

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

November 20, 2025

VIA EMAIL

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

Dear Secretary Noem,

On November 18, 2025, *ProPublica* reported that Paul Ingrassia, while serving as White House liaison to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), personally intervened in a federal investigation of the online influencer brothers and alleged rapists and human traffickers, Andrew and Tristan Tate.¹ After Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers seized the Tate brothers' electronic devices upon their February 2025 arrival in the United States, Mr. Ingrassia reportedly reprimanded DHS officials for doing so and directed them to return the devices to them.² Mr. Ingrassia reportedly made clear to the DHS officials that this demand was coming directly from the White House.³

The individuals whom Mr. Ingrassia reportedly intervened to assist, Andrew and Tristan Tate, are extremist online media personalities facing multiple criminal and civil charges of sex trafficking and rape in three different countries.⁴ Andrew Tate is a self-described "misogynist"⁵ who has said that women "are given to the man and belong to the man,"⁶ and should "bear some responsibility" for being raped.⁷ Mr. Tate has also questioned whether the Nazis were really the

¹ Robert Faturechi & Avi Asher-Schapiro, *The White House Intervened on Behalf of Accused Sex Trafficker Andrew Tate During a Federal Investigation*, PROPUBLICA (Nov. 18, 2025, 5:30 AM), <https://www.propublica.org/article/andrew-tate-investigation-dhs-paul-ingrassia>.

² *Id.*

³ *Id.*

⁴ See Isabella Kwai, *What to Know About the Accusations Against Andrew Tate*, N.Y. TIMES (May 30, 2025), <https://www.nytimes.com/article/andrew-tate-arrests-explained.html>.

⁵ *Who Is Andrew Tate? The Self-Proclaimed Misogynist Influencer*, BBC (Feb. 27, 2025), <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-64125045>.

⁶ Amanda Holpuch, *Why Social Media Sites Are Removing Andrew Tate's Accounts*, N.Y. TIMES (Aug. 24, 2022), <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/08/24/technology/andrew-tate-banned-tiktok-instagram.html>.

⁷ Adam Smith, *Twitter Ignored Its Own Rules to Verify Kickboxer Who Said Women Should "Bear Some Responsibility" for Being Raped*, THE INDEPENDENT (Jan. 25, 2022, 6:56 AM), <https://www.the-independent.com/tech/twitter-andrew-tate-raped-verify-kickboxer-b1996239.html>.

“bad guy[s]” of World War II.⁸ Mr. Tate and his brother, Tristan, have been indicted in Romania for human trafficking, rape, and forming a criminal gang to sexually exploit women;⁹ charged in the United Kingdom with 21 counts of sex crimes, including rape, actual bodily harm, and human trafficking;¹⁰ sued for sexual assault in California¹¹ and the United Kingdom;¹² and placed under formal investigation for potential crimes in Florida.¹³

Mr. Ingrassia has his own history of deeply troubling conduct. He has reportedly described himself as having “a Nazi streak” and insisted that “[w]e need competent white men in positions of leadership” because “[t]he founding fathers were wrong that all men are created equal.”¹⁴ Mr. Ingrassia has made countless other bigoted and incendiary remarks, including, according to reports, that the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday should be “tossed into the seventh circle of hell,” that he would “[n]ever trust a chinaman or Indian,” and that the October 7th attack on Israel should be dismissed as a “psyop.”¹⁵

Mr. Ingrassia’s alleged actions in this case constitute a brazen interference with a federal investigation in an apparent attempt to provide favorable treatment to individuals with whom he has a preexisting relationship. Prior to joining the Administration, Mr. Ingrassia had been a member of the legal team representing the Tate brothers.¹⁶ Additionally, Mr. Ingrassia has heaped extensive praise on the Tate brothers in statements and social media posts. For example, he called Andrew Tate “an extraordinary human being” whose “physical prowess” and “willpower and spirit” make him “the embodiment of the ancient ideal of excellence.”¹⁷

⁸ Maya Oppenheim, *YouTube “Earned Up to £2.4m from Ads on Andrew Tate Videos,”* THE INDEPENDENT (Jan. 28, 2024, 4:33 PM), <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/andrew-tate-youtube-real-world-b2484840.html>.

⁹ Stephen McGrath & Andreea Alexandru, *Andrew Tate’s Trial on Charges of Rape and Human Trafficking Can Start, A Romanian Court Rules*, AP (Apr. 26, 2024, 10:29 AM), <https://apnews.com/article/andrew-tate-romania-trial-human-trafficking-rape-4dde5de557094c6eade73722833327a>.

¹⁰ Ewan Somerville & Euan O’Byrne Mulligan, *UK Prosecutors Say 21 Charges Authorized Against Tate Brothers*, BBC (May 28, 2025), <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/ckg41g1140po>.

¹¹ Isabella Kwai & Neil Vigdor, *Model Who Says She Dated Andrew Tate Accuses Him of Sexual Assault in Lawsuit*, N.Y. TIMES (Mar. 28, 2025), <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/03/28/world/europe/andrew-tate-sexual-assault-lawsuit.html>.

¹² Emine Sinmaz, *Andrew Tate Served with UK Civil Proceedings Papers at Romania Home*, THE GUARDIAN (May 8, 2024, 1:55 PM), <https://www.theguardian.com/news/article/2024/may/08/andrew-tate-served-with-uk-civil-proceedings-papers-at-romania-home>.

¹³ *The Florida Attorney General’s Office Is Investigating Andrew and Tristan Tate*, AP (Mar. 4, 2025, 7:03 PM), <https://apnews.com/article/tate-brothers-florida-investigation-2487cd63580201fdef594804a62f2c95>.

¹⁴ Daniel Lippman, *Trump Nominee Says MLK Jr. Holiday Belongs in “Hell” and That He Has “Nazi Streak,” According to Texts*, POLITICO (Oct. 20, 2025, 3:29 PM), <https://www.politico.com/news/2025/10/20/paul-ingrassia-racist-text-messages-nazi-00613608>.

¹⁵ *Id.*

¹⁶ Faturechi & Asher-Schapiro, *supra* note 1.

¹⁷ Paul Ingrassia (@PaulIngrassia), X (July 5, 2023, 12:14 PM), <https://x.com/PaulIngrassia/status/1676625534959099905>.

Mr. Ingrassia's behavior raises grave questions regarding the independence and impartiality of federal law enforcement operations and the White House's potential meddling in such investigations. Mr. Ingrassia's reported actions may have violated government ethics rules and other legal standards of conduct. Moreover, appallingly, this alleged conduct would mean that the White House allowed a self-proclaimed "Nazi" to intervene in a federal investigation to protect indicted rapists and child sex traffickers. If this behavior is not examined and addressed, it could dangerously undermine the independence, legitimacy, and effectiveness of DHS law enforcement operations and implicate the White House as complicit in the most heinous crimes and hateful ideologies imaginable.

To assist the Committees' understanding of the Trump Administration's protection of known sexual predators, please provide the following information to the Committees by December 4, 2025:

1. Was Paul Ingrassia's decision to intervene on behalf of Andrew and Tristan Tate made on his own volition or at the direction of other Trump Administration personnel, including but not limited to White House personnel?
 - a. If the latter, who instructed Mr. Ingrassia to intervene, and why?
2. Who at DHS was aware of Mr. Ingrassia's intervention on behalf of Andrew and Tristan Tate?
3. When and how did DHS personnel identified in response to request #2 become aware of Mr. Ingrassia's intervention on behalf of Andrew and Tristan Tate?
 - a. When and how did DHS personnel identified in response to request #2 become aware of Mr. Ingrassia's representation that he was acting at the direction of the White House?
4. What actions, if any, did DHS take in response to Mr. Ingrassia's conduct, and when?

In addition, please produce the following records¹⁸ on or before December 4, 2025:

5. All communications between White House personnel and any current or former DHS personnel, including but not limited to Mr. Ingrassia, referring or relating to Andrew or Tristan Tate.
6. All communications between DHS personnel, including but not limited to Mr. Ingrassia, and third parties, referring or relating to Andrew or Tristan Tate.

¹⁸ For purposes of this request, "records" include any written, recorded, or graphic material of any kind, including letters, memoranda, reports, notes, electronic data (emails, email attachments, and any other electronically-created or stored information), direct messages, chats, calendar entries, inter-office communications, meeting minutes, phone/voice mail or recordings/records of verbal communications, and drafts (whether or not they resulted in final documents).

7. All internal DHS communications referring or relating to Andrew or Tristan Tate, including communications to or from Mr. Ingrassia and any CBP personnel.
8. All communications referring or relating to Mr. Ingrassia's instructions to other DHS personnel, including CBP personnel, on behalf of Andrew and Tristan Tate, including communications referring or relating to any steps taken to address this conduct.

Please contact the Committees should you have any questions about responding to these requests. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Richard Blumenthal
Ranking Member
Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations



Gary Peters
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

cc: Ron Johnson
Chairman
Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

Rand Paul, M.D.
Chairman
Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs