

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 1, 2021

The Honorable Rodney Davis
Ranking Member
Committee on House Administration
1216 Longworth House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Davis,

We write in response to the letters of January 13 issued to the CAO and HSAA, respectively. In the January 13 letters, you requested the CAO and the HSAA preserve, search, and produce to your office a vast quantity of data within our custody related to the “events of January 6.” We regret to inform you that given the scope of the information requested and the concerns implicated by the nature of the request (including but not limited to custodial and data ownership limitations, privilege considerations, statutory compliance issues, and overall technical feasibility), we are unable to comply with the request at this time.

Since the attack on the Capitol on January 6, our respective organizations have prioritized critical life safety, continuity, and cybersecurity incident responses to protect Members and employees within the Capitol Complex and to ensure the continued essential operations of the House. In addition, we continue to assist various law enforcement agencies engaged in investigation and prosecution of the criminal actions taken during the attack. Finally, we are expending considerable effort supporting and cooperating with General Honore’s Task Force review of the attack. Additionally, there are still reports of potential threats to the Capitol which we must be ready to address. These critical responses and investigative support efforts must remain the priority and neither of our organizations has the capacity to search and produce the amount of data as defined by your January 13 letters that may be in our custody.

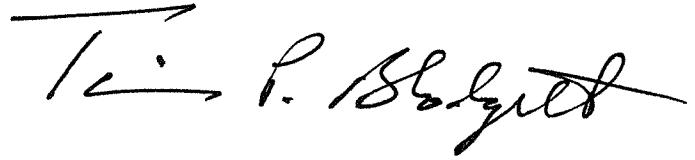
Please know the CAO and the HSAA are taking appropriate steps within our authority, as requested by data owners, or as requested by law enforcement to preserve information and data related to the attack on the Capitol. In addition to General Honore’s review and the ongoing criminal investigations, we also anticipate working with any House and/or Joint Committees with appropriate jurisdiction, yet-to-be-enacted commissions that Congress may choose to establish and empower to investigate the events, and other entities that may become involved going forward.

We look forward to contributing to any investigative efforts established by the House or Congress in accordance with our respective roles as established in statute, House Rules, and related authorities.

Sincerely,



Catherine L. Szpindor
Chief Administrative Officer
U.S. House of Representatives



Timothy P. Blodgett
Acting Sergeant at Arms
U.S. House of Representatives

CC: The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Minority Leader, U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Zoe Lofgren, Chairperson, Committee on House Administration, U.S.
House of Representatives