

United States Senate

November 17, 2025

Chief Judge Sri Srinivasan
United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia
333 Constitution Ave, NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

Chief Judge Sri Srinivasan,

We write to you regarding Chief Judge James “Jeb” Boasberg of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. Chief Judge Boasberg should be administratively suspended pending formal impeachment by the House of Representatives and, if impeached, an impeachment trial by the Senate.

On November 4, 2025, Articles of Impeachment were filed against Chief Judge Boasberg over, among other things, his role in improperly granting gag orders in the “Arctic Frost” probe: “Ignoring his responsibility to wield the power of his office in a constitutional manner, Chief Judge Boasberg granted Special Counsel John L. Smith authorization to issue frivolous nondisclosure orders in furtherance of . . . ARCTIC FROST.”¹ Your court adopted a similar sentiment when it reversed Chief Judge Boasberg in *In re: Sealed Case*, which found that he had erred by too permissively granting government-requested nondisclosure orders against X Corp.²

These Articles of Impeachment have received bicameral support.³ Chief Judge Boasberg’s role in Arctic Frost is not the only complaint levied against him. He is accused of improperly using his role as Chief Judge, on March 15, 2025, to assign himself *J.G.G. v. Trump*, a case the Supreme Court found he lacked jurisdiction over.⁴ And in July 2025, it came to light that on March 11, 2025, “at one of the Conference’s semiannual meetings, Judge Boasberg disregarded its history, tradition, and purpose to push a wholly unsolicited discussion about ‘concerns that the Administration would disregard rulings of federal courts, leading to a constitutional crisis.’”⁵

There is precedent for administratively suspending a judge pending an impeachment inquiry. The most recently impeached judge, G. Thomas Porteous, Jr. of the Eastern District of Louisiana, was administratively suspended prior to his impeachment while the Judicial Conference of the United States investigated allegations against him of bribery and fraud.⁶ As Chief Judge of the applicable circuit judicial council, you are tasked with overseeing the Article III remedial process for the misconduct of the appellate and district judges of your circuit.

¹ Elizabeth Elking and Breanne Deppisch, *Trump foe Boasberg hit with articles of impeachment*, FOX NEWS (Nov. 4, 2025), <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/trump-foe-boasberg-hit-articles-impeachment>.

² *In re Sealed Case*, 144 F.4th 329 (D.C. Cir. 2025).

³ Courtney Bubl , GOP Senators Push For Judge Boasberg’s Impeachment, LAW360 (Oct. 29, 2025), <https://www.law360.com/pulse/articles/2405483/gop-senators-push-for-judge-boasberg-s-impeachment>.

⁴ See *Trump v. J. G. G.*, 604 U.S. 670, 672-74 (2025).

⁵ *Complaint Against United States District Court Chief Judge James E. Boasberg* at 2 (D.C. Cir. Jud. Council July 17, 2025), <https://www.courthousenews.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/FINAL-Misconduct-Complaint-7.28.pdf>.

⁶ Jennifer Steinhauer, *And Over in the Senate, an Impeachment Trial for a Judge*, N.Y. TIMES (Dec 7, 2010), <https://thecaucus.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/12/07/and-over-in-the-senate-an-impeachment-trial-for-a-judge/>.

On July 28, 2025, the Department of Justice filed a formal judicial misconduct complaint against Judge Boasberg, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 351(a).⁷ Under 28 U.S.C. § 352, you are mandated to “expeditiously” review this complaint and determine whether to take “appropriate corrective action” or dispense with the case “by written order stating his . . . reasons.” On information and belief, you are yet to take any published steps regarding this very public complaint.

Given you have not entered an order under 352(b), we assume you are following your duties under 28 U.S.C. § 353, which mandate that you “shall promptly” establish a special committee “to investigate the facts and allegations contained in the complaint.” While this impeachment process proceeds, we must have transparency regarding the actions the Circuit Judicial Council is taking against the judicial misconduct of Chief Judge Boasberg.

To that end, please submit the following in writing to the House Judiciary Committee, the Senate Judiciary Committee, the Department of Justice, and the signees of this letter:

1. A status update on the DOJ judicial misconduct complaint filed against Judge Boasberg on July 28, 2025. Include including the following in that status update:
 - a. Any communications you have had with Chief Judge Boasberg regarding this judicial misconduct complaint.
 - b. If you have had no communication with Chief Judge Boasberg regarding this complaint, an attestation to that effect.
 - c. Any record, document, or tangible object produced in relation to this complaint.
2. If this judicial misconduct complaint has been dismissed, provide the above groups with your written explanation for dismissing it, as well as any other misconduct complaints against Chief Judge Boasberg that have been filed in 2025.
3. If you are yet to act on this judicial misconduct complaint, provide the above groups with a written explanation for why you have failed to “expeditiously” act upon the complaint.
4. If you have formed a special committee to investigate the judicial misconduct complaint:
 - a. Place Boasberg on administrative suspension and remove him from the Circuit Judicial Council, pending the resolution of the complaint and Articles of Impeachment filed against him in the House of Representatives, and;
 - b. Provide a written explanation for why you are yet to place him on administrative suspension and have allowed him to remain on the Circuit Judicial Council while these claims have been pending

⁷Nate Raymond and Jan Wolfe, *Trump administration files misconduct complaint against prominent judge Boasberg*, REUTERS (July 29, 2025), <https://www.reuters.com/legal/government/trump-administration-files-misconduct-complaint-against-prominent-judge-boasberg-2025-07-28/>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Eric S. Schmitt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Eric" being more prominent.

Eric S. Schmitt
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Michael S. Lee". The signature is cursive, with the last name "Lee" being the most distinct part.

Michael S. Lee
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Tommy Tuberville". The signature is cursive, with the first name "Tommy" being the most prominent.

Tommy Tuberville
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Lindsey Graham". The signature is cursive, with the first name "Lindsey" being the most prominent.

Lindsey Graham
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Kevin Cramer". The signature is cursive, with the first name "Kevin" being the most prominent.

Kevin Cramer
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Bill Hagerty". The signature is cursive, with the first name "Bill" being the most prominent.

Bill Hagerty
United States Senator