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One Hundred Eighteenth
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION
1309 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6157
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July 22, 2024

Chief J. Thomas Manger
Chief of Police
United States Capitol Police
119 D St. N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chief Manger:

I write today to request that the United States Capitol Police (“USCP”) respond to the following request from the Committee on House Administration Subcommittee on Oversight (“Subcommittee”) related to USCP’s investigation into the individuals who erected a gallows on the Capitol Grounds pursuant to the Subcommittee’s oversight jurisdiction and responsibilities.¹ These records are necessary for the Subcommittee to effectively evaluate the safety and security failures that occurred on January 6, 2021, and to ensure such security failures do not occur again.

On the morning of January 6, 2021, a group of unidentified individuals erected a gallows on Capitol Grounds.² Between 6:30 a.m. and 7:15 a.m. that morning, the group constructed the platform and two main pillars of the gallows, only leaving off the crossbeam.³ Around this time, two of the individuals left the area, walking north on Third Street. They returned shortly thereafter and then subsequently left Capitol Grounds.⁴

At approximately 1:00 p.m., the group returned to the site of the partially-erected gallows and completed its construction by adding the crossbeam and a noose made of bright orange rope.⁵ After completing its construction, the group of individuals left the area, yet despite this, the gallows remained erected until approximately 9:15 a.m. on January 7.

One of the outstanding questions regarding the events of January 6 remains who erected the structure resembling a gallows that was found on Capitol Grounds. Featured prominently by the Select Committee, photos of the gallows were widely circulated following the events of January 6.⁶ Despite this, none of the individuals responsible for its construction have been identified.

I, therefore, ask that you produce to the Subcommittee the following records relevant to our investigation:

- All emails, text messages, chat messages, or other communications to or from USCP personnel accounts regarding the response to the discovery of the gallows erected on Capitol Grounds on January 6, 2021, and the investigation into the construction of the gallows.

¹ Rule X, Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives for the 118th Congress; Paragraph (c)(2); Rule 17, Rules of the Committee on House Administration for the 118th Congress.

² Scott MacFarlane, *Newly obtained video shows movement of group suspected of constructing Jan. 6 gallows hours before Capitol siege*, CBS, Mar. 18, 2024.

³ *Id.*

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ Hearing: House Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol Holds Hearing on the January 6th Investigation (June 16, 2022)

- All transcripts and recordings of radio transmissions between 12:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. on January 6, 2021, and between 12:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. on January 7, 2021.
- All phone calls to or from USCP dispatchers between 12:00 a.m. on January 6, 2021, and 10:00 a.m. on January 7, 2021, regarding the construction of and law enforcement response to the gallows.

Please immediately produce the records described above no later than August 5, 2024, to the Subcommittee in complete, unredacted form. If you do not have any of the requested records, please provide a written response explaining why you do not have the records. If another entity is in possession of the requested records, please provide a written response listing what entity is in possession of the records.

Additionally, I also ask that your staff provide a briefing to my staff on the status of the investigation into the gallows and the individuals responsible for its construction.

Should you have questions concerning this correspondence, please contact Elliott Tomlinson, Staff Director at Elliott.Tomlinson@mail.house.gov, who may also arrange acceptance of the requested records.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Barry Loudermilk". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Barry Loudermilk
Chairman
Subcommittee on Oversight
Committee on House Administration

