

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1014

December 16, 2021

The Honorable Muriel Bowser
Mayor, District of Columbia
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC, 20004

Mayor Bowser—

We write to demand the immediate termination of Kathleen Landerkin as Deputy Warden of Operations at the Central Treatment Facility (CTF). Deputy Warden Landerkin has demonstrated a consistent pattern of disrespect for Members of Congress and fellow corrections staff, in addition to displaying a public animus toward anyone who supports President Donald J. Trump. Following a thorough investigation of her social media statements, actions, and endorsements, we are convinced that Landerkin lacks the objectivity and professionalism required of a law enforcement officer charged with overseeing inmates detained in connection with the events of January 6, 2021.¹

During a recent visit to the DC jail, Members of Congress were exposed to a two-tier justice system in which the January 6 defendants were treated categorically different from the remainder of the prison population.² January 6 defendants reported being subjected to months of solitary confinement, verbal abuse (e.g., called “white supremacists”), harassment, beatings from guards, denial of basic medical care, religious services, communion, nutritious diet, and access to attorneys. They cannot participate in the educational programs offered to other inmates, including testing for a GED, obtaining a workplace license, or making progress on an undergraduate degree. While most of these inmates have no prior criminal history and have yet to be convicted of any crime, Landerkin is allowing them to be treated as subhuman.

Since Landerkin is charged with overseeing these inmates, we find their treatment over the better part of a year to be sufficient cause for change in supervision. The role of Deputy Warden should be filled by a person who exhibits objectivity and neutrality toward those they are tasked with detaining.

Instead, Landerkin is perpetuating a two-tier incarceration system where Caucasian pre-trial detainees are given “Nation of Islam” reading materials telling them they are evil because of the color of their skin and that America is a terrible country that perpetuates a racial caste system.

¹ <https://twitter.com/awkathyjo>

² <https://greene.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/greene.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/Unusually%20Cruel%20An%20Eyewitness%20Report%20From%20The%20DC%20Jail.pdf>

Meanwhile, other inmates—many of whom have already been convicted—have access to book clubs, moot court, and hours of television.

If her actions toward the January 6 inmates were not enough, her words speak volumes. Landerkin has endorsed numerous statements which are blatantly anti-American and reprehensible: among others, equating Christians to the Ku Klux Klan (KKK), stating that Ashli Babbitt was responsible for being shot on January 6, labeling the President a “f**king Republican hypocritical piece of shit” and “a pig,” abolishing the electoral college, and advocating that Speaker Pelosi punish Republican Members of Congress for objecting to the certification of electoral ballots by not seating them as duly-elected Representatives.³

These examples are merely a drop in the ocean of statements which Landerkin has publicly supported over the last seven years. They reveal the unhinged personality of a left-wing ideologue who despises our system of government and those who serve in it, especially Members of Congress and the former President of the United States.

We remain thoroughly convinced that Landerkin cannot treat the January 6 detainees—non-convicted defendants awaiting trial—with any level of respect given her public comments and past treatment of Members of Congress visiting the jail.

Furthermore, Landerkin’s administration of the facility’s staff is itself an issue. She is currently being sued for enabling and fostering a toxic environment of harassment and discrimination inside the jail. According to a lawsuit filed by the ACLU, Landerkin has been accused of causing mental anguish, personal distress, indignity, embarrassment, pain, and suffering.⁴

We have yet to receive a reply from your office regarding the November 4 letter demanding Landerkin’s termination.⁵ While it is certainly your prerogative to appoint officials to serve in the District of Columbia’s Department of Corrections, we retain the right—and constitutional prerogative—to voice our opposition to an official who has shown such contempt for those she disagrees with politically.

As Members of Congress charged with the administration of the District of Columbia, we strongly implore you to remove Landerkin from this critical position. Her biased comments over the better part of the last decade would evoke serious concerns from the American people, who are watching the treatment of inmates—inmates who are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Since the U.S. Marshals Service has already determined that the DC jail is not hospitable for the large majority of its inhabitants⁶ and your office has already conceded the need for reform in the recent memorandum of understanding (MOU),⁷ it would be unfortunate if your office were

³ <https://twitter.com/awkathyjo>

⁴ https://www.acludc.org/sites/default/files/field_documents/2021.11.17_jones_-_dc_superior_court_complaint_for_filing.pdf

⁵ <https://twitter.com/RepMTG/status/1456302090586832899>

⁶ <https://www.usmarshals.gov/news/chron/2021/110221b.htm>

⁷ <https://mayor.dc.gov/release/mayor-bowser-and-united-states-marshals-service-announce-agreement-address-concerns-dc-jail>

forced to defend the unhinged political commentary of a woman sworn to uphold justice to those who have yet to be determined guilty by a jury of their peers.

We await your response in writing at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene
Member of Congress (GA-14)



Rep. Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress (TX-01)



Rep. Matt Gaetz
Member of Congress (FL-01)



Rep. Paul Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress (AZ-04)



Rep. Bob Good
Member of Congress (VA-05)



Rep. Andy Harris, M.D.
Member of Congress (MD-01)



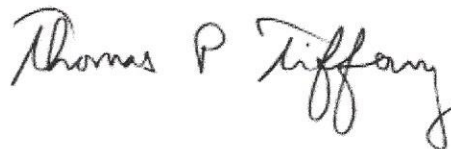
Rep. Ralph Norman
Member of Congress (SC-05)



Rep. Mary Miller
Member of Congress (IL-15)



Rep. Barry Moore
Member of Congress (AL-02)



Rep. Tom Tiffany
Member of Congress (WI-07)



Rep. Andy Biggs
Member of Congress (AZ-05)



Rep. Lauren Boebert
Member of Congress (CO-03)



Rep. Scott Perry
Member of Congress (PA-10)



Rep. Michael Cloud
Member of Congress (TX-27)