



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0603

September 6, 2024

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr Avenue SE
Washington, D.C. 20528

The Honorable Christopher Wray
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigations
935 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20535

The Honorable Patrick J. Lechleitner
Acting Director
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Washington, D.C. 20024

The Honorable Katrina W. Berger
Executive Associate Director
Homeland Security Investigations
Washington, D.C. 20536

The Honorable Jared Polis
Governor of Colorado
136 State Capitol
Denver, CO 80203

Secretary Mayorkas, Director Wray, Director Lechleitner, Associate Director Berger, and Governor Polis:

We write regarding the recent takeover of several apartment complex buildings in Aurora, Colorado, by Tren de Aragua, (TdA), a Venezuelan gang that has been classified as a transnational criminal organization. Multiple local elected officials and the nonpartisan Perkins Coie law firm that was hired to investigate the takeover have confirmed numerous criminal acts committed by TdA gang members including threats of murder, robbery, extortion, trespassing, assaults and battery, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, drug related crimes, stolen vehicles, human trafficking and sexual abuse of minors.

The nonpartisan law firm investigation found that in November of 2023 a “consultant for the property management company was so severely beaten and stomped by gang members that he had to go to the hospital.” The law firm also determined TdA gang members “allegedly stabbed a Whispering Pines resident for refusing to pay rent to the gang” and threatened to kill a property manager. Internal Aurora police documents obtained from news sources also found TdA gang members threatened to kill a housekeeper and her family if she didn’t give them keys to vacant apartments. Video footage obtained during the law firm investigation “shows TdA gang members violently breaking into vacant apartments, kicking doors open, and moving Venezuelan illegal immigrants into empty apartments.” An apartment property manager has also testified that TdA gang members now use “the formally vacant units to host parties where they serve drugs and child prostitution.”

The Biden-Harris Administration’s open border policies coupled with the state of Colorado’s sanctuary policies and the city of Denver’s sanctuary city status have fueled and exasperated the immigration crisis in Colorado. Non sanctuary cities and neighboring communities have suffered harm from these policies and don’t have the resources or authorities to mitigate the influx of

illegal aliens and TdA gang members. Douglas, El Paso and Mesa counties for example have filed a lawsuit against the state of Colorado over sanctuary policies that prevent local law enforcement from detaining illegal immigrants and coordinating with ICE to ensure their removal. Since Joe Biden and Kamala Harris took office there have been over 10 million illegal aliens caught entering America. According to the Denver Gazette, the City of Denver has spent more than \$74 million since January 2023 to provide housing, food, and transportation to more than 42,000 illegal immigrants.

As our constituents and citizens in Colorado are very concerned about these matters and the invasion taking place in our country, we demand action and answers to the following questions:

1. What role has DHS or other federal agencies played in placing illegal aliens in Colorado?
2. How many illegal aliens have DHS or other federal agencies placed in Colorado?
3. What nonprofits has DHS worked with to place illegal aliens in Colorado?
4. What information has DHS known about TdA gang members in Aurora and for how long?
5. When was the first indication that TdA's presence was growing in Colorado?
6. How many known TdA gang members have crossed the border in the past year?
7. What point of entry are these TdA gang members entering the country at and where are they going?
8. What policies, including state policies, are hindering local communities from coordinating with DHS and ICE to remove illegal aliens and TdA gang members?
9. Are there additional authorities Congress can provide, and if so, what are they, to assist with removing illegal aliens and TdA gang members?
10. What actions are the State of Colorado and DHS taking to combat the crimes being committed by TdA gang members and ensure their removal?

Please provide the requested information by September 19, 2024. It is vital to ensure the safety and well-being of all Colorado residents.

Sincerely,



Lauren Boebert
Member of Congress



Chip Roy
Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress



Greg Lopez
Member of Congress