

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

October 15, 2021

The Honorable William T. Stetzer  
Acting United States Attorney for the Western District of North Carolina  
227 West Trade St.  
Suite 1650  
Charlotte, NC 28202

The Honorable Sandra J. Hairston  
Acting United States Attorney for the Middle District of North Carolina  
101 South Edgeworth Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Greensboro, NC 27401

The Honorable G. Norman Acker, III  
Acting United States Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina  
150 Fayetteville Street  
Suite 2100  
Raleigh, NC 27601

Robert Wells  
Special Agent in Charge  
FBI Charlotte  
7915 Microsoft Way  
Charlotte, NC 28273

Dear U.S. Attorneys and Special Agent Wells:

In Congress we serve North Carolinians from your respective districts. By memorandum dated October 4, 2021, the Attorney General directed the FBI, with coordination by United States Attorneys, “to convene meetings with federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial ... leaders in each federal judicial district within 30 days ... [to discuss] strategies for addressing threats against school administrators, board members, teachers, and staff” arising from parent protests of racist curriculum and mask mandates in public schools. The Attorney General claimed to be responding to “a disturbing spike in harassment, intimidation, and threats of violence” and “a rise in criminal conduct directed toward school personnel” “[i]n recent months.”

We believe the Attorney General’s premise to be utterly false. Nationwide, news reports are of three arrests for minor assaults (with no serious injury), one for a broken glass door (in Troutman), and a few for trespass based on disorderliness at meetings. Rumormongers’ claims of “threats” turn out in each reported case to be vows only of electoral defeat or of

protests at officials' homes or, in one case in Stanly County, pure hearsay with no identified culprit or other specifics.<sup>1</sup>

It is emphatically not the role of federal law enforcement to stigmatize and chill a political movement disfavored by the incumbent President. Constitutional protections apply even to protest and petitioning that is confrontational or offensive — absent violence, imminent apprehension thereof, or property damage. After what government turned a blind eye to during 2020, it seems preternaturally naïve (or worse) of any public official, especially a United States Attorney General, to think that insults or epithets toward public officials warrant a nationwide dragnet by the FBI. There can be no legitimacy in meetings organized by federal law enforcement to “strategize” about suppressing First Amendment-protected activity.

We intend to monitor closely the meetings Attorney General Garland directed the FBI to conduct. Since we are each within the scope of the audience the Attorney General directed you to include, and we presume your political neutrality, we request that you notify us well in advance of every such meeting in North Carolina and permit us to attend in person or through staff. Unless there is partisan motivation or content, there should be no reason to exclude us. We also request copies to retain of any written content shared in such meetings and especially details on criminal activity predicated the meetings or strategies shared therein.

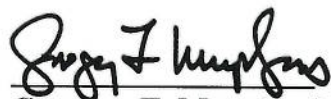
By copy of this letter to the sheriffs and police chiefs in our districts, we also make them aware of our interest and request for notice in case we are excluded from the meetings. We appreciate the opportunity to work with them and with you to hold accountable all who threaten the rights secured to citizens by our Constitution and laws.

We look forward to hearing from you promptly.

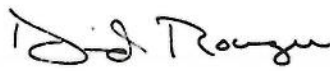
Sincerely,



Dan Bishop  
Member of Congress



Gregory F. Murphy, M.D.  
Member of Congress



David Rouzer  
Member of Congress



Ted Budd  
Member of Congress

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<sup>1</sup> [Chance says decision to resign from school board was one he had been considering for months - The Stanly News & Press | The Stanly News & Press \(thesnaponline.com\)](#)

CC:

Sheriff Terry S. Johnson, Jr., Alamance County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Landric Reid, Anson County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Ernie Coleman, Beaufort County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff James McVicker, Bladen County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff John Ingram, Brunswick County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Kevin Jones, Camden County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Asa B. Buck, Carteret County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Tony Durden, Caswell County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Mike Roberson, Chatham County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Edward B. Basnight, Chowan County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Jody Greene, Columbus County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Chip Hughes, Craven County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Matt Beickert, Currituck County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Doug Doughtie, Dare County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Richie Simmons, Davidson County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff JD Hartman, Davie County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Blake Wallace, Duplin County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Wayne A. Coats, Harnett County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Hubert A. Peterkin, Hoke County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Guire Cahoon, Hyde County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Steve Bizzell, Johnston County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Matthew J. Wineman, Jones County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Tracy L. Carter, Lee County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Ronnie Ingram, Lenoir County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Garry L. McFadden, Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Ronnie Fields, Moore County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Ed McMahan, New Hanover County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Hans J. Miller, Onslow County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Chris Davis, Pamlico County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Tommy S. Wooten, II, Pasquotank County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Alan W. Cutler, Pender County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Shelton Ray White, Jr., Perquimans County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Dewey E. Jones, Person County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Paula S. Dance, Pitt County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Greg Seabolt, Randolph County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff James E. Clemmons, Jr., Richmond County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Burnis Wilkins, Robeson County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Kevin Auten, Rowan County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Jimmy Thornton, Sampson County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Ralph Kersey, Scotland County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Kevin Sawyer, Tyrrell County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Eddie Cathey, Union County Sheriff's Office

Chief Carol Colasacco, Aberdeen Police Department  
Chief Arthur Yarborough, Angier Police Department

Chief Shannon Craddock, Archdale Police Department  
Chief Mark Lineberry, Asheboro Police Department  
Chief Jeff Harvey, Atlantic Beach Police Department  
Chief Chris Forehand, Ayden Police Department  
Chief Alan May, Bald Head Island Police Department  
Chief Paul Burdette, Beaufort Police Department  
Chief Todd Alligood, Beaufort Community College Police Department  
Chief Fred Clingenpeel, Belhaven Police Department  
Chief Greg Percy, Benson Police Department  
Chief Jamie Rogers, Beulaville Police Department  
Chief Greg Jordan, Boiling Springs Lake Police Department  
Chief Rick Barney, Bridgeton Police Department  
Chief Todd Hinnant, Broadway Police Department  
Chief Jim Hock, Burgaw Police Department  
Interim Chief Eric Kerns, Burlington Police Department  
Chief Bill McKinney, Cape Carteret Police Department  
Chief Vic Ward, Carolina Beach Police Department  
Chief Sam Massey, Caswell Beach Police Department  
Chief Johnny Jennings, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department  
Chief Andrew Deal, China Grove Police Department  
Chief Robert Whitehurst, Chocowinity Police Department  
Chief Greg Tart, Clayton Police Department  
Chief John Jessop, Cleveland Police Department  
Chief Anthony Davis, Clinton Police Department  
Chief Ken Storicks, Coats Police Department  
Chief Nelson Turrentine, Cooleemee Police Department  
Chief Mark Hicks, Denton Police Department  
Chief Jeff Ackerman, Duck Police Department  
Chief Clark White, Dunn Police Department  
Chief Nick O'Brien, East Spencer Police Department  
Chief Henry King, Jr., Edenton Police Department  
Chief Eddie Buffaloe, Elizabeth City Police Department  
Chief Kelly Blackwelder, Elon Police Department  
Chief Joseph LeMire, Elon Campus Police Department  
Chief Tony Reese, Emerald Isle Police Department  
Chief Johnathan Johnson Erwin Police Department  
Chief Jonathan Edwards, Fairmont Police Department  
Chief Steve Anderson, Four Oaks Police Department  
Chief Chad Shue, Foxfire Police Department  
Chief Ron Parrish, Gibsonville Police Department  
Chief Kristy Cole, Graham Police Department  
Chief Mark Cook, Granite Quarry Police Department  
Chief Mark Holtzman, Greenville Police Department  
Chief Brian Silva, Grifton Police Department  
Chief Dennis Brown, Hamlet Police Department  
Chief Marvin Williams, Havelock Police Department  
Chief Toby Harrison, Haw River Police Department  
Chief Dennis Brown, Hertford Police Department  
Chief Jeremy Dixon, Holden Beach Police Department

Chief Michael Sorg, Jr., Holly Ridge Police Department  
Chief William Pollock, Indian Beach Police Department  
Chief Mike Yaniero, Jacksonville Police Department  
Chief Terry Spry, Kannapolis Police Department  
Chief Ryan Strickland, Kenansville Police Department  
Chief Josh Gibson, Kenly Police Department  
Chief Gary Britt, Kill Devil Hills Police Department  
Chief Tim Dilday, Kinston Police Department  
Chief Joel Johnson, Kitty Hawk Police Department  
Chief Mike Bowden, Kure Beach Police Department  
Chief Zachary Lechette, Landis Police Department  
Chief Darwin Williams, Laurinburg Police Department  
Chief Bradford Shirley, Leland Police Department  
Chief Dale Owens, Lenoir Community College Police Department  
Chief Robbie Rummage, Lexington Police Department  
Chief David Semrad, Liberty Police Department  
Chief Tony Robinson, Lilesville Police Department  
Chief Michael McNeill, Lumberton Police Department  
Chief Donald Hall, Magnolia Police Department  
Chief Vance Haskett, Manteo Police Department  
Chief Matt Tarlton, Marshville Police Department  
Chief Clark Pennington, Matthews Police Department  
Chief Na' Shayla Nelson, Maxton Police Department  
Chief Terry Caldwell, Mebane Police Department  
Chief Thomas Jones, Micro Police Department  
Chief Joseph Hatley, Mint Hill Police Department  
Chief Bryan Gilliard, Monroe Police Department  
Chief Arthur Frye, Moore County Schools Police Department  
Chief Bernette Morris, Morehead City Police Department  
Chief Rick Little, Morven Police Department  
Chief Phillip Webster, Nags Head Police Department  
Chief Preston Howell, Navassa Police Department  
Chief Patrick Gallagher, New Bern Police Department  
Chief Keith Lewis, Newport Police Department  
Chief Greg Warren, Newtown Grove Police Department  
Chief William Younginer, North Topsail Beach Police Department  
Chief Copelen Taylor, Northwest Police Department  
Interim Chief Franklin Cooke, Oak Island Police Department  
Chief Ken Bellamy, Ocean Isle Beach Police Department  
Chief Sam May, Parkton Police Department  
Chief Ed Locklear, Pembroke Police Department  
Chief Ryan Thompson, Pine Knoll Shores Police Department  
Chief Ashley Woodard, Pine Level Police Department  
Chief Pike Nordgren, Pinebluff Police Department  
Chief Glenn Webb, Pinehurst Police Department  
Chief Michael Hudgins, Pineville Police Department  
Chief Michael Hoffman, Pink Hill Police Department  
Chief Tim Hutchinson, Polkton Police Department  
Chief Marcus Godwin, Raeford Police Department

Chief Aaron Presley, Ramseur Police Department  
Chief Steve Leonard, Randleman Police Department  
Chief Brent Adkins, Red Springs Police Department  
Chief William A. Horne, Richlands Police Department  
Chief Sean Joll, River Bend Police Department  
Chief William Kelly, Rockingham Police Department  
Chief H. Willie Bost, Rockwell Police Department  
Chief Michael Tyndall, Rose Hill Police Department  
Chief Hubert Graham, Rowland Police Department  
Chief David Hess, Roxboro Police Department  
Chief Jerry Stokes, Salisbury Police Department  
Chief Ronnie V. Yarborough, Sanford Police Department  
Chief Jason Auman, Seagrove Police Department  
Chief Billy Thomas, Selma Police Department  
Chief Scott Branning, Shallotte Police Department  
Chief Mike Wagner, Siler City Police Department  
Chief Keith Powell, Smithfield Police Department  
Chief Nick Polidori, Southern Pines Police Department  
Chief David Kole, Southern Shores Police Department  
Chief Todd Coring, Southport Police Department  
Chief Michael James, Spencer Police Department  
Chief Stephen Dollinger, St. Pauls Police Department  
Chief Dennis Franks, Stallings Police Department  
Chief Ken Klamar, Sunset Beach Police Department  
Chief Ron Shanahan, Surf City Police Department  
Chief Ken Jackson, Swansboro Police Department  
Chief Michael A. Hobgood, Taylortown Police Department  
Chief Matt Kattner, Thomasville Police Department  
Chief Samuel L. Gervase, Topsail Beach Police Department  
Chief Tony Lee, Trentwoods Police Department  
Chief Scotty Hill, UNC – Lenoir Healthcare Police Department  
Chief Chris Bertram, UNC - Wilmington Police Department  
Chief Jimmy Jenkins, Vanceboro Police Department  
Chief Thedis Spencer, Wadesboro Police Department  
Chief Kenneth Locklear, Wagram Police Department  
Acting Chief Patrick Gideons, Wallace Police Department  
Chief Stacy Drakeford, Washington Police Department  
Chief Mike Eiss, Waxhaw Police Department  
Chief Jason Graham, Whispering Pines Police Department  
Chief Donny Williams, Wilmington Police Department  
Chief A.Z. Williams, Wilson's Mills Police Department  
Chief Anthony Spellman, Winfall Police Department  
Chief Craig Bradshaw, Wingate Police Department  
Chief Ryan Wilhite, Winterville Police Department  
Chief David Squires, Wrightsville Beach Police Department