

OCT 23 2019



Homeland  
Security

The Honorable Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Beyer:

Thank you for your August 22, 2019, letter concerning domestic terrorism and how the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) fulfills its responsibilities to address and prevent terrorism. The Acting Secretary asked that I respond on his behalf.

DHS is committed to doing everything we can to counter domestic terrorism. I agree with you fully that this mission is more critical than ever, as we pass the 18th anniversary of the September 11th attacks. While law enforcement—specifically investigations and prosecutions—are a critical tool in achieving this goal, we know that law enforcement cannot solve the problem alone. We must use all available resources, including taking and coordinating preemptive measures to prevent individuals from mobilizing to violence in the first place.

On September 20, DHS released its *Strategic Framework for Countering Terrorism and Targeted Violence*. This is the first national-level strategy to explicitly state that terrorism and targeted violence overlap, intersect, and interact as problems and require a shared set of solutions. This Framework is designed to assess DHS's past and provide a guidepost to its future. It lays out a comprehensive framework to enhance our prevention capabilities in an age of complex and multidimensional domestic threats, regardless of ideology, while also affording threats like violent white supremacy more urgent attention. DHS will follow this strategy with a public action plan, explaining in greater detail how we will accomplish our strategic goals. The Framework is available at <https://www.dhs.gov/publication/dhs-strategic-framework-countering-terrorism-and-targeted-violence>.

We appreciate your interest in and support of DHS. A separate, identical response is being provided to co-signers of your letter. Please contact the DHS Office of Legislative Affairs at (202) 447-5890 for additional assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James W. McCament".

James W. McCament  
Deputy Under Secretary  
Office of Strategy, Policy, and Plans

Enclosure