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April 22, 2026

The Honorable Markwayne Mullin
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Mullin,

I write to request an immediate review by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) of naturalization approvals issued during fiscal years 2021 through 2024 to determine whether any grants of citizenship were unlawfully approved, including cases involving fraud, concealment of material facts, false testimony, or other deficiencies that would support denaturalization proceedings or referral to the Department of Justice under federal law. Federal law permits revocation of naturalization where citizenship was illegally procured or procured by concealment of a material fact or by willful misrepresentation.

This request comes in the wake of the murder in Georgia of Department of Homeland Security employee Lauren Bullis by a suspect who, according to DHS, became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 2022. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reports that Ms. Bullis, 40, worked in multiple roles within DHS's Office of Inspector General, including as an auditor, and was fatally shot and stabbed in DeKalb County. The same report states that the suspect, Olaolukitan Adon Abel, was born in the United Kingdom and became a naturalized citizen in 2022.

Although public reporting indicates that certain known convictions occurred after his naturalization, this case still raises serious questions about whether derogatory information, false statements, material omissions, or other warning signs were missed during the adjudication process. Congress has a responsibility to determine whether this was an isolated failure or evidence of broader weaknesses in the naturalization system during a period of exceptionally high approval volume.

Official DHS and USCIS data show that 809,000 individuals were naturalized in fiscal year 2021, 969,380 in fiscal year 2022, 878,460 in fiscal year 2023, and 818,500 in fiscal year 2024. In total, that amounts to roughly 3.48 million naturalizations over those four years. Those numbers alone warrant serious oversight to ensure that speed and scale did not come at the expense of proper vetting, public safety, and the integrity of American citizenship.

American citizenship is among the most significant benefits our government can confer. The American people should be able to trust that every individual granted citizenship was thoroughly vetted, met the statutory requirements for naturalization, and did not obtain that status through fraud, deception, or concealment. If DHS cannot guarantee that the standard was upheld during

this high-volume period, then Congress deserves a full accounting of how many cases warrant review and what corrective steps are being taken now.

Accordingly, I request that DHS and USCIS provide the following information no later than [DATE]:

1. The number of individuals naturalized in each fiscal year from FY2021 through FY2024, and to date in FY2025.
2. The number of naturalization cases from that period that have been reopened, flagged for fraud review, referred for denaturalization review, or referred to the Department of Justice.
3. A description of the vetting protocols in place during that period for identifying criminal history, false testimony, gang affiliation, prior immigration fraud, public-safety concerns, and other derogatory information relevant to naturalization eligibility.
4. Any changes made during that period to adjudications policy, background checks, interview procedures, supervisory review, or case-processing expectations that may have affected naturalization approvals.
5. The number of naturalized citizens from that period who were later arrested, charged, or convicted of serious violent offenses, to the extent such data are tracked.
6. Whether DHS has conducted any internal review of the 2022 naturalization approval granted to Olaolukitan Adon Abel, including whether any derogatory information was available, missed, undisclosed, or insufficiently reviewed at the time of adjudication.
7. Whether DHS will initiate a broader audit of naturalization approvals issued during FY2021 through FY2024 to identify cases involving fraud, concealment, false statements, or other unlawful grants of citizenship.

The murder of a DHS employee by a suspect who, according to DHS, became a naturalized citizen in 2022, is a tragedy that demands answers. Congress cannot ignore the possibility that, during a period of historically high naturalization numbers, serious vetting failures may have occurred.

We are greatly appreciative of the work the Department has done to fix the problems of the previous Biden administration and give Americans more clarity and safety in their communities.

Sincerely,



Earl L. "Buddy" Carter
Member of Congress