

February 3, 2025

The Honorable Gabe Evans
U.S. Representative
8th Congressional District of Colorado
1229 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Evans,

On behalf of the Douglas County Board of Commissioners and Sheriff Darren Weekly, we would like to express our sincere appreciation for the opportunity to meet with you and your Chief of Staff on several important topics affecting our county and Colorado.

We greatly valued the opportunity to share the work of our Helitack team and the success of our helicopter operations, which have been instrumental in responding to wildfires—33 of which we fought last year alone. Your interest in a potential regional facility for first responders to provide local law enforcement training and combat wildfires was encouraging, and we are hopeful that future collaboration on this project could be beneficial for public safety and wildfire suppression efforts.

We also appreciated the conversation regarding Douglas County's ongoing lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of certain provisions in Title 24 of the Colorado Revised Statutes, specifically Articles 76.6 and 76.7. As you know, these provisions prohibit state and local law enforcement from engaging in critical immigration enforcement activities, including arresting or detaining illegal immigrants for civil immigration violations, sharing non-public personal identifying information with federal authorities, and entering into intergovernmental agreements for immigration enforcement.

As you and other members of the Colorado delegation pointed out in your January 17th letter to Colorado Governor Jared Polis, "these laws hamper and often outright prevent public safety investigations from being opened, which degrades the ability of law enforcement to investigate cases where immigration status might be a factor." We are grateful for your leadership on this letter and support this effort. No state or local government should be able to unilaterally undermine and impede federal immigration laws and enforcement and this dangerous patchwork approach is unconstitutional. We will continue to pursue our litigation on these matters. We also ask that you work with your colleagues in the Colorado delegation and in Congress to introduce preemptive legislation that ensures states and local governments can't adopt sanctuary city policies that contradict, impede, and undermine federal immigration laws.

Our idea on the limited federalization of local law enforcement to help carry out deportation efforts and proposed changes of detainer warrants to criminal federal warrants to improve enforcement of immigration laws and public safety were thoroughly discussed and we greatly appreciated your insights.

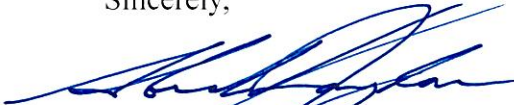
Our proposal to ensure federal transportation funding is directed away from sanctuary cities and instead allocated to communities that prioritize public safety and lawful immigration enforcement was also well-received, and we are optimistic about potential legislative collaboration on these issues.

We appreciated discussing Congresswoman Lauren Boebert's *Private Sector Competition in Microtransit Act*. Encouraging private-sector competition and reducing government interference will reduce costs and save taxpayers money. We support this legislation and ask for your co-sponsorship upon reintroduction.

We were grateful to share more information about Congresswoman Lauren Boebert's *Human Trafficking Fingerprint Background Check Protection Act*. This legislation requires owners and employees of massage wellness spas to undergo fingerprint-based background checks to prevent human trafficking and enhance public safety. We support this bill and ask you to cosponsor once it's reintroduced.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of the challenges we face in Douglas County and your openness to explore ways to work together on these important matters. We look forward to continuing this conversation and finding solutions that best serve our communities and the citizens of Colorado.

Sincerely,



Abe Laydon, Chairman



George Teal, Commissioner



Kevin Van Winkle, Commissioner



Darren Weekly, Sheriff