

United States Senate

October 9, 2025

The Honorable Pamela Bondi
Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Bondi,

Thank you for recently appearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee for the Department of Justice's annual oversight hearing. I appreciated your candor and transparency. During my questioning, I discussed the epidemic of political violence that besets our nation today. One troubling aspect of this crisis is the lack of clear and objective data on the issue. To that end, for the purpose of assisting us in crafting legislative solutions, I am following up on your agreement to have the Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation produce a comprehensive report on Left-wing political violence in the United States to inform Congress and the American people about the extent and gravity of this crisis.

The disturbing rise in political violence reached a horrifying new height with the gruesome assassination of Charlie Kirk. As I highlighted at the hearing, the recent spate of political violence comes predominantly from the Left. Indeed, Charlie's assassin inscribed Left-wing messages on the bullets in his rifle, had recently become enmeshed in the world of far-Left politics, and described him as "hateful"—mirroring the Leftist framing of traditional conservative values.

Charlie Kirk's assassination was not an isolated attack. Instead, it is the latest example in a spate of far-Left political violence that has spiraled into a crisis in recent years. The media and academia continue to lie to the American people and deny the reality of political violence from Leftists. They try to portray it as a "both sides" problem—and even that the right is the font of political violence. Those claims are false.

To support that false narrative, the Left needs the American people to disbelieve their own eyes and ears. But the American people remember the congressional baseball shooting, where a Leftist didn't start shooting until he was sure Republicans were the ones on the field.¹ The American people remember wave after wave of BLM riots across the country that destroyed neighborhoods and livelihoods, caused at least \$1 billion in property damage,² injured more than 2,000 police officers,³ and killed many Americans.⁴ They remember the 2020 "Summer of Love"

¹ Staff of H. Permanent Select Comm. on Intelligence, 118th Cong., *Majority Staff Report on the FBI's Conclusions on the 2017 Congressional Baseball Shooting*, at 5 (Comm. Print May 6, 2025), https://intelligence.house.gov/uploadedfiles/majority_report_of_baseball_shooting.pdf.

² Kaelan Deese, *Vandalism, Looting Following Floyd Death Sparks at Least \$1B in Damages Nationwide: Report*, THE HILL (Sept. 16, 2020), <https://thehill.com/homenews/news/516742-vandalism-looting-after-floyd-death-sparks-at-least-1-billion-in-damages-report/>.

³ Staff Writer, *More Than 2,000 Officers Injured in Summer's Protests and Riots*, POLICE MAG. (Dec. 3, 2020), <https://www.policemag.com/patrol/news/15311242/more-than-2000-officers-injured-in-summers-protests-and-riots>.

⁴ Mike Gonzalez, *Congress Should Investigate the Black Lives Matter Riots*, HERITAGE FOUND. (Jan. 3, 2023), <https://www.heritage.org/progressivism/commentary/congress-should-investigate-the-black-lives-matter-riots>.

riots from Antifa.⁵ They remember the “Jane’s Revenge” firebombing and vandalism campaign after the *Dobbs* draft leak,⁶ and the assassination attempt against a sitting Supreme Court justice.⁷ They remember the two attempts on President Trump’s life. They remember the pro-terrorist mobs that took to the streets after Hamas’s October 7th atrocities.⁸ They remember the pro-Hamas riots and encampments at college campuses across the country.⁹ They remember the Left celebrating an assassin who murdered a healthcare CEO, such as by proposing legislation in the assassin’s name.¹⁰ They remember the countless times conservative students and speakers have been attacked on campuses across the country.¹¹ They remember the endless riots and attacks against ICE and Border Patrol.¹² And now they remember the assassination of Charlie Kirk.

Each of these attacks came from the Left. Each taken individually is unacceptable. But taken together, they demonstrate that Left-wing extremist violence has become pervasive.¹³ Even *The Atlantic* has taken note, finding “that Left-wing terrorism has increased since President Donald

⁵ See, e.g., *Portland on Fire: The Summer of Violence*, AM. FIRST POLICY INST. (Nov. 11, 2024), <https://www.americafirstpolicy.com/issues/portland-on-fire-the-summer-of-violence>.

⁶ *Jane’s Revenge Attacks Tracking Project*, ANTIFAWATCH, <https://janesrevenge.antifawatch.net/>.

⁷ Dan McLaughlin, *The Brett Kavanaugh Assassination Plot Aimed to Kill Multiple Justices to Preserve Roe v. Wade*, NATIONAL REVIEW (Sept. 22, 2025), <https://www.nationalreview.com/corner/the-brett-kavanaugh-assassination-plot-aimed-to-kill-multiple-justices-to-preserve-roe-v-wade/>.

⁸ See, e.g., Noah Pollak, *The Pogrom on Pico Boulevard*, THE FREE PRESS (June 25, 2024), https://www.thefp.com/p/the-pogrom-on-pico-boulevard?hide_intro_popup=true.

⁹ See, e.g., Kenneth Garger, Jack Morphet, Joe Marino & Emily Crane, *Violent Pro-Terror Rioters Shouting ‘Intifada!’ Smash Their Way into Columbia University Academic Building in Latest Campus Chaos*, N.Y. POST (Apr. 30, 2024), <https://nypost.com/2024/04/30/us-news/columbia-university-protesters-take-over-hamilton-hall/>.

¹⁰ Isabel Keane, *California ballot measure named after Luigi Mangione would make it illegal to ‘delay, deny’ healthcare coverage: ‘Crazy’*, N.Y. POST (Mar. 30, 2025), <https://nypost.com/2025/03/30/us-news/california-healthcare-proposal-named-after-alleged-unitedhealthcare-assassin-luigi-mangione/>; Christopher F. Rufo, *Luigi Mangione and Left-Wing Nihilism*, CHRISTOPHERRUFO.COM (Dec. 13, 2024), <https://christopherrufo.com/p/luigi-mangione-and-left-wing-nihilism>; David Harsanyi, *Luigi Mangione frenzy: It’s time for a national conversation on left-wing violence*, N.Y. POST (Dec. 12, 2024, 5:46 PM ET), <https://nypost.com/2024/12/12/opinion/luigi-mangione-frenzy-time-to-examine-left-wing-violence/>.

¹¹ Turning Point USA (@TPUSA), X (Apr. 3, 2025), <https://x.com/TPUSA/status/1907884759256281356>; Turning Point USA (@TPUSA), X (Oct. 23, 2024), <https://x.com/TPUSA/status/184922085228750076>.

¹² See, e.g., U.S. Dep’t of Homeland Sec., *DHS Sets the Record Straight on LA Riots, Condemns Violence Against Law Enforcement, Destruction of Property and Threats to ICE Agents* (June 10, 2025), <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2025/06/10/dhs-sets-record-straight-la-riots-condemns-violence-against-law-enforcement>; U.S. Dep’t of Homeland Sec., *DHS Statement on Capture of Violent Extremist Involved in Prairieland Attack on ICE Agents* (July 16, 2025), <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2025/07/16/dhs-statement-capture-violent-extremist-involved-prairieland-attack-ice-agents>; U.S. Dep’t of Homeland Sec., *Three Law Enforcement Personnel Injured After Horrific Shooting in McAllen, Texas* (July 8, 2025), <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2025/07/08/three-law-enforcement-personnel-injured-after-horrific-shooting-mcallen-texas>; U.S. Dep’t of Homeland Sec., *DHS Condemns Rioters’ Violent Assault on ICE Law Enforcement in San Francisco* (Aug. 22, 2025), <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2025/08/22/dhs-condemns-rioters-violent-assault-ice-law-enforcement-san-francisco>; U.S. Dep’t of Homeland Sec., *Law Enforcement Arrests Suspect Who Made Bomb Threat on ICE Dallas Facility* (Aug. 26, 2025), <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2025/08/26/law-enforcement-arrests-suspect-who-made-bomb-threat-ice-dallas-facility>; U.S. Dep’t of Homeland Sec., *DHS Responds to Arrest of U.S. Citizen That Attempted to Run Down CBP Agent* (Aug. 29, 2025), <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2025/08/29/dhs-responds-arrest-us-citizen-attempted-run-down-cbp-agent>.

¹³ See, e.g., Noah Rothman, *A Clockwork Blue: How the Left Has Come to Excuse Away and Embrace Political Violence*, COMMENTARY (Feb. 15, 2025), <https://www.commentary.org/articles/noah-rothman/left-excuses-embraces-political-violence/>.

Trump's rise to political prominence in 2016."¹⁴ And combined with the seemingly endless list of Left-wing political violence incidents, it is clear our country faces a crisis—a crisis overwhelmingly driven by one ideological side.¹⁵

The three weeks since Charlie Kirk's assassination have only confirmed that we face an onslaught of Leftist violence. Two Utah men who prominently displayed anti-Trump flags at their home planted a bomb under a local Fox News-affiliate's news van that was covering Kirk's murder.¹⁶ A retired Left-wing lobbyist with a hit-list of Trump administration officials fired multiple shots at an ABC-affiliate's office building after ABC temporarily suspended Jimmy Kimmel for lying about the Leftist motivations of Kirk's assassin.¹⁷ More recently, a sniper who wrote anti-ICE messages on his bullets tried to assassinate ICE officers in Dallas, killing two detainees and severely injuring others.¹⁸ Evidence suggests that the shooter drew inspiration from the Kirk assassination, used apps that track ICE agents' operations, and Left a note explaining he hoped to cause "terror."¹⁹ Incredibly, that same ICE facility was targeted with a bomb threat earlier this year.²⁰

Despite this overwhelming evidence, Leftists and their media allies trot out several faulty studies to deceive the American people about Left-wing political violence. For example, one study counts prison-gang violence as right-wing while systematically ignoring prominent examples of Left-wing violence.²¹ Another tracks only incidents involving deaths,²² thereby ignoring thousands of instances of street-violence from BLM and Antifa riots and targeted terrorist attacks

¹⁴ Daniel Byman and Riley McCabe, *Left-Wing Terrorism Is on the Rise*, THE ATLANTIC (Sept. 23, 2025), <https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2025/09/charlie-kirk-left-wing-terrorism/684323/>

¹⁵ See, e.g., *President Trump Isn't Backing Down from Crushing Radical Left Violence*, THE WHITE HOUSE (Sept. 22, 2025), <https://www.whitehouse.gov/articles/2025/09/president-trump-isnt-backing-down-from-crushing-radical-left-violence/>; Luke Rosiak, *Members of Leninist, Transgender 'Socialist Rifle Association' Linked to String of Violent Attacks*, DAILY WIRE (Sept. 18, 2025), <https://www.dailywire.com/news/socialist-rifle-association-linked-to-numerous-violent-attacks>.

¹⁶ Fox News (@FoxNews), X (Sept. 15, 2025), <https://x.com/FoxNews/status/1967543396077113753>.

¹⁷ Zoe Hussain, *Gunman Who Allegedly Fired at ABC Affiliate Station Had Anti-Trump Writings in Car, Note to 'Do the Next Scary Thing': Prosecutors*, N.Y. Post (Sept. 22, 2025), <https://nypost.com/2025/09/22/us-news/sacramento-man-who-allegedly-fired-at-abc-affiliate-station-had-anti-trump-writings-in-car-and-note-to-do-the-next-scary-thing-prosecutors/>.

¹⁸ Michael Dorgan & Brooke Taylor, *Second Detainee Dies After Dallas ICE Facility Sniper Attack, family speaks out*, FOX NEWS (Sept. 30, 2025), <https://www.foxnews.com/us/second-detainee-dies-after-dallas-ice-facility-sniper-attack-family-speaks-out>.

¹⁹ FBI Director Kash Patel (@FBIDirectorKash), X (Sept. 25, 2025), <https://x.com/FBIDirectorKash/status/1971213954123751822>

²⁰ U.S. Dep't of Homeland Sec., *Law Enforcement Arrests Suspect Who Made Bomb Threat on ICE Dallas Facility* (Aug. 26, 2025), <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2025/08/26/law-enforcement-arrests-suspect-who-made-bomb-threat-ice-dallas-facility>; U.S. Dep't of Homeland Sec. (@DHSgov), X (Sept. 24, 2025), <https://x.com/DHSgov/status/1971628782156239100>.

²¹ See, e.g., Ryan James Girdusky, *How the Left Manipulates Data on Political Violence: The ADL and Universities Are Lying*, NAT'L POPULIST (Sept. 17, 2025), <https://natpop.substack.com/p/how-the-left-manipulates-data-on>; Mia Cathell, *Liberals Rely on Skewed Studies to Claim Right-Wing Violence Is More Common*, WASH. EXAM'R (Sept. 22, 2025), <https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/3816498/liberals-rely-on-skewed-studies-to-claim-right-wing-violence-is-more-common/>; Timothy P. Carney, *The Shoddy Efforts to Pin Political Violence on the Right*, WASH. EXAM'R (Sept. 21, 2025), https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/in_focus/3815582/shoddy-efforts-pin-political-violence-on-the-right/.

²² See, e.g., Carney, *supra* note 21.

like the ambush against ICE in Alvarado, Texas,²³ and an Antifa cell detonating an explosive device at a Michael Knowles campus speech.²⁴ Another oft-cited study was authored by an Antifa-affiliated professor known to promote political violence to advance Left-wing causes.²⁵

In the wake of sustained Left-wing violence, many Americans may be hesitant to exercise their free speech rights and thoroughly debate ideas in the public square. One of our government's central purposes is to secure the people's natural rights—like the freedom of speech—from deprivations by violent actors.²⁶ Congress and the Administration should therefore work together to assess a range of policy options to protect the central pillars of American society—free speech and the right to assembly. Before Congress can do so, it must have a full appraisal of the facts. I therefore request that the DOJ and FBI create a public report on Left-wing political violence in the United States to inform Congress and the American people about the extent of this crisis.

In keeping with your commitment to transparently and resolutely protect the American people, I respectfully request the report addresses the following:

- Provide a comprehensive accounting of Left-wing political violence in the 21st century, with a particular focus on the past ten years.
- Review prior investigations to re-assess whether they should be included in the domestic terrorism database. For example, the FBI for years did not include the 2017 Republican congressional baseball practice shooting as a domestic terrorism incident and tried to hide the shooter's Leftist motivations.²⁷
- Review every case in the domestic terrorism database and determine what, if any, ideological motivation was present.
- Catalogue not only incidents involving deaths but also attempts to intimidate and coerce people through mobs, street violence, doxxing, SWATting, and similar tactics.²⁸
- Catalogue large-scale Left-wing political violence actions, such as “CHAZ/CHOP,” Standing Rock, “Cop City,” and similar outposts.²⁹

²³ *10 Suspects Charged in July 4 Attack on Texas ICE Detention Facility*, U.S. Immigr. & Customs Enf't (July 8, 2025), <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/10-suspects-charged-july-4-attack-texas-ice-detention-facility>.

²⁴ *Creator of Anarcho-Terrorist Website “It’s Going Down” Revealed in Court Documents*, ANTIFAWATCH (June 30, 2023), <https://antifawatch.net/article/igd-peppy-pittsburgh-terrorism>.

²⁵ See, e.g., Carney, *supra* note 21; Beth Brelje, *The ‘Study’ You’re Citing About Right-Wing Violence Is Full of Fake Data*, THE FEDERALIST (Sept. 20, 2025), <https://thefederalist.com/2025/09/20/the-study-youre-citing-about-right-wing-violence-is-full-of-fake-data/>.

²⁶ THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE para. 2 (U.S. 1776) (explaining that “Governments are instituted among Men” to “secure [natural] rights”); U.S. CONST. pmbl. (explaining one of the Constitution’s purposes is to “secure the Blessings of Liberty,” such as the natural right to free speech).

²⁷ *Majority Staff Report*, *supra* note 1, at 2, 14–15.

²⁸ See, e.g., Andy Ngo, *Antifa Trial of the Decade Exposes a Violent Conspiracy in San Diego Riot*, THE POST MILLENNIAL (Apr. 18, 2024), <https://thepostmillennial.com/andy-ngo-reports-antifa-trial-of-the-decade-exposes-a-violent-conspiracy-in-san-diego-riot>.

²⁹ Lia Eustachewich, *How the Seattle CHOP Zone Went from Socialist Summer Camp to Deadly Disaster*, N.Y. POST (July 1, 2020), <https://nypost.com/2020/07/01/how-seattle-chop-went-from-socialist-summer-camp-to-deadly-disaster/>; James B. Meigs, *Greenpeace Verdict Is a Wake-Up Call for Progressive NGOs*, CITY J. (Mar. 21, 2025), <https://www.city-journal.org/article/greenpeace-verdict-energy-transfer-dakota-access-pipeline>; David Propper, 61

- Explain the organizational structure of domestic terror cells and how they relate to larger national (and international) organizations and funders.³⁰ For example, how was the Antifa terrorist cell that executed a sophisticated ambush on an ICE facility—where multiple law enforcements officers were injured—organized and funded.³¹
- Re-assess whether the domestic terrorism categories, such as Anti-Government/Anti-Authority Violent Extremist (AGAAVE), Animal Rights/Environmental Violent Extremist (AREVE), Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremist (REMVE), and Abortion-Related Violent Extremist (ARVE), sufficiently capture the nature of modern ideologically inspired violence.³²
- Provide a comprehensive overview explaining how the DOJ and FBI, under your leadership, have been responding to the rise of Left-wing political violence.
- Highlight prior discussions, efforts, or initiatives in this area—or lack thereof—by your predecessors.
- Make recommendations for how to stop the rising tide of Left-wing political violence, including both proposals for law enforcement initiatives and potential legislative actions for Congress.

To be clear, the DOJ and FBI must avoid the mistakes of the Biden administration’s politicization and weaponization of the DOJ and FBI against conservatives. We do not want to repeat the mistakes of the past, this time in the opposite direction against the Left. We want a full accounting of Left-wing political violence, within the bounds of the law and Constitution, in order to protect the American people and our cherished liberties against attack from those who seek to do us harm.

Sincerely,



Eric S. Schmitt
United States Senator

‘Anarchists’ Indicted by Georgia AG for Targeting Atlanta’s ‘Cop City’ Training Facility, N.Y. POST (Sept. 6, 2023), <https://nypost.com/2023/09/06/georgia-attorney-general-chris-carr-indicts-61-anarchists-for-targeting-atlanta-cop-city/>.

³⁰ Park MacDougald, *The People Setting America on Fire*, TABLET MAG. (May 6, 2024), <https://www.tabletmag.com/sections/news/articles/people-setting-america-on-fire-soros-tides-wespac>; Ryan Mauro, *The Top Financiers of the U.S. Intifada*, CAPITAL RES. CTR. (Sept. 16, 2025), <https://capitalresearch.org/article/the-top-financiers-of-the-u-s-intifada/>.

³¹ Press Release, U.S. Att’y’s Off. N.D. Tex., “Ten Individuals Charged with Attempted Murder of Federal Officers and Firearms Offenses in Alvarado Police Officer Shooting” (July 8, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndtx/pr/ten-individuals-charged-attempted-murder-federal-officers-and-firearms-offenses>.

³² See, e.g., Kyle Shideler, *How to Dismantle Far-Left Extremist Networks* (Sept. 17, 2025), THE AMERICAN MIND, <https://americanmind.org/memo/how-to-dismantle-far-left-extremist-networks/>; Leif Le Mahieu, *Why Creating a New Terrorism Category for Transgender Violence Matters*, DAILY WIRE (Sept. 25, 2025), <https://www.dailywire.com/news/why-creating-a-new-terrorism-category-for-transgender-violence-matters>.