via e-mail or other digital format.

I have not given any formal, external speeches relevant to this position in the last five years.

Title/Topic	Place/Audience	Date(s) of Speech

(C) List all speeches and testimony you have delivered in the past ten years, except for those the text of which you are providing to the Committee.

Title	Place/Audience	Date(s) of Speech

9. Criminal History

Since (and including) your 18th birthday, has any of the following happened?

- Have you been issued a summons, citation, or ticket to appear in court in a criminal proceeding against you? (Exclude citations involving traffic infractions where the fine was less than $300 and did not include alcohol or drugs.) No
- Have you been arrested by any police officer, sheriff, marshal or any other type of law enforcement official? No
- Have you been charged, convicted, or sentenced of a crime in any court? No
- Have you been or are you currently on probation or parole? No
- Are you currently on trial or awaiting a trial on criminal charges? No
- To your knowledge, have you ever been the subject or target of a federal, state or local criminal investigation? No

If the answer to any of the questions above is yes, please answer the questions below for each criminal event (citation, arrest, investigation, etc.). If the event was an investigation, where the question below asks for information about the offense, please offer information about the offense under investigation (if known).

A) Date of offense:

   a. Is this an estimate (Yes/No):

B) Description of the specific nature of the offense:

C) Did the offense involve any of the following?

1) Domestic violence or a crime of violence (such as battery or assault) against your child, dependent, cohabitant, spouse, former spouse, or someone with whom you share a child in common: **Yes / No**
2) Firearms or explosives: **Yes / No**
3) Alcohol or drugs: **Yes / No**

D) Location where the offense occurred (city, county, state, zip code, country):

E) Were you arrested, summoned, cited or did you receive a ticket to appear as a result of this offense by any police officer, sheriff, marshal or any other type of law enforcement official: **Yes / No**

1) Name of the law enforcement agency that arrested/cited/summoned you:

2) Location of the law enforcement agency (city, county, state, zip code, country):

F) As a result of this offense were you charged, convicted, currently awaiting trial, and/or ordered to appear in court in a criminal proceeding against you: **Yes / No**

1) If yes, provide the name of the court and the location of the court (city, county, state, zip code, country):

2) If yes, provide all the charges brought against you for this offense, and the outcome of each charged offense (such as found guilty, found not-guilty, charge dropped or "nolle pros," etc). If you were found guilty of or pleaded guilty to a lesser offense, list separately both the original charge and the lesser offense:

3) If no, provide explanation:

G) Were you sentenced as a result of this offense: **Yes / No**

H) Provide a description of the sentence:

I) Were you sentenced to imprisonment for a term exceeding one year: **Yes / No**

J) Were you incarcerated as a result of that sentence for not less than one year: **Yes / No**

K) If the conviction resulted in imprisonment, provide the dates that you actually were incarcerated:

L) If conviction resulted in probation or parole, provide the dates of probation or parole:

M) Are you currently on trial, awaiting a trial, or awaiting sentencing on criminal charges for this offense: **Yes / No**

N) Provide explanation:

10. Civil Litigation and Administrative or Legislative Proceedings

(A) Since (and including) your 18th birthday, have you been a party to any public record civil court action or administrative or legislative proceeding of any kind that resulted in (1) a finding of wrongdoing against you, or (2) a settlement agreement for you, or some other person or entity, to make a payment to settle allegations against you, or for you to take, or refrain from taking, some action. Do NOT include small claims proceedings.

Date Claim/Suit Was Filed or Legislative Proceedings Began	Court Name	Name(s) of Principal Parties Involved in Action/Proceeding	Nature of Action/Proceeding	Results of Action/Proceeding
3/17/2014	Superior Court of Orange County, CA	Troy Edgar v. Neal Kelley, OC Registrar of Voters	Writ of Mandate, Candidate Filing Case #30-2014-00710804	Judgment in favor of OC Registrar 10/31/2014
4/17/2003	Superior Court of Orange County, CA	Troy Edgar v. Janna Edgar	Dissolution of Marriage Case #03D003488	Dissolution granted 12/18/2003
1/21/1988	1st Circuit Court of Honolulu, HI	Troy Edgar vs Jo Lynne Edgar	Dissolution of Marriage Case #87-4159	Dissolution granted 6/21/1988

(B) In addition to those listed above, have you or any business of which you were an officer, director or owner ever been involved as a party of interest in any administrative agency proceeding or civil litigation? Please identify and provide details for any proceedings or civil litigation that involve actions taken or omitted by you, or alleged to have been taken or omitted by you, while serving in your official capacity.

Date Claim/Suit Was Filed	Court Name	Name(s) of Principal Parties Involved in Action/Proceeding	Nature of Action/Proceeding	Results of Action/Proceeding
12/17/2018	Superior Court of San Diego, CA	Nicole Smith v. Global Conductor, Inc.	Civil – CU-OE Other Employment Case # 37-2018-00063490-CU-OE-CTL	Dismissed on 12/30/2020
9/28/2018	Superior Court of San Bernardino, CA	Global Conductor Construction v. City of Redlands	Other – Tort (Down Time) Case # CIVDS1825344	Dismissed on 12/2/2019

2/21/2017	Superior Court of San Bernardino, CA	Global Conductor Construction v. City of Big Bear	Appeal – CIVD1703347 Case # ACIAS1800045	Dismissed on 8/11/2020
12/19/2017	Superior Court of Orange County, CA	Southern California Edison v. Global Conductor Construction	PI/PD/WD - Other (Property Damage) Case # 30-2017-00962386-CU-PO-CJC	Dismissed on 1/24/2018
4/19/2017	Superior Court of San Bernardino, CA	Global Conductor Construction v. Utiliquest LLC	Other – Tort (Down Time) Case # CIVDS1707793	Dismissed on 10/31/2018
1/5/2017	Superior Court of Orange County, CA	Global Conductor Construction v. Exxon/Mobil Pipeline	Non-PI/PD/WD Tort Other (Downtime) Case # 30-2017-00896718-CU-NP-CJC	Dismissed on 4/18/2018
1/5/2017	Superior Court of Orange County, CA	Global Conductor Construction v. Southern California Gas Co.	Non-PI/PD/WD Tort – Other (Down Time) Case # 30-2017-00895754-CU-NP-CJC	Dismissed on 7/2/2018
12/14/2016	Superior Court of Orange County, CA	Global Conductor Construction Corporation v. City of Huntington Beach, CA	Other – Tort (Down Time) Case # 30-2016-00892294-CU-NP-CJC	Dismissed on 1/31/2018
11/28/2016	Superior Court of Los Angeles, CA	Global Conductor Construction v. City of Long Beach	Other – Tort (Down time) Case # 16K14262	Dismissed on 9/6/2017
10/26/2016	Superior Court of Orange County, CA	Sentinel Insurance v. City of Huntington Beach, CA Global Conductor Construction named as one of the listed defendants.	Other – PI/PD/WD - Other (Property Damage) Case # 30-2016-00892294-CU-NP-CJC,	Dismissed on 3/5/2018
8/30/2016	Superior Court of Orange County, CA	Global Conductor Construction v. City of Fountain Valley	Non-PI/PD/WD – Other (Down Time)	Dismissed on 12/15/2017

			Case # 30-2016-00872337-CL-NP-CJC	
6/22/2015	Superior Court of Orange County, CA	Michael Gallagher, v. Global Conductor Construction	Wrongful Termination Case # 30-2015-00794522-CU-WT-CJC	Dismissed on 7/26/2016
8/3/2011	Superior Court of Los Angeles, CA	Global Conductor Construction v. James G. Thompson	Other – Petition Case # 11K12784	Dismissed on 2/8/2024
3/18/2011	Superior Court of Los Angeles, CA	Global Conductor Construction v. Merrimack Telecom, James G. Thompson	Other –Breach of Contract, Fraud Case # BC457712	Default Judgment on 9/6/2017

(C) For responses to the previous question, please identify and provide details for any proceedings or civil litigation that involve actions taken or omitted by you, or alleged to have been taken or omitted by you, while serving in your official capacity.

Date Claim/Suit Was Filed or Legislative Proceedings Began	Court Name	Name(s) of Principal Parties Involved in Action/Proceeding	Nature of Action/Proceeding	Results of Action/Proceeding
4/18/2018	Superior Court of Orange County, CA	Henry Josefsberg, Rev. Samual Pullen, Los Alamitos Community United, City of Los Alamitos, ACLU Foundation, Los Alamitos Police Department, Brett M Plumlee, Troy Edgar in my official capacity as Mayor, Latham & Watkins LLP	Writ of Mandate – Sanctuary Lawsuit, California Constitution City Rights Case #30-2018-00987018-CU-WM-CXC	Parties Agree to Suspend Action (10/30/2018)
10/27/2010	Superior Court of Orange County, CA	Citizens for Fair Trash Contract v. City of Los Alamitos Troy Edgar listed as a respondent in his official capacity.	Writ of Mandate – Citizens for a Fair Trash Contract Case #30-2010-004420414-CU-WM-CJC	Dismissed on 5/25/2012 following settlement

11. Breach of Professional Ethics

(A) Have you ever been disciplined or cited for a breach of ethics or unprofessional conduct by, or been the subject of a complaint to, any court, administrative agency, professional association, disciplinary committee, or other professional group? Exclude cases and proceedings already listed. No.

Name of Agency/Association/ Committee/Group	Date Citation/Disciplinary Action/Complaint Issued/Initiated	Describe Citation/Disciplinary Action/Complaint	Results of Disciplinary Action/Complaint
N/A			

(B) Have you ever been fired from a job, quit a job after being told you would be fired, left a job by mutual agreement following charges or allegations of misconduct, left a job by mutual agreement following notice of unsatisfactory performance, or received a written warning, been officially reprimanded, suspended, or disciplined for misconduct in the workplace, such as violation of a security policy? No.

12. Tax Compliance

(This information will not be published in the record of the hearing on your nomination, but it will be retained in the Committee's files and will be available for public inspection.)

REDACTED

REDACTED

13. Lobbying

In the past ten years, have you registered as a lobbyist? If so, please indicate the state, federal, or local bodies with which you have registered (e.g., House, Senate, California Secretary of State). No.

14. Outside Positions

X See OGE Form 278. (If, for your nomination, you have completed an OGE Form 278 Executive Branch Personnel Public Financial Disclosure Report, you may check the box here to complete this section and then proceed to the next section.)

For the preceding ten calendar years and the current calendar year, report any positions held, whether compensated or not. Positions include but are not limited to those of an officer, director, trustee, general partner, proprietor, representative, employee, or consultant of any corporation, firm, partnership, or other business enterprise or any non-profit organization or educational institution. Exclude positions with religious, social, fraternal, or political entities and those solely of an honorary nature.

Name of Organization	Address of Organization	Type of Organization (corporation, firm, partnership, other business enterprise, other non-profit organization, educational institution)	Position Held	Position Held From (month/year)	Position Held To (month/year)
See Form 278e					

15. Agreements or Arrangements

X See OGE Form 278. (If, for your nomination, you have completed an OGE Form 278 Executive Branch Personnel Public Financial Disclosure Report, you may check the box here to complete this section and then proceed to the next section.)

As of the date of filing your OGE Form 278, report your agreements or arrangements for: (1) continuing participation in an employee benefit plan (e.g. pension, 401k, deferred compensation); (2) continuation of payment by a former employer (including severance payments); (3) leaves of absence; and (4) future employment.

Provide information regarding any agreements or arrangements you have concerning (1) future employment; (2) a leave of absence during your period of Government service; (3) continuation of payments by a former employer other than the United States Government; and (4) continuing participation in an employee welfare or benefit plan maintained by a former employer other than United States Government retirement benefits.

Status and Terms of Any Agreement or Arrangement	**Parties**	**Date** (month/year)
See Form 278e		

16. Additional Financial Data

All information requested under this heading must be provided for yourself, your spouse, and your dependents. (This information will not be published in the record of the hearing on your nomination, but it will be retained in the Committee's files and will be available for public inspection.)

REDACTED

REDACTED

SIGNATURE AND DATE

I hereby state that I have read the foregoing Statement on Biographical and Financial Information and that the information provided therein is, to the best of my knowledge, current, accurate, and complete.



This 15 **day of January, 2025**

REDACTED

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF
GOVERNMENT ETHICS

February 16, 2025

The Honorable Rand Paul
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In accordance with the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, I enclose a copy of the financial disclosure report filed by Troy Dean Edgar, who has been nominated by President Trump for the position of Deputy Secretary, Department of Homeland Security.

We have reviewed the report and have obtained advice from the agency concerning any possible conflict in light of its functions and the nominee's proposed duties. Also enclosed is an ethics agreement outlining the actions that the nominee will undertake to avoid conflicts of interest. Unless a date for compliance is indicated in the ethics agreement, the nominee must fully comply within three months of confirmation with any action specified in the ethics agreement.

Based thereon, we believe that this nominee is in compliance with applicable laws and regulations governing conflicts of interest.

Sincerely,

DAVID APOL Digitally signed by DAVID APOL Date: 2025.02.16 15:08:59 -05'00'

David J. Apol
General Counsel

Enclosures REDACTED

U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Pre-hearing Questionnaire
For the Nomination of Troy Edgar
to be Deputy Secretary, Department of Homeland Security

I. Nomination Process and Conflicts of Interest

1. Did the President or anyone else give you specific reasons why the President nominated you to be the Deputy Secretary, and if so, what were they?

   No.

2. Were any conditions, expressed or implied, attached to your nomination? If so, please explain.

   No.

3. Have you made any commitments with respect to the policies and principles you will attempt to implement as Deputy Secretary? If so, what are they, and to whom were the commitments made?

   No.

4. Are you aware of any business relationship, dealing, or financial transaction that could result in a possible conflict of interest for you or the appearance of a conflict of interest? If so, please explain what procedures you will use to recuse yourself or otherwise address the conflict. And if you will recuse yourself, explain how you will ensure your responsibilities are not affected by your recusal.

   In connection with the nomination process, I have consulted with the U.S. Office of Government Ethics and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Designated Agency Ethics Official (DAEO) to identify any potential conflicts of interest. Any potential conflicts of interest will be resolved in accordance with the terms of the ethics agreement that I signed and transmitted to the Department's DAEO, which will be provided to this Committee. I am not aware of any other potential conflicts of interest and thus any need for a recusal. In the unlikely event a recusal is necessary, I will consult with departmental ethics officials to minimize any impact on my responsibilities.

5. Have you or any organization of which you were an officer, director or owner, or have or had a significant financial interest in been the recipient of any Federal grants, loans, or other financial assistance (such as, but not limited to, Paycheck Protection Program Loans, Economic Injury Disaster Loans, Restaurant Revitalization Grants, etc.) within the past 10 years. If so, please list the program, amount, and date of receipt.

   Yes. Paycheck Protection Program, $350,837 received on May 7, 2020.

6. Please provide the name of any individual, law firm, consulting firm, lobbying firm, public relations firm, or other entity you have formally retained, contracted, or consulted with regarding this nomination, including any amounts paid in fees or otherwise.

I have retained the law firm Caplin Drysdale to support me as needed in preparation of my OGE278e and financial disclosures. I engaged them on January 5, 2025 and have not paid fees as of the date of this questionnaire.

II. Background of the Nominee

7. What specific background, experience, and attributes qualify you to be the Deputy Secretary?

After my time in the Navy, I have spent over 35 years working for more than 40 Fortune 500 and Global 1000 companies as an executive and advisor across multiple industries, including Aerospace/Defense, Government, Automotive, Consumer Products and Technology. I have provided leadership and support to establish and execute operational goals as well as led finance transformation improvements that include modernizing financial/management reporting systems, enhancing cost management and budgeting, establishing program management offices, and improving audit and financial controls. For the last four years, I have been an executive at IBM, leading their Federal Finance and Supply Chain Transformation consulting business.

I also have a track record of solving complex problems in other functional areas such as Operations (consolidation of military aircraft modification facilities/privatization of Kelly AFB military base), Procurement (consolidation of indirect purchasing/implementation of Ariba and Coupa software), Human Resources (HR) (Centralized Payroll (ADP) and multiple HR implementations (Oracle/Workday), and Information Technology (IT) (Data Center consolidations, various large scale Business Process Outsource (BPO) initiatives across a variety of different industries. Moreover, I have implemented many large-scale global enterprise resource planning and financial management systems, corporate headquarters consolidations, shared services, and other significant finance transformation projects.

In 2020, I was confirmed by the Senate to serve as the Chief Financial Officer for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) where I managed a $95 billion budget. I also implemented the first major Financial Systems Modernization which included the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction (CWMD) Office, and U.S. Coast Guard. I also assisted the U.S. Coast Guard in securing $5 billion dollars to improve readiness.

In addition to my corporate and federal experience, I have served in non-partisan elected, appointed, and non-profit board positions providing finance and operational leadership to many organizations providing public services, and have a high level of

public accountability.

8. Please describe:

   a. Your leadership and management style.

   As a visionary, coach, and servant leader, I believe in staying focused on the organization's mission and continuous improvement. I openly practice and promote collaboration and transparency and request the same from my organization.

   I actively participate in setting organization goals and quickly gain a reasonable assessment of my leaders' abilities to develop objectives and tactics for success. This allows me to set realistic expectations of what the organization is capable of achieving while striving to increase morale and promote a balanced working environment. It is important to build and maintain good working relationships and open communications.

   I endeavor to stay focused on the mission, continuously improve, pay attention to details, and trust but verify.

   b. Your experience managing personnel.

   As a finance and operations executive leader, I have extensive experience managing many types of personnel including board members, executives, managers, employees, and contractors. This includes providing consistent communication and battle rhythm, team building, talent acquisition, performance management, and conflict resolution.

   As an executive and board member in organization and program analysis and evaluation, I have supported large organizations, programs and initiatives that require oversight, approval and accountability. Many of these organizations and programs have budgets over $100 billion. Managing within this context requires similar attributes mentioned above plus organization leadership, vendor and contractor management, expert application of program management process and tools, approaches and methodologies such as System Development Life Cycle and Agile Scrum used by large system integrators.

   c. What is the largest number of people who have worked under your supervision?

      The largest number of people who have worked under me is approximately 2,800 as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of DHS and 1,200 as the Chairman of the Orange County Sanitation District.

9. What would you consider your greatest successes as a leader?

   When an organization reaches its objectives, and the leaders and employees see that their efforts contributed to something much greater than themselves, you see organization and personal pride. I also feel success when I see key leaders' mentor their willing

subordinates who take advantage of the opportunity to grow and become future leaders.

10. What would you consider your greatest failure as a leader? What lessons did you take away from that experience?

I struggled early on in my career trying to find a balance between work and home life. My work has always required me to travel all over the world. My issue was being completely consumed at work and on the road and not balancing out time for my family and young kids at home. This lack of balance eventually took a toll on my family.

I also realized that because I was a leader at work, many people followed my example to keep up with an unsustainable pace that did not provide the healthiest work environment. I am much more aware about finding a balance for myself and promoting the same to my employees. This experience helped me to better delegate and ensure I use my time more effectively at work.

11. Please give examples of times in your career when you disagreed with your superiors and advocated your position. Describe circumstances in which you were successful and in which you were unsuccessful.

I have spent many years of my career as a board member and chairman, business owner, executive, and elected and appointed official. Many times, in my career I have disagreed with my superiors and peers. Here are a couple examples:

I previously served as one of 25 board members of the municipal wastewater Orange County Sanitation District. The board had been in litigation for over 12 years with another Joint Powers Authority that delivers regional water solutions upstream supporting the inland empire within Southern California. After 2 years on the board, I realized the only people discussing this very expensive lawsuit was the lawyers. I added an agenda item for a vote to authorize assigning two board members to meet with two of the oppositions respective board members to discuss a settlement. It failed first vote 23-1. I worked with the other members to eventually gain a majority. I was assigned the lead and we worked together with the other board members and a respected local congressman. Together, we settled the lawsuit and started a new productive relationship between the two organizations.

At IBM, I was leading a $1 billion dollar Supply Chain Modernization proposal for the Veterans Administration (VA). After a year working with the VA and building a 25-company partnership coalition for this opportunity, my leadership was beginning to get concerned that the client would not move ahead with the procurement. I was very vested in the opportunity and our executive relationships were stronger than any of our competition. I advocated to continue the pursuit and leadership reluctantly continued. In the end we were not able to continue as the VA eventually cancelled the procurement. My mentor worked with me to learn from this and openly discuss lessons learned with my leadership team to help my organization understand the signs of a troubled procurement.

If confirmed as Deputy Secretary, I will continue to make decisions that I believe are in the best interest of the American people. I will do everything I can to keep Americans safe through a commonsense approach to homeland security.

12. Do you seek out dissenting views and encourage constructive critical dialogue with subordinates? Please provide examples of times in your career when you have done so.

Yes. I consistently seek dissenting views and encourage this type of dialogue.

It is important that all perspectives are considered and dealt with professionally on both sides. This means that I would expect that dissenting views are respectfully presented.

As an example, City and County labor negotiations can be very difficult as the decision effects current budgets, increases pension liabilities and effects employee morale and possible attrition. Another example concerns a program steering committee meeting when a major client was considering a risky go-live decision that could possibly disrupt operations if it went poorly or cost $3.5 million a month if delayed. Although I may not always agree with a recommendation or proposal, it is important to hear alternative positions and keep an open mind.

13. Please list and describe examples of when you made politically difficult choices that you thought were in the best interest of the country or an organization.

Two examples are provided below:

- Hiring new employees with natural talent that did not fully meet all the requirements of the job description. Many times, in consulting, it is significant mix of experience, expertise and personality. One of my key clients kept rejecting the most qualified candidates for a key leadership role. When I begin to match up a moderately qualified individual that complimented the personality type of the client, this person was a huge success. Obviously, I had to change another lower-level role to add these needed experience and expertise to ensure success. The key was client satisfaction without adding execution risk.

- Terminating employees that many people in the organization personally cared about but were significantly underperforming or had a serious disciplinary problem. We had an employee who was well known for continuing to get caught leaving the worksite in a company car in order to sleep while on the job. The car had tracking devices and a lower level manager suspected this and proved this to be true. Many were disappointed that we would not give another chance to this long-time employee. We could not disclose that this was not a one-time shot.

14. Please describe how you build credibility and trust among staff as a leader.

Be visible, truthful and consistent, listen, communicate, and follow through. In any organization that I have led, it was very important to quickly introduce myself and get out

to learn the organization and product or service. I strive to be consistent in the way I present myself and communicate to organizations I have led. A leader that sets high standards and goals but does not have the discipline to follow-up or perform on the request will immediately begin to lose credibility. I maintain a continued focus to treat people respectfully and hold them accountable.

15. During your career, has your conduct as a government employee ever been subject to an investigation or audit by the Office of Special Counsel, Department of Justice, agency Equal Opportunity office or investigator, agency Inspector General, congressional ethics committee, or any other similar federal, state, or local investigative entity? If so, please describe the nature of the allegations/conduct and the outcome(s) of the investigation(s) or audit(s).

My conduct as a government employee has not been subject to any investigation.

16. In your responses to the Committee's biographical questionnaire, you state that you have been employed by IBM since June 2021 and are currently a "Partner, Federal – Finance and Supply Chain Transformation Leader."

    a. Please describe the responsibilities you have in this position, including specific projects that you are involved in, to the extent that you are able.

    I was previously an IBM executive in the U.S. Federal consulting business serving as a Partner leading Finance and Supply Chain Transformation. My role was to bring together the IBM service lines and practice areas to our federal market clients and help IBM better understand the voice of the customer and reinforce the eminence of their brand.

    b. Have you held any other roles since beginning your employment at IBM? If so, please identify those positions and describe your responsibilities and accomplishments in those roles.

    Yes, I was also the Executive Chairman of Global Conductor where I served on the board. I had started that company in 2002 and sold the company in December of 2024. I also was a contractor at America First Policy Institute (AFPI) where I worked on transition planning and training development and delivery for potential political appointees.

17. You are listed as a contributor to the *Mandate for Leadership: The Conservative Promise,* also commonly referred to as Project 2025.

    a. Please identify which chapters you contributed to and describe the extent to which you contributed.

    I volunteered my time and effort to assist the author in the development and writing of Section 2: The Common Defense, and Chapter 5: The Department of Homeland

Security. As stated in the book, there was not unanimity among the contributors regarding the final recommendations.

18. How would you describe your past interactions with career employees when you previously served in political leadership roles at DHS?

I am incredibly proud to have served with some of the finest employees that the Department has to offer. In fact, I maintained close relationships with many of my former colleagues across the Department during my time in the private sector. While at DHS, we worked to implement significant improvements within the CFO Office and across the Department.

III. Role of the Deputy Secretary

19. Please describe your view of the core mission of the Department and what you would consider to be your primary role and responsibilities if confirmed.

The mission of DHS is, with honor and integrity, to safeguard the American People, our homeland, and our values. Secretary Noem is tasked with setting a course for the Department, identifying the key issues that put the Homeland at risk, and focusing resources, personnel, and attention on those challenges to keep America safe. That starts with securing our Southern Border. DHS must also address critical problems like securing infrastructure against terrorism and cyberattacks, protecting America's borders, and thwarting transnational crime. If confirmed, I intend to achieve those goals by making the Department more efficient, unifying its components and offices behind the mission, and holding leaders accountable for their performance. In all of these efforts, I will work with Congress to ensure proper oversight and resourcing and to keep the Department accountable to the American People.

20. Please describe your understanding of the authorities of the Deputy Secretary and how those authorities facilitate the core mission of the Department.

The Deputy Secretary is the chief operating officer of the United States Department of Homeland Security, with responsibility for managing day-to-day operations. The department has over 260,000 employees and an annual budget of more than $100 billion. If confirmed, I would be responsible to ensure the department is responsibly and efficiently managing the resources to properly administering and enforce the immigration laws; protect public property; safeguard America's cybersecurity infrastructure; and coordinating the efforts of the components and employees that comprise the Department. Taken together, these authorities and others empower the Deputy Secretary as delegated by the Secretary to take all necessary actions, in accordance with the law, to protect the Homeland and to keep the American People secure

21. Do you believe the Department has expanded beyond its intended mission when it was created?

DHS has expanded over time. Anytime there is expansion at a large organization, leadership needs to consider whether each part of the organization is adding value and furthering its mission. If confirmed, I will ensure that each part of the Department is working to secure and protect the American people.

22. Are there components in DHS that are conducting duplicative activities to other agencies that can be eliminated?

If confirmed, I will closely with Congress and Secretary Noem to examine whether there are redundant activities occurring within the Department.

23. Do you believe any DHS components have strayed from their core missions?

a. If yes, which ones and which ways?

If confirmed, I will review the core functions of each component to determine whether they have strayed from their core mission.

b. What do you plan to do as Deputy Secretary to address what you see as this straying from core missions?

Since DHS's creation, the core mission of the components have continuously shifted based on leadership priorities and the evolving threat landscape. If confirmed, I will work with Secretary Noem and Congress to ensure components are focused on their core missions.

IV. Policy Questions

COVID-19 and Biodefense

24. What is your understanding of DHS's role in the federal government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic?

DHS has several roles under the Nation's Biodefense Strategy and Implementation Plan. CWMD, S&T, and FEMA are forefront DHS components with responsibilities.

25. Will you commit to providing this Committee unredacted copies of all documents in that relate to COVID-19 and/or dual use research of concern?

If confirmed, in accordance with relevant guidance from the Department of Justice, I agree to comply with reasonable requests from the Committee for documents.

26. Biodefense:

a. What additional actions do you believe should be taken to better prepare the U.S. for

a biological event or attack?

Biological threats are a significant danger to the nation. The Department has an important supporting role with the Department of Health and Human Services in Biodefense. If confirmed, I will work with the Secretary and the components to ensure the Department has the resources, partnerships, and collaboration with experts in this field to fulfill its part of the government's mission to defend against biological threats.

b. What is your position on the future role of DHS in biodefense, versus other federal agencies?

If confirmed, I will work with the Secretary and the components to ensure the Department has the resources, partnerships, and collaboration with experts in this field to fulfill its part of the government's mission to defend against biological threats."

c. In your view, what steps are needed to ensure that the country is better prepared for naturally occurring or manmade biological threats?

If confirmed, I will work with the Secretary and the components to ensure the Department has the resources, partnerships, and collaboration with experts in this field to fulfill its part of the government's mission to defend against biological threats."

Management, Workforce

27. What do you consider to be the principal challenges in the area of human capital management facing the Deputy Secretary?

The Department employs over 250,000 personnel across various offices and components. In such a large organization, there are a variety of challenges facing the workforce and leaders. In particular, DHS is the product of an amalgamation of disparate organizations with a nexus to Homeland Security but each with their own unique purposes, structures, and cultures. The Secretary and Deputy Secretary's greatest managerial challenge is uniting these offices and components in a common mission to protect and defend the Homeland. Moreover, providing adequate training and resourcing to employees and creating an environment in which everyone has the opportunity to contribute will remain a critical focus. If confirmed, I look forward to collaborating with the Secretary and the Department's Management Directorate to meet these challenges head-on.

28. What measurements would you use to determine whether DHS is successful?

Success starts with securing our Southern Border against the illegal flow of migrants, drugs, and contraband into our country. Threats are always evolving, and the

Department must be ready to counter and prevent them to keep Americans safe. If confirmed as Deputy Secretary, I will proactively work with other executive departments and agencies, state and local officials, international partners, and Members of Congress to accomplish the mission of DHS.

29. How will you address the challenge of recruiting, hiring, training, and retaining the necessary personnel?

The Department's dedicated employees work every day to keep our nation safe, our border secure, and our infrastructure protected. If confirmed, I will work closely with the Secretary and other Department leadership, the Office of Management and Budget, and Congress to ensure that personnel have the resources, training, and support that they need to do their jobs effectively.

30. If confirmed, how will you ensure DHS is positioned to succeed beyond your tenure as Deputy Secretary? What steps will you take to prepare the office for future presidential transitions?

If confirmed, I would work with the Under Secretary for Management to ensure the Department is prepared for a future presidential transition.

31. Will you consider structural or financial reforms recommended by the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE)?

If confirmed, I will welcome and strongly consider any structural or financial reforms to the Department recommended by DOGE, as well as seeking the input of career officials at the Department.

32. What steps do you believe that DHS can take to ensure federal funds expended by the agency are free from duplication and waste?

If confirmed, I intend to work with Department senior leaders, the DHS Office of Inspector General (OIG), the Government Accountability Office (GAO), and Congress to better understand the current situation, tools, and offer insights and recommendations from my previous role as CFO for addressing any areas of opportunity to remove redundancy or waste.

33. If confirmed, will you commit to reviewing any DHS programs that you believe could be eliminated because they are ineffective, duplicative, wasteful, unnecessary, or have outlived their purpose and report that information to Congress?

If confirmed, I will evaluate, correct, or eliminate Department programs that are ineffective, duplicative, wasteful, or unnecessary and keep Congress apprised of relevant information. Many programs are statutorily authorized and would require me to work with congress before I take any action to reform or eliminate.

34. A recent GAO report noted "[s]ignificant deficiencies in DHS's internal control and financial management systems have hampered its ability to effectively manage its financial operations." What do you see as the most viable path forward for DHS to develop real-time, accurate, and comprehensive data on its finances and to use this data to inform budget decisions and resource allocation to avoid duplicative and wasteful spending?

If confirmed, I will work closely with Department leadership, including the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, to develop accurate, comprehensive, and timely financial data that will allow us to quickly identify functional and geographic areas of focus that can inform budget decisions and real-time allocation of resources.

35. In your Ameritocracy podcast, you discussed with DHS Acting CFO Stacy Marcott the issue of DHS being decentralized, with disparate components. You stated that if you were leading DHS, this would make it difficult for you to implement policies because the Department lacks a clear hierarchy. Please describe any changes you think would unify the disparate components and streamline the chain of command.

If confirmed, I would work with the Secretary to evaluate the organization and governance structure of the Department to focus on a "One DHS" concept that would position the headquarters function to add value and enable the mission of the components while maintaining accountability for performance at all levels.

36. What do you see as the Deputy Secretary's role in improving morale at the Department? How specifically would you work to improve morale?

I believe the Deputy Secretary plays a very important role in creating a positive environment and ensuring employee engagement, communication and addressing employee concerns. I would spend time outside of the Headquarters to meet with employees and management in person to understand their work environment and be approachable.

37. In many areas, the responsibilities of DHS intersect with those of other Cabinet departments. How do you view the role of DHS vis-à-vis other Cabinet departments, and what lessons from your previous work will help you establish or maintain effective working relationships with other Departments?

Working with White House, OMB, and other Department Deputy Secretaries is a key responsibility of this role. Previously, as the CFO I had also worked very closely with the key fiscal principals at the Departments of Health and Human Services, Defense, State, and Justice to ensure the success of many department initiatives. If confirmed, I plan on using these experiences and my expertise to ensure success for the President's agenda and the Department.

38. Since its inception in 2003, DHS has made three major attempts to modernize its financial management systems. During this time, GAO identified DHS financial

management including its financial systems modernization efforts at high-risk of fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement or in need of transformation. DHS is currently acquiring and implementing modern financial management systems through multiple acquisition programs.

a. How do you plan to ensure successful implementation and operational effectiveness of its modernized financial management systems?

If confirmed, I will work with the Management Directorate, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) leadership to ensure the programs are on track and properly managed.

b. DHS's financial statement auditors continue to report an adverse opinion on DHS's internal control over financial reporting (ICOFR). What actions will you take to help ensure that the new systems implemented at the department support a robust internal control environment and produce reliable financial information and reports?

If confirmed, I will continue to advance the work to implement a new system to produce reliable financial information that I had direct involvement with as the Department's CFO.

39. You have stated your appreciation for training programs within the DHS workforce, specifically the Office of the Chief Financial Officer. If confirmed as Deputy Secretary, how will you continue to adequately train staff within all DHS components and offices?

If confirmed, I will work with the Management Directorate to review the status of our training programs across the DHS enterprise and ensure that the Department is providing adequate training to employees.

40. What is your position on how the Department should engage with its varied stakeholders, including state, local, tribal, territorial (SLTT) governments, elected officials, the private sector, faith-based and non-governmental organizations (NGO), academia, and communities?

To keep Americans safe and our borders secure, it is critical that the Department coordinate with, state, local, tribal, territorial, and other stakeholder partners, including non-government entities such as private-sector and faith-based organizations. If confirmed, I will work closely with the Assistant Secretary for the Office of Partnership and Engagement to ensure all stakeholders have a voice.

Cybersecurity

41. Do you believe that federal agencies should be held to the highest standards for cybersecurity and data security? If confirmed, how would you prioritize improvements in the cybersecurity of federal agencies with other competing demands?

Yes, if confirmed I will work closely with Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and the Chief Information Officer in the Management Directorate, to ensure the department maintains the highest cyber and data standards.

42. If confirmed, how will you make the Department a federal leader for skilled cyber personnel? What are your plans for retaining current cyber personnel at the Department?

If confirmed, the Department's recruitment and retention of qualified cyber personnel will receive my close attention. I will work with the Management Directorate and components with cyber workforces to ensure DHS is not missing out on cyber talent simply because these individuals have not followed a "traditional" path in their careers or education.

43. Many of the significant cyber incidents of the last few years have been perpetrated by cyber actors associated with the People's Republic of China (PRC). How do you view the countering of China, a stated priority of the new Administration, in cyberspace?

If confirmed, I will work with federal, state, and local partners to bolster our cyber defenses and to proactively interrupt the activity of hackers and known threats to American cyber infrastructure. This includes working closely with the private sector to identify risks to critical infrastructure and support their incident response, when needed.

44. Almost all of critical infrastructure in the U.S. is owned or operated by private sector entities. How will you work with private sector entities to encourage improvements to cybersecurity?

Efforts to build up our cyber defenses requires significant engagement with our private sector partners and those partners making improvements. If confirmed, I expect the Department, through CISA, to share best practices with entities in the private sector and encourage broad information sharing, including to medium and small businesses who may lack the resources to invest in cyber defenses.

45. Emerging nations as well as established actors are increasing their use of ransomware to target critical infrastructure, particularly healthcare and education. How do you view CISA and DHS's role in combatting ransomware attacks?

DHS should work with federal, state, and local partners to provide training and recommend tools available to combat ransomware attacks. Such activities would help companies proactively identify system weaknesses and train their users to identify threats. The Department should help ensure organizations at high risk of ransomware attacks are aware of the tools, and training needed to prevent them, and when appropriate, assist with incident response.

46. The Department often works in concert with other federal agencies such as the FBI on safeguarding our critical infrastructure. If confirmed, how will you direct your staff to partner with FBI and other agencies to improve these efforts?

Safeguarding our critical infrastructure requires cross-agency collaboration. If confirmed, I will emphasize the importance of the Department partnering with other government agencies that have a role in this effort. DHS should continue to partner with government agencies in responding to, and defending against, physical, cyber intrusions, and other emerging risks.

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

47. What are your views on the regulation and oversight of AI to enable access to the benefits of this technology while mitigating its risks?

Risks associated with AI must be identified and managed without stifling innovation and investment. I believe it is important to coordinate with public and private stakeholders and cooperate with, rather than resistance to, private industry. Working together, we can ensure that America remains a leader in AI while smartly mitigating risks as they emerge.

48. What role do you see the Department having in preventing artificial intelligence tools from being used to put Americans in danger, such as through the development of novel chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear weapons?

The Department should act decisively to keep Americans safe from our adversaries who would misuse AI tools to develop weapons of mass destruction.

49. As the Department integrates AI tools into operations, how will you ensure that the privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties of Americans are protected?

The Department should collaborate with industry to ensure it is adopting AI technologies and integrating technologies into the Department's operations in ways that protect the civil liberties of Americans.

Misinformation, Disinformation, and Tech Censorship

50. Should DHS or any of its components be involved in censoring Americans constitutionally protected speech? Should DHS or any of its components have role in labeling Americans constitutionally protected speech as misinformation, misinformation, or misinformation?

The Department's mission is to safeguard Americans, and it must work to achieve that mission within the bounds of the Constitution and the rule of law. I am firmly committed to upholding the First Amendment and support the right of every American to engage in protected speech.

51. Should CISA or any DHS component work with social media companies to discuss moderating the content of constitutionally protected speech?

The Department's mission is to safeguard Americans, and it must work to achieve that mission within the bounds of the Constitution and the rule of law. I am firmly committed to upholding the First Amendment and support the right of every American to engage in protected speech.

52. In *Missouri v. Biden*, the district court pointed out that DHS had outlined its "strategy and priorities" to "target 'inaccurate information' on a wide range of topics, including the origins of the COVID-19 pandemic, the efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines, racial justice, the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan, and the return of U.S. Support of Ukraine." Do you believe DHS has constitutional authority to police information stemming from any of these categories?

The Department's mission is to safeguard Americans, and it must work to achieve that mission within the bounds of the Constitution and the rule of law. I am firmly committed to upholding the First Amendment and support the right of every American to engage in protected speech.

53. A 2023 Brennan Center for Justice report found that DHS used twelve programs to track and monitor political speech protected under the First Amendment made by American citizens. As Secretary, will you commit to reviewing all DHS programs and ensuring that the Department does not infringe on the constitutional rights of Americans?

If confirmed, I will work with the Secretary, the Office of the General Counsel, and other Department senior leaders to ensure all DHS programs are in line with the Constitution and the rule of law. I am firmly committed to upholding the First Amendment and support the right of every American to engage in protected speech.

54. What do you believe is the Department's role in protecting our elections from foreign influence?

I am aware of news reports that foreign actors, such as China and Iran, have attempted to interfere in our elections. If confirmed, I am committed to learning more and ensuring the Department is protecting the Homeland by detecting and countering malicious foreign actors that desire to harm our country.

Privacy, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties

55. If confirmed, do you commit to ensuring that DHS activities undergo a privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties review before being implemented?

The Department's mission is to safeguard Americans, and it must work to achieve that mission within the bounds of the Constitution and the rule of law. If confirmed, I will ensure recommendations by the DHS Privacy Officer and Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Officer are duly considered.

56. If confirmed, do you commit to ensuring that all recommendations made by the DHS Privacy Officer are reviewed, responded to, if necessary, and, unless the agency justifies its disagreements with the recommendations, implemented to the fullest extent possible within a reasonable time period?

As noted in my response to Question 55, if confirmed, I will ensure recommendations by the DHS Privacy Officer are duly considered.

57. If confirmed, do you commit to ensuring that all recommendations made by the DHS Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Officer are reviewed, responded to, if necessary, and, unless the agency justifies its disagreements with the recommendations, implemented to the fullest extent possible within a reasonable time period?

As noted in my response to Question 55, if confirmed, I will ensure recommendations by the DHS Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Officer are duly considered.

58. DHS impacts the lives of every person in the United States, which is why Congress thought it was so important to establish both a Privacy Officer and Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Officer.

    a. What do you see as the role of the Privacy Office?

    The Privacy Office ensures DHS complies with federal protective privacy laws and policies to enhance transparency of the Department's work.

    b. What do you see as the role of the Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Office?

    The Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties ensures individuals rights and liberties are respected and protected, provides advice to leaders on how to address and prevent violations as well as address public concerns.

    c. Could you please describe how you plan to ensure the privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties of all people impacted by DHS?

    If confirmed, I will work to uphold these responsibilities.

59. Do you agree with each of following with respect to the Department's use of facial recognition and facial capture technologies (FRT):

    a. U.S. citizens have a right to opt out of non-law enforcement uses of these technologies.

    Yes.

    b. U.S. citizens have a right to receive alternative processing if they opt out of FRT that does not impose unnecessary burdens on them.

Yes.

c. The Department should not use these technologies to profile, target, or discriminate against any individual solely for exercising their Constitutional rights.

Yes.

d. The Department should not use these technologies to enable systemic, indiscriminate, or wide-scale monitoring, surveillance, or tracking.

Yes.

e. The Department should periodically assess these technologies to ensure that they meet performance goals that are in accordance with International Organization for Standardization/ International Electrotechnical Commission (ISO/IEC) standards and technical guidance issued by National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)

Yes.

Intelligence & Information Sharing

60. As the Department's primary intelligence community component, the Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) is permitted to do overt collections, including on U.S. persons. Do you believe it should continue to have this authority to collect intelligence on Americans?

Intelligence collection and analysis are important to be able to help prevent and disrupt threats to the American people, and all such efforts must be conducted within the bounds of the Constitution and the rule of law.

61. CBP and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) implement multiple and layered security and other screenings, but do not currently assess their overall impact on individuals or their efficacy. If confirmed, will you work with the Committee to increase transparency and accountability for these different programs?

If confirmed, I will work to ensure that all Department programs are lawful, effective, transparent, and accountable.

62. Should DHS I&A be involved in domestic intelligence collection on Americans?

I&A should only collect intelligence within the bounds of the Constitution and the rule of law.

Border Security & Immigration

63. Under the Biden administration, there have been over 10.3 million illegal Southwest border crossings, including 387 individuals on the terrorist watchlist. How do you plan to address this as Secretary?

To secure our borders, the Department must provide its frontline workforce with the resources they need. If confirmed as Deputy Secretary, I will work with the Management Directorate and components to ensure our officers, agents, and support staff have the tools needed to help stop the flow of illegal immigrants, drugs, terrorists, and other criminal activity into our country.

64. Should a person's religion be used in any manner to determine whether that person is eligible to enter the United States? Why or why not?

I fully support appropriate, thorough vetting that complies with the Constitution and applicable law.

65. What steps will you ensure that the legal immigration system will run efficiently and effectively to ensure that U.S. businesses can get the workers they need in a timely manner, especially through the H-2 and J-1 visa programs?

Legal immigration is important to the economic wellbeing of our country. If confirmed, I will seek to ensure that the Department fulfills its role in effectively and efficiently administering the legal immigration system.

66. Now that the Department has reached 20 years, we have entered a period of increased retirement eligibility for CBP Officers and Border Patrol Agents. If confirmed, how would you ensure that CBP can retain personnel and recruit, hire, and train qualified personnel to replenish the ranks of these components?

If confirmed, I will work with the Management Directorate and leadership of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to best identify the resources they need to invest in hiring and retaining the best personnel for the mission of securing the Homeland and keeping Americans safe. I endeavor to meet with officers and agents stationed at our borders and in the interior to understand their needs and identify steps the Department can take to recruit and retain the best personnel.

67. If confirmed, do you commit to getting the U.S. Border Patrol to complete and have independently validated, a personnel requirements model, which has been required by Congress but has not been completed to date, either by the previous Trump or Biden Administrations?

If confirmed, I will work to ensure Department complies with all applicable law.

Preventing Terrorism and Enhancing Security

68. Do you consider domestic terrorism to be a threat to Americans? If yes, how do you intend to address domestic terrorism? If not, why not?

Yes, domestic terrorism continues to present a danger to the United States. If confirmed, I will work closely with federal, state, and local authorities to identify and address threats.

69. Congress authorized DHS and DOJ to protect certain assets and facilities from potential threat posed by unmanned aircraft systems (UAS). What do you believe DHS's role should be in mitigating other UAS threats beyond what congress has already authorized?

UAS technology and threats are rapidly changing as demonstrated by hostilities in the Middle East and other places in the world. If confirmed, I would learn more on the Department's current authorities and available resources, and ensure they are both adequate and being utilized to protect the Homeland.

70. Do you believe that it is ever appropriate for the President to use the military for domestic law enforcement purposes? Please explain.

    a. If so, when and under what circumstances do you believe it would be appropriate to do so?

I understand that by law the military forces based in the Department of Defense are not able to engage in domestic law enforcement; however, the U.S. Coast Guard based in DHS does have law enforcement authority in maritime areas. If confirmed, I would engage with the Department's attorneys to better understand the differences as it relates to appropriate use of law enforcement authority for the U.S. Coast Guard. I also understand there are exceptions where the President can deploy the military for law enforcement purposes. If those conditions present itself, it would be appropriate.

U.S. Secret Service

71. Will you commit to providing the Committee unredacted copies of all requested records related to all assassination attempts against President Trump, all security threats against president trump since 2021, and all assets requested by the Trump campaign and/or Trump USSS detail since 2021?

If confirmed, in accordance relevant guidance from the Department of Justice, I agree to comply with any reasonable request for information from any duly constituted committee of Congress.

72. What are your thoughts on the Secret Service's two missions, investigations and protections, and the responsibilities associated with these missions? Do you believe any adjustments should be made?

The Secret Service should be structured in a way that best allows it to fulfill its mission, including its vital role protecting the President, Vice President, and other designated individuals. If confirmed, I will consider any reforms that advance that goal.

FEMA

73. How do you evaluate the current state of national preparedness for emergencies and disasters, including the capabilities of individuals and communities?

There is always room for improvement when it comes to emergency preparedness. If confirmed, I will work closely with the Department's leadership, as well as our federal, state, local, and other partners, to increase national preparedness based on lessons learned and expected risks moving forward.

74. The largest share of DHS's budget authority is provided to FEMA to carry out its mission. What are your initial recommendations for improving DHS and FEMA's management of its grant programs?

In managing its grant programs, it is critical for FEMA to listen to and collaborate with state and local leaders, who are often well positioned to assess the risks and needs of their communities. If confirmed, I will work to ensure FEMA's grant programs are effective, timely, and efficient. In particular, FEMA must stand ready to rapidly respond to natural disasters when they occur. Close collaboration and partnerships are essential to that goal.

TSA

75. In an interview with former TSA CFO Holly Mehringer, you mentioned staffing challenges with TSA, highlighting high turnover rates. If confirmed as Deputy Secretary, what steps will you take to help TSA recruit and retain staff?

TSA's staffing challenges are due to low pay, work conditions and limited career advancement. These issues create a situation that attracts many retirees and folks that are trying to supplement their income. If confirmed, I would work with TSA leadership to evaluate and correct these issues.

Decade of Sports

76. The U.S. will be hosting several international sports events in the coming decade, including the FIFA World Cup in 2026 and Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2028.

    a. If you are confirmed, what steps will you take to ensure the Department is prepared to support our federal, state, and local partners in securing these high-profile events?

If confirmed, I will work closely with partners across all levels of government and in the private sector to ensure the security of these events. In addition to this coordination, if confirmed, I welcome working with Congress to provide appropriations so the Department can perform its core functions for these types of events.

U.S. Coast Guard

77. Like the other military services, the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) has faced recruitment challenges. This led to USCG making operational changes, including closing or reducing operations at stations across the country. As Deputy Secretary, how would you ensure that USCG has the resources it needs to recruit and retain personnel?

The U.S. Coast Guard serves a vital role in protecting the American people. The U.S. Coast Guard helps secure our maritime borders, aid vessels in distress, safeguard fisheries and other natural resources, protect harbors and other critical infrastructure, and enforce the law. If confirmed, I look forward to working with Congress to ensure the U.S. Coast Guard has the resources it needs to succeed.

78. The U.S. is well behind other nations in icebreaking capacity. If confirmed, how would you ensure that USCG is keeping up with shipbuilding needs?

a. Given the lack of icebreaking capacity, how would you address capability gaps in the Arctic region?

If confirmed, I look forward to working with the Management Directorate, U.S. Coast Guard leadership, and Congress to ensure that the Coast Guard is adequately resourced to meet its mission in the Arctic.

V. Accountability

Whistleblower Protections

79. Protecting whistleblowers and their confidentiality is of the utmost importance to this Committee.

a. Please describe any previous experience with handling whistleblower complaints. What steps did you take to ensure those individuals did not face retaliation and that their claims were thoroughly investigated?

I have always taken complaints seriously, and I always ensure that any whistleblower does not face retaliation, in accordance with all applicable laws. I immediately engage the support of HR and Legal to follow the correct process and prepare a timely response approach.

b. If confirmed, what steps will you take to ensure that whistleblower complaints are handled appropriately at DHS?

If confirmed, I will ensure complaints are taken seriously, investigated thoroughly and appropriately, and that we do so in accordance with all applicable laws.

c. If confirmed, what steps will you take to ensure that whistleblowers at DHS do not face retaliation and that complaints of retaliation are handled appropriately?

I commit to working with Department leadership to ensure I understand the current policies, processes, and protections as it relates to whistleblowers and ensure compliance with the Whistleblower Protection Act.

Cooperation with Inspectors General

80. Inspectors General (IGs) face unique obstacles as they do their work, including budget challenges and disputes with agency heads over access to information. How do you view DHS's relationship with various Offices of Inspectors General (OIGs)?

IGs can play an important role in combatting fraud, waste, and abuse. If confirmed, I intend to rely on the Department's OIG to provide straightforward, unbiased reports about the state of the Department, the actions of its employees, and the use of taxpayer-funded resources.

81. Under what circumstances, if any, do you believe DHS would not be required to provide any OIG with timely access to agency records?

If confirmed, I commit to working to ensure that OIG receives access as appropriate under applicable laws.

82. If confirmed, do you commit to fully cooperate in a timely manner with any audits, investigations, and other reviews and related requests for information from IGs?

If confirmed, I look forward to cooperating with the IG to advance the Department's mission effectiveness, and value the IG's work to help improve efficiency.

83. If confirmed, do you commit to ensuring that all recommendations made by the DHS Inspector General are reviewed, responded to, if necessary, and, unless the agency justifies its disagreements with the recommendations, implemented to the fullest extent possible within a reasonable time period?

If confirmed, I commit to reviewing all recommendations made by the DHS IG and taking appropriate actions based on that review. When I was CFO, the Department's audit liaison function to the IG and GAO was a responsibility that I oversaw; and I look forward to understanding where progress has been made and what needs to be addressed.

84. Under what circumstances do you believe it is appropriate for the DHS IG to redact OIG reports that are provided to Congress?

If confirmed, I commit to working with the Department leadership and the DHS IG to ensure that Congress receives information, including OIG reports, as appropriate under applicable laws.

85. Will you commit to not interfere with any decision by the DHS Inspector General to provide members of the Committee with unredacted versions of any DHS Inspector General report?

I commit to working with the Department leadership and the DHS IG to ensure that Congress receives appropriate versions of OIG reports under applicable laws.

Cooperation with GAO

86. If confirmed, do you commit without reservation to ensuring GAO receives timely, comprehensive responses to requests for information, including for records, meetings, and information?

If confirmed, I will work with DHS officials to ensure that GAO has the necessary and appropriate responses to assist Congress with its oversight of the Department. I believe in the importance of the Department acting in an open, transparent, and timely manner.

87. If confirmed, what steps will you take to ensure DHS and its employees cooperate fully and promptly with GAO requests?

GAO plays an important part in ensuring that the federal government operates efficiently and effectively for the American people. If confirmed, I look forward to working with the Department's leadership to enable GAO to fulfill that mission by acting with openness and transparency.

VI. Relations with Congress

88. Do you agree without reservation to comply with any request or summons to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of Congress if you are confirmed?

Yes.

89. Do you agree without reservation to make any subordinate official or employee available to appear and testify before, or provide information to, any duly constituted committee of Congress if you are confirmed?

Yes.

90. Do you agree without reservation to comply fully, completely, and promptly to any request for documents, communications, or any other agency material or information from any duly constituted committee of the Congress if you are confirmed?

If confirmed, I commit to cooperating with congressional oversight request for information and documents.

91. Do you agree without reservation to reply to any reasonable request for documents, communications, or any other agency material or information from any member of Congress?

If confirmed, I commit to cooperating with congressional oversight request for information and documents.

92. If confirmed, how will you make certain that you will respond in a timely manner to Member requests for information?

If confirmed, I will ensure a timely and appropriate response to Member requests for information.

93. If confirmed, will you direct your staff to adopt a presumption of openness where practical, including identifying documents that can and should be proactively released to the public, without requiring a Freedom of Information Act request?

Yes. If confirmed, I would direct my staff to be proactive, where appropriate, in the release of information to ensure the public's trust in a transparent government.

94. If confirmed, will you keep this Committee apprised of new information if it materially impacts the accuracy of information your agency's officials have provided us?

If confirmed, I agree to keep the Committee apprised of new information, as appropriate, that materially impacts the accuracy of information the Department's officials have previously provided to the Committee.

95. Do you commit to providing Congress with timely notifications of major department actions, such as the removal of Agency leadership?

Yes.

VII. Assistance

96. Are these answers completely your own? If not, who has provided you with assistance?

These are my own answers. I wrote my responses to the best of my ability.

97. Have you consulted with DHS, or any other interested parties? If so, please indicate which entities.

I presented this questionnaire to DHS officials who provided guidance to ensure my answers were responsive and met the intent. I was free to accept or reject their guidance.

I, Troy Edgar, hereby state that I have read the foregoing Pre-Hearing Questionnaire and that the information provided therein is, to the best of my knowledge, current, accurate, and complete.

2/13/25

(Signature)

This 13th day of February, 2025

Post-Hearing Questions for the Record
Submitted to the Honorable Troy Edgar
From Senator Rand Paul, M.D.

"Nomination Hearing"
February 25, 2025

1. If confirmed, will you fully comply with all subpoenas issued by the Committee, including producing all responsive documents and records in your possession, custody, or control, in an unredacted form?

If confirmed, in accordance with the relevant opinions of the Office of Legal Counsel of the Department of Justice, I agree to comply with any reasonable request for documents, communications, or any other agency material or information from any duly constituted committee of Congress.

Post-Hearing Questions for the Record
Submitted to the Honorable Troy Edgar
From Senator Gary C. Peters

"Nomination Hearing"
February 25, 2025

1. You stated at your nomination hearing that if forced to choose between the President and following the law, you said you would follow the President. Do you stand by this statement?

In my hearing, I indicated that I do not believe the President would put me in that position because his directives are vetted by legal counsel. I am firmly committed to following the Constitution and rule of law.

   a. If so, why do you believe that the President is above the law?

No one is above the law.

   b. How would you respond to directives from the White House to reprogram funding outside of your statutory authority?

The Department's mission is to safeguard Americans, and it must work to achieve that mission within the bounds of the Constitution and the rule of law. If confirmed, I will seek to ensure that the Department follows the Constitution and all applicable laws. I believe President Trump has issued lawful acts that have been thoroughly vetted by legal counsel.

2. At your nomination hearing, you could not unequivocally state that it would be wrong for agency staff to be instructed not to communicate with Congress. I want to give you another chance to answer this question. Is it permissible for the Administration to instruct agencies not to communicate with Congress?

It is not appropriate to prevent agencies from communicating with Congress. It is appropriate to ensure communications flow through authorized channels and that agency personnel follow the chain of command and appropriately coordinate responses to Congress.

   a. Do you commit to ensuring your agency maintains communication with congressional offices?

Yes.

3. Given this Administration's focus on the southern border and immigration enforcement, do you have any concerns that the other core missions of DHS are no longer getting the attention that they deserve?

If confirmed, I will be focused on responsibilities of the Deputy Secretary and execute policies and align resources that supports the agenda of President Trump at the direction of the Secretary.

4. During the last Trump Administration, there were allegations that DHS intelligence officials were pressured into focusing on some threats at the expense of others, including deprioritizing white supremacists and anti-government extremists. Do you commit that– if confirmed – you will ensure DHS will use credible threats identified by intelligence experts to guide its work and not politics?

If confirmed, I will ensure threats to our homeland are thoroughly evaluated and incorporated into the decision-making process.

5. During your nomination hearing, you stated that you agreed with the Administration's decision to dismiss the Cyber Safety Review Board (CSRB), alleging that the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) has acted beyond its scope of authority. Do you stand by this statement?

If confirmed, I would evaluate the efficacy of the committee to understand whether this effort is duplicative to similar activities conducted by other governmental entities.

6. You have publicly stated that you believe CISA has gone "off mission". Specifically what part of CISA's mission is "off mission": actively identifying vulnerabilities, sharing information, providing guidance, and coordinating responses to incidents?

If confirmed, I would work with CISA to ensure it is aligned with its statutory authorities and consistent with President Trump's agenda.

7. You stated that CISA has taken over the CSRB's investigation into the Salt Typhoon hack.

    a. Please elaborate on this and describe CISA's actions to date to investigate this harmful cyber-attack, as well as their plans for future actions.

If confirmed, I look forward to working with Congress on this matter.

    b. If confirmed, do you commit to personally overseeing and providing a detailed and thorough investigative report to Congress on the Salt Typhoon intrusions within 90 days?

If confirmed, I will work with the Secretary to provide a timely report to Congress.

8. Shortly after Acting Secretary Huffman terminated all current memberships on advisory committees within DHS, I wrote to Secretary Noem on January 29th asking that all members of the DHS advisory committees be reinstated, or else other qualified individuals be appointed. I still have not received a response. Do you commit to providing me a response within two weeks of assuming office, if confirmed?

If confirmed, in accordance with relevant guidance from the Department of Justice, I will comply with reasonable requests for information from any duly constituted committee of Congress. Secretary Noem's response to your letter was sent on February 26, 2025.

9. While I agree that there are opportunities for the government to be more efficient, efforts to trim work forces in the private sector are generally targeted and aim to reduce redundant employees while retaining high performance individuals to continue the work of the company. Do you believe that firing employees who were recently promoted to a higher position is a good government/good business practice?

As a Senior Advisor, I was not involved with this action. In general, and in my business background, there are many different approaches to systematically reduce a workforce and if confirmed, I will carefully consider all options.

10. Starting in 2017, the Trump Administration deliberately separated arriving immigrant families under its zero-tolerance policy. The practice resulted in thousands of children being separated from their parents – including infants.

    a. Do you support a return to the family separation and zero-tolerance policy from the first administration?

If confirmed, I would seek to reunify unlawfully separated families.

    b. Will you commit to not supporting policies that puts migrant children in cages away from their mothers and fathers?

If confirmed, I look forward to legally enforcing our immigration laws.

11. For the first time in U.S. history, the federal government has moved immigrants apprehended and detained in the United States on civil immigration charges to the Naval Station at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba. What is the claimed legal authority for transporting immigrants from the United States to the Naval Station at Guantánamo Bay?

    a. What is your claimed legal basis for detaining immigrants at Naval Station at Guantánamo Bay, whether at the Migrant Operations Center, Joint Task Force Guantánamo, or other facilities there?

As a Senior Advisor, I have not been a decision maker on this action but if confirmed, I look forward to working with Congress on this issue.

    b. How will you ensure that rights, such as access to counsel and administrative and judicial review, are upheld given the restricted access to Naval Station Guantánamo Bay?

As a Senior Advisor, I have not been a decision maker on this action but if confirmed, I look forward to working with Congress on this issue.

c. Do you support detaining women and children at Naval Station Guantánamo Bay?

As a Senior Advisor, I have not been a decision maker on this action but if confirmed, I look forward to working with Congress on this issue.

d. What criteria makes a noncitizen amenable to transfer to Guantánamo?

As a Senior Advisor, I have not been a decision maker on this action but if confirmed, I look forward to working with Congress on this issue.

e. Please list which components and personnel are required for the sign-off for noncitizens to be identified and transferred to Guantánamo.

As a Senior Advisor, I have not been a decision maker on this action but if confirmed, I look forward to working with Congress on this issue.

f. How much does it cost per day to hold an immigrant at Guantánamo? Is the Department of Homeland Security reimbursing the Department of Defense for costs, or is the Department of Defense covering the costs?

I understand currently that is a non-reimbursable request. However, as a Senior Advisor, I have not been a decision maker on this action but if confirmed, I look forward to working with Congress on this issue.

g. What are the projected costs of expanding the Migrant Operations Center and any other operations or actions associated with the transfer of noncitizens to Naval Station Guantánamo Bay? What is the source of funding for these efforts?

As a Senior Advisor, I have not been a decision maker on this action but if confirmed, I look forward to working with Congress on this issue.

12. Federal agencies like DHS experience thousands of attempted intrusions into their networks every year from foreign adversaries, cybercriminals, and so-called hackers. Congress has worked to pass and enforce bipartisan cyber and privacy requirements to prevent unauthorized access and usage of the sensitive data federal agencies hold.

a. Do you believe federal agencies should be held to the highest standards of privacy and cybersecurity?

Yes.

b. If confirmed, how will you ensure that Americans' data controlled by DHS is not used or accessed inappropriately?

If confirmed, I will work closely with Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and the Chief Information Officer in the Management Directorate, to ensure the Department maintains the highest cyber and data standards.

13. DHS holds some of the most sensitive data about Americans – including their biometric information like their photos and fingerprints – and about American companies – including information they share to help protect themselves from cyber threats.

    a. Do you think it is appropriate for DHS to share that kind of sensitive information with entities or individuals that have no justifiable "need to know"?

If confirmed, I will ensure the Department follows all laws and regulations to ensure the privacy protections of American citizens.

14. In the past few weeks, individuals from the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) accessed Americans' photos and fingerprints from DHS, their student loan information from the Department of Education, and their health records at the VA, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid, and Social Security Administration. News reports suggest all of this information will be put into some kind of AI system – although which one is unknown.

    a. Do you think it would be appropriate to use all of this personal data about Americans to create a database akin to what the Chinese government has done to its own citizens?

As a Senior Advisor, I have not been working on this action but if confirmed, I look forward to working with Congress on this issue.

    b. Will you commit to answering clearly and in detail to Congress' questions about DOGE's use of DHS data and other government data?

If confirmed, I look forward to working with Congress on all lawful and reasonable requests.

15. DHS has an estimated 2,000 vacant cyber positions. Why do you support indiscriminate firing of probationary employees – either newer employees or those who were recently promoted at CISA – given the already critical vacancies?

As a Senior Advisor, I have not been working on this action but if confirmed, I look forward to working with Congress on this issue. In the hearing, I provided my perspective from working in industry.

16. Amid mass layoffs of federal employees at other agencies, this Administration seeks to hire additional personnel at agencies like CBP and ICE. The agencies had a similar directive from President Trump during his first administration. But, the DHS Office of Inspector General reported in 2017 that CBP and ICE struggled to meet those hiring directives and in November 2017 CBP entered into an almost $300 million contract it later had to cancel because it also couldn't meet the directives.

a. How do you plan to meet these hiring directives, when the Trump Administration failed to achieve it the first time?

If confirmed, I look forward to working with CBP and ICE to ensure they have the required resources to overcome potential issues that we may encounter.

17. The Department of Homeland Security has a significant role in preventing the importation of goods produced with forced labor into the United States, through mechanisms like the Forced Labor Enforcement Task Force and implementation of the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act (UFLPA).

a. If confirmed, what are your priorities for forced labor enforcement?

As a Senior Advisor, I have not been working on this action but if confirmed, I look forward to working with Congress on this issue.

b. How would you address the challenge of entities seeking to undermine or block effective enforcement of UFLPA?

As a Senior Advisor, I have not been working on this action but if confirmed, I look forward to working with Congress on this issue.

18. Do you commit to ensuring that DHS publishes accurate and comprehensive AI use case inventories annually, in accordance with the Advancing American AI Act and Executive Order 13960 Promoting the Use of Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence in the Federal Government?

If confirmed, I am committed to working with the Secretary to advance the Department's AI agenda consistent with the direction of President Trump.

19. Please describe how you will plan to implement DHS OIG's recommendations about how to ensure appropriate AI use at the agency (in report OIG-25-10)? Please indicate whether there are any recommendations you disagree with.

If confirmed, I look forward to working with the OIG and Congress to ensure the Department is following best practices in accordance with the Constitution and applicable laws.

20. In your nomination hearing, you stated that you think "that FEMA gets in the way" and that they "don't know the priorities" while supporting local governments responding to natural disasters. Can you expand on why you believe that, and please provide examples of situations where this has happened.

If confirmed, I look forward to further evaluating solutions for FEMA consistent with the direction provided by President Trump and the Secretary. This evaluation will take a close partnership with Congress as potential substantive changes will require legislative actions.

21. In your nomination hearing, you talked about ensuring that FEMA has a successful operational posture, can you describe what that looks like to you and if that includes any engagement with and support of local governments? Do you think FEMA should be terminated, and do you commit to working with Congress before making any major changes at the agency?

FEMA must be able to quickly and effectively help the American people in disaster situations. FEMA's emergency response capability remains both an immediate and long-term priority. Rapid relief requires extensive coordination between federal, state, and local partners. If confirmed, I look forward to further evaluating solutions for FEMA consistent with the direction provided by President Trump and the Secretary. This evaluation will take a close partnership with Congress as potential substantive changes will require legislative actions.

Post-Hearing Questions for the Record
Submitted to the Honorable Troy Edgar
From Senator Josh Hawley

"Nomination Hearing"
February 25, 2025

1. Former Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Administrator David Pekoske previously testified before the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee (HSGAC) that close to one thousand illegal immigrants presented a warrant for arrest as their official documentation at TSA checkpoints before being allowed to board commercial aircraft.[1]

    a. If confirmed, will you provide my office with commercial flight receipts relating to the transportation of illegal immigrants during the Biden Administration, especially those who used arrest warrants to board commercial aircraft?

If confirmed, in accordance with relevant guidance from the Department of Justice, I will comply with reasonable requests for information from any duly constituted committee of Congress.

    b. If confirmed, will you provide my office with an itemized accounting of illegal aliens flying with a prior history of violent crime or drug-related charges?

If confirmed, in accordance with relevant guidance from the Department of Justice, I will comply with reasonable requests for information from any duly constituted committee of Congress.

2. Last year, the FBI announced the largest and most pervasive cyber-attack in U.S. history, resulting from a China-backed cyber group known as Salt Typhoon.[2] According to reports, this attack allowed the Chinese government to access the call records and monitor the conversations of potentially millions of Americans.[3]

    a. If confirmed, will you commit to addressing this risk by improving the agency's digital infrastructure, reviewing potential vulnerabilities, and enhancing the agency's cybersecurity standards?

Yes, if confirmed I will work closely with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and the Chief Information Officer in the Management Directorate, to ensure the Department maintains the highest cyber and data standards.

3. DeepSeek is an artificial intelligence company based in the People's Republic of China (PRC) that collects a host of sensitive information on its users, including but not limited to date of birth,

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[1] https://www.foxnews.com/politics/tsa-chief-says-1000-illegal-immigrants-allowed-board-planes-warrants-id
[2] https://apnews.com/article/china-fbi-hacking-flax-typhoon-trump-ed1c4c2cf6fc3b07834c799add215f44
[3] https://apnews.com/article/china-fbi-hacking-flax-typhoon-trump-ed1c4c2cf6fc3b07834c799add215f44

username, email address, telephone number, chat history, device model, operating system, keystroke patterns, rhythms, IP address, and system language.[4] In the past few weeks, we have seen multiple government agencies begin to restrict this application from being used on government devices. [5]

a. If confirmed, will you commit to prohibiting DeepSeek from being used on government devices within your agency?

Yes, if confirmed I will work closely with CISA and the Chief Information Officer in the Management Directorate to protect the Department's devices.

[4] https://chat.deepseek.com/downloads/DeepSeek Privacy Policy.html

[5] https://www.insidegovernmentcontracts.com/2025/02/u-s-federal-and-states-governments-moving-quickly-to-restrict-use-of-deepseek/

Post-Hearing Questions for the Record
Submitted to the Honorable Troy Edgar
From Senator John Fetterman

"Nomination Hearing"
February 25, 2025

1. As the Deputy Director of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), you will have responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the entire agency. With that, what are the biggest challenges the department is facing today?

The Department employs over 250,000 personnel across various offices and components. In such a large organization, there are a variety of challenges facing the workforce and leaders. In particular, DHS is the product of an amalgamation of disparate organizations with a nexus to Homeland Security but each with their own unique purposes, structures, and cultures. The Secretary and Deputy Secretary's greatest managerial challenge is uniting these offices and components in a common mission to protect and defend the Homeland. Moreover, providing adequate training and resources to employees and creating an environment in which everyone has the opportunity to contribute will remain a critical focus. If confirmed, I look forward to collaborating with the Secretary and the Department's Management Directorate to meet these challenges head-on.

2. What are the most pressing human capital needs of DHS, and how do you expect to meet those needs with the current focus on decreasing the headcount across the federal government?

Recruitment and retention of talented employees are the bedrock of any successful organization. Secretary Noem has made it abundantly clear that we must have a well-trained, resourced, and effective workforce in order to carry out the Department's mission to secure our Nation. If confirmed, I will work closely with senior leaders throughout the Department to ensure we meet the human capital requirements to safely and effectively discharge our duties.

3. In the most recent Partnership for Public Service Best Places to Work in the Federal Government Report, job satisfaction at DHS rose to 60.8 percent. Considering the focus of the Administration on removing federal workers, how do you plan to maintain these recent gains in employee satisfaction?

If confirmed, I will support the DHS workforce by allowing them to perform their jobs without political influence.

4. Coordination between DHS and state, local, tribal, and territorial governments is key to protecting the United States from domestic and international threats. How will you make sure that DHS is able to realize positive relationships with its law enforcement partners?

If confirmed, I will work with Congress to ensure the Department has the resources to perform its core functions which includes providing guidance and expertise to state and local law enforcement,

defending against cyber-attacks, providing Department resources to protect against nuclear, chemical, or biological attacks, and promoting information sharing with state and local agencies.

5. In 2023, one Pennsylvanian died from a drug overdoes every two hours. Of these 4,721 deaths 82 percent were opioid-related and 76 percent involved fentanyl. As the focus of this Administration seems to be on removal of aliens in the interior of the United States, how will you ensure that adequate focus remains on stopping the importation and sale of fentanyl in Pennsylvania and across the nation?

If confirmed, I will work to secure our border so that we can stop the flow of illegal immigrants, drugs, and crime into our country. Securing the border will also help to combat human trafficking and prevent terrorists from having easy access into the United States. To achieve border security, the Department must commit to strong interagency response and work with leaders throughout government.

6. Recent reporting indicates that DHS is working to establish immigration detention facilities on U.S. military bases within the United States. According to the Memorandum, these facilities would be used as a staging ground for deportation operations.

    a. Will you support the detention of any alien currently in removal proceedings at a military installation, or will this only be used for individuals with a final order of removal?

The President has directed the removal and repatriation of illegal aliens that reside unlawfully within our Nation. This effort requires a whole-of-government approach to effectuate. If confirmed, I will work closely with all interagency partners to fulfill this mandate.

    b. Will you make sure that individuals held on military bases have the same rights as they would receive in an ICE detention facility not located on a military installation?

DHS honors the legal rights of all its detainees. I will work with DOD to ensure this also occurs at military bases.

    c. If confirmed, and this plan is operationalized, will you ensure that Senators and their staff have sufficient access to these facilities to perform proper oversight?

Yes.

7. As the former CFO of DHS, you are keenly aware of the costs associated with removal operations. Will you commit to ensuring that the Senate is regularly updated on the costs associated with the President's mass deportation plan, including the costs associated with Department of Defense removal flights and personnel costs?

If confirmed, I will ensure that Congress is regularly informed of costs associated with removal operations.

8. An alien with a final order of removal is the responsibility of DHS. Recently, individuals with a final order of removal have been flown to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba for "removal staging."

a. If confirmed, will you make sure that any individuals held at Guantanamo Bay have the same rights and treatment as any individual in an ICE detention facility in the United States?

DHS honors the legal rights of all its detainees. I will work with DOD to ensure this also occurs at military bases.

b. If confirmed, will you immediately provide detailed information, on a weekly basis, including the number of individuals held, the length of time each individual is held, the rationalization for holding each individual at Guantanamo Bay, the number of removal flights and their destinations, access to medical care, access to counsel, time allowed outside of cell each day, utilization of medical care, and number of personnel responsible for the safety of those in detention (including whether DHS, DOD, or contract personnel)?

If confirmed, in accordance with relevant guidance from the Department I will comply with reasonable requests for information from any duly constituted committee of Congress.

9. It was recently reported that the Trump Administration is planning to restart family detention. If confirmed, will you ensure that DHS complies fully with the Flores Settlement Agreement?

If confirmed, I will commit to upholding the Constitution and the rule of law.

Post-Hearing Questions for the Record
Submitted to the Honorable Troy Edgar
From Senator Ruben Gallego

"Nomination Hearing"
February 25, 2025

1. The Shelter and Services Program provides critical support to non-federal entities like NGOs and state and local governments, who are on the hook to provide shelter and other critical support to migrants due to Washington's failure to secure the border. Most importantly, the program keeps migrants from being released without support into the streets of Arizona border communities, straining municipal budgets and creating a humanitarian crisis. In recent days, we've seen the government claw back SSP funding from places like New York, over false allegations that it provides migrants with luxury housing. While numbers are relatively low at the border right now, these funds remain important because, in the past, lulls in migrant crossings have almost always been followed by surges that overwhelm Arizona border communities. What is your plan to ensure SSP funding is not clawed back or repurposed from border states like Arizona?

It is critical for FEMA to listen to and collaborate with state and local leaders, who are often well positioned to assess the risks and needs of their communities.

2. Mr. Edgar, border states like mine have large swathes of federally recognized tribal land that span across the Southern border into Mexico. What is your plan to ensure DHS will respect tribal sovereignty, acknowledge the longstanding, important government-to-government relationship between tribes and the US government, and consult with tribes when building infrastructure or implementing policies that impact their lands?

I believe coordination with federal, state, local, tribal and other partners is critical to keep Americans safe and our borders secure. If confirmed, I will consult with appropriate stakeholders as security infrastructure is developed and work closely with the Assistant Secretary for the Office of Partnership and Engagement to ensure all stakeholders have a voice.

3. While we're all familiar with the President's desire to build a wall along the entire Southern border, construction in some areas with natural barriers is prohibitively expensive. For example, estimates show that building a wall along Guadalupe Canyon in Arizona would cost $41 million per mile, enough to provide health care to thousands of Arizonans. While I'm a proponent of an all-of-the-above approach to border security, including building barriers in targeted locations, what is your plan to ensure that we don't waste valuable federal resources in places where a border wall simply doesn't make sense, such as Guadalupe Canyon?

As a taxpayer, I believe strongly in the efficient use of government funds to accomplish strategic objectives such as securing our Southern border. If confirmed, I will ensure that funds are appropriately used to make America safer and more secure.

4. For the last 18 months, I have heard from agents in the field that many of Arizona's surveillance towers have been inoperable for long periods of time, causing alarming situational awareness

gaps for Border Patrol. This is an important issue that needs to be fixed. What is the current operational availability of all fixed, relocatable, and mobile surveillance systems deployed by CBP across the southwest border, and when will they be up and running at high levels of operational availability again?

To achieve border security, the Department must provide those on the frontlines with the resources they need to achieve their mission. If confirmed, I will work with CBP and Congress to ensure they have the tools and equipment necessary to carry out their sworn duties.

5. Since the inception of the Department of Homeland Security in 2003, Congress has been told that effective border security depends upon a layered detection system that includes detection technology, tactical infrastructure, and trained Border Patrol agents and Customs officers. Arizona has been a test bed for the deployment of surveillance technologies and advanced common operating picture software that provides CBP officers with real-time situational awareness of border activity. Unfortunately, rather than maintain and upgrade previously deployed technologies, CBP has created a series of technology systems under multiple program names, using an acquisition, procurement and operational approach that has favored the deployment of new hardware that all too often does not integrate into existing technology systems. This acquisition, procurement and operational approach has occurred without a full life-cycle cost analysis being performed before additional border security technology has been deployed. Please explain whether you believe a full life-cycle cost analysis should occur before ANY decision is made to procure and deploy new technology systems, to include a full cost-benefit analysis comparing upgrades and maintenance to existing systems to the cost of new systems, and whether you would require DHS components to comply with this full life cycle cost analysis as a precondition to beginning a new procurement.

Technology should be used to help the Department address the constantly changing challenges posed by bad actors. I have supported large organizations, programs and initiatives that require oversight, approval, and accountability; this has involved approaches and methodologies such as System Development Life Cycle used by large system integrators. If confirmed, I will work to ensure that the Department uses available technology and other resources provided by Congress and will seek to ensure that resources are used effectively and efficiently to achieve the Department's mission.

6. Mr. Edgar, Do you believe that all DHS contract awards under the SBIR program should (1) require the award recipient to meet the Small Business Administration's size and revenue limits for what constitutes a "small business" for federal government procurement purposes, and (2) be re-evaluated every 5 years to ensure that contract awardees are, in fact, then currently meeting the definition of a "small businesses?" If not, why not?

If confirmed, I will work to ensure that all Department programs are lawful, effective, transparent, and accountable.

Post-Hearing Questions for the Record
Submitted to the Honorable Troy Edgar
From Senator Richard Blumenthal

"Nomination Hearing"
February 25, 2025

1. President Trump eliminated the family reunification task force, which was committed to reconnecting families separated by President Trump's family separation policy that so horrified this nation when it became public in 2018.

    a. If confirmed, how will you now ensure families are reunified?

If confirmed, I will enforce our immigration laws.

    b. If confirmed, will you commit to not restarting the family separation policy?

If confirmed, I will continue to reunify unlawfully separated families.

2. President Trump's Executive Order 14160 "Protecting the Meaning and Value of Citizenship" seeks to eliminate the constitutionally protected fourteenth amendment right to birthright citizenship.

    a. Do you believe this executive order is constitutional?

I believe President Trump issues lawful acts that have been thorough vetted by legal counsel. I understand that this matter is now being decided by the courts.

    b. If the federal courts affirm the constitutionality of birthright citizenship do you commit to following the courts' rulings?

I am firmly committed to following the Constitution and the rule of law.

3. Immigration and Customs Enforcement issued a memo titled, "Unaccompanied Alien Children Joint Initiative Field Implementation" directing immigration agents to identify unaccompanied children in order to serve them with Notices to Appear and deport them.

    a. If confirmed, how will you ensure unaccompanied children do not become subject to human trafficking and other forms of abuse when deported?

    b. If confirmed, how do you plan on working with HHS and ORR to ensure safeguards are in place to protect vulnerable unaccompanied children, including legal representation in immigration court proceedings?

If confirmed, I will work with all stakeholders throughout the government to eliminate the scourge of child trafficking and help prosecute those responsible to the fullest extent of the law.

4. Congress codified the rights of federal employees to organize and collectively bargain as part of the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978. In your pre-hearing questionnaire, you said you supported "legally valid" collective bargaining rights and agreements.

    a. Do you support the right of workers, including federal employees, to organize and collectively bargain?

Collective bargaining plays an important role and if confirmed, I am committed to working with these groups to strengthen DHS and carry out our mission.

    b. If the answer to the previous question is not simply "Yes," please explain the circumstances under which you do not support such rights.

If confirmed, I will support legally valid agreements with the Department.

    c. If confirmed, do you agree not to interfere in organizing attempts by any eligible DHS employee?

If confirmed, I will support legally valid agreements with the Department.

    d. If confirmed, do you commit to honoring all existing collective bargaining agreements covering DHS employees?

Collective bargaining plays an important role and if confirmed, I am committed to working with these groups to strengthen DHS and carry out our mission.

    e. If confirmed, do you commit that you will not terminate any collective bargaining agreement that includes DHS employees?

Collective bargaining plays an important role and if confirmed, I am committed to working with these groups to strengthen DHS and carry out our mission.

5. The Department's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) provides our nation's election officials critical resources to safeguard state and local elections. The Trump Administration's recent decision to fire 130 CISA employees will surely harm these efforts. The National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) has written to Secretary Noem regarding the Department's review of CISA, asking them to continue core election services such as physical security assessments and threat information sharing.

    a. If confirmed, would you rehire those employees at CISA to ensure election officials the resources and support they need?

If confirmed, I am committed to learning more and ensuring the Department is protecting the Homeland, particularly election infrastructure by detecting and countering actors that desire to harm our country.

b. If confirmed, would you resist further cuts to CISA's election security efforts?

The Department is responsible for protecting the Homeland and American people, including from those targeting our political process. If confirmed, I will work closely with CISA, federal, state, and local partners to help safeguard America.

6. If confirmed, what steps will you take to ensure that CISA has sufficient resources and personnel to fulfill its critical national security mission?

The Department must provide CISA with the resources they need to achieve their mission. If confirmed, I will work with CISA and Congress to ensure they have the tools and equipment necessary to carry out their critical national security mission.



Arvind Krishna
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, IBM

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February 5, 2025

The Honorable Rand Paul, Chairman
The Honorable Gary Peters, Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Paul and Ranking Member Peters:

I am writing to express my support for the nomination of Troy Edgar for the position of Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security. Since joining IBM as a Partner in June 2021, Troy has been successfully leading our Federal Finance & Supply Chain Consulting business. As a Navy Veteran, he has also been deeply involved in IBM programs that support Veterans. Prior to his tenure at IBM, Troy's impressive career included serving as DHS CFO, founding a management consulting firm, serving as the Mayor of Los Alamitos, CA and holding executive positions at Boeing and PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Troy has been a pivotal leader within IBM Consulting, particularly within the Federal Consulting team. He brings a unique blend of expertise in driving efficiency and productivity in the commercial consulting market, along with a deep understanding of Federal operations, challenges and opportunities. His extensive experience in both public service and commercial sector, combined with his thoughtful leadership style, positions him to make an immediate and positive impact at the Department of Homeland Security.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Arvind Krishna

Arvind Krishna, Chairman & CEO, IBM

Major County Sheriffs of America
www. mcsheriffs.com

February 21, 2025

The Honorable John Thune
511 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rand Paul
295 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Gary Peters
724 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Thune, Minority Leader Schumer, Chairman Paul, and Ranking Member Peters:

On behalf of the Major County Sheriffs of America (MCSA), we strongly support the nomination of Troy Edgar to serve as Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). With his extensive background in public service and deep commitment to law enforcement, we are confident that Mr. Edgar is uniquely qualified to address the challenges faced by state and local agencies.

MCSA represents the largest Sheriff's Offices in the U.S., serving over one-third of the population. Our membership includes counties with populations of 400,000 or more, and we understand the critical role DHS plays in supporting local law enforcement.

Mr. Edgar's distinguished career in public service, including his current senior advisory role at DHS and prior tenure as DHS Chief Financial Officer, positions him as an exceptional choice to serve as Deputy Secretary. He has a proven track record in overseeing complex operations, managing resources efficiently, and prioritizing the needs of frontline law enforcement agencies.

What sets Mr. Edgar apart is his focus on collaboration and transparency. In our recent conversations, he expressed a clear commitment to working closely with state and local law enforcement, ensuring we have the resources and support needed to protect our communities. His approach centers on fostering open lines of communication and addressing the most urgent threats to public safety while ensuring that local agencies are heard and represented at the federal level.

Mr. Edgar's dedication to public service, his leadership experience, and his commitment to supporting law enforcement make him the right choice to help safeguard our communities. We fully support his nomination and urge your swift confirmation. If you need further information, please contact Megan Noland, Executive Director of MCSA.

Respectfully,

Sheriff Bill Brown
MCSA President
Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office, CA

Sheriff Bob Gualtieri
MCSA Vice President
Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, FL

Megan E. Noland
MCSA Executive Director

NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

SHERIFF KIERAN DONAHUE
President

February 18, 2025

The Honorable Rand Paul
Chairman
Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Gary Peters
Ranking-member
Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Paul and Ranking Member Peters:

On behalf of the National Sheriffs' Association and the 3,081 elected Sheriffs serving communities nationwide, I am pleased to offer our strong endorsement of Troy Edgar's nomination to serve as Deputy Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

Troy Edgar's extensive experience in both the public and private sectors, combined with his service as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for DHS, makes him uniquely qualified for this critical role. His deep understanding of the Department's mission and operations ensures he will seamlessly transition into this new leadership role. Mr. Edgar's distinguished career spans more than 30 years, including service in the U.S. Navy, executive leadership in the aerospace and defense industries, and his role as founder of Global Conductor. His breadth of experience provides him with a strategic, solutions-focused approach to leadership, qualities essential for DHS as it addresses evolving national security challenges.

Equally important to the National Sheriffs' Association is Mr. Edgar's demonstrated commitment to working with law enforcement. He understands the importance of collaboration with federal, state, and local agencies in advancing the Department's mission to protect our nation. His experience with budget management and resource allocation will ensure DHS continues to support essential programs such as federal task forces, information-sharing initiatives, and joint operations that are vital to the safety of our communities.

If confirmed, we are confident Mr. Edgar will foster a culture of collaboration, strengthen partnerships with law enforcement, and prioritize the critical needs of frontline agencies. His principled leadership, operational expertise, and dedication to public service make him an exceptional choice for Deputy Secretary.
We enthusiastically endorse Troy Edgar's nomination and we look forward to his confirmation by the full Senate.

Very Respectfully,



Sheriff Kieran Donahue
Canyon County, ID
President
National Sheriffs' Association

Cc: POTUS
Senator John Thune, Majority Leader
Senator Charles Schumer, Minority Leader
Jonathan Thompson, Executive Director/CEO

OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
TODD SPITZER

February 13, 2025

The Honorable Rand Paul, Chairman
The Honorable Gary Peters, Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs
340 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Paul and Ranking Member Peters,

As the elected District Attorney of Orange County, California, I am writing to express my support for the nomination of Troy D. Edgar for the position of Deputy Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.

Mr. Edgar has proudly served his local community since he was elected to the Los Alamitos City Council in 2006. He has earned a reputation for being a fearless leader who has repeatedly answered the call of public service locally and as a previous appointee as the Chief Financial Officer and Associate Deputy Under Secretary of Management for Homeland Security where he managed a $90 billion budget.

As the Deputy Secretary, he will be responsible for running the day-to-day operations of the Department effectively and efficiently. DHS is the largest U.S. law enforcement agency which encompasses Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), U.S. Secret Service, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration (USCIS), and the U.S. Coast Guard.

Mr. Edgar has and will continue to be a reliable partner of law enforcement, both at the local and federal level, and the Department would be well served by someone with his expertise and commitment to fulfilling the mission of protecting the safety and security of the United States.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Respectfully,

Todd Spitzer
Orange County (California) District Attorney