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U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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One Hundred Seventeenth Congress

Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol

May 19, 2022

Representative Barry Loudermilk
United States House of Representatives
2133 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Loudermilk:

On June 30, 2021, the House adopted House Resolution 503, establishing the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol (the "Select Committee"). The Select Committee is investigating the facts, circumstances, and causes of the January 6th attack and issues relating to the peaceful transfer of power in order to identify and evaluate lessons learned and to recommend to the House and its relevant committees corrective laws, policies, procedures, rules, or regulations. The Select Committee has tremendous respect for the prerogatives of Congress and the privacy of its Members. At the same time, we have a solemn responsibility to investigate fully the facts and circumstances of these events.

We write to seek your voluntary cooperation in advancing our investigation. Based on our review of evidence in the Select Committee's possession, we believe you have information regarding a tour you led through parts of the Capitol complex on January 5, 2021.

The foregoing information raises questions to which the Select Committee must seek answers. Public reporting and witness accounts indicate some individuals and groups engaged in efforts to gather information about the layout of the U.S. Capitol, as well as the House and Senate office buildings, in advance of January 6, 2021. For example, in the week following January 6th, Members urged law enforcement leaders to investigate sightings of "outside groups in the complex" on January 5th that "appeared to be associated with the rally at the White House the following day."[1]

In response to those allegations, Republicans on the Committee on House Administration—of which you are a Member—claimed to have reviewed security footage from the days preceding January 6th and determined that "[t]here were no tours, no large groups, no one

[1] Letter from Rep. Sherrill, et al., to Acting House Sergeant at Arms Timothy Blodgett, Acting Senate Sergeant at Arms Jennifer A. Hemmingway & Acting U.S. Capitol Police Chief Yogananda Pittman (January 13, 2021), available at https://sherrill.house.gov/sites/sherrill.house.gov/files/wysiwyg_uploaded/2020.01.13_Sherrill%20Letter%20to%20USCP%20and%20SAA.pdf.

with MAGA hats on."[2] However, the Select Committee's review of evidence directly contradicts that denial.

We would like to meet with you soon, but we also want to accommodate your schedule. We propose meeting with you on the week of May 23, 2022. Please let us know whether one of those dates will fit with your schedule. If you are unavailable that week, we can arrange an alternative time to meet. If it would be preferable to hold this meeting with you in your home district, we would also be glad to explore travel arrangements to facilitate that option.

The American people deserve a full and accurate accounting of what happened on January 6th. We aim to make informed legislative recommendations taking account of all relevant facts. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Bennie G. Thompson
Chairman

Liz Cheney
Vice Chair

[2] Rebecca Beistch, GOP reps call for release of security footage amid allegations of 'reconnaissance tours', The Hill (Feb. 17, 2022), https://thehill.com/policy/national-security/594740-house-republicans-call-for-release-of-security-footage-amid.