

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 11, 2026

Mr. Corey Lewandowski

[REDACTED]  
Windham, NH 03087

Dear Mr. Lewandowski:

I write to express my deep concern over your alleged actions at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and to direct you to preserve all records that may be relevant to ongoing and future Congressional investigations. Reports that you demanded personal financial compensation from government contractors in exchange for favorable contract decisions, if true, indicate significant corruption and abuse of taxpayer dollars. Allegations that you attempted to fire military service members and law enforcement professionals for trivial reasons – in one case allegedly firing a U.S. Coast Guard pilot over a misplaced blanket – also raise serious questions about your leadership, judgement, and fitness to serve in a sensitive national security role.<sup>1</sup>

Reports suggest that you made DHS contracting decisions in order to reap personal financial gain. According to a recent report from *NBC News*, for example, during the presidential transition you solicited the head of GEO Group, a private prison contractor, for payment in exchange for protecting and growing GEO Group's DHS contracts. The firm allegedly offered to put you on retainer, but you reportedly rejected that offer and asked for compensation based on new or renewed contracts.<sup>2</sup> After GEO Group declined this arrangement, you reportedly ordered that DHS award no further contracts to GEO Group.<sup>3</sup> In another example, the company Salus Worldwide allegedly invited a marketing firm to work on a \$20 million DHS contract, but only if this firm also hired your handpicked consultants to manage the contract.<sup>4</sup> A Salus Worldwide representative allegedly told the owner of the marketing firm that “[w]e need to make sure we are properly thanking the person who gave [the contract] to us.”<sup>5</sup> In May, 2025 Salus Worldwide won a fast-tracked DHS contract worth nearly \$1 billion to help administer the Trump Administration's self-deportation efforts despite a lack of relevant experience.<sup>6</sup> Notably, according to *NBC News*, “GEO Group and several other companies in government contracting

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<sup>1</sup> *A Pilot Fired Over Kristi Noem's Missing Blanket and the Constant Chaos Inside DHS*, Wall Street Journal (Feb. 12, 2026) ([www.wsj.com/politics/policy/chaos-kristi-noem-homeland-security-f095ac95](http://www.wsj.com/politics/policy/chaos-kristi-noem-homeland-security-f095ac95)).

<sup>2</sup> *Some DHS contractors told White House officials they were asked to pay Corey Lewandowski*, NBC News (Mar. 19, 2026) ([www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/dhs-contractors-told-white-house-officials-asked-pay-corey-lewandowski-rcna263744](http://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/dhs-contractors-told-white-house-officials-asked-pay-corey-lewandowski-rcna263744)).

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*

have complained to officials in Trump's inner circle that Lewandowski... has directly or indirectly stood to personally profit from the DHS contracting process."<sup>7</sup>

Your central role in DHS contracting also allegedly benefited your close allies. For example, on September 30, 2025, DHS awarded a \$250,000 contract for public affairs consulting to American Made Media Company, LLC, a political firm owned and operated by your former professional associates, but with no prior experience in homeland security policy.<sup>8</sup> The application for this contract – which was only open for 31 hours – specified the need for “in-depth knowledge of... the agenda and goals of the current Secretary of Homeland Security,” with preference given to applicants who “served in a cabinet agency during the first Trump presidency.”<sup>9</sup> This language appears to steer the contract towards specific applicants based on proximity to you and then-Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem. The document is noticeably silent on prior border security, immigration, or international affairs experience, even though the first deliverable is “[w]ritten position papers addressing international policy challenges and opportunities.”<sup>10</sup>

Additional contracts under your watch underscore your flagrant conflicts of interest, especially given your former roles as a political consultant and campaign operative for then-Governor Noem, as well as President Trump.<sup>11</sup> For example, DHS spent \$220 million on an ad campaign that featured Secretary Noem riding a horse in front of Mount Rushmore, which was reportedly subcontracted, in part, to a former political consultant for Secretary Noem.<sup>12</sup> DHS also awarded a large contract to Daedalus Aviation – a company owned by a major campaign donor to Secretary Noem and President Trump – despite the company lacking relevant experience.<sup>13</sup> The \$140 million contract to Daedalus Aviation to overhaul passenger planes for deportation

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<sup>7</sup> *Supra*, note 2.

<sup>8</sup> *Homeland security awarded \$250,000 contract to Trump-aligned consulting firm*, The Guardian (Feb. 26, 2026) ([www.theguardian.com/us-news/2026/feb/26/homeland-security-contract-trump](http://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2026/feb/26/homeland-security-contract-trump)).

<sup>9</sup> Department of Homeland Security, Office of Public Affairs, *Attachment 1 – Statement of Work: Public Affairs Consulting Services* (Notice ID ROPA-25-00022) (Sept. 26, 2025).

<sup>10</sup> *Id.*

<sup>11</sup> See, e.g., Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, *Kristi Noem's company was paid almost \$140,000 by a pro-Noem group in 2024* (Jan. 16, 2026) ([www.citizensforethics.org/reports-investigations/crew-investigations/kristi-noems-company-was-paid-almost-140000-by-a-pro-noem-group-in-2024/](http://www.citizensforethics.org/reports-investigations/crew-investigations/kristi-noems-company-was-paid-almost-140000-by-a-pro-noem-group-in-2024/)).

<sup>12</sup> *Firm Tied to Kristi Noem Secretly Got Money From \$220 Million DHS Ad Contracts*, ProPublica (Nov. 14, 2025) ([www.propublica.org/article/kristi-noem-dhs-ad-campaign-strategy-group](http://www.propublica.org/article/kristi-noem-dhs-ad-campaign-strategy-group)).

<sup>13</sup> *DHS Fast-Track \$1 Billion Contract to Pro-Trump Donor's Company*, The Washington Post (Dec. 17, 2025) ([www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2025/12/17/dhs-contract-trump-donor/](http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2025/12/17/dhs-contract-trump-donor/)).

flights led one aviation executive to say that “it’s hard to see this as anything but a waste of public money.”<sup>14</sup>

As de facto Chief of Staff of DHS, you reportedly reviewed all contracts worth more than \$100,000 prior to approval by Secretary Noem. This policy, which was new during your tenure and has since been revoked, appears to have delayed crucial contracts, including for the deployment of search and rescue teams after deadly floods in Texas in July 2025,<sup>15</sup> analysis of possible cyberattacks,<sup>16</sup> and screening equipment to detect fake passports at airports.<sup>17</sup> “Corey is part of the problem,” said one administration official. “It doesn’t matter how quickly we get it there, it doesn’t just go straight to [Noem’s] desk.”<sup>18</sup> A former senior acquisition official at DHS said, “I think most, if not all sane and knowledgeable people would consider this policy absolutely nuts.”<sup>19</sup>

You also face numerous allegations of abusive behavior and misconduct unrelated to contracting. According to press reports, you sought a law enforcement badge and a federally issued gun, despite your lack of federal law enforcement training.<sup>20</sup> An official who declined to provide you with a weapon was subsequently passed over for a promotion.<sup>21</sup> In another incident, you allegedly “fired a U.S. Coast Guard pilot after Secretary Noem’s blanket was left behind on

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<sup>14</sup> *DHS Says Its New Deportation Planes Are Almost Ready for Takeoff. Critics Doubt the Plan Will Work*, CNN (May 16, 2026) ([www.cnn.com/2026/05/16/politics/deportation-planes-dhs-fleet-airline](http://www.cnn.com/2026/05/16/politics/deportation-planes-dhs-fleet-airline)).

<sup>15</sup> *FEMA’s Response to Texas Flood Slowed by Noem’s Cost Controls*, CNN (July 10, 2025) ([www.cnn.com/2025/07/09/politics/fema-texas-flood-noem](http://www.cnn.com/2025/07/09/politics/fema-texas-flood-noem)); *FEMA is Welcoming Back 15 Whistleblowers Placed on Leave During Kristi Noem’s Tenure*, NBC News (Apr. 30, 2026) ([www.nbcnews.com/politics/politics-news/fema-welcoming-back-15-whistleblowers-placed-leave-kristi-noems-tenure-rcna342924](http://www.nbcnews.com/politics/politics-news/fema-welcoming-back-15-whistleblowers-placed-leave-kristi-noems-tenure-rcna342924)).

<sup>16</sup> *Contract Lapse Leaves Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity Sensor Data Unanalyzed at National Lab*, CyberScoop (July 22, 2025) ([www.cyberscoop.com/contract-lapse-leaves-critical-infrastructure-cybersecurity-sensor-data-unanalyzed-at-national-lab/](http://www.cyberscoop.com/contract-lapse-leaves-critical-infrastructure-cybersecurity-sensor-data-unanalyzed-at-national-lab/)).

<sup>17</sup> *Noem’s Spending Rule Causes Delays at Homeland Security Dept.*, The New York Times (Aug. 21, 2025) ([www.nytimes.com/2025/08/21/us/kristi-noem-spending-contracts-homeland-security-department.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2025/08/21/us/kristi-noem-spending-contracts-homeland-security-department.html)).

<sup>18</sup> *Lewandowski’s Veto Power Over DHS Contracts Frustrates Admin Officials: ‘Corey is part of the problem’*, Politico (Aug. 27, 2025) ([www.politico.com/news/2025/08/27/tk-00527043](http://www.politico.com/news/2025/08/27/tk-00527043)).

<sup>19</sup> *‘Absolutely nuts’: DHS Secretary to Review All Contract, Grant Awards Over \$100k*, Federal News Network (June 18, 2025) ([www.federalnewsnetwork.com/acquisition-policy/2025/06/absolutely-nuts-dhs-secretary-to-review-all-contract-and-grant-awards-over-100k/](http://www.federalnewsnetwork.com/acquisition-policy/2025/06/absolutely-nuts-dhs-secretary-to-review-all-contract-and-grant-awards-over-100k/)).

<sup>20</sup> *Supra*, note 1.

<sup>21</sup> *Id.*

a plane.”<sup>22</sup> The pilot was told to take a commercial flight home and then reinstated when no other pilots were available to fly the DHS aircraft.<sup>23</sup> Similarly, during a tour of an immigration facility in March 2025, you allegedly “pushed to fire the official leading the tour, because that official had briefly turned his back on Noem while answering a question from another person in the group,” according to a report by the *Wall Street Journal*.<sup>24</sup>

Congress has a responsibility to investigate these allegations, which requires a comprehensive record of your tenure at DHS. However, according to Administration sources cited in recent reporting by *Axios*, “[Lewandowski] doesn’t always use his government email or phone number for official business, avoiding digital paper trails on government systems.”<sup>25</sup> Importantly, you also worked at DHS as a part-time “special government employee,” a status normally reserved for technical experts and short-term consultants.<sup>26</sup> Federal records retention policies do not envision special government employees serving as senior officials, who are subject to more stringent record keeping requirements, which raises the possibility that DHS did not retain your records in a manner consistent with your high-level role.<sup>27</sup> Complicating this issue, although you were closely involved in the transition process at DHS after President Trump was elected in 2024, reporting from the time indicated that it was “not clear if Lewandowski has an official role yet in the transition or is helping in a personal capacity... He’s not on the DHS landing team.”<sup>28</sup> This uncertainty raises the possibility that records from the transition period that cover matters of legitimate interest to Congress have not been retained in accordance with records management requirements for transition officials.<sup>29</sup>

Given the significant allegations of corruption, misuse of taxpayer dollars, and other concerns outlined above, further Congressional investigation, including by the Senate Homeland

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<sup>22</sup> *Id.*

<sup>23</sup> *Id.*

<sup>24</sup> *How Corey Lewandowski Became Kristi Noem’s Gatekeeper at DHS*, *Wall Street Journal* (Apr. 17, 2025) ([www.wsj.com/politics/policy/how-corey-lewandowski-became-kristi-noems-gatekeeper-at-dhs-6c08d996](http://www.wsj.com/politics/policy/how-corey-lewandowski-became-kristi-noems-gatekeeper-at-dhs-6c08d996)).

<sup>25</sup> *Scoop: White House Suspicious of Lewandowski’s “Temp” Work*, *Axios* (Aug. 14, 2025) ([www.axios.com/2025/08/14/white-house-dhs-lewandowski-noem](http://www.axios.com/2025/08/14/white-house-dhs-lewandowski-noem)).

<sup>26</sup> *Lewandowski Back for Another Year as DHS’s Part-Time Power Broker*, *Axios* (Jan. 23, 2026) ([www.axios.com/2026/01/23/corey-lewandowski-kristi-noem-homeland-security](http://www.axios.com/2026/01/23/corey-lewandowski-kristi-noem-homeland-security)).

<sup>27</sup> Congressional Research Service, *Managing Electronic Messages from High-Level Officials Through Capstone* (IF12432) (June 15, 2023).

<sup>28</sup> *Lewandowski is Helping Noem with DHS Transition*, *Politico* (Dec. 12, 2024) ([www.politico.com/live-updates/2024/12/20/congress/lewandowski-helping-dhs-transition-00195690](http://www.politico.com/live-updates/2024/12/20/congress/lewandowski-helping-dhs-transition-00195690)).

<sup>29</sup> National Archives and Records Administration, *MEMORANDUM TO FEDERAL AGENCY RECORDS OFFICERS: Guidance Relating to President-Elect Transition Team Materials* (AC 09.2017) (Nov. 16, 2016).

Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, is necessary. Please provide the following documents, including but not limited to any documents on your personal electronic devices, and answer the following questions no later than June 26, 2026:

1. Please provide all documents and communications, including but not limited to e-mail, text messages, and messages on Signal or other encrypted messaging apps, between you and officers and executives of Salus Worldwide and GEO Group, including but not limited to their affiliates and subsidiaries, since November 6, 2024;
2. Please provide all documents that evidence any direct or indirect payment from Salus Worldwide and GEO Group, including but not limited to its officers, executives, employees, affiliates, and subsidiaries, to you, including but not limited to any entity of which you are or have been a trustee, officer, beneficial owner, or employee, since November 6, 2024;
3. Please provide documents sufficient to show all invoices to Salus Worldwide and GEO Group, including but not limited to its officers, executives, employees, affiliates, and subsidiaries, from you, including but not limited to entities of which you are or were a trustee, officer, beneficial owner, or employee, since November 6, 2024;
4. Please provide all documents and communications, including but not limited to e-mail, text messages, and messages on Signal or other encrypted messaging apps, between you and procurement, acquisition, contracting, or ethics officials at DHS or its components regarding upcoming contracts, solicitations, contract extensions, other transactions, or other business opportunities since January 21, 2025;
5. Please provide all documents and communications concerning the decision to implement the \$100,000 contract approval requirement that Secretary Noem initiated;
6. Please provide the following federal ethics and financial disclosure documents:
  - a. All OGE-278e forms you have submitted since November 6, 2024;
  - b. All OGE-278-T forms you have submitted since November 6, 2024;
  - c. Parts III and IV of all OGE-450 forms you have submitted since November 6, 2024;
  - d. All correspondence between you and OGE since November 6, 2024;
  - e. All correspondence in which you sought or received ethics guidance from the DHS Office of General Counsel since November 6, 2024;

7. Were you recused of any issues at DHS while serving as a special government employee? If so, please list all recused issues and produce all documents and communications related to these recusals;
8. If you received any special waiver of public reporting requirements, please provide all paperwork, correspondence, and communications that pertain to the granting of the waiver, including all materials required to be submitted to OGE under 5 C.F.R. § 2634.205 justifying the special waiver, such as communications from the agency;
9. Were you a member of President-elect Trump's DHS landing team, and if so, when did you begin this work?
  - a. Please describe your role during the transition, including any contact with prospective or then-current DHS contractors;
  - b. In your answers, please provide information related to both official employment and to consulting or informal assistance you may have provided;
10. When did you become a special government employee at DHS?
  - a. What were your duties as a special government employee?
  - b. Please describe your reasons for serving as an unpaid special government employee as opposed to a paid member of the excepted service, consistent with past DHS practice;
  - c. Were you designated as a Capstone official under General Records Schedule 6.1? If so, when?
  - d. Were you reminded before your departure from government employment about your obligations to preserve your email communications and other records? If so, please identify the persons who reminded you and provide any supporting documentation.

Additionally, I request that you preserve any other records in your possession relevant to your government service, including any role with the presidential transition, and all records related to current or former DHS contractors or subcontractors. These materials should include all emails, text messages, and messages, including messages on Signal and/or other encrypted messaging applications. Any government records in your possession not approved for removal should be returned to the appropriate agency for retention.

Thank you for your prompt attention to these matters. If you have any questions related to this request, please contact [REDACTED]. Please send any official correspondence relating to this request to [REDACTED].

Corey Lewandowski  
June 11, 2026  
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Sincerely,



Margaret Wood Hassan  
United States Senator

Cc: Rand Paul  
Chairman  
Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee

Gary Peters  
Ranking Member  
Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee